

**CITY OF SALEM
MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
OF DECEMBER 7, 2015**

A regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Salem was called to order by Council President Karen Roots. The meeting took place in the Municipal Building located at 1 New Market Street at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present: Council President Karen Roots, Councilpersons, Ruth Carter, Earl Gage, Vaughn Groce, Charles Hassler, Horace Johnson, and James Waddington. Council President announced that a quorum was present. Also in attendance were Mayor Charles Washington, Jr., Solicitor David Puma, CFO David Crescenzi and City Clerk Kathleen L. Keen. Councilwoman Thompson was absent.

STATEMENT OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

NOTICE OF THE REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, AS REQUIRED BY N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 ET SEQ., THE "OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT", HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY THE PUBLIC ADVERTISEMENT OF A SCHEDULE ADOPTED BY RESOLUTION ON JANUARY 1ST, 2015 SETTING FOR THE TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF ALL THE REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM.

INVOCATION Pastor Atwood Jones of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, and President of the Salem Area Ministerium provided the invocation.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS

It was moved by Councilman Hassler to approve the bill list, Councilman Gage seconded. Motion carried 6-0, with Councilman Groce Abstaining.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Councilman Hassler, seconded by Councilman Groce to adopt the minutes of the November 16, 2015 Council Meeting and Closed Session, and November 23, 2015 Special Meeting and Closed Session. Motion carried 7-0.

COMMUNICATIONS/APPLICATIONS/REPORTS:

Honoring Police Retirees: Retired Sergeant Vanaman and Retired Patrolman Elk were not in attendance, at this time City Clerk Keen read the following resolutions.

RESOLUTION 2015-161

A RESOLUTION HONORING SERGEANT MELVIN P. VANAMAN

WHEREAS, Melvin P. Vanaman was appointed to the Salem City Police Department on February 19, 1990 as a Patrolman after graduating from the Atlantic County Police Academy; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Vanaman served the Salem City Police Department with courage and distinction throughout his career thus attaining the rank of Sergeant on March 1, 1998; and

WHEREAS, while serving the City of Salem Sergeant Vanaman was a Radar Operator, Breathalyzer Operator, a Level 1 First Responder and completed many courses to enhance his skills; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Sergeant Vanaman received numerous commendations, medals, and service awards while valiantly serving the City of Salem; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Vanaman served the City of Salem and the community with integrity and honor earning respect and admiration before retiring from the City of Salem Police Department on March 1, 2015.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem and State of New Jersey, wish to hereby thank and honor Sergeant Melvin P. Vanaman for his years of dedicated service to the City of Salem.

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
E. Gage		X	X			
V. Groce			X			
C. Hassler	X		X			
H. Johnson			X			
L. Thompson						X
J. Waddington			X			
K. Roots			X			

**RESOLUTION 2015-162
A RESOLUTION HONORING PATROLMAN JOSEPH F. ELK**

WHEREAS, Joseph F. Elk was appointed to the Salem City Police Department on February 21, 1990 as a Patrolman after graduating from the Atlantic County Police Academy; and

WHEREAS, Patrolman Elk worked for the Salem County Sheriff’s Department before being hired by the City of Salem Police Department; and

WHEREAS, while serving the City of Salem Patrolman Elk became certified as a Radar Operator, Breathalyzer Operator, a Level 1 First Responder and completed many courses to enhance his skills; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Patrolman Elk received numerous commendations, medals, service awards, and thank you letters of participation from the Salem County Prosecutors Office and citizens while valiantly serving the City of Salem; and

WHEREAS, Patrolman Elk served the City of Salem and the community with integrity and honor earning respect and admiration before retiring from the City of Salem Police Department on March 1, 2015.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem and State of New Jersey, wish to hereby thank and honor Patrolman Joseph F. Elk for his years of dedicated service to the City of Salem.

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
E. Gage		X	X			
V. Groce			X			
C. Hassler	X		X			
H. Johnson			X			
L. Thompson						X
J. Waddington			X			
K. Roots			X			

Mayor Washington asked Retired Corporal John Sieber to please join him in front of the dais as he read the following resolution.

RESOLUTION 2015-163
A RESOLUTION HONORING CORPORAL JOHN W. SIEBER

WHEREAS, John W. Sieber was appointed to the Salem City Police Department on January 28, 1991 as a Patrolman after graduating from the Camden County Police Academy; and

WHEREAS, Corporal Sieber began his career working for the Salem County Fire and Ambulance Control Center as a Dispatcher before being hired by the City of Salem Police Department as a Patrolman and later being appointed as a Corporal on June 20, 2005; and

WHEREAS, while serving the City of Salem Corporal Sieber became certified as a Radar Operator, Breathalyzer Operator, a Level 1 First Responder and completed many courses to enhance his skills; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Corporal Sieber received a commendation for Outstanding Service, the Outstanding Police award, and became a DARE Officer on June 12, 1992 dedicating himself to the Salem Middle School and John Fenwick School presenting assemblies on the prevention of Violence, Stealing, Drugs, and reading to the students for Dr. Seuss Week; and

WHEREAS, Corporal Sieber served the City of Salem and the community with integrity and honor earning respect and admiration before retiring from the City of Salem Police Department on March 1, 2015.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem and State of New Jersey, wish to hereby thank and honor Corporal John W. Sieber for his years of dedicated service to the City of Salem.

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
E. Gage		X	X			
V. Groce			X			
C. Hassler	X		X			
H. Johnson			X			
L. Thompson						X
J. Waddington			X			
K. Roots			X			

Mayor Washington then presented Corporal Sieber with a copy of the resolution and thanked him for his years of dedicated service to the residents and City of Salem. Councilman Gage recalled memories of his time on council and working with Corporal Sieber. Councilmembers collectively thanked Corporal Sieber for his service to the city.

Councilman Hassler motioned to approve a yearly Raffle Application and a Bingo Application for the Fraternal Order of Eagles #1966. Councilman Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0 with Councilman Waddington Abstaining.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING:
ORDINANCE 1511

**AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE DONATION OF 129 THOMPSON STREET,
 BLOCK 77, LOT 13 FROM RICHARD RODRIGUEZ**

BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED, by the Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem and State of New Jersey that pursuant to the authority granted in N.J.S.A. 40A:12-5 (a)(1) the City of Salem shall acquire the real property and premises commonly known as Tax Block 84, Lot 19, also known as 234 Sinnickson Street, Salem, New Jersey, by acceptance of the donation of same by deed transfer from David Goldstein, such acceptance to be effectuated upon review and approval of the City Solicitor as to clear title to same.

THIS ORDINANCE shall take effect according to law.

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
E. Gage		X	X			
V. Groce			X			
C. Hassler	X		X			
H. Johnson			X			
L. Thompson						X
J. Waddington			X			
K. Roots			X			

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:

RESOLUTION 2015-164

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SIGNING THE FY2016 CITY OF SALEM
 MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE SERVICES CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY, THE
 MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE AND COUNTY OF SALEM**

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Salem in the State of New Jersey that the Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to sign the FY2016 City of Salem Municipal Alliance Services Contract between the City of Salem, City of Salem Municipal Alliance and the County of Salem upon approval of the format of same by the City Solicitor.

R15-164

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
E. Gage		X	X			
V. Groce			X			
C. Hassler	X		X			
H. Johnson			X			
L. Thompson						X
J. Waddington			X			
K. Roots			X			

RESOLUTION 2015-165
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RECYCLING TONNAGE
GRANT APPLICATION

WHEREAS, the mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act, P.L. 1987, c. 02, has established a recycling fund from which a tonnage grant may be made to municipalities in order to encourage local source separation and recycling programs; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent and the spirit of the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act to use the tonnage grants to develop new municipal recycling programs and to continue and to expand existing programs; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has promulgated recycling regulations to implement the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act; and

WHEREAS, the recycling regulations impose on municipalities certain requirements as a condition for applying for tonnage grants, including but not limited to, making and keeping accurate, verifiable records of materials collected and claimed by the municipality; and

WHEREAS, a Resolution authorizing this municipality to apply for the **2015 Recycling Tonnage Grant** will memorialize the commitment of this municipality to recycling and to indicate the assent of the Common Council of the City of Salem to the efforts undertaken by the municipality and the requirements contained in the Recycling Act and recycling regulations; and

WHEREAS, such a resolution should designate the individual authorized to ensure the application is properly completed and timely filed.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem and State of New Jersey, that the City of Salem hereby endorses the submission of the recycling tonnage grant application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and designates Frederick Mucci and Thomas Gant to ensure that the application is properly filed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the monies received from the recycling tonnage grant be deposited in a dedicated recycling trust fund to be used solely for the purposes of recycling.

R15-165

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
E. Gage		X	X			
V. Groce			X			
C. Hassler	X		X			
H. Johnson			X			
L. Thompson						X
J. Waddington			X			
K. Roots			X			

RESOLUTION 2015-166**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUBMITTAL OF THE GREEN COMMUNITIES 2015 GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTING A GRANT CONTRACT**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem and State of New Jersey, formally approves the grant application for the above stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized to submit the grant application identified as the GREEN COMMUNITIES GRANT 2015 to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection/State Forestry Services on behalf of the City of Salem.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the City of Salem and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
E. Gage		X	X			
V. Groce			X			
C. Hassler	X		X			
H. Johnson			X			
L. Thompson						X
J. Waddington			X			
K. Roots			X			

RESOLUTION 2015-167**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY TREASURER TO MAKE TRANSFERS OF 2015 BUDGET APPROPRIATION**

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem, State of New Jersey that the City Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to make the attached transfers of budget appropriations in the 2015 Municipal Budget.

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
E. Gage		X	X			
V. Groce			X			
C. Hassler	X		X			
H. Johnson			X			
L. Thompson						X
J. Waddington			X			
K. Roots			X			

RESOLUTION 2015-168
A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PLANNING BOARD TO CONDUCT
PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION AS TO WHETHER CERTAIN AREAS ARE
IN NEED OF REDEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Salem believes that certain areas of the City are in need of redevelopment in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1, et. seq., said areas being more particularly described in the attached Schedule A; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council desires to exercise the powers, duties, responsibilities and authority set forth in the Redevelopment and Housing Law pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1, et. seq. and to authorize the appropriate preliminary investigation by the Planning Board pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-6.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem, and State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. That the Common Council hereby determines that the powers, duties, responsibilities and authority for redevelopment as set forth in N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1, et. seq., shall be exercised by the Common Council.
2. That, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-6, the Common Council hereby authorizes and directs the Planning Board to initiate and conduct a preliminary investigation to determine whether the areas set forth in the attached Schedule A are in need of redevelopment and to report said findings to the Common Council in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1, et. seq.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the redevelopment area determination shall further authorize the municipality to use all those powers provided by the New Jersey Legislature for use in a redevelopment area, including the power of eminent domain (hereinafter referred to as "Condemnation Redevelopment Area").

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs by the City Clerk, a copy shall be forwarded the following also, Chief Financial Officer, City Planning Board and Planning Board Secretary.

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
E. Gage		X	X			
V. Groce			X			
C. Hassler	X		X			
H. Johnson			X			
L. Thompson						X
J. Waddington			X			
K. Roots			X			

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration: President Roots reported the committee has been working with the Blue Collar Workers Association and the Police Officers Association with regard to their contracts. She spoke of a possible revaluation in the city, and gave an update on the recent department head meeting. The next Administration meeting will be scheduled in the new year.

Public Safety: Councilman Gage reported the committee had met earlier tonight with the police, and will meet next week with the fire and ambulance departments.

Public Works: Councilman Groce stated the committee will be meeting next Friday at the plant to discuss the RFP's received for possible water plant litigation.

Community Service: President Roots stated the last committee meeting was brief due to the admin meeting running long; they discussed the recent clean up that took place in the city.

Human Services: Councilman Hassler reminded everyone the Free Rabies Clinic will be held on January 16th from 9am-12noon at the Street Department on Grieves Parkway; licenses will be available to purchase also.

City Property/Capital: Councilwoman Carter discussed updating the camera system and repaving the driveway at the 17 New Market Municipal Annex, and the heating system at 1New Market. Councilman Hassler spoke of the roadway construction on Broadway.

Redevelopment: Councilman Waddington reported the committee discussed CCDC rehabbing properties with regard to demolition, new construction, and rehabilitation. They spoke about small cities and Oak Street, and the NRTC award. He then referred to Helene Pierson of SUFS/Main Street in the audience whom stated she has worked with DCA and is looking forward to working on the streetscape of Oak Street.

Neighborhood Initiatives: Councilman Johnson reported six (6) groups cleaned up various properties and locations on November 28th. The next meeting will be scheduled in the new year.

MAYORAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Washington stated it was a great weekend in the City of Salem, a lot of non-residents came to the city to enjoy the Yuletide Festivities; Broadway looked good, the Christmas parade was excellent, the parade committee members did a great job, and the streets were lined with a good amount of visitors to the city.

PUBLIC PORTION:

Bill Corbin of Davis Avenue commended City Council for the great job they have done this year for the City.

Rebecca Ferguson of Fenwick Avenue thanked Mayor Washington and council for naming a new commissioner to the Housing Authority Board.

With no further requests for public comment, Councilman Hassler made a motion to close the Public Portion of the meeting. Councilman Johnson seconded the motion and all were in favor. Councilman Hassler motioned to convene into Executive Session, Councilman Johnson seconded the motion and all were in favor. The regular portion of the meeting ended at 7:20pm.

RESOLUTION 2015-169

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CLOSED SESSION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b permits a public body to go into a closed session during a public meeting to discuss certain matters;

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is necessary to go into a closed session to discuss certain matters relating to the items as permitted by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Salem that the Council will go into closed session to discuss the following, in accordance with the aforesaid provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, after which it will reconvene in the public:

- a. CONTRACTS**
- b. LITIGATION**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the minutes of the closed session will be made available to the public when the need for privacy no longer exists.

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
E. Gage			X			
V. Groce			X			
C. Hassler	X		X			
H. Johnson		X	X			
L. Thompson						X
J. Waddington			X			
K. Roots			X			

With a Motion by Councilman Hassler, seconded by Councilman Gage, and all in favor, Council came out of Closed Session at 8:10. The following business took place:

RESOLUTION 2015-170

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ENDORSEMENT OF A NEW MARKET TAX CREDIT APPLICATION RELATING TO SALEM CITY BY INVENTIVE DEVELOPMENT INCORPORATED

WHEREAS, Inventive Development Incorporated (“IDI”) is certified by the U. S. Department of Treasury as a New Market Tax Credit, Community Development Entity (“CDE”); and

WHEREAS, IDI is making an application for New Market Tax Credits on December 15th, 2015 and is including Salem City in its application; and

WHEREAS, IDI has requested that the City endorse the application; and

WHEREAS, representatives of IDI made a formal presentation to City Council on November 23rd, 2015 and have represented to the satisfaction of the City that there will be no costs or risks to the City in connection with the application, including no match or reimbursement expense;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it hereby resolved by the Common Council of the City of Salem in the County of Salem and State of New Jersey that the Mayor and all other City Officials are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to take such actions as are necessary to officially endorse the application IDI is making for New Market Tax Credits relating to Salem City and to execute a Memorandum of Understanding in relation thereto.

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
E. Gage		X	X			
V. Groce			X			
C. Hassler	X		X			
H. Johnson			X			
L. Thompson						X
J. Waddington			X			
K. Roots			X			

RESOLUTION 2015-171

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CITY OFFICIALS TO SOLICIT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS/QUALIFICATIONS FOR CONSULTING AND STRATEGIC PLANNING SERVICES FOR THE PORT AREA

WHEREAS, the City deems it necessary and advantageous to solicit requests for proposals/qualifications from prospective firms regarding consulting and strategic planning services related to redevelopment of the Port and other areas;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the appropriate City Officials shall solicit requests for qualifications/proposals related to consulting and strategic planning services for the Port and other redevelopment areas.

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
E. Gage		X	X			
V. Groce			X			
C. Hassler	X		X			
H. Johnson			X			
L. Thompson						X
J. Waddington			X			
K. Roots			X			

RESOLUTION 2015-172

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING JULIAN LEFLORE TO FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF JOHN THOMAS FOR THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF SALEM

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Salem wishes to appoint JULIAN LEFLORE, to the position of Board Commissioner for the Housing Authority of the City of Salem to fill the unexpired term of John Thomas; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem and State of New Jersey, that JULIAN LEFLORE, is hereby appointed as a Board Commissioner for the Housing Authority of the City of Salem for a term ending December 31, 2015.

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter		X	X			
E. Gage			X			
V. Groce			X			
C. Hassler	X		X			
H. Johnson			X			
L. Thompson						X
J. Waddington			X			
K. Roots			X			

With no further business before Council, Councilman Hassler motioned to adjourn the meeting, Councilman Johnson seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The council meeting ended at 8:15pm

Respectfully submitted:

Approved: January 11, 2016

Kathleen L. Keen
Kathleen L. Keen, RMC City Clerk