

**CITY OF SALEM
MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
OF JUNE 15, 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, 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 Sherman 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 PAYMENT OF BILLS

It was moved by Councilman Hassler to approve the bill list, Councilman Johnson seconded and all were in favor. Motion carried with Councilman Waddington Abstaining.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Councilman Hassler, seconded by Councilman Gage to adopt the minutes of the May 19, 2015 Council Meeting and Closed Session Meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

COMMUNICATIONS/APPLICATIONS/REPORTS:

Councilman Hassler motioned to approve a Raffle Application for Meals on Wheels of Salem County to hold an Off-Premise 50/50 on September 25, 2015. Councilman Gage seconded the motion and all were in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

Councilman Hassler motioned to accept the Resignation of Cheryl Washington from the Shade Tree Commission. Councilman Johnson seconded the motion and all were in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

Councilman Hassler motioned to approve the use of Hubble Avenue Park for Mt. Calvary VBS July 20-24 from 8:30am-12noon. Councilman Johnson seconded. After some discussion it was decided to approve the request with the condition of Mt. Calvary providing a certificate of insurance to the city. Motion carried 7-0.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING

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.

Councilpersons Hassler and Groce motioned and seconded to open the meeting for public hearing. City Clerk Keen declared the public hearing open on Ordinance No. 1503. With no public comments, it was moved and seconded by Councilpersons Hassler and Groce that the public hearing be closed. Motion carried 7-0. Councilman Hassler noted this was a good ordinance for the city, Councilman Gage added this was a non-paid position, while Mayor Washington noted the Chaplains are all ordained and members of the Salem Ministerium.

It was moved and seconded by Councilpersons Hassler and Gage that Ordinance No. 1503 be adopted on second reading. 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			

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:

RESOLUTION 2015-101

A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING TIERRA M. JENNINGS AS INTERIM MUNICIPAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 2B:12-11(e), effective May 25th, 2011, permits the appointment of a person who does not hold a Municipal Court Administrator certificate to serve as a Municipal Court Administrator, on an interim basis, for a period not to exceed one year; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 2B:12-11(e), furthermore permits a one year temporary appointment to be renewed for additional one year terms (up to four years) with the approval of the vicinage Assignment Judge; and

WHEREAS, TIERRA M. JENNINGS was appointed as Interim Municipal Court Administrator on July 21, 2014 for a one year term to expire on July 21, 2015; 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 **TIERRA M. JENNINGS** is hereby provisionally reappointed as Interim Municipal Court Administrator for the City of Salem for an additional 1-year term to expire on July 21, 2016 subject to the following:

(a) Attainment of successful appointment certification as Municipal Court Administrator within term of appointment.

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 2015-102
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRIAD ASSOCIATES TO PROCEED WITH AN APPLICATION FOR THE 2015 COPS GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, after engaging in the Fair and Open Process, on or about January 1, 2015 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 FY 2015 Cops Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, TRIAD ASSOCIATES has advised that the fees for its services in the matter will not exceed \$4,700.00; and

WHEREAS, final authorization and execution of said Agreement for preparing and filing the application is hereby contingent upon approval by the Director of Local Government Services.

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 Police Department under the FY 2015 Cops Grant; and the appropriate City Officials are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to take any and all actions as are necessary to proceed hereunder.

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 2015-103
A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION TO THE COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM;

WHEREAS, as the City of Salem is seeking financial assistance from the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Grant Program to fund the hire of a new sworn police officer;

WHEREAS, the application is for one new officer, salaries and benefits, for three years;

WHEREAS, the application requests 75% grant funding and commits 25% in City funds over the course of three years; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is committed to continue the funding of the position at the end of the three year grant period;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the application to the Community Oriented Policing Services Grant Program is approved.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that final authorization and execution of said application is hereby contingent upon final approval by the Director of Local Government Services.

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			

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration: President Roots spoke of the need for help in the housing office and the reappointment of the Municipal Court Administrator. She then reported Market Street Day will be on August 29th this year with the help of Salem Main Street. CFO Crescenzi noted he will be moving forward with online payments for taxes, sewer, and water. The next meeting will be July 23 at 5:30.

Public Safety: Councilman Gage reported his committee discussed staffing issues in the police department, the cops grant, and possibly 3 new hires to start the police academy soon.

Public Works: With Councilman Hampton absent, Councilman Groce reported City Solicitor Puma, the Water and Sewer Superintendents, and himself will be meeting with NJDEP regarding water allocation. He then noted the water plant had recently went through rigorous reporting from the NJDEP and everything went well. The next meeting is scheduled for June 19.

Community Service: President Roots reported the committee will be meeting this week to go over the county checklist for the pool in anticipation of its opening. Councilman Johnson noted the pool is being filled and just needs vacuuming and cleaning.

Human Services: Councilman Hassler stated the next meeting will be on June 18 to discuss a new vacant property ordinance.

City Property/Capital: Councilwoman Carter reported the roof at 17 New Market has been started, and the oil tanks at Washington and Liberty Firehouses have been remediated.

Redevelopment: Councilman Waddington reported the opening of this year's Farmers Market was a success, and the State Agriculture Secretary is slated to come tour the Farm Market soon. He noted no condominiums at the Nelson House/Washington Hall have been sold as of yet and asked council what the city can do to be supportive. He spoke of the restructuring of the Finlaw Building Lease, and noted the Hitchner Building is for sale. Lastly he spoke of Main Street taking over Market Street Day, and the next round of applications for the NRTC due in July. The next Redevelopment meeting will be July 20, at 5:15.

Neighborhood Initiatives: Councilman Johnson recently met with Carol Wright and Paul Ledford regarding the trailer use. The days will be Tuesdays and Saturdays. The Family Success Center will use the trailer on other days to clean up Broadway.

MAYORAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Washington stated he had a few very important meetings coming up; one with potential investors in the port, another will be a conference call with the state regarding State Aid. He then said the Block Party was a great success with a good turnout as well as the Farmers Market Opening Day and the World Record Line Dance. Mayor Washington said he spoke with Mayor Bradway of LAC regarding a street sweeper, but they are unable to help out at this time. The Superintendent of the Streets Department will be contacting Logan Township to see if they can accommodate the city. He stated he will address council at the next meeting regarding a new time tracking and attendance system for the city. Lastly he spoke of the Mid-Atlantic Transportation shuttle as good transportation for employment at a cost of \$2 each way, and the recent fires at vacant properties in the city. He asked the City Properties committee to continue moving forward with a new vacant property ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Hassler said he had attended the 8th Grade Graduation and was very impressed with the comments made by some of the young ladies graduating regarding "our city". He noted they were very well spoken and aware of the daily struggles of those around them.

PUBLIC PORTION:

Joy Coleman of Van Meter Terrace asked why her water bill increased by \$70. Councilman Groce explained increases were approved last year and how the "structuring" of the increases worked. She asked about having prayer at the council meetings, noting members the Salem Area Ministerium could take the lead. Lastly she noted one-third of her tax bill goes to the school, and would like a report regarding what happens at the schools during the council meetings.

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.

With no further business before Council, Councilman Hassler made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Councilwoman Carter seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The council meeting ended at 8:00pm

Respectfully submitted:

Approved: July 20, 2015

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