

**CITY OF SALEM
MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
OF MAY 19, 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, and Horace Johnson. Council President announced that a quorum was present. Also in attendance were Mayor Charles Washington, Jr., Solicitor David Puma, and City Clerk Kathleen L. Keen. Councilmen Sherman Hampton, James Waddington and CFO David Crescenzi were 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 PAYMENT OF BILLS

It was moved by Councilman Hassler to approve the bill list, Councilman Johnson seconded and all were in favor. Motion carried 6-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Councilman Hassler, seconded by Councilman Johnson to adopt the minutes of the May 4, 2015 Council Meeting and Closed Session Meeting. Motion carried 6-0.

COMMUNICATIONS/APPLICATIONS/REPORTS:

Councilman Hassler motioned to approve an Entertainment Application for John K. Davis, Panting Heart Music Ministry to have an acoustic gospel concert in the MLK Park on Saturday June 27th from 10am to 12noon. Councilman Johnson seconded the motion and all were in favor. Motion carried 6-0.

Councilman Hassler motioned to accept the Resignation of Ruth Carter from the Shade Tree Commission. Councilman Gage seconded the motion and all were in favor. Motion carried 6-0.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING:

**ORDINANCE 1503
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 50 OF THE CITY OF SALEM MUNICIPAL
CODE TO ESTABLISH THE POSITION OF POLICE CHAPLAIN**

BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED by the Common Council of the City of Salem in the County of Salem and State of New Jersey that Chapter 50 of the City Code entitled “Police Department” shall be amended (and codified as follows or as otherwise codified by the City’s Code Publishing Company with the approval of the City Attorney) to include the following new section 50-9:

50-9 Police Chaplain.

- A. The position of Police Chaplain for the Police Department is hereby created in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:14-141. The position will be a volunteer position. The position of Chaplain shall be under the control of the Chief of Police or his liaison officer.
- B. Any person appointed as Chaplain shall be an ordained clergyman in good standing in the religious body from which he/she is selected. The Chaplain shall have basic training and shall be a certified Police Chaplain credentialed in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Police Department.
- C. The duties of Police Chaplain shall include but not be limited to assisting the Police Department in death notifications, station house adjustments and any other duties that may be assigned by the Chief of Police or his liaison.
- D. Any person appointed as Chaplain shall serve in that capacity without rank or salary; the same being a volunteer position only.
- E. A person appointed as Chaplain shall serve during the term of one year and shall continue to serve until he/she is either replaced or reappointed.
- F. The Chief of Police may recommend to the Mayor persons that the Chief believes meet the qualifications of N.J.S.A. 40A:14-141 as well as the rules and regulations of the Police Department with reference to Chaplains, if any. All applicants for the position of Chaplain shall be reviewed by the Chief of Police, Senior Police Chaplain and Chaplain liaison to determine his/her qualifications in accordance with this section and shall make recommendations to the Mayor regarding the appointment as Chaplain. The Mayor shall appoint Chaplains in accordance with this section with the advice and consent of members of the council.

THIS ORDINANCE shall take effect according to law.

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

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:

**RESOLUTION 2015-93
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 2015, 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 \$9,062,600.51
- (iii) In accordance with the law the 3rd installment of 2015 taxes shall not be subject to interest until the later of August 10th, 2015 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.

Adopted: May 19, 2015

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

**RESOLUTION 2015-94
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SIGNING THE INTER-LOCAL AGREEMENT FOR
THE CITY OF SALEM POOL FOR THE YEAR 2015**

NOW THEREFORE 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 2015 Inter-Local Agreement between The Salem City Board of Education, and the City of Salem for the operation of the City Pool located on Block 114, Lot 7 with an address of 155 Walnut Street, Salem, NJ 08079 upon approval of the format of same by the City Solicitor.

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 2015-95

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE VENDOR PERMIT FEES FOR SPECIFIC EVENTS IN THE CITY OF SALEM FOR THE 2015 SEASON

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Common Council of the City of Salem has approved the following Vendor Permit fees in the City of Salem for the specified event dates, contingent upon completion of a City Vendor Application, payment of fee, and approval of the County of Board of Health if applicable:

DAILY VENDOR FEES: **\$25.00 Initial Fee**
\$ 5.00 Daily for each consecutive day

SALEM CITY RESIDENT VENDORS: **\$140.00 Main Street Events Only (7)**
 Spring Gospel Fest, Block Party, World Record Line Dance #2, Farmers Market, Thursday Concerts in the Park, BBQ Festival, Annual Main Street Gospel Fest.

FARMERS MARKET: **\$150.00 for 13 days or \$20.00 Daily Fee**
MARKET STREET DAY: **\$25.00 Vending Fee (selling goods/wares)**

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

RESOLUTION 2015-96
A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING FUNDING FROM THE SALEM COUNTY
POLLUTION CONTROL FINANCING AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Salem applied to the Salem County Pollution Control Financing Authority for grant funding for Tree Removal/Clearing of First Oak and Second Oak Storm Water Management Ditch System; and

WHEREAS, the Salem County Pollution Control Authority has approved the City’s request for funding at an amount up to \$100,000; and

WHEREAS, the Salem County Pollution Control Authority has agreed to take the lead on the project for the City to include; engineering, receiving of bids, awarding of bids, contract management, etc.;

NOW, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem and State of New Jersey, hereby accepts said funding from the Salem County Pollution Control Authority.

Councilman Groce questioned the amount the city would have to match for the grant, and if there needs to be state approval. Councilman Gage responded the match is 5% with approval from the state. The roll call vote was as follows:

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

RESOLUTION 2015-97
A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MATTHEW HASSLER SR., TO FILL THE
UNEXPIRED TERM OF JUNE MOORE ON THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF
THE CITY OF SALEM

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Salem wishes to appoint MATTHEW HASSLER SR., to the position of Board Commissioner for the Housing Authority of the City of Salem to fill the unexpired term of June Moore; 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 MATTHEW HASSLER SR., is hereby appointed as a Board Commissioner for the Housing Authority of the City of Salem for a term ending December 31, 2016.

R2015-97

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

RESOLUTION 2015-98

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING ETHEL MAE TURNER, TO FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF ELMER BROWN ON THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF SALEM

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Salem wishes to appoint ETHEL MAE TURNER, to the position of Board Commissioner for the Housing Authority of the City of Salem to fill the unexpired term of Elmer Brown; 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 ETHEL MAE TURNER, 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			
E. Gage			X			
V. Groce			X			
S. Hampton						X
C. Hassler	X		X			
H. Johnson		X	X			
J. Waddington						X
K. Roots			X			

RESOLUTION 2015-99

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING WILLIAM CORBIN TO THE SALEM MUNICIPAL PORT AUTHORITY BOARD

WHEREAS, the City of Salem wishes to appoint **WILLIAM CORBIN** to fill the open position (seat #3) of Board Member to the Salem Municipal Port Authority;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem and State of New Jersey, that **WILLIAM CORBIN** is hereby appointed as Board Member for the Salem Municipal Port Authority for a term ending January 31, 2020.

R2015-99

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			

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration: President Roots was not in attendance at the Administration Meeting; Councilman Hassler reported the committee discussed the move back into 17 New Market Street, and the street cleaner which is broke and the cost to have it fixed. Mayor Washington is looking into a shared service for street cleaning. The next meeting will be June 8 at 5:30.

Public Safety: Councilman Gage reported the next meeting will be on June 8 to continue discussions regarding manpower for the police department

Public Works: With Councilman Hampton absent, Councilman Groce reported the meeting was held on the 15th and distributed a report to councilmembers. He noted there was a discussion regarding summer hours for the Streets and Water/Sewer Departments; they will be starting their day one (1) hour earlier from Labor Day through Memorial Day. Lastly Councilman Groce stated the Union agrees to allow inmate labor on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday as needed. The next meeting will be held on May 29.

Community Service: President Roots reported the committee met on April 29 and discussed this year's pool opening; there will be two (2) new employees to help staff the pool, and one (1) new "overseer"

Human Services: Councilman Hassler reported the committee will be working with the Administration and City Property committees on a new ordinance regarding vacant property maintenance.

City Property/Capital: Councilwoman Carter reported the committee met on April 29 to discuss moving the city offices back into 17 New Market Street from #1 New Market, and the cleaning and maintenance of both buildings; #17 will be cleaned twice monthly, and #1 will be cleaned quarterly. Lastly she mentioned the new siding had been done at 17 New Market Street. The next meeting will be May 20 at 5:30.

Redevelopment: In Councilman Waddington's absence, Councilman Groce noted the next Redevelopment meeting will be held on June 1 at 5:15.

Neighborhood Initiatives: Councilman Johnson began by thanking everyone for participating in the city wide clean-up. He noted there were many groups and numerous people out cleaning up the city and their yards; for Bulk Amnesty day there were cars lined up at the public works

building. He noted the city trailer is finished and ready for use, and there has not been a date set for the city wide yard sale. The next meeting will be May 20 at 6pm.

MAYORAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Washington thanked council and the workers for their hard work and efforts in moving back into 17 New Market Street. He announced his Mayoral Appointment of Mrs. Elizabeth Davis to the Shade Tree Commission, and read a Proclamation honoring B. Harold Smick Jr. on his 90th Birthday.

**AN OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION
HONORING
B. HAROLD SMICK JR.**

WHEREAS, B. Harold Smick Jr. was born on May 2, 1925; and

WHEREAS, B. Harold Smick Jr has sustained and helped flourish the family owned business his Grandfather started in 1906; and

WHEREAS, B. Harold Smick Jr. has truly been an outstanding Ambassador, and a Significant Role Model to the people of Salem City and Salem County; and

WHEREAS, B. Harold Smick Jr. has diligently given himself and his time to serve on numerous Salem City, Salem County and New Jersey State Boards for the public and the good people of Salem County;

WHEREAS, it is well and proper to officially recognize and bestow honor upon B. Harold Smick Jr. on this the 90th Anniversary of his birth;

NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned duly authorized Officials of the City of Salem in the County of Salem and State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim and declare honor upon B. Harold Smick Jr.

Officially recorded this 19th day of May in the year of our lord two thousand fifteen.

Mayor Washington then commented on National Day of Prayer on May 7, stating is was a beautiful event here in the city, he also mentioned the recent Blue Rock Baseball Game, noting the City and the County were very well represented that night; and it was an honor to throw out the first pitch. He spoke of the upcoming SUFS/Main Street events in the city for the summer months, and working with Mayor Bradway of LAC on a possible shared service for street sweeping. Mayor Washington thanked all who have been appointed to boards, committees, etc., for accepting the appointments and giving their time to the city and the residents; he also thanked President Roots for seeking out those who were appointed. Lastly he spoke of working on payroll and a new time clock system for the city, and the council committees working on the new Vacant Property Maintenance Ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Johnson commented on Mr. B. Harold Smick's proclamation, noting he works at Smick Lumber part time and Mr. Smick is an excellent "boss" as well as role model. He also noted Councilmen Hassler and Waddington did a fine job representing the city at Mr. Smick's recent birthday party.

Solicitor Puma spoke of spot blight actions on seven (7) properties; noting everything is moving forward and all properties will be down by the end of June.

Clerk Keen spoke of the Downtown Beautification Project Phase 2 moving forward beginning June 8. Mr. Galante of R & V Engineering also updated council and the public on the next steps of the project. Councilman Hassler stated reconstruction on the section of Grieves Parkway between Harvest Point and the Public Works building would be underway soon. Councilman Gage reminded everyone of the \$161,000 in municipal aid the city received for Oak Street, and Mr. Galante spoke of a pre-application conference for USDA Grants.

PUBLIC PORTION:

William Corbin of Davis Avenue, thanked council for appointing him to the Municipal Port Authority, saying he will work hard for the city and do a good job.

Council President Roots then acknowledged everyone in the audience by name thanking them for coming out to the council meetings and continually supporting the city.

Joy Coleman of Van Meter Terrace said she recently saw a real estate brochure for a home in the city showing a very low price for the property, she is concerned this hurts the residents and brings down the values of their homes; noting the real estate companies need to know the good things that are happening in Salem and market that with their sales. Ms. Coleman spoke of Brownfields and the environmental clean ups that need to be done, the trash in and around the projects on Anderson Drive, the need for a dog census, and lastly a "Policing Quality of Life" article she recently read in the Inquirer about Camden that was very informative.

Rebecca Gower-Call of Fenwick Ave. commented on the Broadway Beautification project moving forward again; noting she was aware of the project through SUFS years ago and is glad to know it has come to fruition. She spoke of Mr. B. Harold Smick being a great community leader, (collecting trash with a tie on) and the City Library and City Pool working together on the Literacy Program. Lastly Ms. Gower-Call spoke of a community yard sale in "the Avenues" and thanked council for the two (2) appointments that were made to the Housing Authority this evening; noting she appreciates council's enthusiasm and hard work.

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 Gage seconded the motion and all were in favor. The regular portion of the meeting ended at 8:15pm.

RESOLUTION 2015-100
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

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	X			
V. Groce			X			
S. Hampton						X
C. Hassler	X		X			
H. Johnson			X			
J. Waddington						X
K. Roots			X			

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

Councilman discussed and agreed upon summer hours for the public works department; the workers will begin and end work one (1) hour earlier Memorial Day through Labor Day.

With no further business before Council, Councilman Gage made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Councilwoman Carter seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The council meeting ended at 8:50pm

Respectfully submitted:

Approved: June 15, 2015

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