

**CITY OF SALEM
MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
OF JULY 18, 2016**

A special 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, Charlie Hassler, Horace Johnson, and Lydia Thompson. Also in attendance were Mayor Charles Washington, Solicitor David Puma, CFO David Crescenzi, City Clerk Tierra M. Jennings. Councilwoman Sharon Kellum 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, 2016 SETTING FORTH THE TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF ALL THE REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM.

INVOCATION Mayor Charles Washington

PRESENTATIONS

- Mayor Washington presented the Salem Midget Football, Salem Little League, and Salem Cheerleaders all with a \$300 check for their excellent and hard work with the Circus. EMT was also honored with a \$100 check for assisting as emergency for the event.
- Mayor Washington along with Karen Roots recognized two Salem Crossing Guards that work for the City of Salem. Their names were Callie Morrow and Melvin Sorrell. They were honored for their hard work and going above and beyond the call of duty. They were honored with a certificate of appreciation. Also honored, were the Salem Public Works Department in which Councilman Groce accepted the award.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion made by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Johnson. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

COMMUNICATIONS/APPLICATION REPORTS

NJ Firemen's Association Membership Applications were approved by Council. Will be signed and sealed per City Clerk.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

RESOLUTION 2016-122

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SIGNING A SECOND ADDENDUM TO
THE SEWER LINE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT WITH QUINTON
TOWNSHIP**

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Salem wishes to repeal previous Resolution 2013-109 regarding said Sewer Line Maintenance Agreement and the terms therein; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem, and State of New Jersey that the Mayor and Acting Clerk are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to sign a Second Addendum to the Agreement between the City of Salem and Quinton Township to extend the term of the Sewer Line Maintenance Agreement for three (3) additional years with an increase of 0% increase for year one (1), 1% increase for year two (2) and 1% for year three (3).

Motion made by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Johnson to approve Resolution 2016-122. All in favor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2016-123

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MUNICIPAL TAX COLLECTOR TO SEND
ESTIMATED TAX BILLS**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:4-66.2 authorizes the Collector to prepare and deliver estimated tax bills upon approval of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, David Crescenzi as both the City's Tax Collector and Chief Financial Officer has requested that the City Council authorize estimated bills as he will be unable to complete mailing or delivery of tax bills by the statutory date due to a delay in the passage of the State of New Jersey's budget and the Salem County Tax Board is therefore unable to certify Salem City's tax rate at this time and for other good cause;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem and State of New Jersey, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-66.3, as follows:

- (i) That the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to prepare and mail or otherwise deliver estimated tax bills pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-66.2.
- (ii) The entire estimated tax levy for 2016, in accordance with the estimate of the Tax Collector/CFO in consultation with the County Tax Board in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-66.3, is hereby set at \$8,675,111.31

- (iii) In accordance with the law the 3rd installment of 2016 taxes shall not be subject to interest until the later of August 10th, 2016 or the 25th calendar day after the date the estimated tax bills were mailed. The estimated tax bills shall contain a notice specifying the date on which interest may begin to accrue.

Motion made by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Johnson to approve Resolution 2016-123. All in favor. Motion carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration, NICS, City Properties, Public Works, and Human Services all met on July 11, 2016 to discuss matters. Public Safety and Redevelopment did not meet.

MAYORAL COMMENTS

The City will looking into hiring more officers in the future. It was also noted by the Mayor that a four-wheeler had to be confiscated recently. The public needs to know that this causes a safety issue. He concluded that vacant property/future systems is being worked on.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Councilman Earl Gage stated that the dredging of mud diggers ditch by the County Mesquito Commission will commence in the future.

PUBLIC PORTION

- Keith Boyce Address: 241 Church Street- States that he has a vacant property that being cared for but listed as vacant and abandoned. He says that he wrote a letter to the City in regards to this. He was told by the City that another meeting will take place.
- Paul Dice, Executive Director of the Housing Authority Address: 25 Seventh Street- Discussed presentation on funding needed for capital improvement for the Salem Housing Authority. Each member of council was given a spreadsheet on the statement of operating revenues and expenditures for the period of October 1, 2015-May 31, 2016. He stated that complaints are being made in regards to the look of the property which he feels has been in effect for quite some time and something needs to be done about it immediately.
- Joy Coleman Address: Vanmeter Terrace- She stated that when someone comes out to assess her property, how will she know if their ID is counterfeit? She was informed that permits should be on them and clarify when they come out to assess. She also argued that the tax situation currently at hand is making it hard to be a private owner.

RESOLUTION 2016-124
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. PERSONNEL**
- b. CONTRACTS**

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.

Motion made by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Johnson to approve Resolution 2016-124. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

The City Council took a brief recess and went into closed session at 7:50pm. At 8:45pm, after conclusion of closed session, the following business took place:

RESOLUTION 2016-125
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRIAD ASSOCIATE TO PROCEED WITH AN
APPLICATION FOR THE CITY OF SALEM USDA EMERGENCY AND IMMINENT
COMMUNITY WATER ASSISTANCE GRANTS PROGRAM EMERGENCY WATER
WELL

WHEREAS, after engaging in the Fair and Open Process, on or about January 1, 2016 the City of Salem entered into an Agreement with TRIAD ASSOCIATES for grant writing services for the City of Salem; and

WHEREAS, the City requested TRIAD ASSOCIATES to assist in the preparation and filing of an application under the existing Professional Service Agreement (FY2016 General Services Agreement); and

WHEREAS, TRIAD ASSOCIATES has agreed that for all services rendered by TRIAD Associates in connection with the application including those set forth on Exhibit "A" hereto; TRIAD will be paid a total compensation of \$13,500.00 as set forth on Exhibit "B" ;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem, and State of New Jersey hereby authorize TRIAD ASSOCIATES to proceed with the preparation and filing of an application for financial assistance for the City of Salem under the USDA Emergency and Imminent Community Water Assistance Grant; and the appropriate City Officials are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to take any and all actions as are necessary to proceed hereunder.

Motion made by Councilman Gage and seconded by Councilman Hassler to approve Resolution 2016-125. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

RESOLUTION 2016-126

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRIAD ASSOCIATE TO PROCEED WITH AN APPLICATION FOR THE CITY OF SALEM UNDER THE NJDCA SMALL CITIES PUBLIC FACILITIES PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION FY2017

WHEREAS, after engaging in the Fair and Open Process, on or about January 1, 2016 the City of Salem entered into an Agreement with TRIAD ASSOCIATES for grant writing services for the City of Salem; and

WHEREAS, the City requested TRIAD ASSOCIATES to assist in the preparation and filing of an application under the existing Professional Service Agreement (FY2016 General Services Agreement); and

WHEREAS, TRIAD ASSOCIATES has agreed that for all services rendered by TRIAD Associates in connection with the application including those set forth on Exhibit "A" hereto; TRIAD will be paid a total compensation of \$14,200.00 as set forth on Exhibit "B" hereto.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem, and State of New Jersey hereby authorize TRIAD ASSOCIATES to proceed with the preparation and filing of an application for financial assistance for the City of Salem under the NJDCA Small Cities Public Facilities Program Grant; and the appropriate City Officials are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to take any and all actions as are necessary to proceed hereunder.

Motion made by Councilman Gage and seconded by Councilman Hassler to approve Resolution 2016-126. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

RESOLUTION 2016-127

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REVISED MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE SALEM FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH REGARDING THE OLIVE STREET GARDEN EXPANSION PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Salem First Presbyterian Church, through its Lighthouse Ministries Program, is presently operating a community garden on the vacant lot known as 38 Olive Street (Block 68, Lot 23); and

WHEREAS, the Community Garden has been very successful and the Church has requested that the City take certain actions in order to allow expansion of the Garden; and

WHEREAS, the Church and the City previously negotiated a Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”), to expand the garden, however revisions are necessary to the MOA as the expansion project will now be slightly smaller in scope;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem, and State of New Jersey that the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized, empowered and directed to execute the Memorandum of Agreement with the Salem First Presbyterian Church, in a form substantially similar to Exhibit “A” attached hereto; and all City Officials are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to take such action as are necessary to effectuate the items referenced in the Memorandum of Agreement.

-Motion made by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Johnson to approve Resolution 2016-127. All in favor. Motion carried 6-0-1. Earl Gage abstained.

-With no further business before Council, Councilman Hassler motioned to adjourn the meeting, Councilman Johnson seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The council meeting ended at 8:55pm.