

**CITY OF SALEM  
MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL MEETING  
OF MARCH 5, 2018**

A meeting of the Common Council of the City of Salem was called to order President Karen Roots. The meeting took place at the 1 New Market Street at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present: Councilpersons Ruth Carter, Earl Gage, Vaughn Groce, Horace Johnson. Also in attendance were Mayor Charles Washington, Jr., Jennifer Blumenthal-City Administrator, Andrea Rhea-City Solicitor, Dave Crescenzi-CFO and Tierra M. Jennings-City Clerk. Councilperson(s) Sharon Kellum, Lydia Thompson, and Russell Walker were absent. Councilman Horace Johnson was not present at meeting but was on conference call line.

**INVOCATION**

MINISTER ISAAC ROCCO, SPIRIT LIFE FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES

**STATEMENT OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT**

NOTICE OF THE REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, AS REQUIRED BY N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 ET SEQ., THE "OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT", HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY THE PUBLIC ADVERTISEMENT AND POSTING AT THE MUNICIPAL ANNEX OF A SCHEDULE ADOPTED BY RESOLUTION ON JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2018 SETTING FORTH THE TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF ALL THE REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion made by Councilman Gage and seconded by Councilman Groce to adopt the minutes of February 5, 2018 (Open and Closed Session). All in favor. Motion carries.

**COMMUNICATION/APPLICATION/REPORTS**

**PROCLAMATION**

**IN HONOR OF BARBARA WRIGHT-** PRESENTED BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT ROOTS AND MAYOR CHARLES WASHINGTON, JR

Mayor Charles Washington, Jr and Council President Roots presented the Barbara A. Wright's family with a proclamation and plaque in honor and dedication for her work here in the City of Salem. The plaque will be hung outside the Conference Room at the Municipal Annex Building located at 17 New Market Street.

**RECOGNITIONS-** SENIOR CITIZEN INITIATIVE AWARDS PRESENTED BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT ROOTS

Council President Roots presented Mr. William Allen, Ms. Cheryl Washington, and Mr. Angelo Harold with certificates for their hard work and dedication for the Warm Senior Warm Blanket Drive for the City of Salem.

**APPLICATIONS**

**APPROVAL OF STATE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FOR JINNEY DICKERSON**

Councilman Gage motioned and Councilwoman Carter seconded to approve Firemen’s application for Jinney Dickerson. All in Favor. Motion carries.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**REDEVELOPMENT PLAN- PRESENTED BY MARIA CONNOLLY, PP, AICP DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

Maria Connolly and Keith Henderson of Department of Community Affairs (DCA) went over Redevelopment Plan that the City plans to adopt in late March. Planning Board has approved plan on February 22, 2018. The goal of the plan is to create a thriving waterfront which will include the Salem Courthouse, shops, tourist attractions, museums, etc.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING/FINAL PASSAGE**

**1803 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SALEM TO PROVIDE FOR A PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**Public Hearing Held: March 5, 2018**

<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>MOVED</b>	<b>SECONDED</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
R. Carter			X			
E. Gage	X		X			
V. Groce		X	X			
H. Johnson			X			
S. Kellum						X
L. Thompson						X
R. Walker						X
K. Roots			X			

**Adoption: March 5, 2018**

<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>MOVED</b>	<b>SECONDED</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
R. Carter			X			
E. Gage	X		X			
V. Groce			X			

H. Johnson			X			
S. Kellum						X
L. Thompson						X
R. Walker						X
K. Roots			X			

**INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**CITY OF SALEM  
RESOLUTION 2018-77**

**A RESOLUTION CANCELLING UNEXPENDED AND DEDICATED BALANCES OF THE  
UTILITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATIONS**

**WHEREAS**, certain Utility Capital Improvement Appropriations balances remain dedicated to projects now completed; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to formally cancel said balances so that the unexpended balances may be returned to the Utility Capital Improvement Fund or Utility Capital Surplus, or Unissued Debt Authorizations may be canceled;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Council of the City of Salem that the following unexpended and dedicated balances of Utility Capital Improvement Appropriations are canceled:

<b>Ord. No.</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
06-08	Quinton / Elkinton Dams	430,758.16
09-14	Improvements of the Sanitary Sewerage System	1,000,000.00

Adopted: March 5, 2018

<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>MOVED</b>	<b>SECONDED</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
R. Carter			X			
E. Gage	X		X			
V. Groce		X	X			
H. Johnson			X			
S. Kellum						X
L. Thompson						X
R. Walker						X
K. Roots			X			

**CITY OF SALEM  
RESOLUTION 2018-78**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE GLOBAL INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGIC INVESTMENT (GISI) TO PROVIDE CONSULTING SERVICES TO THE CITY OF SALEM FOR YEAR 2018**

**WHEREAS**, this Contract made between the Global Institute for Strategic Investment “CONSULTANT” and the City of Salem “CLIENT” shall commence on January 1, 2018 and continue in effect until July 1, 2018.

**WHEREAS**, the parties on a mutual basis may decide ninety-days (90) prior to the end of this agreement, in writing, to extend this period for an indefinite number of six (6) month increments. In addition, this AGREEMENT may be modified or amended if all parties agree in writing. Any party may terminate this AGREEMENT at any time with at least ninety-days (90) written notice to the other party and

**WHEREAS**, the Consultants shall use its best efforts to provide consulting services to Client in matters of Policy Planning and development, Government Affairs, Research, Business, and Public-Private Partnerships development, strategic advice on ongoing client matters, and other related matters as the client shall reasonably request

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Common Council of the City of Salem, in the County of Salem, New Jersey that the Mayor and Council President are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to sign an Agreement between the City of Salem and the Global Institute for Strategic Investment (GISI), of 113 Reveille Road, Wayne PA 19087 to provide Consulting Services for planning and development to the city at a cost of \$18,000.00 for a term of 6 months starting January 1, 2018 until July 1, 2018.

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that final authorization and execution of said agreement is hereby contingent upon final approval by the Director of Local Government Services.

Adopted: March 5, 2018

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter		X	X			
E. Gage	X		X			
V. Groce			X			
H. Johnson			X			
S. Kellum						X
L. Thompson						X
R. Walker						X
K. Roots			X			

**CITY OF SALEM  
RESOLUTION 2018-79**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH FUTURE SYSTEMS TO ASSIST THE CITY OF SALEM WITH VACANT AND ABANDONED PROPERTIES**

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Common Council of the City of Salem, in the County of Salem, New Jersey that the Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to sign an Agreement between the City of Salem and Future Systems, of 409 South Street #72 Eatontown, NJ 07724 to assist the City of Salem with its Vacant and Abandoned Property Initiative at a cost of \$43,000.00.

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that final authorization and execution of said agreement is hereby contingent upon final approval by the Director of Local Government Services.

Adopted: March 5, 2018

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter		X	X			
E. Gage	X		X			
V. Groce			X			
H. Johnson			X			
S. Kellum						X
L. Thompson						X
R. Walker						X
K. Roots			X			

**CITY OF SALEM  
RESOLUTION 2018-80**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SIGNING THE INTER-LOCAL AGREEMENT FOR THE CITY OF SALEM POOL FOR THE YEAR 2018**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Common Council of the City of Salem in the State of New Jersey that the Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to sign the 2018 Inter-Local Agreement between The Salem City Board of Education, and the City of Salem for the operation of the City Pool located on Block 114, Lot 7 with an address of 155 Walnut Street, Salem, NJ 08079 upon approval of the format of same by the City Solicitor.

Adopted: March 5, 2018

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter		X	X			
E. Gage	X		X			
V. Groce			X			
H. Johnson			X			
S. Kellum						X
L. Thompson						X
R. Walker						X
K. Roots			X			

**CITY OF SALEM  
RESOLUTION 2018-81**

**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 3 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 term contingent upon availability.

Adopted: February 5, 2018

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter		X	X			
E. Gage	X		X			
V. Groce			X			
H. Johnson			X			
S. Kellum						X
L. Thompson						X
R. Walker						X
K. Roots					X	

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Administration: (Roots, Hassler, Johnson, Carter)**

Will meet on March 12.

**Public Safety: (Gage, Groce, Hassler, Carter)**

Mr. Gage will attend Fire Company Dinner

**Public Works: (Groce, Roots, Hassler, Gage)**

Will meet on March 12

**Human Services: (Hassler, Gage, Kellum, Thompson)**

Will meet on March 12

**Neighborhood Initiatives/ Community Service: (Thompson, Johnson, Roots, Carter)**

Will meet March 12

**City Property/Capital: (Carter, Hassler, Kellum, Roots)**

Will meet March 12

**Redevelopment: (Groce, Johnson, Gage, Kellum)**

Will meet March 12

**MAYORAL COMMENTS**

- ❖ Stated that he will be a guest on Comcast regarding Electric Company with Alberto Lopez on Tuesday, March 6 at 6:00pm.
  
- ❖ Had a meeting with Judge Telsey to discuss personnel matters.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

City Clerk read flyer read aloud to Council regarding meeting to make communities aging-friendly. Event will take place on March 14 from 7:00am-8:30am at Rowan University.

**PUBLIC PORTION**

**Cheri Maurer 273 Craven Ave-** Would like to commend Street Department for their hard work and needs to be applauded. Also, she spoke about issues with her water bill. CFO stated that he will look into the matter.

Motion made by Councilman Gage and seconded by Councilman Groce to close public portion. All in Favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by Councilman Gage and seconded by Councilman Groce to adopt Resolution 2018-82 for Closed Session. Roll Call. Motion carried 5-0

**CITY OF SALEM  
RESOLUTION 2018-82**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CLOSED SESSION OF THE COMMON  
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM**

**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 Common 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,** the Common Council of the City of Salem 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. PERSONNEL
- B. ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE- REGARDING ELKINTON DAM FOR DEP ACTION
- C. ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE- REGARDING POTENTIAL LITIGATION

**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.

Adopted: March 5, 2018

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
E. Gage	X		X			
V. Groce		X	X			
H. Johnson			X			
S. Kellum						X
L. Thompson						X
R. Walker						X
K. Roots			X			

With a Motion by Councilman , seconded by Councilman, and all in favor, Council came out of Closed Session at pm.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before Council, Councilman Gage motioned to adjourn the meeting, Councilman Groce seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The council meeting ended at 8:05pm.

**Respectfully Submitted:**

Approved: March 19, 2018

  
City Clerk