

**CITY OF SALEM
MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
OF MARCH 20, 2017**

A meeting of the Common Council of the City of Salem was called to order President Karen Roots. The meeting took place at the 1 New Market Street at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present: Councilpersons Ruth Carter, Earl Gage, Vaughn Groce, Charles Hassler, Horace Johnson, Sharon Kellum, and Lydia Thompson. Also in attendance were Mayor Charles Washington, Andrea Rhea, City Solicitor, CFO David Crescenzi, and City Clerk Tierra M. Jennings.

INVOCATION PASTOR DANNY THOMAS OF MOUNT HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

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 AND POSTING AT THE MUNICIPAL ANNEX OF A SCHEDULE ADOPTED BY RESOLUTION ON JANUARY 2ND, 2017 SETTING FORTH THE TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF ALL THE REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion made by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Gage to approve the payment of bills. All in favor. Motion carries.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Gage to adopt the minutes of FEBRUARY 21, 2017 and MARCH 6, 2017 OPEN AND CLOSED SESSION. Roll Call. Motion carried 8-0.

COMMUNICATION/APPLICATION/REPORTS

ENTERTAINMENT APPLICATIONS

SALEM MIDGET FOOTBALL TO HOST A COIN DROP ON APRIL 8, MAY 6, AND AUGUST 5 (ALL FROM 9AM-2PM) BETWEEN MARKET STREET AND WALNUT STREET

Motion made by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Gage to accept Roadway Solicitation Application. All in favor. Motion carries.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE FOR FIRST READING

1614 AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2017 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

Motion made by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Gage to introduce Ordinance 1614 for first reading, Roll Call. Motion carried 8-0.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

**CITY OF SALEM
RESOLUTION 2017-81**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INTRODUCTION OF THE
2017 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF SALEM**

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 attached is hereby adopted for introduction as the City's 2017 Budget; and the same shall be duly advertised and made available for public inspection in accordance with all statutory requirements; and scheduled for a public hearing, after due notice thereof, at which time the budget shall be considered for adoption.

Motion made by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Gage to adopt Resolution 2017-81. Roll Call. Motion carries 8-0.

**CITY OF SALEM
RESOLUTION 2017-82**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM
ADOPTING THE MITIGATION PLAN FOR FOUR NEW JERSEY COUNTIES-
SALEM CITY, SALEM COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Salem recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within City of Salem and;

WHEREAS, the City of Salem has participated in the preparation of the Mitigation Plan for Four New Jersey Counties, a multi-jurisdictional, multi-hazard mitigation plan in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS, the Mitigation Plan for Four New Jersey Counties includes:

- The *Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan* and *Annexes* that include summary information common to all participating jurisdictions in the four county region, and
- The City of Salem Appendix that identifies mitigation goals, strategies, and measures specifically for the City of Salem to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from the impacts of future hazard events and disasters; and

WHEREAS, adoption by the Common Council of the City of Salem demonstrates commitment to hazard mitigation and achieving the goals outlined in the Mitigation Plan for Four New Jersey Counties.

NOW THEREFORE, in accordance with the Common Council of the City of Salem be it resolved by Salem City, Salem County, New Jersey, that:

The Common Council of the City of Salem adopts the Mitigation Plan for Four New Jersey Counties and the City of Salem Appendix including authorizing the formation and duties of the City of Salem Hazard Mitigation Working Group (Working Group) as follows:

1. The Working Group shall be convened by the City of Salem Emergency Management Coordinator and will include representatives of the following departments, agencies, and organizations and other interested parties:
 - a. Mayor Charles Washington, Jr, Emergency Management Coordinator John Pelura, Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator Michael Pelura, and Planning Board Chairman Jim Smith
2. The Working Group shall convene to conduct plan implementation and maintenance activities as identified in the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan and City of Salem Appendix including monitoring, evaluation, and updating the City of Salem Appendix and providing annual reports to the Common Council of the City of Salem and the Salem County Office of Emergency Management.

Motion made by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Gage to adopt Resolution 2017-82. Roll Call. Motion carries 8-0.

**CITY OF SALEM
RESOLUTION 2017-83**

**A RESOLUTION CONCURRING IN THE APPOINTMENT OF DOUG HOGATE TO
THE POSITION OF CLASS II SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER OF THE CITY OF
SALEM POLICE DEPARTMENT**

WHEREAS, the City of Salem has a need to hire Class II Special Police Officer and;

WHEREAS, the Mayor wishes to hire Doug Hogate to the position of Class II Special Police Officer of the City of Salem Police Department; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:61-4(f) the Council has the right of advice and consent with respect to such hiring; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Salem, hereby concurs with the appointment of Doug Hogate to the position of Class II Special Police Officer and accordingly a waiver of the City's residency requirement is necessary and proper and is hereby granted in accordance with this appointment;

NOW THEREFOR BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem and State of New Jersey, hereby consents to the appointment of Doug Hogate to the position of Class II Special Officer of the City of Salem Police Department at a salary of \$20.00 per hour and an effective starting date of March 27, 2017.

Motion made by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Gage to adopt Resolution 2017-83. Roll Call. Motion carries 8-0.

**CITY OF SALEM
RESOLUTION 2017-84**

**RESOLUTION TO AVERAGE TAX COLLECTION RATE
FOR USE IN THE 2017 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

WHEREAS, the City of Salem experienced a decline in the tax collection rate for the year 2016; and

WHEREAS, the use of the lower collection rate in arriving at the budget appropriation Reserve for Uncollected Taxes in the 2017 Municipal Budget would result in an unfair tax burden to the taxpayers of the City of Salem; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs will allow the City of Salem to use the average of the prior three years' collection rates in calculating the budget appropriation Reserve for Uncollected Taxes in the 2017 Municipal Budget; and

WHEREAS, the prior three years' collection rates are 87.35% for 2013, 88.13% for 2014 and 83.17% for 2015; and

WHEREAS, the averaging of the prior three years' collection rates result in a collection rate of 86.22%;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Salem will use the collection rate of 82.13% in calculating the budget appropriation Reserve for Uncollected Taxes in the 2017 Municipal Budget.

Motion made by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Groce to adopt Resolution 2017-84. Roll Call. Motion carries 8-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration: (Roots, Hassler, Johnson, Carter)

See attached

Public Safety: (Gage, Roots, Hassler, Carter)

Spoke about new special officer to be hired in the police department. Mr. Gage stated that it will assist with the new Bail Reform that was implemented in January 2017. Mr. Groce commended the Police Chief on how he works well with the departments to get things done.

Public Works: (Groce, Roots, Hassler, Gage)

No Report. Will meet this Friday March 24, 2017

Human Services: (Hassler, Gage, Groce, Thompson)

Moving to the next level with Future Systems.

Neighborhood Initiatives/ Community Service: (Thompson, Johnson, Roots, Carter)

Target date for the City Pool will be June 22, 2017. Joseph Elk will be doing the painting. Amnesty Day will commence in April along with Spring Cleanup. Ms. Thompson would like Mr. Johnson to give a report on the Neighborhood Watch Program

City Property/Capital: (Carter, Hassler, Thompson, Roots)

Meeting with Future Systems. Ms. Carter stated that the bench in front of the library has been fixed. Also, Oak Street Bid will commence on March 23, 2017 (due to inclement weather from March 14)

Redevelopment: (Groce, Johnson, Gage):

No Report

MAYORAL COMMENTS

Mayor commented on the proposed budget. Stated that the governing body does an excellent job with being financially responsible. Also would like to thank OEM Manager for their work to the previous storm.

Regarding NTI (Neighborhood Transmission Initiative), Mayor met with USDA and looking into finances being available to jumpstart the program. At the next meeting, will have MOU through Rutgers University.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

NONE

PUBLIC PORTION

William Corbin- 16 Davis Ave: Enjoy watching the children play. Also went into the Courtroom and was impressed with how it was handled.

Joy Coleman- VanMeter Terrace: 1)Asked about Budget at first reading. Dave C. explained the process to Ms. Coleman for a clearer understanding. 2) Ms. Coleman inquired about the mitigation plan and if the OEM Manager gets paid separately.3) Ms.Coleman inquired about the Resolution 2017-84 Average Tax Collection Rate.4) Ms. Coleman asked who the new City Solicitor was as she was not aware of the change.5) Inquired how the City handles Landlords and if there is ordinance and how long it takes to come into effect.6) Asked about the junk pile and if it is private ownership

Motion made by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Gage to close public portion. All in Favor. Motion carries.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before Council, Councilman Hassler motioned to adjourn the meeting, Councilman Gage seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The council meeting ended at 7:05pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Approved: April 3, 2017



City Clerk