

**CITY OF SALEM
MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
OF MARCH 2, 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 Old County Courthouse located at Broadway and 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. Councilman Hampton 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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Councilman Hassler, seconded by Councilman Johnson to adopt the minutes of the February 2, 2015 Regular Council and Closed Session Meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

PRESENTATIONS:

Ms. Evelyn Shuman of VFW Post 253 Women’s Auxiliary approached Council, thanking them for their continued support of the Women’s Auxiliary throughout the years; she then presented Council with a framed Certificate of Appreciation from the Women’s Auxiliary.

Monique Chadband of the United Way of Salem County informed Council the United Way will be entering their 60th year in 2016, to date they work with over 30 other agencies regularly. She spoke of the numerous programs they provide; giving out food every 3rd Thursday at a local church, Youth Basketball, VITA-Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, the Children’s Space, and many more. Mayor Washington praised the United Way for their exemplary work, stating the council looks forward to working with them.

COMMUNICATIONS/APPLICATIONS/REPORTS

Councilman Hassler motioned to approve an Entertainment License Application for the Women’s League of Salem to have an Easter Egg Hunt at Pederson Park on March 28 from 9:30-10:30am. Councilwoman Carter seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING

ORDINANCE 1502
AN ORDINANCE GRANTING RENEWED CONSENT AND PERMISSION TO SOUTH
JERSEY GAS COMPANY TO USE THE PUBLIC STREETS TO FURNISH GAS FOR
LIGHT, HEAT AND POWER IN THE CITY OF SALEM

WHEREAS, South Jersey Gas Company, a corporation of the State of New Jersey, provides natural gas service to the City of Salem pursuant to the municipal consent first granted to South Jersey Gas Company in that certain Ordinance passed on September 26, 1955; and

WHEREAS, South Jersey Gas Company now seeks, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-15, the consent of the City of Salem to renew Section A243-1 of Ordinance A243 applicable to the use of the streets in the City of Salem by adopting the following Ordinance;

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

Section 1. That exclusive consent and permission is hereby renewed and granted to South Jersey Gas Company to lay and construct its pipes and mains and related appurtenances and facilities within the streets, alleys, squares and public places within the City of Salem in the manner prescribed by N.J.S.A. 48:9-21, and subject to reasonable regulations imposed by ordinance or resolution with respect to the opening of streets and public places, subject to approval of such consent and permission by the Board of Public Utilities.

Section 2. This consent is granted for the entire geographical area of the City of Salem and extend to the boundaries of the City of Salem and shall remain in effect for a period of fifty (50) years from the date of final adoption of this Ordinance.

Section 3. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held by any Court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

Section 4. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon posting, publication, final passage in the manner prescribed by law, and acceptance by South Jersey Gas Company.

THIS ORDINANCE shall take effect according to law.

Council President Roots declared the public hearing open on Ordinance No. 1502. With no public comments, it was moved and seconded by Councilpersons Hassler and Johnson the public hearing be closed. Motion carried 7-0. It was moved and seconded by Councilpersons Hassler and Johnson that Ordinance No. 1502 be adopted on second reading. The roll call vote was as follows:

ORDINANCE 1502

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

Introduced: February 2, 2015

Published: February 7, 2015

Public Hearing: March 2, 2015

Final Adoption: March 2, 2015

Final Publication: March 5, 2015

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:**RESOLUTION 2015-65****A RESOLUTION APPOINTING CAROL WRIGHT AS MUNICIPAL
RECYCLING/SANITATION ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Salem, in the County of Salem and State of New Jersey that Carol Wright is hereby appointed as Recycling/Sanitation Enforcement Officer for a one year period retroactive to January 1, 2015 and until December 31, 2015; and the total compensation for serving in such capacity shall be \$1,000.00.

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

RESOLUTION 2015-66**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INTRODUCTION OF THE 2015 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 2015 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.

Council President Roots asked for any questions on comments regarding Resolution 2015-66. CFO Crescenzi explained the introduced budget has a \$0.27 increase due to a reduction in assessments, numerous tax appeals, and the lack of Tax Sale Liens. He stressed there will be continued work on the budget before final approval, and lastly discussed In-Rem Tax foreclosures. Councilmen Waddington and Hassler voiced their concerns with introducing the budget, noting they have not had sufficient time to look at it, nor have there been ample budget meetings to discuss it; Councilman Groce agreed. Council President Roots reminded everyone introducing the budget is just that, an “Introduction” and must be done according to statute; the council will continue to meet and work on the budget in the next few weeks. The vote was as follows:

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

RESOLUTION 2015-67
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FOR
TRANSITIONAL AID FOR THE CY 2015

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Salem, in the County of Salem, and the State of New Jersey recognizes the need to apply for financial assistance by submission of Application under the Transitional Aid Program for the CY 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council acknowledges that upon submission of the application, State oversight shall begin immediately and will be terminated only upon one of the following conditions: (1) the application for aid is withdrawn; (2) notice is received that no award of funds will be provided in 2015; or (3) consistent with the terms of the/an MOU are required to be executed as a condition of grant award.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Salem, in the County of Salem and State of New Jersey that the Submission of the Transitional Aid Application for the CY 2015 is hereby authorized and approved.

Council President Roots asked for any comments or questions regarding Resolution 2015-67. Councilman Gage voiced his concern with the Transitional Aid application process; Councilmen Hassler and Groce also shared their concerns. After some discussion the vote to Table was as follows:

TABLED: March 2, 2015

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

**RESOLUTION 2015-68
A RESOLUTION AWARDED CONTRACTS TO SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS
FOR THE SALE OF CHEMICALS AND METERS TO THE
CITY OF SALEM WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT**

WHEREAS, the City Council authorized the City Clerk to prepare bid specifications and solicit the Re-Bid of proposals for Provisions of Chemicals and Meters; and

WHEREAS, notice was advertised for submission of re-bids to the City of Salem for the sale of SODIUM HYPOCHLORITE SOLUTION – NaOCL, CALCIUM HYPOCHLORITE TABLETS, AND MAGNETIC DRIVE METERS for use by the Water and Sewer Department for the period from January 1st, 2015 to December 31st, 2015; and

WHEREAS, bids were opened before the City Officials on February 24, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 1 New Market Street, Salem, New Jersey;

NOW BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem and State of New Jersey that contracts be awarded to the following qualified low bidders for the supply of chemicals and meters and the bid deposit of the unsuccessful bidders be returned by the City Clerk:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>COMPANY</u>	<u>BID PRICE</u>
Sodium Hypochlorite Solution NaOCL 60,000 gals 3,300 Gal Del	Miracle Chemical Co Inc. 1151 B Highway #33 Farmingdale, NJ 07727	\$0.9549/gal \$57,294.00

Calcium Hypochlorite Tablets 6,000 lbs.	Coyne Chemical Co Inc. 3015 State Road Croydon, PA 19021	\$2.0806 -Pallet Delivery	
2 inch magnetic drive meters (2)	RIO Supply, Inc.	\$898.00	\$1,796.00
1 ½ inch magnetic drive meters (5)	100 Allied Parkway	\$721.00	\$3,605.00
1 inch magnetic drive meters (10)	Sicklerville, NJ 08081	\$397.00	\$3,970.00
5/8 x ¾ magnetic drive meters(100)		\$268.00	\$26,800.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Clerk be authorized and directed to execute contracts with the above successful bidders.

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

SWEARING IN OF NEW POLICE OFFICER

At this time, surrounded by his family, Dakwaun Mills was formally sworn in by Mayor Washington as a Patrolman for the City of Salem Police Department. Mayor Washington spoke of the need for police officers in the city and praised Patrolman Mills for his desire to serve the public.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration: President Roots reported effective January 12, the Registrar Office hours had been changed to Tuesday – Thursday 9am-11:30am and 1:30pm-4:00pm. Notary Public services will be distributed evenly among the administration office staff, charging for Notary Public services for non-residents was also discussed. City Clerk Keen has distributed employee evaluations to department heads to be administered by March 31. Snow removal at the Municipal Annex, 17 New Market Street needs to be done, even though the building is not in use at this time. CFO Crescenzi will implement online Tax/Sewer/Water payments after the Administration offices move back into the Municipal Annex. The County dispatch contract was discussed and Mayor Washington spoke of implementing a 3rd party payroll company utilizing automated “swipe cards” or “finger prints” for time controls. Lastly President Roots noted the next scheduled administration meeting will need to be changed, everyone will be notified.

Public Safety: Councilman Gage reported the Public Safety committee held a grievance hearing at the last committee meeting. There were discussions regarding police department hiring, and he attended the “Washy” annual dinner.

Public Works: Councilman Groce noted he had items to discuss in closed session; the next public works meeting will be held on March 20th.

Community Service: President Roots reported the committee had recently met with Mr. Fogg from LAC to discuss working with the city on the pool.

Human Services: Councilman Hassler stated the committee is meeting on March 10 to discuss applications for Vendor/Solicitor Licenses, and Entertainment Licenses.

City Property/Capital: Councilwoman Carter stated the committee met on February 23 and discussed the repairs at 17 New Market Street.

Redevelopment: Councilman Waddington said the committee met earlier this evening; Helene Pierson will stay on board, the next NRTC application is due this fall and will be very competitive this year. Chris Davenport put together a list of vacant business properties in the downtown area. The next meeting will be on March 16 at 5:15. Councilman Groce noted the focus of the committee is to reach out to businesses. Mayor Washington asked Councilman Waddington to disperse the vacant business property list to council, and an update them on the progress with Bishop Brown. Councilman Waddington stated the Bishop was filling out forms for the committee.

Neighborhood Initiatives: Councilman Johnson said he will be scheduling a meeting next week.

MAYORAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Washington spoke of the swearing in of Officer Mills, noting it was a “good thing” for the city. He reminded council there are two (2) open seats on the Housing Authority Board, he would be appointing Ezelle Barnes to the Planning Board soon, and the Port Authority still has one (1) open seat to be filled. He recently met with a potential investor interested in the city, and lastly reminded everyone of the 2nd Mayor’s Symposium on March 9 at the middle school. The panel would consist of Dr. Michel, Monique Chadband of the United Way, Chief Pelura, Chief of Detectives Facemyer of the Prosecutors office, Council President Roots, and CFO Crescenzi.

PUBLIC PORTION:

Mr. Breckenridge of 2 Hires Ave. thanked Mayor Washington for hiring a young African American as a police officer for the city. He then thanked Council President Roots for her role in the city, he thanked Chief Pelura for always being diligent, and lastly he thanked Council for their continued good work. He stated “the youth are not our future, they are our present.”

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 8:20pm.

RESOLUTION 2015-69
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.

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

With a Motion by Councilman Hassler, seconded by Councilman Johnson, and all in favor, Council came out of Closed Session at 8:45. The following business took place:

Councilman Gage motioned to approve a Pre-Application to the USDA for repairs to the Elkinton Pond Dam, Councilman Hassler seconded the motion and all were in favor.

With no further business before Council, Councilman Hassler made a motion to adjourn the meeting Councilman Johnson seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The council meeting ended at 9:15pm

Respectfully submitted:

Approved: March 16, 2015

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