

**CITY OF SALEM**  
**COMMON COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**  
*April 7, 2020*  
**6:00 PM**

A meeting of the Common Council of the City of Salem was called to order by the Council President Earl Gage. The meeting took place at 17 New Market Street at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilman Groce did the Invocation. Roll Call was done by Mr. Angeli. **Present in the room:** Councilman Robert Davis Present via phone: Councilpersons Ruth Carter, Vaughn Groce, Timothy Gregory, Sharon Kellum, James Smith Councilwoman Gail Slaughter and Council President Earl Gage. Also in attendance via phone: Mayor Charles Washington Jr., Andrea Rhea-City Solicitor, Dave Crescenzi-CFO, Deputy Treasurer Kenia Nunez, City Engineer Anthony Chadwell, Director of Commerce Charles Bailey 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.

**COMMUNICATIONS/APPLICATIONS/REPORTS:** None

**PUBLIC PORTION FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:** No members of the public were present

**INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

**CITY OF SALEM**  
**RESOLUTION 2020-102**

**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  
and #8 matters involving employment relationship.**

**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. #8 Matters involving employment relationship

**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, RMC

\_\_\_\_\_  
Earl Gage, Council President

TABLED

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

J. Smith						
E. Gage						

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 April 7, 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ben Angeli, RMC

**MAYORAL COMMENTS:** None

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** Discussion of Water/Sewer Utility operations ensued with different options considered. Mayor Washington explained some of the issues facing the Water and Sewer Utility moving forward. Infrastructure issues were mentioned and options discussed concerning the possible privatization of the Utility. The WIPA and referendum options were discussed. Councilman Groce spoke about the need to make decisions based on all the data and that some information might still not be available to the Governing Body. The studies authorized at the last meeting being done by Remington and Vernick would produce more information for the Governing Body. Water meters were and issues with them and the option of getting new meters. The decline in the number of homes occupied was mentionedThe Governing Body discussed moving forward with the studies and gathering that information to move forward.

The issue concerning recent violence in the City was raised and some options were discussed. Councilman Davis raised some issues he felt should be addressed. Discussion ensued about adding more officers to the police force and Mr. Gage mentioned that we have applied for a grant to add additional officers. Mayor stated that we needed to encourage people to come forward about the things they see happening in the City as far as crime and violence.

**PUBLIC PORTION:** No members of the public were present.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilman Gregory motioned to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Kellum seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a voice vote.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ben Angeli, RMC

*NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: APRIL 20, 2020 AT 6:30PM*