



CITY OF ABSECON
Municipal Complex
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**DECEMBER 3, 2009
WORK & REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

FLAG SALUTE – Mayor Elco

INVOCATION - Fr. John Vignone, St. Katherine Drexel, EHT

ROLL CALL: Fishman, Green, Falivene, Vizthum, Caterson

Absent: Marczyk, Gorman

Also Present: Mayor Pete Elco; Terry Dolan, City Administrator; City Solicitor, Mike Blee; CFO, Jessica Thompson & Carie Crone, City Clerk

PRESIDENT’S STATEMENT ON THE SUNSHINE LAW – Lynn

NOTIFICATION THAT THIS MEETING IS ELECTRONICALLY RECORDED – Lynn

PUBLIC PORTION

Motion to open to public – Councilman Falivene – second – Councilman Fishman

All were in favor.

Lynn – explained changes from the Mayor that came in this morning for Ord. 11-09. Will suggest at the regular meeting not to take action on it tonight. She then explained the ordinance in question.

Jerry – suggested that Lynn read to the public the changes requested by the Mayor so she did.

John Chambers – 728 Breakers Ave. – he has no problem with allowing the parking in the concrete driveway and being in the sight lines and he read a statement. He is upset people are telling me how to use my property. I have parked my trailer there for 25 years but I have had to put up with a dump truck and other unsightly things around the yard. He recently asked his neighbor to trim a tree of his that was leaning over his property that does drop pine needles and such and even caused damage to the a/c on the roof of his trailer, and he never said a word. Two days later he came back and said there is an ordinance that says I can’t park my trailer in my driveway. He then said if I didn’t cut his tree he wouldn’t file a complaint about the trailer. I did cut the tree and he is interested that there have only been two complaints in town and one is my neighbor. He is doing this out of retaliation. He thanked the committee who researched and worked on the ordinance and now he will be able to park it.

Diane Farinelli – 243 E. Wyoming Ave. - last Friday at 9:30 p.m. there was a fire next door at the neighbor's house. If it was not for the response of the firefighter's so quickly, my house would have burned too. Just wanted to show her appreciation and we should be thankful for having them in town.

John Strecker - 1103 Marlborough Ave. – Thanked council for what they do. My driveway where I park my truck and boat in and it's not paved and I don't intend to pave it. My son has a crushed stone driveway. Driveways are driveways, whether they are dirt, stone, concrete or pavers even. Does not agree with someone making a stink about items that aren't even eyesores. It's always been a nice town to live in. He agrees with portions of the ordinance but not the restriction of the type of driveway or sides of houses.

Charlie Guenther – 640 Weilers Lane – has lived here for 28 years and has owned camper for 28 years and a boat for 26 years and both are parked along the side of his house. Agrees with what has been said previously, but he doesn't believe a lot of people can park them along the side. Does not believe they should be parked in the street unless it is a 4-wheel vehicle and can be driven off quickly. As long as it doesn't impede the sidewalks or streets, he doesn't feel it should be wrong. We all pay taxes and we don't have gated communities, but more of a family town.

Joe Giardino – 810 Shelburne Ave. – feels the ordinance should really deals with safety. They may be an eyesore to some, but not all. If it's in your driveway, you should be able to keep it there. He moved to Absecon because it was more of a family place and he doesn't want it to be something else.

Motion to close public – Councilman Fishman – second – Councilman Vizthum
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.

Motion to add Resolution #184-09, concerning the State of NJ withholding State Aid to the work agenda made by Councilman Green – second – Councilman Falivene
All were in favor.

2009 ORDINANCES

- 13** Amending the Code of the City of Absecon, Chapter 69, Police Department, Article I, General Provisions, adding section 69-7, Special Law Enforcement Officers, Class II.

Lynn – explained that this is not to hire someone right now, but more to be able to in the future if we feel we want to go that way.

Jerry – we've talked about this for a while now and maybe being able to cut our overtime expenses with officers who can handle the work needed for certain duties.

Fred – feels he needs more time to look into this and this is the first step for this. He's not against doing or introducing it tonight.

Jerry – confirmed that the city is in no position to hire anyone now unless it's a budget savings for us.

Lynn – read the preferences for residency requirement that would be in the ordinance.

MOVED TO REGULAR MEETING

2009 RESOLUTIONS

- 177 Appointing a full time Patrol Officer, namely Jeffrey Mazer. **MOVED**
- 180 Approving the insertion of a Special Item of Revenue into the 2009 Municipal Budget to allow for the receipt of \$1,600.00 from the New Jersey Department of Law & Public Safety. **MOVED**
- 181 Authorizing the transfer of appropriations in the 2009 Local Municipal Budget per N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-58. **MOVED**
- 182 Applying an overpayment of taxes on Block 128, Lot 8 from tax year 2009 to tax year 2010. **MOVED**
- 183 Applying an overpayment of taxes on Block 129, Lot 5 from tax year 2009 to tax year 2010. **MOVED**
- 184 Concerning the State of New Jersey withholding State Aid. **MOVED**

Lynn – explained this is municipal aid that the State collects over the year and is then supposed to then give it back to each municipality and they are not giving it back to us this year. We will not hold back any funds that would impact any employee or resident. It was amended to keep it for 2 months to see if we hear back from the State.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

- 11 Amending the Code of the City of Absecon, Chapter 224, Land Use and Development, Article XVIII, Regulations Applicable to all Zoning Districts, Revising Section 224-107, Prohibited Uses in all Districts. **HELD OVER for second and final readings**

Mike – explained if substantial changes are made, it couldn't be done this year. No changes can be finalized next meeting due to the notification deadlines.

- 13 Amending the Code of the City of Absecon, Chapter 69, Police Department, Article I, General Provisions, adding section 69-7, Special Law Enforcement Officers, Class II.

Motion to introduce – Councilman Vizthum – second – Councilman Falivene
ROLL CALL: Fishman, yes; Green, yes; Falivene, yes; Vizthum, yes; Caterson, yes

Resolution #177-09 - Appointing a full time patrol officer, namely Jeffrey Mazer.

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolutions #177, 180 –184, were moved in the consent agenda.

Motion to move Consent Agenda made by Councilman Fishman – second – Councilman Falivene
ROLL CALL: Fishman, yes; Green, yes; Falivene, yes; Vizthum, yes; Caterson, yes

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST - \$ 312,128.62

Motion to approve – Councilman Green – second – Councilman Falivene
ROLL CALL: Fishman, yes; Green, yes; Falivene, yes; Vizthum, yes; Caterson, yes

REPORTS

Mayor – thanked council for the new ordinance for special officers and the appointing of Jeffrey Mazer. Thanked our volunteer fire department who continues to shine. We have always been proud of all our volunteers in town.

Jim – thanked all the residents who came forward tonight to voice their opinions. It's important that people do that. We want to know how you feel. It was nice of Ms. Farinelli coming out to thank the fire dept. He asked residents to shop locally.

Jerry – our Public Safety meeting will be next Tuesday and he will tell the fire dept. the well wishes they received tonight. Welcomed Jeff Mazer to the dept.

Fred – he has no report, his next mtg. is 12/7 and he welcomed Jeff to Absecon.

Drew – Welcomed Mr. Mazer to our police dept. Thanked the fire dept. for a job well done. Thanked the PB and Mayor the left-hand turn signal at Haddon Ave. We've tried for years to get it done. The porch light program is still going on and we will be out at 12/12 from 10-2. Invited others to volunteer.

Lynn – congratulated and welcomed Jeff on board.

Terry – the RFP notice is on our website and the deadline is 4:30 on 12/15 in the clerk's office. He will give a rating sheet to Fred, since he is the chair of that committee. Thanked the public works staff for the leaf pickup they continue to do even with the nasty weather conditions. It will go through 12/31.

CORRESPONDENCE – Carie read

PUBLIC PORTION

Motion to open to public – Councilman Fishman – second – Councilman Green

All were in favor. No public comment.

Motion to close – Councilman Falivene – second – Councilman Vizthum

All were in favor

Lynn – mentioned Pearl Harbor day coming up in memory of Charlie Norris.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting – Councilman Vizthum - second – Councilman Green

All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Carie A. Crone, Clerk

Approved: _____