

**CITY OF SALEM
MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL REORGANIZATION
JANUARY 1, 2018**

The Reorganization meeting of the Common Council of the City of Salem was called to order by City Clerk, Tierra M. Jennings. The meeting took place in the Municipal Building located at 1 New Market Street at 12:00p.m. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION Pastor Anthony Bailey of Word Alive Worship Center gave the invocation.

STATEMENT OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT Notice of the Reorganization Meeting of the 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 on December 20, 2017 setting for the time, date and place of this Reorganization Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Salem.

OATHS OF OFFICE

Council elect(s) Vaughn Groce and Russell Walker were privileged to have the Oath of Office administered by the Honorable Charles Washington, Jr. The inductees were congratulated by their fellow Councilmembers and took their seats on the dais. Councilpersons present were: Ruth Carter, Earl Gage, Vaughn Groce, Russell Walker, Karen Roots, Lydia Thompson, and Sharon Kellum. Horace Johnson was absent. Also present were Mayor Charles Washington Jr, Solicitor Andrea Rhea, Chief Financial Officer David Crescenzi, City Administrator Jennifer Blumenthal, and City Clerk Tierra M. Jennings.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:61-6(b) Council shall by a vote of a majority of its number, elect a President of Council and a President Pro Tempore. City Clerk Tierra M. Jennings declared the floor open for nomination for the position of President of Council. It was moved and seconded by Councilman Earl Gage and Councilwoman Sharon Kellum that Karen Roots be elected President. There were no other nominations. City Clerk Tierra M. Jennings then closed the nominations. The roll call vote was as follows: Carter-Y, Gage-Y, Groce-Y, Walker-Y, Roots-Abstain, Thompson-Y, Kellum-Y. Motion carried 7-0. President Roots assumed the chair and thanked members of Council for their support. The Mayor and members of Council congratulated Ms. Roots.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

City Clerk Tierra M. Jennings declared the floor open for the nomination for the position of President Pro Tempore of Council. It was moved and seconded by Councilman Groce and Councilwoman Kellum to nominate Earl Gage as President Pro Tempore. There were no other nominations, City Clerk Tierra M. Jennings closed the nominations. The roll call vote was as follows: Carter-Y, Gage-Abstain, Groce-Y, Walker-Y, Roots-Y, Thompson-Y, Kellum-Y. Motion carried 7-0. President Pro Tempore Hassler thanked members of Council for their support. The Mayor and members of Council congratulated Mr. Gage.

**MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS
2018**

PLANNING BOARD

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Earl Gage | Class III (Council) | 1 Year Term Expires: 12-31-2018 |
| Cathy Lanard | Class IV | 4 Year Term Expires: 12-31-2021 |
| William Sumiel, Jr. | Class IV (D) | 4 Year Term Expires: 12-31-2021 |

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

| | | |
|---------------|---------|---------------------------------|
| Sharon Kellum | Seat #5 | 3 Year Term Expires: 12-31-2020 |
|---------------|---------|---------------------------------|

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

| | | |
|---------------|---------|---------------------------------|
| Sharon Kellum | Seat #2 | 5 Year Term Expires: 12-31-2022 |
|---------------|---------|---------------------------------|

HOUSING AUTHORITY

| | | |
|-----------|--------------|---|
| Jim Smith | Mayoral Seat | 5 Year Term Expires: 12/31/2021 *(Unexpired Term of Katrina |
|-----------|--------------|---|

Tatum)*

| | | |
|------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|
| Rebecca Gower-Ferguson | Seat 5 | 5 Year Term Expires: 12/31/2022 |
|------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|

SHADE TREE COMMISSION

| | | |
|----------------|--------|---------------------------------|
| Evelyn Shuman | Seat 1 | 5 Year Term Expires: 12/31/2022 |
| Beth Davenport | Seat 2 | 5 Year Term Expires: 12/31/2022 |
| Betsy Davis | Seat 3 | 5 Year Term Expires: 12/31/2022 |

I, Charles Washington, Jr. hereby sign this instrument below as Mayor of the City of Salem, on this first day of January 2018, confirming the above referenced appointments.

Charles Washington, Jr., Mayor

MAYORAL ADDRESS

Mayor Washington acknowledged distinguished members of the audience as well as his family.

MAYORAL ADDRESS
JANUARY 1, 2018
MAYOR CHARLES WASHINGTON JR.

I would like to thank everyone for coming to share this day with City Council and I as we reorganize for a new year. I want to congratulate Councilman Groce on being re-elected to Council and welcome Mr. Russel Walker to Council and look forward to working with you to move our city forward.

Ladies and gentlemen we are two years into the execution of a strategic plan to create a sustainable and tangible change in our community. Two years into a plan that was birthed out of necessity, inspired by hope and crafted through a unified vision of Mayor and Council. Already in these two short years this plan has been met with great challenge and in spite of those challenges we as a governing body and as a community remain inspired by hope and united in making Salem a better place work, play and call home. Last year we focused on three key sectors that are imperative to the success of a thriving community; housing, economic development and quality of life.

In June of last year we rolled out our Neighborhood Transformation Initiative the NTI. This initiative brought the support of the Federal Government through the office of the United States Department of Agriculture; promoting home ownership in the city and wealth building for families and individuals taking advantage of the initiative. While we have been very thorough in our efforts to establish policy associated with this initiative we are continuously working to improve the producers in conjunction with the Salem City Commerce Department.

This year we will continue to build on the foundation of NTI and the work the commerce department has done in hopes of attracting additional support from state agencies and non-profits to ensure proper procedure creation and establish additional funding sources for applicants. While we've had several unsuccessful attempts at program qualification it's our goal to get at least one qualified applicant moved into a home through this program and inspire others to home ownership.

Last year we took a strategic approach to our economic development by working with the state's Local Planning Services department to craft a Redevelopment Plan for our city focusing on our Port District. In addition; as a result of following through on one of our Port plans presented here last year we were able to secure an additional \$23,000 from our Shared Revenue Agreement with South Jersey Port Corp. This agreement provides us 50% of all revenue associated with the use of our FTZ. Already this year we've been able to negotiate an additional \$15,000 from South Jersey Port Corp. to market our port. With these additional funds we have more than doubled the \$30,000 we had previously received from South Jersey Port Corp. for almost 30 years.

We've also seen the opening of our new manufacturing company Empire Blended; implementing Phase I of its operational plan currently employing a dozen people. Through our Commerce Department we were able to assist Empire Blended in securing a long term lease to increase their foot print for a sand drying operation which will yield an additional 20 jobs.

First quarter 2018 we will officially adopt our Redevelopment Plan; a plan that will be used as a guide to all potential investors outlining how we the people want to see our community developed for future growth. Second quarter 2018 we anticipate the completion of the county rail line and bulkhead to allow for Empire Blended to move into Phase II of their operations plan of ordering equipment; Third quarter Phase III a collaborative hiring event with the city to identify local hires and finally offering employment in the final phase of the plan in 4th quarter 2018 making 150 jobs available to local residence first.

Directly across the street from Empire Blended is the former Anchor Glass site. This site has been vacant for more then 2 years and this year our Council and Commerce Dept will put even more emphasis on coalescing all our state, county and local resources around finding an investor to make the site operational once again. Its the goal of this Council as well as our Commerce Dept to secure the sale of this site and attract at least one new manufacturing company to Salem by the end of 2018 offering 100's of additional jobs for local residence. It is our expectation to see structural and capital improvements to the building in the months ahead such as painting, demolition of furnaces and roof work in preparation of future use and job creation this year.

With the infusion of expected investment in our City it is imperative that we make investment in our law enforcement to protect all stakeholders; investors and homeowners to provide for a safer and more productive quality of life in our community. Since 2012; this administration has hired 5 officers to a department that had been depleted through attrition. Those 5 hiring's make up almost 30% of our patrolmen. This year we have allocated funding to hire 3 more officers to increase our Police department to 22 men; the highest staffing levels since 2008. While beefing up our police force helps our residences feel safe the best way to improve quality of life is for our residence to assist our law enforcement with cooperation. We as a community can't wait until someone is shot or killed before we assist our police. We need to be outraged that anyone would choose to use a gun in the city we live and raise our families.

We have to be furious enough to do more then post or tweet about a shooting in our city but to call and give an anonymous tip to remove all societal menaces off of our streets. The most effective police force is one that is supported and assisted by the community they police. It's the responsibility of all our residence to use their voices to collectively inform those that would break the law that their actions are not acceptable and will not be tolerated in our community. If we as a community; concerned citizens, churches, elected officials and police stand together we will be able to take back our community, raise our families in a safer environment and we will produce a community that more closely resembles the kind, hardworking and loving people that make Salem City great.

With all that we have accomplished in 2017 and all we anticipate accomplishing in 2018 we know that there are areas of concern we need to address. Economically challenged communities have become havens for offering poor quality food or grocery store closures creating food deserts in communities who residence don't have the means to travel to other locations or have multiple shopping options within the city limits. As a result residence are forced to buy over priced goods and poor quality produce from alternative sources like dollar stores.

Salem unfortunately has become part of the statics in this category when we lost our only grocery store in Oct. Since the closure we have met once every week devising a plan to attract sole proprietors or independent grocers to the vacated site. We've sent emails to all major food

chains and independent grocers then followed all emails up with an official letter from the city soliciting interest in the site. We've reached out for assistance at the state level and I've spoken and have been assisted by other Mayors who have experienced food deserts in their community. We've researched state and federal funding sources to address this need and have met with non-profits to discuss Co-opt programs. Since that time we continue to meet on a regular bi-weekly basis to strategize on a plan to bring a grocery store to our community. Until we can fill the void left by the closure of Incollingo's we have sent out information to all residence about Charity programs within the city limits that can act as a stop gap measure to ensure residence can put food on the table for their families.

We have devised a plan to bring quality meats and produce into our community and we will continue to work that plan until our desired outcome is met. There will not be a quick fix to this crisis but we will continue to make this our main priority because our residence deserve quality meats and produce at a fair price from a grocery store or co-opt program within their hometown.

Although we face challenges and will continue to face challenges in the future; today we have more reason then ever to be hopeful. Today we are closer to having infrastructure improved to support job creation; that's something to be hopeful for. Today we are closer to bringing jobs back into our city; that's something to be hopeful for. Today we are closer to seeing our City revived because our residence have remained faithful, prayerful and stayed to uplift her and that is something to be proud of. The scriptures remind us in Romans 12:12 to "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."

Over the years Salem has endured its fair share of tribulation be it economically or socially. But our residence have believed in Salem and have been patiently waiting a brighter tomorrow. Those who've been patient have done so in constant prayer for city leadership and improved quality of life for all that call Salem City home. Because of those effectual fervent prayers; Today we begin to rejoice in hope; we rejoice in hope because we've endured our valley now it's time to embrace the peaks of success. We rejoice in hope because hope has brought us to today and hope will carry us through tomorrow. We rejoice in hope for I am persuaded Salem's greatest days are not behind her by but lye still ahead.

Thank you; God Bless you and God Bless Salem City

COUNCIL PRESIDENT REMARKS

Council President Roots stated that we have to work together to make change in our community. She then asked all Council and the Administrative staff to stand to be acknowledged and thanked them for their services thus far.

PROCLAMATION FOR CHARLES HASSLER

Mayor Charles Washington Jr along with Council President Karen Roots presented Charles Hassler with a glass-framed proclamation and gift from Council on his extraordinary work with City Council. He received a standing ovation from Council and the audience. Mr. Hassler thereafter thanked everyone for such appreciation and looks forward to his new position as a Salem County Freeholder.

3RD LEGISLATIVE REMARKS

Mayor Washington acknowledged all dignitaries that were present at the meeting which included Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney, Deputy Speaker John Burzichelli, and Freeholder Lee Ware. They all spoke briefly and gave very encouraging words to the City of Salem.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Councilman Gage motioned to approve Resolutions 2018-01 through 2018-12. Councilwoman Kellum seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was as follows: Carter-Y, Gage-Y, Groce-Y, Walker-Y, Thompson-Y, Kellum-Y, and Roots-Y. Motion carried 7-0.

- 2018-01 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING ANDREA RHEA, ESQUIRE AS SOLICITOR AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SALEM TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- 2018-02 - A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF THE REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM FOR THE YEAR 2018

- 2018-03 - A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING DEPOSITORIES FOR THE CITY OF SALEM FOR THE YEAR 2018

- 2018-04 - A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS FOR CITY OF SALEM FOR THE YEAR 2018

- 2018-07 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TEMPORARY BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2018
- 2018-08 - A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING COUNCIL COMMITTEES FOR THE YEAR 2018
- 2018-09 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING TIERRA M. JENNINGS AS REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE CITY OF SALEM
- 2018-10 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING JANE PANKOK AS DEPUTY REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE CITY OF SALEM
- 2018-11 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING TIERRA M. JENNINGS AS MUNICIPAL SEARCH OFFICER OF THE CITY OF SALEM
- 2018-12 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING DAVID CRESCENZI AS DEPUTY MUNICIPAL CLERK

Councilman Gage motioned to approve Resolutions 2018-13 through 2018-24. Councilwoman Kellum seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was as follows: Carter-Y, Gage-Y, Groce-Y, Walker-Y, Thompson-Y, Kellum-Y, and Roots-Y. Motion carried 7-0.

- 2018-13 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING DAVID CRESCENZI AS THE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION OFFICER FOR THE CITY OF SALEM
- 2018-14 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING TIERRA M. JENNINGS AS PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER FOR THE CITY OF SALEM
- 2018-15 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING HENRY D. YOUNG AS RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT FOR THE STATEWIDE INSURANCE FUND
- 2018-16 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING CYNTHIA EDWARDS AS RECYCLING COORDINATOR AND REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SALEM COUNTY ADVISORY SOLID WASTE COUNCIL
- 2018-17 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING PAUL LEDFORD AS MUNICIPAL RECYCLING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

- 2018-18 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING TAMMY STELL AS TAX SEARCH OFFICER OF THE CITY OF SALEM
- 2018-19 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING JAMES HARE AS CLERK/IT
- 2018-20 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING JENNIFER BLUMENTHAL AS MUNICIPAL DRUG ALLIANCE COORDINATOR
- 2018-21 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING CAROL WRIGHT AS ZONING OFFICER OF THE CITY OF SALEM
- 2018-22 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING RUTH CARTER AS COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CITY OF SALEM LIBRARY BOARD
- 2018-23 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING EARL R. GAGE AS COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CITY OF SALEM PLANNING BOARD
- 2018-24 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING KAREN ROOTS AND HORACE JOHNSON AS CO-COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO THE CITY OF SALEM BOARD OF EDUCATION

Councilman Gage motioned to approve Resolutions 2018-25 through 2018-36. Councilwoman Kellum seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was as follows: Carter-Y, Gage-Y, Groce-Y, Walker-Y, Thompson-Y, Kellum-Y, and Roots-Y. Motion carried 7-0.

- 2018-25 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING HORACE JOHNSON AS THE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CITY OF SALEM HOUSING AUTHORITY
- 2018-26 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING EARL R. GAGE AS THE CITY OF SALEM REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SALEM COUNTY TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
- 2018-27 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING CYNTHIA EDWARDS AS THE RIGHT TO KNOW COORDINATOR FOR THE CITY OF SALEM
- 2018-28 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING CATHY LANARD TO THE SALEM CITY PLANNING BOARD

- 2018-29 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING WILLIAM SUMIEL, JR TO THE SALEM CITY PLANNING BOARD
- 2018-30 A REOLUTION APPOINTING JIM SMITH TO THE SALEM CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY
- 2018-31 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING REBECCA-GOWER FERGUSON TO THE SALEM CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY
- 2018-32 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING SHARON KELLUM TO THE SALEM CITY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
- 2018-33 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING SHARON KELLUM TO THE SALEM CITY FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD
- 2018-34 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING EVELYN SHUMAN TO THE SALEM CITY SHADE TREE COMMISSION
- 2018-35 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING BETH DAVENPORT TO THE SALEM CITY SHADE TREE COMMISSION
- 2018-36 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING BETSY DAVIS TO THE SALEM CITY SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Councilman Gage motioned to approve Resolutions 2018-37 through 2018-45. Councilwoman Kellum seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was as follows: Carter-Y, Gage-Y, Groce-Y, Walker-Y, Thompson-Y, Kellum-Y, and Roots-Y. Motion carried 7-0.

- 2018-37 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING TRI-COUNTY TERMITE & PEST CONTROL, INC. TO PROVIDE AN INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PROGRAM TO THE CITY OF SALEM
- 2018-38 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH EDMUND H. SHIMP FOR THE PROVISION OF ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF SALEM
- 2018-39 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING BARBER CONSULTING SERVICES, LLC AS COMPUTER CONSULTANT AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SALEM TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- 2018-40 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING ACACIA FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AS MUNICIPAL FINANCIAL ADVISOR AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SALEM TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
- 2018-41 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING ANDREA RHEA, ESQ. AS MUNICIPAL PROSECUTOR FOR THE CITY OF SALEM
- 2018-42 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING TERRY STOMEL, ESQ. AS PUBLIC DEFENDER AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SALEM TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
- 2018-43 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE FIRM OF EXCEL ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AS THE BROWNFIELDS DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY
- 2018-44 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING HENRY J. LUDWIGSEN AND FRED CALTABIANO OF BOWMAN AND COMPANY, LLP AS AUDITORS AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SALEM TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
- 2018-45 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING TRIAD ASSOCIATES AS THE MUNICIPAL GRANT CONSULTANT AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SALEM TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.

Councilman Gage motioned to approve Resolutions 2018-46 through 2018-53. Councilwoman Kellum seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was as follows: Carter-Y, Gage-Y, Groce-Y, Walker-Y, Thompson-Y, Kellum-Y, and Roots-Y. Motion carried 7-0.

- 2018-46 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING SICKELS & ASSOCIATES AS MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER ENGINEER AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SALEM TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
- 2018-47 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE FIRM OF TOCHI CONSULTING ENGINEERS AS CITY PLANNER AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SALEM TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- 2018-48 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE FIRM OF REMINGTON & VERNICK AS CITY ENGINEER AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SALEM TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
- 2018-49 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE FIRM OF RUDERMAN, HORN, ESMERADO, PC AS LABOR RELATIONS COUNSEL AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SALEM TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.
- 2018-50 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING ROBERT H. BEINFELD AND THE FIRM OF HAWKINS, DELAFIELD & WOOD AS CITY BOND ATTORNEY AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SALEM TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
- 2018-51 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER DAVE CRESCENZI AND CITY CLERK, TIERRA M. JENNINGS AS FUND COMMISSIONER AND ALTERNATE FUND COMMISSIONER FOR THE STATEWIDE INSURANCE FUND
- 2018-52 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH CUMBERLAND COUNTY SPCA FOR THE PROVISION OF ANIMAL SHELTER SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF SALEM
- 2018-53 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE FIRM OF PARKER MCKAY AS SPECIAL BOND COUNSEL AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SALEM TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

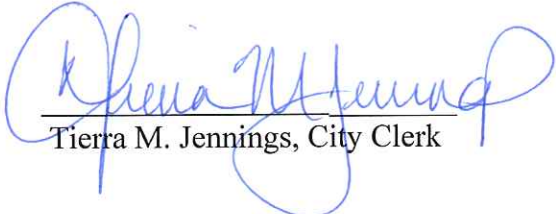
With no further business before Council, Councilman Gage made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:45 p.m. Councilwoman Kellum seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

BENEDICTION

Pastor Awood Jones of Mount Zion Baptist Church gave the benediction.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved: _____ February 5, 2017


 Tierra M. Jennings, City Clerk