

**CITY OF SALEM  
MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL MEETING  
OF APRIL 17, 2017**

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, Charles Hassler, Horace Johnson, and Lydia Thompson. Also in attendance were Mayor Charles Washington, Andrea Rhea, City Solicitor, CFO David Crescenzi, and City Clerk Tierra M. Jennings. Councilman Groce and Councilwoman Sharon Kellum were absent.

**INVOCATION** LYNN KUTEIMS

**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 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2017 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 PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Motion made by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Gage to approve the payment of bills. All in favor. Motion carries.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion made by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Johnson to adopt the minutes of APRIL 3, 2017 OPEN AND CLOSED SESSION. All in favor. Motion carries.

**COMMUNICATION/APPLICATION/REPORTS**

**NEW HIRES- INTRODUCTION/RECOGNITION OF NEWLY HIRED EMPLOYEES FOR THE CITY OF SALEM**

Mayor Washington recognized all newly hired employees for the City of Salem. He had them all stand to be recognized and thanked them for a job well done.

**APPLICATIONS**

- FENWICK AMBULANCE SQUAD TO HOST A COIN DROP ON MAY 27-28 AND SEPTEMBER 2-3 FROM 7:00AM-6:00PM

Motion made by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Gage to table application for further discussion. Roll Call. Motion carried 8-0

- **POPSY POP, LLC TO SERVE ICE-CREAM AND PREPACKAGED POPSCICLES FROM MAY 2017 TO SEPTEMBER 2017**

Motion made by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Gage to approve Popsy Pop entertainment application from May 2017-Sept 2017. Council President stated that per Chief of Police, music is to be turned off when idle. All in Favor. Motion carries.

**NEIGHBORHOOD TRANSITION INITIATIVE- DISCUSSION OF PLAN BY MAYOR CHARLES WASHINGTON, JR**

Mayor Washington briefly discussed initiative that will be in place. City Solicitor will review plan and make adjustments as needed.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING**

**1614** AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2017 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

**Introduced: March 20, 2017**

<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			
V. Groce		X	X			
C. Hassler	X		X			
H. Johnson			X			
S. Kellum			X			
L. Thompson			X			
K. Roots			X			

Tierra M. Jennings, City Clerk declared the public hearing open on Ordinance 1614 regarding the Municipal Cap Bank for calendar year 2017. With no comments from the public, it was moved by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Gage that the public hearing be closed. Motion carried 8-0. It was moved by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Gage that Ordinance 1614 be adopted on second reading. The roll call vote was as follows:

**Public Hearing/Final Adoption: April 17, 2017**

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

Introduced: March 20, 2017

Published: March 23, 2017

Public Hearing: April 17, 2017

Final Adoption: April 17, 2017

Final Publication: April 27, 2017

**RESOLUTION FOR SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING**

**CITY OF SALEM  
RESOLUTION 2017-91**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE 2017 BUDGET BE READ BY TITLE ONLY**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S. 40A:4-8, as amended by Chapter 259, P.L. 1995 provides that the budget may be read by title only at the time of the public hearing if a resolution is passed by not less than a majority of the full governing body, providing that at least one week prior to the date of hearing, a complete copy of the budget has been made available for public inspection, and copies have been made available by the Clerk to persons requesting them; and

**WHEREAS**, these two conditions have been met;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the budget shall be read by title only.

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

## **PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION OF THE 2017 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

Tierra M. Jennings, City Clerk explained the Budget process regarding the Budget being “Read by Title Only.” A motion was made by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Gage to open the Public Hearing for the 2017 Municipal Budget. CFO Crescenzi explained the budget process; noting tax collections have been down, the market values of properties are down, the city has applied for transitional aid and needs state assistance. With no comments or questions from the public, it was motioned by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Gage to then close the public portion. Councilman Hassler motioned to Table the Adoption of the 2017 Municipal Budget, Councilman Gage seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken to Table the Adoption of the 2017 Municipal Budget, the vote was as follows:

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

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

Next meeting will be May 8, 2017 at 1:00pm. Also, Council President has secured personnel for the sandblasting for the pool. Committee will also reach out to Paul Ledford of Public Works to see how paint is needed for the pool and what the cost will be.

### **Public Safety: (Gage, Roots, Hassler, Carter)**

Will have a meeting with crossing guards on Tuesday, April 18, 2017 at 5:30pm

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

Had a meeting on billing for Water/Sewer Department. Awaiting remediation plan for meeting

### **Human Services: (Hassler, Gage, Groce, Thompson)**

Will meet with Future Systems next week for abandoned properties

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

Trash Amnesty Day was a huge success. Also, regarding the pool, the sandblasting is scheduled to be done next week. Mr. Johnson also thanked all the groups who participated in the Spring Clean Up. Bulk Day to be scheduled in August 2017.

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

Working on matters in regards to certain properties here within the City. Once the information is available, it will be presented to the public.

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

Met with representatives from USDA. Excited about moving forward to get project off the ground.

**MAYORAL COMMENTS**

Mayor spoke about the Neighborhood Transition Initiative. The term is 30 years. The ultimate goal is to look at home ownership for the public. If anyone has a desire to own a home, it will make it much easier to do so. USDA has approved the project and are looking forward to success with the project.

**OLD BUSINESS**

NONE

**NEW BUSINESS**

**CHARLES HASSLER- FERTILE SOIL-** Charlie Hassler spoke about meeting with Fertile Soil.

**ANDREA RHEA- MOBILTIE (VERIZON) AND BID PROTEST-** Spoke about Mobilite wanting to use the poles (telephone company) to do services for the town. Verizon reaching out to get approval for right-of-way. May have to go before the Planning Board. Resolution sought for same.

Regarding Bid Proposal, there is a bid protest that was sent in to the City Solicitor. Will be worked on. In response, per rule, once a bid opening has commenced, no other bids will be accepted.

**PUBLIC PORTION**

**Councilwoman Thompson-** Stood and spoke about her grandson who recently passed away. She thanked the public as well as the governing body for all of their support for herself and her family.

Motion made by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Johnson to close public portion. All in Favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by Councilman Groce and seconded by Councilman Johnson to adopt Resolution 2017-92 for Closed Session. All in Favor. Motion carried 8-0.

**CITY OF SALEM  
RESOLUTION 2017-92**

**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,** by the Common Council of the City of Salem and 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:

A. 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.

With a Motion by Councilman Hassler, seconded by Councilman Gage, and all in favor, Council came out of Closed Session at 8:00pm.

After Closed Session of the meeting, the following business took place-

- FENWICK AMUBULANCE SQUAD TO HOST A COIN DROP ON MAY 27 AND SEPTEMBER 2 FROM 9:00AM-5:00PM

Motion made by Councilman Hassler and seconded by Councilman Gage to accept application contingent upon that organization is only to conduct coin drop on a Saturday or a Monday. Sundays will not be accepted. Roll Call. Motion carried 8-0

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

**Respectfully Submitted:**

Approved: May 1, 2017

  
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City Clerk