



CITY OF ABSECON
Municipal Complex
500 Mill Road
Absecon, New Jersey 08201

Carie A. Crone
City Clerk

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**MARCH 18, 2010
REGULAR & WORK MEETING
MINUTES**

FLAG SALUTE – Mayor

PRAYER – Rev. Heather Stenburg-Sugden, Reformation Lutheran Church, Galloway

ROLL CALL

Present: Seher, Fishman, Falivene, Vizthum, Caterson

Absent: Green, Gorman

Also Present: Mayor Elco, Terry Dolan, Jessica Thompson, Carie Crone, Mike Blee, City Solicitor

**PRESIDENT’S STATEMENT ON THE SUNSHINE LAW
NOTIFICATION THAT THIS MEETING IS ELECTRONICALLY RECORDED**

PUBLIC PORTION

Motion to open to the public – Councilman Vizthum - second – Councilman Fishman

All were in favor.

No public comment.

Motion to close public – Councilman Fishman – second – Councilman Seher

All were in favor.

WORK MEETING AGENDA

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS LISTED BELOW ARE FOR DISCUSSION AND MAY BE
ACTED UPON AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL.**

UPDATE ON MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Lynn – we are losing \$200,000 from the State, which will be about 2 cents on the budget, which we already talked about. We were trying to deal with a 1.8 cent increase because of the reserve uncollected taxes. There is a budget meeting next week on 3/25 @ 6 pm. She hopes to introduce the budget by 4/8.

2010 RESOLUTIONS

- 59** Authorizing a release of Escrow Funds posted by Empire Inn on Block 225, Lot 6.
MOVED
- 60** Authorizing a release of Escrow Funds posted by I.M. Land on Block 235, Lot 1.
MOVED
- 61** Authorizing the City of Absecon to accept donations for the 2010 Concerts in Heritage Park.
MOVED
- 62** Granting 50-50 Licenses to the Charles A. Hammell American Legion Post 28 for the summer Concerts in Heritage Park.
MOVED

REGULAR MEETING

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to move consent agenda consisting of Res. #59 to #62 made by Councilman Fishman - second - Councilman Falivene

ROLL CALL: Seher, yes; Fishman, yes; Falivene, yes; Vizthum, yes; Caterson, yes

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST- \$1,212,938.66

Motion to accept – Councilman Vizthum – second – Councilman Seher

ROLL CALL: Seher, yes; Fishman, yes; Falivene, yes; Vizthum, yes; Caterson, yes

MONTHLY REPORTS – Carie

Tax Office - \$3,296,902.19

Court – \$9,479.84

Construction - \$3,875.00

Clerk - \$2,684.00

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes – 2/4/10 and 2/18/10

Closed Session as to form and content only – 2/4/10 & 2/18/10

Budget Meeting Minutes – 2/11/10

Lynn – mentioned corrections that were done already

Motion to accept minutes – Councilman Vizthum – second – Councilman Fishman

ROLL CALL: Seher, yes, abstain on closed session; Fishman, yes; Falivene, yes, abstain on 2/18; Vizthum, yes; Caterson, yes

REPORTS

Mayor – commented on the police departments' work with keeping up the damages from the storms and flooding.

Chief Cowan – if residents have any damages, then can call communications at 641-0667 x 0 and someone will come out to take a look. They can go to the County's website and there is a form to be filled out.

Chris – asked the Chief if the homeowner would get money from FEMA or the city if they can document enough cases of storm damage, the city would generically get some relief aid?

Chief - It's both ways. There are no promises. He then gave an explanation of how it would work.

Mayor – thanked the chief for his explanation. Asked Terry to get it out to the public by putting it on ABTV. He is extremely upset and angered about the cuts from the State Aid, not only for our budget, but for the school district too. They all will be taking a hit. He wants to sit down with Jess and see just how bad it is going to be. He plans on meeting with the school officials as well.

Chris – finance committee met tonight and there will be a budget mtg. on 3/25 and it's going to be very hard to crunch the numbers.

Drew – echoed the Mayor's comment regarding the Public Safety workers. The ballpark is in the process of getting a second floor on the clubhouse and he thanked all involved. We met this past week and discussed the concerts in the park and we have tentative dates and bands and hopefully will begin them at the end of June. Recognized the Black Cat, Terry Iaconelli and the group for the fundraising efforts for the firehouse mural. It was a wonderful turn out. They hope to start in April.

Jerry – Thanked the "weather gods" for the past two days. The fire benefit was an incredible turnout and it was nice to see so many citizens that came out to support it. With the state aid problem, we are going to take it and do the best we can. He explained the new law dealing with stop signs and speed limits, which gives us the ability to do more on our own.

Jim – did not have a meeting. Thanked Dan Poley and his crew for the work at the clubhouse at the ball fields. It looks beautiful and it's amazing to see how much work got done in 4 days. At the ASAC meeting, he showed a video that dealt with the program for volunteers that JIF wanted us to do. Will do the Blue Devils next month. As to the police furniture, he has had meetings and with the notice we got today regarding the State aid, it isn't good and it will play into it. The floor is done.

Lynn – explained how the mural would look. Does not understand all the budget cuts, especially municipal aid because it is collected on behalf of municipalities through taxes and other ways. Announced Lions Spaghetti Dinner on 3/21 @ 1:30 to 6 p.m.

Terry – Jess and I will spend as much time as we need in order to be ready for the budget meeting on the 25th. Thanked all those who participated in the mural event.

PUBLIC PORTION

Motion to open – Councilman Vizthum – second – Councilman Fishman

All were in favor. No public comment.

Motion to close – Councilman Vizthum – second – Councilman Seher

All were in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting – Councilman Seher - second – Councilman Fishman

All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Carie A. Crone, Clerk

Approved: _____