



**MINUTES
PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF PERTH AMBOY
JULY 9, 2014
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

NOTICE OF MEETING

Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Perth Amboy was held on Wednesday, July 9, 2014 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Perth Amboy, New Jersey at 7:00 p.m.

Presiding Officer of the Council, Joel Pabon, Sr. advised the audience that notice of this meeting has been filed with the Home News Tribune, The Star Ledger, The Amboy Guardian and posted on the bulletin board in the City Clerk's office and on the City's website, indicating that today's meeting is being held at the Council Chambers, City Hall, at 7:00 p.m.

Council President Pabon: 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.

Invocation was given by Council Member Irizarry who also led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council President Joel Pabon called the meeting to order with the following Council Members present: Kenneth Gonzalez, Fernando Irizarry, Lisa Nanton and William Petrick. Absent--none.

Also present at this meeting were: Jillian Barrick, Assistant Business Administrator, Mark J. Blunda, Esq., Director of Law, and Elaine M. Jasko, City Clerk.

PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Mayoral Proclamation - Perth Amboy: A City of Firsts

**ORDINANCES – PUBLIC HEARING
(5 MINUTE MAXIMUM PER SPEAKER/PER ORDINANCE)**

- 1. AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING RESTRICTED PARKING SPACES FOR USE BY HANDICAPPED PERSONS" (ORDINANCE NO. 380-85 AND AMENDMENTS) ADOPTED JULY 2, 1985 ALSO KNOWN AS CHAPTER 255A ET SEQ OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY.**

Re: Additions/Deletions

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez to open public hearing on the above Ordinance and was carried by the following vote: Yea--Council Members Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

Council President asked for comments. There were none.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez to close public hearing on the above Ordinance and was carried by the following vote: Yea--Council Members Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez to adopt the above Ordinance on second and final passage and was carried by the following vote: Yea--Council Members Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

- 2. AN ORDINANCE GRANTING EASEMENT IN AND TO A PORTION OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF HIGH STREET.**

Re: Construction of ADA ramp – UAW Building

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Nanton to open public hearing on the above Ordinance and was carried by the following vote: Yea--Council Members Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

Council President asked for comments.

James Tarella, Esq.: We are doing renovations to the building. We want to put a handicapped ramp at the front of the building. Our front steps sit on the right of way. This is for our residents. This has been reviewed and approved by city personnel.

Council Member Petrick: There is a monument there. Will it be affected by the work that will be done?

James Tarella, Esq.: No.

Russ O'Reilly, UAW Building Resident: There is no monument there now.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez to close public hearing on the above Ordinance and was carried by the following vote: Yea--Council Members Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Nanton to adopt the Ordinance on second and final passage and was carried by the following vote: Yea--Council Members Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

3. AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC (ORDINANCE NO. 194-78 AS AMENDED)" ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 19, 1978, ALSO KNOWN AS CHAPTER 414 ET SEQ OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY.

Re: Truck exclusion – Groom Street from Lawrie Street to Brace Avenue

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Nanton to open public hearing on the above Ordinance and was carried by the following vote: Yea--Council Members Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

Council President asked for comments. There were none.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez to close public hearing on the above Ordinance and was carried by the following vote: Yea--Council Members Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Nanton to adopt the Ordinance on second and final passage and was carried by the following vote: Yea--Council Members Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--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 five (5) minutes.

R-339

Stan Sierakowski, 679 Charles St.: Is this reduction for only one year? Who are the owners of the property and what type of property is this?

Council Member Petrick: It's commercial property.

Stan Sierakowski: I want people to know that they can get reductions for residential properties.

R-342

Stan Sierakowski: Is this appointment made by the Mayor with consent of Council?

Council Member Petrick: Yes.

Laticia Hicks, 400 Great Beds Court: We are volunteers and our group is part of NJ Sustainability. I am volunteering to make an effort to improve the city.

MINUTES

June 9, 2014 - Closed Session
June 23, 2014 - Closed Session
June 25, 2014 - Regular

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Nanton to accept the minutes and was carried by the following vote: Yea--Council Members Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none

REPORTS

Jill A. Goldy, CFO/Comptroller submitted the following report:

- 1. Check register for the month of June 2014 totaling \$6,429,135.87.**

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez to accept report #1 and was carried by the following vote: Yea--Council Members Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

RESOLUTIONS

R-332-7/14 Authorizing the 2014-2015 Renewal of certain Plenary Retail Consumption Licenses effective July 10, 2014.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member 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 Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

R-333-7/14 Authorizing the person-to-person transfer of Plenary Retail Consumption License No. 1216-32-058-010 held in the name of Costa Azul Night Club, Inc. at 954 Amboy Avenue to Arturo Ramirez, LLC at the same address effective July 10, 2014.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member 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 Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

R-334-7/14 Authorizing the insertion of revenue in the CY 2014 Budget pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (Chapter 159, P.L. 1948) for Click It or Ticket Grant in the amount of \$4,000.00.

Motion was made by Council Member Irizarry, 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 Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

R-335-7/14 Authorizing the insertion of revenue in the CY 2014 Budget pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (Chapter 159, P.L. 1948) for an Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Grant in the amount of \$295.40.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Irizarry 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 Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

R-336-7/14 State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Enabling Resolution.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Irizarry 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 Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

R-337-7/14 Authorizing a contract with Queues Enforth Development, Inc. for the maintenance of software for the police computer system for the period of July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 in the amount of \$38,715.00.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member 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 Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

R-338-7/14 Authorizing a refund to United Dominicans in the amount of \$500.00 for non use of the beer and/or wine garden permit on August 15, 2014.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Nanton 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 Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon.
Nay--none. Absent--none.

R-339-7/14 Authorizing the refund of tax overpayment created by tax appeal on Blk. 124, Lot 11.01, 157 New Brunswick Avenue to Michael I. Schneck, Trustee for 157 New Brunswick, LLC, in the amount of \$36,405.09.

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

Council President asked for comments.

Council Member Gonzalez: Paramount Properties is my landlord. It might be a conflict for me to vote on this.

Mark Blunda: I recommend that you abstain.

The above Resolution was adopted and carried by the following vote:
Yea--Council Members Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none.
Absent--none. Abstain--Council Member Gonzalez.

R-340-7/14 Authorizing a modification of Resolution R-327-7/13 to reflect a funding change to the contract with Hatch Mott MacDonald for engineering services for waterfront damages improvement needs.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Nanton 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 Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon.
Nay--none. Absent--none.

R-341-7/14 Authorizing a lease agreement with the Middlesex County Board of Social Services for designated office space at the Alexander Jankowski Community Center for the period January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2017.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member 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 Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon.
Nay--none. Absent--none.

R-342-7/14 Consenting to the appointment of Laticia Hicks; William Kurzenberger; William Schultz; Betty T. Crews; Aneil Mohammed; Rosemary Nivar; Renee Skelton; Daniel T. Harning, Jr.; Steven Nascimento; Joel Reyes; Caroline B. Pozycki and Olive Bryan to the Green Team for a three year term which shall expire on December 31, 2017.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member 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 Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon.
Nay--none. Absent--none.

R-343-7/14 Appointing Michael P. Savoia to the Zoning Board of Adjustment as Alternate # 2 for an unexpired term to expire on December 31, 2014.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member 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 Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon.
Nay--none. Absent--none.

R-344-7/14 Authorizing the submission of an application to the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for the 2015 Recreation Opportunities For Individuals With Disabilities Grant.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Irizarry 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 Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon.
Nay--none. Absent--none.

LATE STARTER
ORDINANCE – FIRST READING
(NO PUBLIC DISCUSSION)

1. **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "WATER" ADOPTED APRIL 7, 1981 BY ORDINANCE NO. 270-81, ALSO KNOWN AS CHAPTER 418 ET SEQ OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY.**

Mark Blunda: We do not have an ordinance ready for this evening. We will have it ready for the next meeting. Therefore, we will be taking no action on this matter this evening.

LATE STARTER
RESOLUTIONS

R-345-7/14 Authorizing the person-to-person transfer of Plenary Retail Consumption License No. 1216-33-007-003 held in the name of M & M Building Systems, LLC t/a Bungalo (inactive) to Palma Investments, Inc., t/a Palma Investments, Inc. to be held in pocket status, effective July 10, 2014.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez to place the above Resolution on the agenda as a late starter for consideration.

The above Resolution was placed on the agenda as a late starter by the following vote: Yea--Council Members Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member 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 Gonzalez, Irizarry Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

R-346-7/14 Authorizing change order no. 1 to the contract with Allstate Power Vac, Inc. for sewer main cleaning and lining regarding the following locations: Alpine Street, Bruck Avenue, Grace Street, Watson Avenue, First Street and Sayre Avenue in an amount not to exceed the sum of \$54,881.93.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez to place the above Resolution on the agenda as a late starter for consideration.

The above Resolution was placed on the agenda as a late starter by the following vote: Yea--Council Members Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

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

Council President asked for comments.

Council Member Irizarry: What are we going to be doing? They found the problem so why are we changing their resolution?

Mark Blunda: Allstate encountered 3 different unanticipated problems-- a large blockage, an offset of the main and a break. They don't do that type of repair work. They can't do the lining work unless the repairs are done. Some of this work is funded by State monies that were received. That is why the contract needs to be changed with Allstate. They will hire the company to do the repair work for one of the problems. The city will contract with B & W to correct the other 2 problems. All 3 items are emergency work.

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

R-347-7/14 Authorizing a contract with B & W Contracting Co. for emergency repairs to the Alpine Street Sewer Line in an amount not to exceed \$111,922.07.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez to place the above Resolution on the agenda as a late starter for consideration.

The above Resolution was placed on the agenda as a late starter by the following vote: Yea--Council Members Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Nanton 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 Gonzalez, Irizarry Nanton, Petrick and Pabon.
Nay--none. Absent--none.

COMMUNICATIONS

- 1. Notice of Public Hearings on Proposed Private Sale of Surplus Property by the County of Monmouth in the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex known as 1231 Hoffman Station Road and described as Blk. 32, Lot 1.10. (6/19/14)**
- 2. Paul W. Wang, President of the Kearny Cottage Historical Association thanking Danny Cleaver and the Department of Public Works for their help in maintaining the Kearny Cottage during the past severe winter. Also thanking Annie Hindenlang and the Office of Human Development and City Council in getting the brickwork done. (6/21/14)**
- 3. Pennjersey Environmental Consulting submitted a copy of the NJDEP Public Notification Form on behalf of the Board of Education for the environmental investigation taking place at the Ignacio Cruz Early Childhood Learning Center at 601 Cortland Street. (6/23/14)**
- 4. Hatch Mott MacDonald submitted a copy of the NJDEP Waterfront Development Permit on behalf of the City for the bulkhead reconstruction project. (6/24/14)**
- 5. NJDEP issued a news release offering tips on reducing conflicts and encounters with black bears in New Jersey. (6/24/14)**
- 6. Vilma E. Novak thanking Mayor Wilda Diaz for the opportunity to serve on the Perth Amboy Historic Preservation Commission and advising that she is not seeking reappointment. (6/25/14)**
- 7. Thomas P. Ward, Chairman of the Board of Adjustment advising that the Planning and Zoning Boards have every intention to help preserve the City's great historic past. (6/26/14)**
- 8. Thomas P. Ward, Chairman of the Zoning Board of Adjustment submitted the Annual report. (6/26/14)**

9. NJDEP issued a news release regarding the Departments initiative to crackdown on illegal dumping in state parks and natural land has resulted in charges of a Seaside Heights man ordered to pay more than \$21,000.00 in penalties. (6/26/14)
10. Scarinci Hollenbeck advising that on April 11, 2011 a petition was filed with the NJ BPU seeking approval of the merger of Time Warner Cable into a wholly owned subsidiary of Comcast. (6/30/14)
11. Governor Christie's administration announcing that applications for the 2014 Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards are available. (7/1/14)
12. Comcast advising that several channel changes will take place. (7/1/14)
13. Elaine M. Jasko, City Clerk on behalf of the City Council, thanking Police Officers Danny Gonzalez and Franklin Hernandez, members of the US Army National Guard for their service to the country on being deployed to participate in Operation Enduring Freedom. (7/2/14)
14. PSE&G advising that a Petition has been filed with the NJ Board of Public Utilities in June 2014 requesting a resetting of the Company's Electric and Gas Green Programs Recovery Charges. (7/2/14)
15. News Release regarding the Christie Administration efforts in seeking twenty recruits for its 2015 class of Americorps Watershed Ambassadors. (6/25/14)

PUBLIC PORTION
(5 MINUTES MAXIMUM PER SPEAKER)

Jane Herron, 519 Groom St.: I am looking to have current ordinances enforced. There is vehicle speeding on Neville St. Ambulances are using Groom St. to get to the hospital. The hospital gives everyone a lot of lip service but they are not good neighbors. We are looking for traffic controls at intersections. We need to do something.

Willie Illas, 176 Sherman St.: The properties near our property (Patterson St. and Sherman St.) are in the status of abandonment. There is a hole that has been there for many years that was created by the City and has not been filled. There are many illegal activity concerns in the area. This gives a sore eye to the neighborhood.

Council Member Petrick: Overgrown lots should be reported to the Health Dept.

Miriam Quiles, 761 Barry Ave.: I own property at 309 Market St. We had a sewer backup recently on my Market St. property (2 feet) due to the heavy rains. I contacted the sewer dept. and tried to get an appointment with our Mayor. It has been three days and the Mayor has not contacted me as of yet. Most of my neighbors in the area sustained damage due to similar sewer backups on the day of the storm. I've owned my property 30 years and never had such a problem. Where are we going to go to receive compensation for the damages done due to this backup?

Rick Risoldi, Middlesex Water: We are aware of the problem. The rain did surcharge the system. We are investigating and will provide you with a report upon completion of the investigation. One of our own pump stations at Second St. did flood also.

Council President Pabon: The residents should be informed of what occurred once we have an answer.

David Torres, 719 Mary St.: Mary St. was turned into a one-way street. It creates a parking problem for us. There is a lot of illegal housing on Mary St. Many houses have 8-10 cars. We have made many calls to Code Enforcement and they don't come out. They have done nothing about it. We were never informed that this change was going to occur. We have had a lot of illegal housing throughout the entire city for many years.

Council Member Petrick: This change was a Police Dept. recommendation.

Mark Blunda: We can check into that.

Council Member Gonzalez: Mr. Torres, please speak to Ms. Barrick after the meeting and give her the addresses of the illegal units.

Council President Pabon: Code Enforcement has been out there doing investigations on many occasions.

William Langford, 437 Broadhead Pl.: Code Enforcement is non-existent. I have complained on many occasions. They do nothing. Recently, the gas company cut up concrete near my house and created dust and caused pieces of concrete to fly and hit my house and car. I called the Police Dept. and they refused to prepare a report at my request. Eventually the gas company acknowledged what was done and paid for a car wash for my car.

Jose Ojeda, 308 Arnold Ave.: A giant tree fell and created a lot of damage yesterday as a result of the storm. It fell on my van and many cars got damaged. There were many requests in the past for removal of the trees. These complaints were made but nothing was done.

Mark Blunda: Notice of claim forms for damage to your vehicle can be obtained from the City Clerk's office or the Law Dept.

Carmen Pagan, 308 Arnold Ave.: My neighbors and I have been complaining about the trees for 20 years. Why is nothing being done? It is not right.

Edith Almeida, 308 Arnold Ave.: I'm the niece of Carmen Pagan. I live in the same building. The trees have now been removed. Only the stumps are left.

Ricky Batts, 710 Mary St.: We are here to complain about making Mary St. a one-way street. We have no driveway. We will have nowhere to park now. The street is small. We should have been notified before the street was changed to one-way.

Council Member Petrick: If people that live on the street want it changed back, please start a petition and present it to the Council.

Council Member Gonzalez to Mark Blunda: Mary St. is narrow. Can the Council pass an ordinance to make changes?

Mark Blunda: Yes you can.

Council Member Gonzalez: I would like this listed as a topic for discussion for the next meeting. This way we can discuss it with the Police Dept.

Jillian Barrick: I'll also include the City Engineer for the meeting.

Council Member Irizarry: Please have Code Enforcement here also.

Orlando Leon, 51 Madison Ave.: There was a net around my house. The net was removed. They play baseball in the open field in the area and my car and home get damaged by baseballs. People walk their dogs and don't pick up after their animals.

Angel Santiago: I'm the 2nd floor tenant at 51 Madison Ave. and my car got damaged by the baseballs.

Council Member Gonzalez: A letter should be sent to the Bd. of Education asking them to replace the net that was removed with a higher net.

Stan Sierakowski, 679 Charles St.: The property on High St., owned by Barry Rosengarten, was sold to the County. He underpaid taxes to the City for many years on that property. Anchor Marine (next to Mr. Rosengarten's property) owed the City \$2.5m. Who are the owners of the property? Who gave them permission to stop paying taxes to the City?

Angel Leon, 618 Penn St.: My neighbors and many residents in this city work on weekends. The neighbors are being disturbed by loud music. There is one resident who is mostly responsible for the loud music. We call the Police Dept. and they come. However, as soon as they leave, the music volume is increased again.

Council Member Gonzalez: After a second call, the Police Dept. should be issuing a summons.

David Caba, 139 Lewis St.: There is no leadership in this City. The administration is being sneaky and evil in their ways. The City is deteriorating. It is our right to come and question things.

Cindy Lin, 176 Sherman St.: There is a litter issue in our neighborhood. There is illegal activity on our street. People clean out their cars on our street. I don't know who is in charge of cleanup of the litter problem. In the winter, tractor trailers park on along Patterson St. and take up our parking.

Council Member Gonzalez: DPW is responsible for clean up if it is public property. If it's private property it is the owner's responsibility.

Council President Pabon: We were watching that area for quite some time.

Leo Mejia, 729 Mary St.: I am concerned about the parking situation of Mary St. Please look into it.

Sharon Hubberman, 529 Cornell St.: We have a public-private partnership with Middlesex Water. They are responsible for the infrastructure. Has there been an investigation into the technology of the meter reading system? Has there been an issue with the equipment? The quality of life in Perth Amboy has been spiraling. There is music blasting everywhere. Is this occurring because we don't have enough police enforcement?

Council President Pabon: There has been an investigation of the water matter for many months.

Ken Balut, 359 Bruck Ave. to Jillian Barrick, BA: What are the responses to my questions from the Caucus Meeting about the Rodgers Group?

Jillian Barrick: The original request did not move forward. There was a delay due to a change in the format. The training was available and was provided by them.

Ken Balut: How did we lose Police accreditation? How much training was provided to the Police Dept.? Accreditation is a "scam". It has cost us over \$1m. We keep spending money. The Chief was given a \$2,800 raise. How did we lose accreditation? Barry Rosengarten was given grant money for remediation of his property, but he was negotiating to sell the property to the County. An investigation should be done of this matter. I don't think the Chief is doing a good job. We don't have accreditation. There is illegal housing throughout the city. The State should come in to look at the illegal housing. What happened to the State audit that was done of the city?

Alan Silber, 244 Rector St.: The current Mayor never came to a meeting when Joe Vas was the Mayor, except when it was dealing with the Puerto Rican festival. Is the Mayor's Facebook page an official city page? The City's seal is on this page.

Fernando Gonzalez, 129 High St.: There were many situations in the past similar to Mrs. Danielczyk's water situation. The Council can take steps to address these types of situations. You should sit down with Middlesex Water to discuss the existing agreement with them.

Steve Nascimento, 422 Great Beds Court: There were floods all over the place at Landings during the last storm. Is there any update on the punchlist items of the 2013 code violations?

Council Member Nanton: There was to be replacement of the vinyl siding. What is the status?

Council Member Gonzalez to Jillian Barrick, BA: Please follow up and get a status report for us.

Reinaldo Aviles, 16 Harbor Terr.: We should have a council system by wards. You should have town meetings in different areas of town. Wards need to be reshaped. They are lopsided. This needs to be looked at. They are badly drawn.

Lynda Vannoni, 227 Water St.: The quality of life in this town has hit the bottom. People are afraid to go out at night. We need signs telling people to stay off the waterfront fence. The Council should walk streets in certain areas of town to get a feel for what is going on.

Jaime Rodriguez, 298 Market St.: Is there a number where we can call to report overcrowding and police issues?

Council Member Petrick: You need to call Code Enforcement and the Police Dept.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Irizarry: I would like for someone from Middlesex Water Co. to describe what steps were taken to review and assess the recent water issue for the senior citizen (Mrs. Danielczyk).

Rick Risoldi, Middlesex Water: The meter in the home was tested twice. The fee for the test was waived. The test equipment was certified and then was re-certified. Even a small leak can cause a large amount of water being used over a 3 month period. The electronic meter reading equipment was reading properly. There was a very slow leak with the toilet running.

Paul Danielczyk: I would like to speak now and rebut what the water company has said.

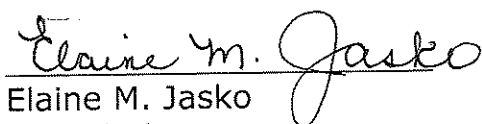
Council President Pabon: It is not allowed. Public Portion is closed. Mr. Danielczyk, you had your opportunity to speak during public portion.

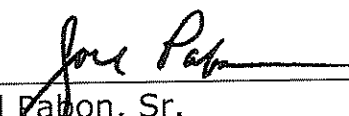
Council Member Gonzalez: Councilwoman Nanton and I reviewed the facts in this matter. The meter was inspected and re-inspected. We physically viewed the property. The City's ordinance does not allow us to forgive the bill due to malfunction. I am looking to waive interest for the payment in question.

Council Member Petrick: I would like to thank the Department of Public Works along with all the others I mentioned on Monday for their work in making the fireworks a terrific event.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Nanton to adjourn the meeting at 9:35pm, and was carried by the following vote: Yea--Council Members Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--None. Absent--None.


Elaine M. Jasko
City Clerk


Joel Pabon, Sr.
Council President

