



**MINUTES
PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF PERTH AMBOY
SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING
JULY 26, 2010
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

NOTICE OF MEETING

Special Meeting of the Council of the City of Perth Amboy was held on Monday, July 26, 2010, at 4:00 p.m. at the Public Safety Complex (Fire Training Room), 375 New Brunswick Ave., Perth Amboy.

Presiding Officer of the Council Kenneth Balut, advised the audience that notice of this meeting has been filed with the Home News Tribune, The Star Ledger, The Amboy Beacon and posted on the bulletin Board in the City Clerk's office.

Council President Kenneth Balut: At this time, as a courtesy to the Governing Body, I would ask all individuals present, including members of the audience, to please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices. Should you need to make a telephone call, please go out into the hallway and speak in a low voice so as not to disturb the ongoing meeting.

The sole purpose of this meeting is to authorize a Closed Session to discuss the public safety complex litigation; necessary resolutions relative to the public safety complex and a discussion on the amendment to sanitation ordinance.

Meeting was called to order by Council President Kenneth Balut with the following Council Members Present: Fernando Gonzalez, Kenneth Gonzalez, Joel Pabon and William Petrick. Absent—none.

Also present at this meeting were: Jane Feigenbaum, Business Administrator, Mark Blunda, Esq., Director of Law, Jill A. Goldy, CFO/Comptroller, and Elaine M. Jasko, City Clerk.

Motion was made by Council Member Balut, seconded by Council Member Petrick to change the order of business and to take action on the Resolution authorizing a Closed Session **(359-7/10)**.

Council President asked for comments. There were none.

The above resolution was adopted and was carried by the following vote: Yea--Council Members Fernando Gonzalez, Kenneth Gonzalez, Pabon, Petrick and Balut. Nay—none. Absent—none.

Motion by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Kenneth Gonzalez to recess the open meeting at 4:10 pm and go into closed session and was unanimously carried.

Motion by Council Member Petrick seconded by Council Member Kenneth Gonzalez to resume the open meeting at 6:45 pm and was unanimously carried.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Amendments to Sanitation Ordinance.

Paul Wnek, Director DPW: We are having a problem with collection by certain residents and collection baskets in streets. People put garbage out in plastic bags instead of plastic receptacles. I have 58 full time employees in the department of public works. I am missing 18 employees per day. I am asking for changes to our code. We need to charge for tenant move outs.

Council Member Pabon: We have mattresses in front of businesses. Are we picking them up?

Paul Wnek: Yes. I have a shortage with manpower we need to hire additional help.

Council President Balut: Is code enforcement ever called to review the garbage piles?

Paul Wnek: Yes, they are given 24 hours to remove it off the road. We are looking to charge a \$25 fee for 4 bulk items that they have to pre-register for on a list. We are looking to put cameras in certain areas to see who is dumping. We have gypsies that are picking up our white goods and we are losing money by having them do that.

Council President Balut: Someone should sign a complaint against the gypsies.

Council Member Pabon: How are we doing with recycling?

Paul Wnek: I can provide the figures.

Mark J. Blunda to Paul Wnek: Do you have a feeling about picking up for the Chamber of Commerce, the Bd. of Ed., and non-profits?

Paul Wnek: I did a survey and have provided it to you. I have had 40 incidents of injuries since 2009.

Council President Balut: We should send out a copy of our sanitation code with the tax bills.

Council Member Fernando Gonzalez to Paul Wnek: Please provide us with a report on what changes you would like to make to the code so our attorney can review it. You should get the input from the Bd. of Ed., the non-profits, and the Chamber of Commerce.

Mark J. Blunda: An ordinance has been drafted, but there are 3 categories that we would want to hear from before we present the ordinance.

Jack Rodecker, Superintendent, Bd. of Ed.: The City provides pickup twice at the schools. The current process is working well. We generate a large amount of garbage. We have been participating in the City's recycling program. The City picks up our cans/bottles. We transport our paper directly. I suggest a representative of the Bd. of Ed. meet with the City Administration to discuss the amendments to the ordinance.

Council President Balut: The City and the Board should work together.

Samuel LeBreault, President, Bd. of Education: Before the ordinance comes up for a vote, it should be provided to us so we can review it. I am the liaison to the Council from the board.

Council Member Kenneth Gonzalez: It's better to be creative to cooperate.

Steve Jobin, President, Chamber of Commerce: Any additional fee for garbage removal is not something the Chamber would endorse. We need to educate the members of the Chamber. Please keep us in the loop and we will work with the City.

Council Member Fernando Gonzalez: Most communities have private collection when it deals with the business community.

Steve Jobin: Many businesses use outside companies to pick up bulk material.

Council Member Fernando Gonzalez: Mr. Jobin should join our DPW members on a garbage pickup day to see the amount of garbage that is generated.

Council Member Kenneth Gonzalez: Our public works staff is overworked. We are doing our City a disservice if we don't charge, but we would cause a disservice if we continue to charge our small businesses.

Paul Wnek: I would rather not charge but rather educate.

Steve Jobin: Non-profits are community oriented for the public good.

Coney Island Restaurant Owner, Smith St.: I have had garbage pickup for 25 years. We have a problem with other people putting garbage in front of my business for pickup. How do I prove it's not my garbage?

Leslie Dominguez Rodriguez, 758 Convery Blvd.: There is garbage at the Marina in the evenings that smell. This turns visitors away. We need to have full staff at DPW.

Council President Balut requested that the City Clerk send a letter to the Port Authority to find out what their policy is on garbage pickup.

Council Member Pabon: How often do we pickup at the Marina?

Ed Perez, DPW: Once per day. I've asked the Port Authority to put out a dumpster, but there are issues.

Mr. Martinez, State St.: The reason for large move out garbage piles is because neighbors ask to place garbage on their neighbor's piles. If you don't allow that you will have 20 additional calls.

**PUBLIC PORTION
(5 MINUTES MAXIMUM PER SPEAKER)**

None.

AGENDA

PUBLIC COMMENT – Citizens may address the Council on any matter on the agenda which does not have its own scheduled public hearing. Citizens shall be permitted to speak once for a maximum of ten (10) minutes.

RESOLUTIONS

R-359-7/10 Authorizing a Closed Session at the July 26, 2010 Special Meeting to discuss public safety complex litigation.

VOTE TAKEN EARLIER IN THE MEETING.

R-360-7/10 Authorizing a contract with Q.E.S. Construction Management, LLC for transition services in connection with facilities management of the public safety complex at a fee not to exceed \$17,500.00.

Motion was made by Council Member Kenneth Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Petrick to adopt the above Resolution.

Council President asked for comments. There were none.

The above Resolution was adopted and carried by the following vote: Yea—Council Members Fernando Gonzalez, Kenneth Gonzalez, Pabon, Petrick and Balut. Nay--none. Absent—none.

R-361-7/10 Extending the contract with Imperial Construction Group, Inc., for professional construction management services in connection with the construction of the new public safety-court-community complex for the period from June 2010 through December 2010 in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Kenneth Gonzalez to adopt the above Resolution.

Council President asked for comments. There were none.

The above Resolution was adopted and carried by the following vote: Yea—Council Members Kenneth Gonzalez, Pabon, Petrick and Balut. Nay—Council Member Fernando Gonzalez. Absent—none.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Pabon to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm, and was carried by the following vote: Yea—Council Members Fernando Gonzalez, Kenneth Gonzalez, Pabon, Petrick and Balut. Nay--none. Absent—none.

Elaine M. Jasko
City Clerk