

CITY OF SALEM
COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 10, 2020
6:30 PM

A meeting of the Common Council of the City of Salem was called to order by Council President Earl Gage. The meeting took place at 1 New Market Street at 6:30 PM. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Jayada Villegas did the Invocation. Roll Call was done by Mr. Angeli. **Present:** Councilpersons Ruth Carter, Robert Davis, Vaughn Groce , Gail Slaughter, James Smith and Council President Earl Gage. **Absent:** Councilman Gregory and Councilwoman Kellum. Also in attendance Mayor Charles Washington Jr., Andrea Rhea-City Solicitor, Dave Crescenzi-CFO, Deputy Treasurer Kenia Nunez and City Administrator/Clerk Ben Angeli.

Mr. Angeli read the statement of advertisement as follows:

Notice of this meeting has been provided to the South Jersey Times and the Elmer Times and is posted on the City Hall Bulletin Board stating the time and the place of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Groce made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 16 Regular Council meeting and the September 16, 2019 Executive session meeting. Councilwoman Carter seconded the motion and all present voted in favor.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Motion made by Councilman Groce and seconded by Councilman Smith to approve payment of bills. All in Favor. Motion carries.

COMMUNICATIONS/APPLICATIONS/REPORTS:

Mayor Washington read the Certificate of recognition for the crossing guards. He thanked them for their service in keeping the City children safe.

Councilman Groce made a motion to approve an application for Naeem Ullah Khan to operate a food truck at 412 East Broadway in Salem contingent on County Health Department inspection and certification. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and all present voted in favor.

PUBLIC PORTION FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

Councilman Gregory made a motion to open the meeting to the public for Agenda items only. Councilwoman Kellum seconded the motion. All present voted in favor on a voice vote.

There were no questions or comments from the public.

Councilman Gregory made a motion to close the meeting to the public for Agenda items only. Councilwoman Kellum seconded the motion. All present voted in favor on a voice vote.

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS:

Mayor Washington appointed William Corbin and Virginia Jared to the Planning Board

PUBLIC PORTION FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

Councilman Groce made a motion to open the meeting to the public for Agenda items only. Councilman Smith seconded the motion. All present voted in favor on a voice vote.

There were no questions or comments from the public.

Councilman Groce made a motion to close the meeting to the public for Agenda items only. Councilman Smith seconded the motion. All present voted in favor on a voice vote.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:

**CITY OF SALEM
RESOLUTION 2020-68**

**A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE PROMOTION OF RAYMOND HOWARD TO
POSITION OF GENERAL SUPERVISOR OF STREETS**

WHEREAS, there is a need to fill the vacancy in the position of Street Superintendent (aka General Supervisor of Streets, Civil Service Symbol 06526); and

WHEREAS, Ray Howard was provisionally appointed to the position pending the certification of an eligible list for permanent appointment by the NJ Civil Service Commission; and

WHEREAS, the N.J. Civil Service Commission has issued an eligible list PM1185A dated December 5, 2019 that included one eligible candidate, namely Raymond Howard.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Raymond Howard is promoted to the position of Street Superintendent as defined by City Ordinance 189-1 (also designated as the equivalent civil service title of General Supervisor of Streets 06526); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the employee shall be paid an annual salary of \$72,000.00, in accordance with the salary ordinance, along with the longevity and benefits he currently receives and provided by the City personnel policy for non-union employees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that should the employee enroll and complete the NJ Certified Public Works Manager program, the annual salary will increase by \$5,000. upon successful certification.

ATTEST:

CITY OF SALEM

Ben Angeli, RMC

Earl Gage, Council President

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
R. Davis			X			
E. Gage			X			
T. Gregory						X
V. Groce	X		X			
S. Kellum						X
G. Slaughter			X			
J. Smith		X	X			

I, Ben Angeli, Clerk of the City of Salem, in the County of Salem, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Common Council of the City of Salem on February 10, 2020.

Date

Ben Angeli, RMC

**CITY OF SALEM
RESOLUTION 2020-69**

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS FOR THE LOCAL
BOARD OF HEALTH**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 26:3-1 requires that each municipality have a board of health; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 32 of the City Code provides that the City Board of Health shall consist of seven members appointed by Council and those members can be members of Council; and

WHEREAS, the Public Health Practice Standards of Performance for local Boards of health, NJAC 8:52-1.5(a) requires each local board of health to register annually with the New Jersey Department of health-Office of Local health; and

WHEREAS, the City has entered into an agreement with the County of Salem pursuant to N.J.S.A. 26:3A-1 et seq. for the County to provide public health services for the City; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the agreement, the municipal Board of Health shall meet with the County representatives on a periodic basis.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem and State of New Jersey, that the following persons are appointed as members of the City Board of Health: Timothy Gregory (Chairman), Earl Gage, Jim Smith, Vaughn Groce, Robert Davis, Gail Slaughter, Sharon Kellum and Ruth Carter (alternate)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public health activities shall continue to be carried out by the county in accordance with the Shared Service Agreement dated September 1, 2019.

ATTEST:

Ben Angeli, Clerk

CITY OF SALEM

Earl Gage, Council President

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
R. Davis			X			
T. Gregory						X
V. Groce	X		X			
S. Kellum						X
G. Slaughter			X			
J. Smith		X	X			
E. Gage			X			

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Date

Ben Angeli, Clerk

**CITY OF SALEM
RESOLUTION 2020-70**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SIGNING AGREEMENT WITH
REAL AUCTION.COM LLC FOR PROCESSING OF BID INFORMATION
RELATED TO TAX LIEN CERTIFICATE AUCTION**

WHEREAS, the City has scheduled an electronic tax lien certificate sale; and

WHEREAS, RealAuction.com LLC is licensed to do business in the State of New Jersey for Internet-based processing of bid information related to the auction of Municipality’s tax lien certificates; and

WHEREAS, RealAuction.com LLC has provided an agreement to provide the necessary services (Attachment A); and

WHEREAS, the City Attorney has reviewed said contract (Attachment A); and

WHEREAS, the City chooses to contract with Real Auction.com LLC for the stated services.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem and State of New Jersey, that the Mayor is authorized to sign the Agreement for Electronic tax Lien Certificate Sale Services (Attachment “A”) submitted by RealAuction.com LLC..

ATTEST:

Ben Angeli, Clerk

CITY OF SALEM

Earl Gage, Council President

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
R. Davis			X			
T. Gregory						X
V. Groce	X		X			
S. Kellum						X
G. Slaughter			X			
J. Smith		X	X			
E. Gage			X			

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Date

Ben Angeli, Clerk

**CITY OF SALEM
RESOLUTION 2020-71**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SIGNING LETTER OF AGREEMENT WITH NJ
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, OFFICE OF NATURAL
AND HISTORIC RESOURCES CONCERNING DEMOLITION OF BENJAMIN
GRISCOM HOMESTEAD RESIDENCE**

WHEREAS, the City due to safety concerns and financial considerations has determined that it is necessary to demolish the Benjamin Griscom Homestead Residence more commonly known as Jack’s located at 192-194 East Broadway; and

WHEREAS, the City completed and submitted an application to the necessary agency and participated in a hearing before the agency; and

WHEREAS, the DEP Department of Natural and Historic Resources Assistant Commissioner, Ray Bukowski has submitted a letter to the City for approval and signature (Attachment A); and

WHEREAS, the letter contains eight mitigating conditions that must be agreed to in order for the city to proceed with the project; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to move forward with the project and is in agreement with the mitigating conditions stated in the letter (Attachment A); and

WHEREAS, the City Attorney has reviewed said letter (Attachment A).

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem and State of New Jersey, that the Mayor is authorized to sign the letter submitted by the DEP Office of Natural and Historic Resources concerning the demolition of the Benjamin Griscom Homestead Residence more commonly known as Jack’s located at 192-194 East Broadway.

ATTEST:

CITY OF SALEM

Ben Angeli, Clerk

Earl Gage, Council President

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
R. Davis			X			
T. Gregory						X
V. Groce	X		X			
S. Kellum						X
G. Slaughter			X			
J. Smith		X	X			
E. Gage			X			

I, Ben Angeli, City Clerk of the City of Salem, in the County of Salem, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Common Council of the City of Salem on February 10, 2020.

Date

Ben Angeli, Clerk

**CITY OF SALEM
RESOLUTION 2020-72**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF CHARLES WYGOR JR.
AS A LABORER FOR THE CITY OF SALEM PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Salem has determined there is a need for a Laborer in the Public Works Department; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Salem, hereby wishes to appoint **Charles Wygor Jr.** to the position of Laborer effective, date to be determined, at the salary set forth in the Union Contract of \$36,427.00 per year; and

WHEREAS, said appointment and employment with the City of Salem is subject to Civil Service regulations and contingent upon passing of a physical and substance abuse screening.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem and State of New Jersey that **Charles Wygor Jr.** is hereby appointed as a Laborer for the Public Works Department.

ATTEST:

CITY OF SALEM

Ben Angeli, Clerk

Earl Gage, Council President

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
R. Davis			X			
T. Gregory						X
V. Groce	X		X			
S. Kellum						X
G. Slaughter			X			
J. Smith		X	X			
E. Gage			X			

I, Ben Angeli, City Clerk of the City of Salem, in the County of Salem, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Common Council of the City of Salem on February 10, 2020.

Date

Ben Angeli, Clerk

**CITY OF SALEM
RESOLUTION 2020-73**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF MIGUEL ALICEA
AS A LABORER FOR THE CITY OF SALEM PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Salem has determined there is a need for a Laborer in the Public Works Department; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Salem, hereby wishes to appoint **Miguel Alicea** to the position of Laborer effective, date to be determined, at the salary set forth in the Union Contract of \$36,427.00 per year; and

WHEREAS, said appointment and employment with the City of Salem is subject to Civil Service regulations and contingent upon passing of a physical and substance abuse screening.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem and State of New Jersey that **Miguel Alicea** is hereby appointed as a Laborer for the Public Works Department.

ATTEST:

CITY OF SALEM

Ben Angeli, Clerk

Earl Gage, Council President

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
R. Davis			X			
T. Gregory						X
V. Groce	X		X			
S. Kellum						X
G. Slaughter			X			
J. Smith		X	X			
E. Gage			X			

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Date

Ben Angeli, Clerk

**CITY OF SALEM
RESOLUTION 2020-74**

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR A MEETING NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, NJSA 10:4-12 These items are for #7 for matter relating to litigation, negotiations, and the Attorney Client Privilege.

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 as follows:

- (1) *Matters Required by law to be confidential:* Any matter which by express provision of the Federal law or State statute or rule of court shall be rendered confidential or excluded from the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.
- (2) Any matter in which the release of information would impair the right to receive federal funding.
- (3) *Matters involving individual privacy:* Any matter, the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy such as records, data, reports, recommendations or other personal material of any education, training, social service, medical, health, custodial, child protection, rehabilitation, legal defense, welfare, housing relocation, insurance and similar program or institution operated by a public body pertaining to any specific individual admitted to or served by such institution or program, including, but not limited to information relative to the individual's personal and family circumstances, and any material pertaining to admission, discharge, treatment, progress or condition of any individual, unless the individual concerned .
- (4) *Matters pertaining to a collective bargaining agreement:* Any matter involving a collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of the terms and conditions thereof with employees or representatives of employees of the public body.
- (5) *Matters relating to the purchase, lease acquisition of real property or investment of public funds:* Any matter involving the lease, purchase or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of banking

rates or investment of public funds, where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matters were disclosed.

(6) *Matters of public protection*: Any tactic and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public, provided that their disclosure could impair such protection.

(7) *Matters relating to litigation, negotiations and attorney-client privilege*: Any matter of pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation other than in (4) above in which the Board is or may become a party. Any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required for the attorney to exercise ethical duties as a lawyer.

(8) *Matters relating to the employment relationship*: Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance of, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all of the individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed in public.

(9) *Deliberations after public hearing*. Deliberations by the Board occurring after a public hearing that may result in a civil penalty or the suspension or loss of a license or permit of a responding party; and

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. #7 Matters relating to litigation/attorney client privilege (water plant litigation)

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.

ATTEST:

CITY OF SALEM

Ben Angeli, Clerk

Earl Gage, Council President

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
R. Davis			X			
T. Gregory						X
V. Groce	X		X			
S. Kellum						X
G. Slaughter			X			
J. Smith		X	X			
E. Gage			X			

I, Ben Angeli, City Clerk of the City of Salem, in the County of Salem, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Common Council of the City of Salem on February 10, 2020.

Date

Ben Angeli, Clerk

**CITY OF SALEM
RESOLUTION 2020-75**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING AGREEMENT WITH OMNI FOR THE
MARKETING OF RECYCLABLE MATERIALS RECOVERED BY THE CITY'S
RECYCLING PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the City has a recycling program wherein residents are required to dispose of certain materials; and

WHEREAS, OMNI Recycling LLC has proposed to purchase the City's recyclable materials in accordance with the agreement attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, contracts for the marketing of recyclable materials may be awarded without competitive bidding under the Local Public Contracts Law.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem and State of New Jersey, that Mayor is authorized to execute an agreement with OMNI Recycling, LLC for the sale of recyclable materials as attached hereto.

ATTEST:

CITY OF SALEM

Ben Angeli, Clerk

Earl Gage, Council President

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
R. Davis			X			
T. Gregory						X
V. Groce	X		X			
S. Kellum						X
G. Slaughter			X			
J. Smith		X	X			
E. Gage			X			

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Date

Ben Angeli, Clerk

**CITY OF SALEM
RESOLUTION 2020-76**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH
JERSEY PORT CORPORATION**

WHEREAS, the South Jersey Port Corporation owns property within the City of Salem for certain port operations; and

WHEREAS, S.J Port Corporation is exempt from real estate taxation but is authorized to enter into an agreement with the City to make payment in lieu of taxes; and

WHEREAS, S.J. Port Corporation has submitted an agreement that it will pay the sum of \$ 31,224.37 for the year 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Common Council of the City of Salem that the agreement with S.J. Port Corporation for the payment in lieu of taxes in the amount of \$31,224.37 for the tax year 2020 as attached hereto is approved and the Mayor is authorized to execute the agreement.

ATTEST:

CITY OF SALEM

Ben Angeli, Clerk

Earl Gage, Council President

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
R. Davis			X			
T. Gregory						X
V. Groce	X		X			
S. Kellum						X
G. Slaughter			X			
J. Smith		X	X			
E. Gage			X			

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Date

Ben Angeli, Clerk

**CITY OF SALEM
RESOLUTION 2020-77**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SALEM THROUGH THE SALEM CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY, LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT OFFICE, 1033 PROGRAM TO ENABLE THE SALEM CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT TO REQUEST AND ACQUIRE EXCESS DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EQUIPMENT

WHEREAS, the United States Congress authorized the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO) 1033 Program to make use of excess Department of Defense personal property by making that personal property available to municipal, county and State law enforcement agencies (LEAs); and

WHEREAS, DLA rules mandate that all equipment acquired through the 1033 Program remain under the control of the requesting LEA; and

WHEREAS, participation in the 1033 Program allows municipal and county LEAs to obtain property they might not otherwise be able to afford in order to enhance community preparedness, response, and resiliency; and

WHEREAS, although property is provided through the 1033 Program at no cost to municipal and county LEAs, these entities are responsible for the costs associated with delivery, maintenance, fueling, and upkeep of the property, and for specialized training on the operation of any acquired property; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-30.2 requires that the governing body of the municipality or county approve, by a majority of the full membership, both enrollment in, and the acquisition of any property through, the 1033 Program; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the SALEM CITY COUNCIL of the CITY OF SALEM that the SALEM POLICE DEPARTMENT is hereby authorized to enroll in the 1033 Program for no more than a one-year period, with authorization to participate terminating on December 31 of the current calendar year from (month/day), 2020 to December 31, 2020; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that SALEM CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT is hereby authorized to acquire items of non-controlled property designated "DEMIL A," which may include office supplies, office furniture, computers, electronic equipment, generators, field packs, non-military vehicles, clothing, traffic and transit signal systems, exercise equipment, farming and moving equipment, storage devices and containers, tools, medical and first aid equipment and supplies, personal protection equipment and supplies, construction materials, lighting supplies, wet and cold weather equipment and supplies, respirators, binoculars, and any other supplies or equipment of a non-military nature identified by the LEA, if it shall become available in the period of time for which this resolution authorizes, based on the needs of the SALEM CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT without restriction; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that SALEM CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT is hereby authorized to acquire the following "DEMIL B through Q" property, if it shall become available in the period of time for which this resolution authorizes: (specifically list controlled property items authorized for acquisition, including quantity, e.g., (2) automobile, sedan, (2) automobile, wagon (6) sight, thermal (18) 5.56 millimeter rifles; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the SALEM CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT shall develop and implement a full training plan and policy for the maintenance and use of the acquired property; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the SALEM CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT shall provide a quarterly accounting of all property obtained through the 1033 Program which shall be available to the public upon request; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately and shall be valid to authorize requests to acquire "DEMIL A" property and "DEMIL B through Q" property that may be made available through the 1033 Program during the period of time for which this resolution authorizes; with Program participation and all property request authorization terminating on December 31st of the current calendar year from February 10, 2020 to December 31, 2020.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Common Council of the City of Salem that the foregoing is approved.

ATTEST:

CITY OF SALEM

Ben Angeli, Clerk

Earl Gage, Council President

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
R. Davis			X			
T. Gregory						X
V. Groce	X		X			
S. Kellum						X
G. Slaughter			X			
J. Smith		X	X			
E. Gage			X			

I, Ben Angeli, City Clerk of the City of Salem, in the County of Salem, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Common Council of the City of Salem on February 10, 2020.

Date

Ben Angeli, Clerk

**CITY OF SALEM
RESOLUTION 2020-78**

RESOLUTION TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR LEAP CHALLENGE GRANT

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has allocated \$150,000 within each county for a statewide total of \$3.15 million in Local Efficiency Achievement Program (LEAP) funds to promote innovation among peer local units across New Jersey, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services (DLGS) administers the LEAP grant program; and

WHEREAS, the LEAP Challenge Grant exists to challenge municipalities and counties to collaborate on more extensive partnership and collaborations to produce efficiencies through shared services; and

WHEREAS, The City of Salem and Salem’s Fire Companies have determined to apply for a LEAP Challenge Grant through the State of New Jersey Local Efficiency Achievement Program in the amount between \$50,000.00 and \$75,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the City of Salem has agreed to be the lead agency in this program; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the City of Salem, is acknowledging and accepting the responsibility of acting as applicant and administrator for this grant on behalf of all participating local units.

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has made LEAP grants available to assist local units to study, develop and implement new shared services initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the project submitted in this grant application is intended to provide benefits to the participant local units’ residents through the consolidation of the City’s three Fire Companies, Police and administrative offices and garages into a Single Central Station and office facility.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the City of Salem, that the City of Salem does hereby make application for a LEAP challenge grant to support undertaking this endeavor.

ATTEST:

Ben Angeli, RMC

CITY OF SALEM

Earl Gage, Council President

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
R. Davis			X			
T. Gregory						X
V. Groce	X		X			
S. Kellum						X

G. Slaughter			X			
J. Smith		X	X			
E. Gage			X			

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Date

Ben Angeli, RMC

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ADMINISTRATION (Gage, Carter, Kellum, Groce)

Councilman Gage said that the committee met and discussed agenda items and the CWA and Ambulance agreements.

PUBLIC SAFETY (Gage, Smith, Carter, Davis)

Councilman Gage said that the Committee and discussed various issues.

PUBLIC WORKS (Groce, Gregory, Smith, Slaughter)

Councilman Groce said that Mr. Liu, Superintendent of Public Works, gave a report on separating ground water and surface water and that this was a high priority.

CITY PROPERTY/CAPITAL/HUMAN SERVICES (Davis, Kellum, Gage, Slaughter)

Councilman Davis spoke about the need to address the burned out buildings and nuisance property violation issues in the City. He called for another committee meeting on the 18th.

NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVES/COMMUNITY SERVICES (Slaughter, Gregory, Carter, Davis)

Councilwoman Slaughter said that her committee was scheduling a meeting and that she needed more information on her roles as chair of that committee.

REDEVELOPMENT (Smith, Gregory, Kellum, Groce)

Councilman Smith said that the committee would be meeting with the Commerce Director, they were also continuing to look at the marijuana ordinance and they would be meeting prior to the march meeting.

MAYORAL COMMENTS

Mayor Washington spoke about the demolition of Jacks and the process necessary because of the Historical aspect of the site. He said that he would be meeting with investors interested in the Ardaugh site and how that would mean a huge ratable coming back to the City. He spoke about a story coming out on NJ.com about the grocery store issue. He also stated that people needed to understand that we do not own the site where the grocery store was and that the City could not dictate who the owner sells the property to.

ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS - None

COMMERCE DIRECTOR REPORT - None

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

Supertendant of Public Works John Liu’s presentation on a Capital plan for the Water/Sewer

Utility for Council's consideration was postponed to a soon to be decided date.

PUBLIC PORTION

Motion to open public portion made by Councilman Groce.

Seconded by Councilman Smith.

All members present voted in favor.

Motion carried.

Leslie Parsley, Bridgeton spoke about the deaths of her two sons that were 19 and 28 years old. She said that she had an issue that no one was picked up and nobody questioned. She said that they wanted justice and that they had to live in fear. She also spoke about fundraisers and that there should be reward money offered.

Ruth Sorrell spoke about also being the victim of a shooting and that she was told that there were only two officers on duty at the time of the shooting. She said that the City needed to ask for help.

Heather Ashfield thanked Council for their efforts. She stated that she felt that violence stems from poverty and that the City has limited resources. She said that people coming in from other areas also added to the problem and that the State police were helping. She said that people don't come forward because of fear.

Ms. Sorrell spoke about the woman that was rundown in the street. She said that she knew that Councilman Gage will help with the situation.

Ms. Parsley said that she heard that a suspect was released because of lack of evidence.

An unidentified woman stated that she feels for the mothers that have lost children and that these murders are senseless. She stated that she lost a son.

Mayor Washington offered his condolences to the mothers and families that were victims of this violence. He said that at the end of the day we can't complain that these crimes go unsolved and still be scared to give testimony. He said that the City did not have enough money to hire more officers. He stated that there has been cooperation with the Salem County Prosecutor, Stet police and Salem City Police. He said that he was from the City and that he believes that at the end of the day, we know everybody. He said that we needed to have the conversations before they pulled the trigger. He said that the City was investigating grant opportunities to hire more officers. He also spoke about his "All eyes on me" initiative.

Dexter Kennedy stated that there was nothing being done to bring the community together and that kids had nothing to do.

Various including Saquanda Saxton, Will Hallman, Brian Rowan, Tiffany Brooks and William Corbin spoke about the need to do something about the violence.

Councilman Groce stated that everything that the people that spoke was right. He said that he wanted people to understand that the members of the governing Body were going through and dealing with the same things as everybody. He said that his house had been shot. He asked how we can all work together to get through this and end the violence. He said that he hears gun shots on the street and that it has to be all of us working together. He said that his door was always open if anyone wanted to contact him directly.

Someone asked about the Freeholders meeting and it was stated that the meetings were the first and third Wednesday's of the month.

Councilman Groce mentioned that the City was limited in funds, but that he will do whatever he could to help and so would all the members of Council.

Mayor Washington stated that "we are here to hear your concerns."

Motion to close public portion made by Councilman Groce.
Seconded by Councilman Smith.
All members voted in favor.
Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: LITIGATION (WATER PLANT) and NEGOTIATIONS

Motion to go into Executive Session made by Councilman Groce.
Seconded by Councilman Smith.

Motion to leave Executive Session made by Councilman Groce.
Seconded by Councilman Smith.

Clerk stated that no action was taken in Executive Session.

All members that were present before Executive Session were present when Open Session continued.

A short discussion was held about the role of the Clean Communities Coordinator and the Neighborhood Initiatives Committee's duties in overseeing the coordinator.

Councilman Groce made a motion to authorize the Solicitor to investigate the responsibilities of the Committee when it involves the Clean Communities Coordinator. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and all present voted in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Groce motioned to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a voice vote.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Ben Angeli, RMC

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: MARCH 2, 2020 AT 6:30 PM