

**CITY OF SALEM
COMMON COUNCIL CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 8, 2021
6:30 PM**

OPENING 6:30 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Council President Earl Gage

INVOCATION: Eric Sharp

STATEMENT OF ADVERTISEMENT: Mr. Angeli read the statement 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. Notice has also been posted that the meeting can be accessed through Zoom.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Cline, Davis, Gregory, Groce, Kellum, Slaughter, Smith, Gage

Also Present: Mayor Washington, Solicitor Rhea, CFO Nunez, Commerce Director Bailey and Admin/Clerk Angeli

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Motion: Gregory and Second Kellum

All Council Members present voted in favor in a voice vote.

PUBLIC PORTION FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

Motion to open: Gregory and Second: Kellum

All Council Members present voted in favor in a voice vote.

Mr. Angeli stated the following: The public is instructed that this portion of the meeting is provided for comments and questions on Agenda items only. There will be a public portion later in the meeting for general comments and questions. Please state your name and address, street name only for the record.

No comments or questions were offered.

Motion to close the public portion on agenda items: Gregory and Second: Kellum

All Council Members present voted in favor in a voice vote.

COMMUNICATIONS/APPLICATIONS/REPORTS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:

RES. 2021-79 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR AND CHIEF
FINANCIAL OFFICER TO CANCEL TAX OVERPAYMENTS OR
DELINQUENT AMOUNTS LESS THAN \$10.00

Motion to Introduce: Gregory Second: Kellum All Council Members present voted in favor in a voice vote.

RES. 2021-80 RESOLUTION FIXING SALARIES OF CERTAIN CITY OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES AND APPOINTEES

Motion to Introduce: Gregory Second: Kellum All Council Members present voted in favor in a voice vote.

RES. 2021-81 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) Matters relating to litigation, negotiations and attorney-client privilege
(#8) Matters relating to the employment relationship

Motion to Introduce: Gregory Second: Kellum All Council Members present voted in favor in a voice vote.

RES. 2021-82 A RESOLUTION APPROVING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SALEM AND GRAMCO FOR SOFTWARE SUPPORT FOR THE MUNICIPAL COURT

Motion to Introduce: Gregory Second: Kellum All Council Members present voted in favor in a voice vote.

RES. 2021-83 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING VIRGINIA JARED TO THE CITY OF SALEM HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Motion to Introduce: Gregory Second: Kellum All Council Members present voted in favor in a voice vote.

RES. 2021-84 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SALEM CITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CAMERA GRANT FOR ILLEGAL DUMPING PROGRAM WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Motion to Introduce: Gregory Second: Kellum All Council Members present voted in favor in a voice vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION:

ADMINISTRATION (Gage, Gregory, Kellum, Smith)

Mr. Gage said that Admin had some items that would be discussed in Executive Session.

PUBLIC SAFETY (Gage, Smith, Groce, Davis)

Mr. Gage complimented Mr. Bailey on his "Targeted Neighborhood Report". He stated that the Committee had a number of meetings and that they would be meeting with SUFS and others about the project.

PUBLIC WORKS (Groce, Gregory, Gage, Slaughter)

Mr. Groce spoke about putting together a list of vacant City properties that needed to be dealt with. He was asking for a capital needs list from the departments. His Committee wanted to hire another person when the hiring process started. He said that the road to the sewer plant was in very bad shape.

ORDINANCE/BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS (Slaughter, Cline, Smith, Groce)

Mr. Angeli spoke about the roof at #1. Ms. Cline spoke about setting "Smart Goals" and especially a "Smart Goal" for the swimming pool. Discussion about getting a price for putting a cover on the #1 roof and getting estimates. The Solicitor spoke on some new regulations. The Library and the property at 116 W. Broadway was brought up and it was explained that no final agreement had been drawn up for the Library to control that property. The Solicitor said that she had a final draft. Ms. Cline spoke about the library finances. Mr. Davis asked about the salary of the Librarian. Civil Service was discussed in reference to the library positions. Ms. Cline spoke about the condition of the buildings and grounds.

NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVES/PARKS AND RECS (Slaughter, Kellum, Cline, Davis)

Ms. Slaughter spoke about the clean-up dates and said that she had dumpsters scheduled and would be supplying box lunches for the workers. She said that she already had a lot of groups signed up. Sharen Cline said that she would be working on the educational projects for Clean Communities. Mr. Davis spoke about the basketball courts and asked that the piles of mulch be moved.

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (ECDC) (Smith, Davis, Kellum, Gregory)

Mr. Smith spoke about the new Cannabis legislation.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS:

Mayor Washington spoke about meetings about crime in the City and meeting with the State Police. He said that there was a "Safe Communities Committee" meeting the next day. He spoke about creating some "safe streets". Ms. Cline asked if their work was in parallel to the City plan for targeted areas. The Mayor spoke about increasing City Pride.

CFO REPORT:

Ms. Nunez spoke about putting together the 2021 budget and said that the Transitional Aid Application was due in April.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

Mr. Angeli spoke about some of the agenda items that would be on for the next meeting. He encouraged people to sign up for the City Eblast.

COMMERCE DIRECTOR REPORT:

Mr. Bailey did a power point presentation on the Quality of Life Initiative Presentation and answered questions from the Mayor and Council members. The number of rental properties in the City was brought up. Mr. Groce spoke about the NTI program and asked if vetted landlords could be a part of the program.

PUBLIC PORTION:

Motion to open: Gregory and Second: Kellum
All Council Members present voted in favor in a voice vote.

Mr. Angeli stated the following: The public is instructed that this portion of the meeting is provided for comments and questions on any matter. Please state your name and address, street name only for the record.

Ms. Renwick voiced her support for the library and stated that there was grant money available for libraries. Leon Daniels asked about a veteran's program.

Motion to close the public portion on agenda items: Gregory and Second: Kellum All Council Members present voted in favor in a voice vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion to go into executive session: Kellum and Second: Groce
All Council Members present voted in favor in a voice vote.

Mr. Angeli stated that Executive Session would last about one hour and that no action can be taken in a closed session. He said that action can be taken after the executive Session.

The Governing Body, City Solicitor, CFO and City Admin/Clerk moved into a closed session.

Motion to leave executive session: Kellum and Second: Groce
All Council Members present voted in favor in a voice vote.

Mr. Angeli stated that no action was taken in Executive Session and that all members that entered the session are still present.

Mr. Gregory made a motion to suspend the current EMS services with Fenwick Ambulance. Ms. Kellum seconded the motion and all present voted in favor.

Mr. Gregory made a motion To adopt resolution 2021-185 Appointing Demetria Todd-Ruiz as the City of Salem Municipal Court Judge. Ms. Kellum seconded the motion and all present voted in favor.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: Gregory and Second: Kellum
All Council Members present voted in favor in a voice vote.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: MARCH 15, 2021 AT 6:30 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Ben Angeli, RMC

**CITY OF SALEM
RESOLUTION 2021-79**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR AND CHIEF
FINANCIAL OFFICER TO CANCEL TAX OVERPAYMENTS OR
DELINQUENT AMOUNTS LESS THAN \$10.00**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17.1 allows for the refund of property tax overpayments in amounts of less than \$10.00; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17.1 allows for cancellation of delinquent amounts less than \$10.00 or cancellation of delinquent charges and fees imposed by the municipality in the amount less than \$10.00 for property tax, water and sewer accounts; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Salem would authorize the Tax Collector without further action to refund property tax overpayments or to cancel delinquent property tax, water and sewer amounts in amounts less than \$10.00 or cancel delinquent charges and fees imposed by the municipality in the amount less than \$10.00;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Common Council of the City of Salem that the tax Collector refund tax overpayments or cancel delinquents in the amount of \$10.00 or less as deemed necessary without further action;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a properly executed copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector and Chief Financial Officer for the records.

ATTEST:

CITY OF SALEM

Ben Angeli, RMC

Earl Gage, Council President

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

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 March 8, 2021.

Date

Ben Angeli, RMC

**CITY OF SALEM
RESOLUTION 2021-80**

**RESOLUTION FIXING SALARIES OF CERTAIN CITY OFFICERS,
EMPLOYEES AND APPOINTEES**

WHEREAS, an ordinance entitled “AN ORDINANCE FIXING TITLES, SALARIES AND COMPENSATION OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF SALEM, NEW JERSEY” has been adopted following public hearing; and

WHEREAS, said ordinance provides for salary ranges of various job titles and positions; and

WHEREAS, on February 15, 2021 the Common Council adopted Resolution 2021-63 FIXING SALARIES OF CERTAIN CITY OFFICERS. EMPLOYEES AND APPOINTEES; and

WHEREAS, the salary for the Tax Assessor for 2020 was listed incorrectly as \$21,804; and

WHEREAS, the salary for the Tax Assessor for 2020 should be \$22,131.06; and

WHEREAS, it is the intention of the Mayor and Council to fix the salary for the Tax Assessor.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Salem that the salary of the Tax Assessor be set at \$22,131.06 for 2020 and be subject to the salary ranges set forth in the aforementioned ordinance and is hereby fixed effective January 1, 2020.

ATTEST:

CITY OF SALEM

Ben Angeli, RMC

Earl Gage, Council President

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

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Date

Ben Angeli, RMC

**CITY OF SALEM
RESOLUTION 2021-81**

**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) Matters relating to litigation, negotiations and attorney-client privilege
(#8) Matters relating to the 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:

- (#7) Matters relating to litigation, negotiations and attorney-client privilege
- (#8) Matters relating to the 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

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

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 March 8, 2021.

Date

Ben Angeli, RMC

**CITY OF SALEM
RESOLUTION 2021-82**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
CITY OF SALEM AND GRAMCO FOR SOFTWARE SUPPORT FOR THE
MUNICIPAL COURT**

WHEREAS, the City of Salem has contracted in the past with Gramco of Clifton, NJ; and

WHEREAS, the City uses the Liberty Digital Recording System hardware program and support services provided by Gramco in the Municipal Court; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to continue to use the Gramco supplied hardware and support services in the Municipal Court; and

WHEREAS, the CFO has determined that this is a necessary service and that the funds are available.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem and State of New Jersey, that it consents to the execution of an agreement with Gramco of Clifton, NJ; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor is authorized to execute the agreement with Gramco of Clifton NJ.

ATTEST:

CITY OF SALEM

Ben Angeli, RMC

Earl Gage, Council President

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
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R. Davis						
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Date

Ben Angeli, RMC

**CITY OF SALEM
RESOLUTION 2021-83**

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING VIRGINIA JARED TO THE CITY OF
SALEM HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

WHEREAS: appointments to serve on the Salem City Historic Preservation Committee are made by the Mayor with advice and consent of the members of the Common Council.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED pursuant to NJSA 40:55D-107 and City Code Sections 130-71; the Mayor of the City of Salem, County of Salem and State of New Jersey hereby appoints **VIRGINIA JARED** to the City of Salem Historical Preservation Commission as Seat #3, Class C for a term ending on December 31, 2023.

ATTEST:

CITY OF SALEM

Ben Angeli, RMC

Earl Gage, Council President

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
S. Cline						
R. Davis						
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Date

Ben Angeli, RMC

**CITY OF SALEM
RESOLUTION 2021-84**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SALEM CITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
CAMERA GRANT FOR ILLEGAL DUMPING PROGRAM WITH THE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

WHEREAS, the NJDEP had announced The Camera Grant for Illegal Dumping; and

WHEREAS, guidelines were recently issued and deadlines set for grant applications, and

WHEREAS, this grant program will award a camera or multiple cameras to Municipalities to aid in the reduction of illegal dumping; and

WHEREAS, the City of Salem has an existing problem with multiple illegal dumping sites; and

WHEREAS, the illegal dumping issue is a problem that poses a threat to the health and welfare of the residents of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Salem submitted a proposal requesting that a camera or cameras be made available to the City to combat the illegal dumping that is prevalent in the City

WHEREAS, the Division of Environmental Protection has accepted the Salem City application confirmed Salem City's participation in the program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Salem, in the County of Salem, New Jersey hereby authorizes the Mayor sign the agreement for the City to participate in the NJDEP Camera Grant for Illegal Dumping.

ATTEST:

CITY OF SALEM

Ben Angeli, RMC

Earl Gage, Council President

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
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Ben Angeli, RMC

**CITY OF SALEM
RESOLUTION 2021-85**

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING DEMETRICA TODD-RUIZ AS THE CITY OF SALEM
MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE**

WHEREAS, the City of Salem must appoint a qualified individual as Municipal Court Judge for a three-year term in accordance with N.J. S. A. 2B:12-4;

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 Honorable Demetrica Todd-Ruiz is hereby appointed as Municipal Court Judge for the City of Salem for a three-year term.

ATTEST:

CITY OF SALEM

Ben Angeli, RMC

Earl Gage, Council President

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
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Date

Ben Angeli, RMC