

**CITY OF SALEM**  
**COMMON COUNCIL CAUCUS MEETING AGENDA**  
**SEPTEMBER 11, 2023**  
**6:30PM**

**OPENING 6:30PM**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Council President Earl Gage

**INVOCATION:** Council President Earl Gage

**STATEMENT OF ADVERTISEMENT:**

The Deputy Clerk read the following: 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.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

Also present: Mayor Veler, Solicitor McCann, CFO Nunez, Commerce Director Bailey, Deputy Clerk Mandy Renner.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

Motion: Gregory and Second: Smith

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

**PUBLIC PORTION FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:**

Motion to open: Gregory and Second: Smith

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

Mrs. Renner 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.

Motion to close the public portion on agenda items: Gregory and second: Smith

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

**COMMUNICATIONS/APPLICATIONS/REPORTS:**

Approval of an Entertainment License for Salem Order of Eagles for 9/1/2023 to 8/31/2024

Motion to approve: Gregory and Second: Smtih

All Council Members present voted in favor in a voice vote

Approval of an Entertainment License for County of Salem Health Department community resources at MLK Park on 8/31/2023

Motion to approve: Gregory and Second: Smith

All Council Members present voted in favor in a voice vote

Approval of an Entertainment License for Beautiful Vessels Housing & Family Development community outreach at MLK park on 9/30/2023

Motion to approve: Gregory and Second: Smith

All Council Members present voted in favor in a voice vote

**INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

**RES. 2023-238** A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE CITY COUNCIL'S SUPPORT FOR HERB HEALERS LL APPLICACION TO THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR A CLASS 5 CANNABIS RETAIL LICENSE FOR OPERATION OF SUCH ESTABLISHMENT WITHIN THE CITY OF SALEM

Motion to Introduce: Gregory Second: Smith.

All Council Members present voted in favor in voice vote

**RES. 2023-239** A RESOUTION AUTHORIZING A REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT OF UTILITIES TO TINA AZPELL FOR BLOCK 700, LOT 46

Motion to Introduce: Gregory Second: Smith.

All Council Members present voted in favor in voice vote

**COMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION:**

**ADMINISTRATION** (Gage, Gregory, Kellum, Smith) Charles Hassler stated that the Walnut Street field bleachers are at the final stage of being completed. Mr. Hassler also gave an update on the new municipal building stating that the Bid process will be done within the next couple of weeks.

**PUBLIC SAFETY** (Gage, Smith, Groce, Davis) Mr. Davis expressed his concern regarding vacant cars and dogs running around the city.

**PUBLIC WORKS** (Groce, Gregory, Gage, Slaughter) Nothing to report

**ORDINANCE** (Cline, Smith, Groce) Ms. Cline advised the governing body and public that the Second reading for an Ordinance will be on the agenda for next week's meeting.

**NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVES/PARKS AND RECS** (Slaughter, Smith, Cline, Davis) Mr. Davis stated the notice to bidder for the Basketball court on Hubble Avenue has been posted.

**ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT** (Smith, Davis, Gregory, Cline) Noting to report

**HOUSING** (Cline, Gregory, Gage, Davis) Nothing to report

**QIZ COMMITTEE REPORT** (Cline, Gregory, Groce, Gage) Ms. Cline spoke about making positive changes within the Qiz committee moving forward.

**MAYORAL COMMENTS:** Mayor Veler spoke about a violence coordinator and reaching out to nonprofits stop gun violence.

**ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** Noting to report

**CFO REPORT:** Nothing to report

**COMMERCE DIRECTOR REPORT:** Nothing to report

**OLD BUSINESS:** Nothing report at this time

**NEW BUSINESS:** Nothing report at this time

**PUBLIC PORTION:**

Motion to open: Gregory Second: Smith

All Council Members present voted in favor in a voice vote

Kathy Parsons, expressed concern regarding an accident that she had on 8/27/2023 and still waiting on report. Mayor Veler advised Ms. Parsons that she will look into it.

Jennifer Jones, spoke about the dividing of the City with the sale of the water. Ms. Jones wanted recognize council for all of their hard work and let them know that they are appreciated.

Janice Roots, advised council and the public of a meeting that the Commissioners will be having at 6pm tomorrow night at the PSEG building. Ms. Roots stated that she has filed with the GRC due to her OPRA request being past the 7 days.

Cody Loatman, expressed concern regarding the city holding onto property for so long.

Ike Brown, questioned who owns the properties once the houses are demolished. President Gage responded depends on the particular property.

Leon Daniels, questioned the Rule of Ethics for council and administration.

Joyce Johnson, expressed concern regarding the city between the city due to the water sale.

Jared Bacon, questioned how the city was coming up with the water numbers. President Gage responded, the meters and statistics from 8/10 years ago.

Claudia Williams, expressed concern for cleaning up the city.

Kathy Parson, suggested the city have a community clean up day and provide food/drinks.

Motion to close the public portion.

Motion to close: Gregory Second: Smith

All Council Members present voted in favor in a voice vote


**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion: Gregory and Second: Smith

All Council Members present voted in favor in a voice vote

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:  
THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 18, 2023 AT 6:30 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

  
Mandy Renner, Deputy Clerk

  
Date

**CITY OF SALEM  
RESOLUTION 2023-238**

**A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE CITY COUNCIL'S SUPPORT FOR HERB HEALERS LLC APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR A CLASS 5 CANNABIS RETAIL LICENSE FOR OPERATION OF SUCH ESTABLISHMENT WITHIN THE CITY OF SALEM**

**WHEREAS**, the City amended its Ordinances in 2023 to permit the operation of no more than two class 5 cannabis retail establishments within the City of Salem; and

**WHEREAS**, Herb Healers, LLC intends to apply to the State for a license to operate a class 5 cannabis retail establishment within the City of Salem at 455 East Broadway, Salem, New Jersey; and

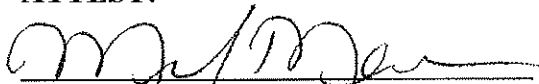
**WHEREAS**, as of this date there are no other class 5 cannabis retail establishments operating within the City of Salem; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Common Council of the City of Salem, that it supports Herb Healers' planned application to the Cannabis Regulatory Commission for a license issued under the Act to operate a retail cannabis establishment within the City of Salem.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that adoption of this Resolution it is not an approval of the local application that is required pursuant to the Ordinances of the City of Salem, but that it intends for this Resolution to meet the standard form of resolution of municipal support required as part of the licensing process by the State of New Jersey.

**ATTEST:**

**CITY OF SALEM**

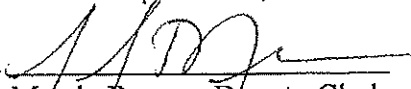
  
Mandy Renner, Deputy Clerk

  
Earl Gage, Council President

Adopted: September 11, 2023

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

I, Mandy Renner, Deputy 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 September 11, 2023

  
Mandy Renner, Deputy Clerk

9/11/2023  
date

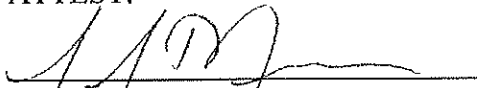
**CITY OF SALEM  
RESOLUTION 2023-239**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT OF UTILITIES  
TO TINA AZPELL FOR BLOCK 700, LOT 46**

**WHEREAS**, a credit exists on utilities. The property is owned by Jack Azpell known as 701 Salem-Quinton Rd, Block 700, Lot 46 in the City of Salem, New Jersey was overpaid by \$\$1,206.57 (Attachment "A"); and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Common Council of the City of Salem that a refund of \$1,206.57 be paid to Tina Azpell (TENANT) for overpayment of utilities on the property designated as Block 700, Lot 46, as 701 Salem-Quinton Rd in the City of Salem.

ATTEST:

  
Mandy Renner, Deputy Clerk

CITY OF SALEM

  
Earl Gage, Council President

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

I, Mandy Renner, Deputy 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 September 11, 2023

9/11/2023  
Date

  
Mandy Renner, Deputy Clerk