



**MINUTES  
PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF PERTH AMBOY  
JANUARY 8, 2014  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**NOTICE OF MEETING**

Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Perth Amboy was held on Wednesday, January 8, 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 Rev. Henry Rogers, Sr. of the Cathedral International who 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: Greg Fehrenbach, Business Administrator, Mark J. Blunda, Esq., Director of Law, and Elaine M. Jasko, City Clerk.

**PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

**Friends of the P.A. Public Library - Presentation of check in the amount of \$1,058.88 to the Library.**

**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 Petrick 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 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 TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "ORDINANCE FIXING AND ESTABLISHING A SCHEDULE OF SALARY RANGES AND INCREMENTS FOR OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY" (ORDINANCE NO. 1704-2013 AS AMENDED) ADOPTED NOVEMBER 13, 2013.**

**Re: AFSCME Local 2270, Schedule B Seven Step Guide 2012-2016**

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 Gonzalez 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 ORDINANCE 1678-2013 AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "ORDINANCE FIXING AND ESTABLISHING A SCHEDULE OF SALARY RANGES AND INCREMENTS FOR OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY" (ORDINANCES NO. 218-79 AS AMENDED) ADOPTED JULY 3, 1979.**

**Re: Management – Police Chief/Director**

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.

Stan Sierakowski, 679 Charles St: Is this to increase the range of the salary?

Greg Fehrenbach: This is a \$2700 increase for the Chief of Police.

David Caba, 139 Lewis St.: What is the amount of the increase?

Greg Fehrenbach, BA: It is approximately a \$2700 increase.

David Caba: The average family in Perth Amboy makes \$25,000 per year. He is making twice what a couple makes. This is not the right time to give someone an increase. What more is he doing to get an increase? Other city employees have taken a pay cut. This individual was in campaign headquarters in his uniform on election night. This is a conflict of interest.

Ken Balut, 359 Bruck Ave.: The Chief only wears his uniform on special days. The Chief was in uniform on election night. The Chief was being paid by FEMA. How ethical is that? He just recently got a raise.

Alan Silber, 244 Rector St.: The Chief is one of the highest paid persons. We don't have enough money to fix a cultural center but we found magical money for this. He does not need the money.

Fernando Gonzalez, 129 High St.: When do we stop spending the money and hurting the citizens? Everyone wants a raise. You need to fight for the citizens. Our taxes are the highest in the County. My taxes just keep going up.

Council Member Gonzalez: The previous Ordinance on tonight's agenda also gives raises. Yet, no one commented on the previous Ordinance. The pictures shown by Mr. Balut are accurate and were taken after the election was over.

Council Member Nanton: We cannot talk about what was discussed in Closed Session. We also cannot talk about personnel issues. This council debated long and hard on the decisions and they were not made lightly.

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 Gonzalez, 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, and Nanton. Nay--Council Members Petrick and Pabon. 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.

### **Comm. #11**

Stan Sierakowski, 679 Charles St.: I am asking for someone to read this letter in full.

Council President Pabon read the letter in full.

Stan Sierakowski: This letter was copied to Commissioner Serf in order for him to come in and to take over the Bd. of Ed. This letter was meant to be a threat to the Board of Education. The Mayor never wrote a memo when her children were in the school system.

**R-22**

Ken Balut, 359 Bruck Ave.: Did the Police accreditation result in a 10% reduction in this settlement? I'm sure it did not.

**Comm. #11**

Mayor Wilda Diaz read the letter, in full, into the record.

Mayor Wilda Diaz: This memo was written in response to a story that appeared in the "Star Ledger" newspaper. Shame on us, if a newspaper brings this to light, and we do nothing about it. As elected officials we need to speak up for our student body. This is about the students of Perth Amboy. We get over \$180m from the State for our students. We don't want to lose this funding.

Fernando Gonzalez, 129 High St.: There seems to be a contradiction in the letter. It states that much money is received from the State, instead of focusing a more positive outlook. It should not have focused on negatives and money.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**November 25, 2013 - Regular  
December 11, 2013 - Regular**

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

**BIDS**

**Bids were received on January 7, 2014 for the following:**

- 1. Beach Promenade Reconstruction Project**
  - a. Helios Construction Inc.      \$1,395,600.00\*
  - b. V&K Construction Inc.      1,471,700.00
  - c. A-Tech Concrete Co.      1,583,750.00
  - d. Tony & Son Inc.      1,719,100.00
  - e. Compass Construction Inc.      2,027,950.00

**\* Recommendation of Bid Award**

## LIQUOR LICENSE – NOTIFICATION

### Person-to-Person Transfer

License No. 1216-33-006-004 held in the name of Alan I. Gould Receiver for Tropical Corp, t/a Acapulco Tropical, 521 State Street to Ambos Restaurant & Lounge LLC.

## REPORTS

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

1. Water/Wastewater Utility Reports – November 2013.
2. Investment Report – November 2013.
3. Budget Status Reports – YTD November 2013.
4. Payroll Disbursements/Deductions – November 2013.

-----  
5. YMCA – Financial Reports (2011-2012).

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez to accept reports #1 through #4 and was carried by the following vote: Yea--Council Members Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

## RESOLUTIONS

**R-2-1/14 Authorizing a refund in the amount of \$100.00 to Soffi C. Ramirez, 372 Fayette Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, for denial of a handicapped parking application.**

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-3-1/14 Denying person-to-person transfer of liquor license no. 1216-32-059-006 from Melania Corporation to Jose Ayala.**

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-4-1/14 Accepting a grant from the County of Middlesex in the amount of \$1,776.00 from the Middlesex County Cultural & Heritage Commission for the Summer Theatre Performance Arts Camp promoting dance and music.**

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-5-1/14 Rescinding R-585-12/13 and re-authorizing acceptance of the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Fiscal Grant Cycle July 2014 – June 2015.**

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-6-1/14 Supporting the concept of an "evaluation instrument of City employees for the purpose of evaluating employees on an annual basis".**

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-7-1/14 Authorizing a contract with Aquatic Service for pool service at the public safety complex community center from January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014 in an amount not to exceed \$23,000.00.**

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-8-1/14 Authorizing a contract with Ramas Climate and Refrigeration, LLC, for HVAC preventive maintenance for the public safety complex from January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014 in an amount not to exceed \$18,800.00.**

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-9-1/14 Authorizing a contract with Peterson Service Company, Inc. for HVAC repairs at the public safety complex under State Contract No. 81014 in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.00.**

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-10-1/14 Authorizing a contract with Automated Building Controls for HVAC maintenance and repair services to city buildings in an amount not to exceed \$60,000.00.**



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-11-1/14 Authorizing a contract with Simplex Grinnel for fire alarm/sprinkler system preventive maintenance, testing, inspections and repairs at the public safety complex community center from January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014 in an amount not to exceed \$18,147.00.**

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-12-1/14 Awarding a contract for rock salt to Atlantic Salt Co., Inc. in accordance with the Middlesex County Cooperative Pricing Agreement in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00.**

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-13-1/14 Authorizing a service contract with Thyssenkrupp Elevator Corporation for preventive maintenance and service at the public safety complex for the period of January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014 in the amount of \$18,600.00.**

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-14-1/14 Authorizing a service contract with Automated Logic for maintenance of the automated logic WebCTRL system for HVAC at the municipal court and recreation areas of the public safety complex for the period of January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014 in the amount of \$19,788.00.**

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-15-1/14 Authorizing a contract with F&S Tire Corporation for tires for the department of public works equipment in an amount not to exceed \$20,535.42.**

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-16-1/14 Authorizing temporary budget appropriations for Calendar Year 2014 Municipal Budget.**

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-17-1/14 Awarding a contract to Hunter Jersey Peterbuilt for the purchase of two automated solid waste collection compacting vehicles in the amount of \$563,005.00 and acknowledging the memorandum of explanation provided by the Director of Public Works dated December 19, 2013.**

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-18-1/14 Authorizing a road opening permit for High Street at Long Ferry Road and across High Street at 975 High Street subject to City Engineer's conditions.**

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-19-1/14 Authorizing settlement of the workers compensation litigation entitled Maria Santiago v. City of Perth Amboy C.P. No. 2013-16985 for the net amount of \$31,518.00.**

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-20-1/14 Accepting a Post Sandy Planning Assistance Grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs in the amount of \$30,000.00 under the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funding Program.**

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-21-1/14 Authorizing execution of side bar agreement with the White Collar Union, AFSCME Local 2270 of Council 73 (White Collar Union) adding the title of Senior Legal Secretary.**

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-22-1/14 Authorizing settlement of Ozoria v. City of Perth Amboy in the amount of \$60,000.00.**

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-23-1/14 Appointing Jillian C. Barrick, Assistant BA as Fund Commissioner for the Public Entity Joint Insurance Fund and Gregory C. Fehrenbach, BA as Alternate Fund Commissioner.**

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-24-1/14 Awarding a contract to Ferraioli, Wielkotz, Cerullo and Cuva, for professional financial services in an amount not to exceed \$80,000.00.**

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-25-1/14 Awarding a contract for unleaded gasoline to Allied Oil Co., in accordance with the Somerset County Cooperative Pricing Agreement, in an amount not to exceed the sum of \$440,000.00.**

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-26-1/14 Awarding a contract for diesel fuel to Allied Oil Co., in accordance with the Somerset County Cooperative Pricing Agreement, in an amount not to exceed the sum of \$270,000.00.**

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-27-1/14 Authorizing a contract with Maser Consulting in the amount of \$30,000.00 for professional planning services as a sub-recipient of the Post Sandy Planning Grant.**

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-28-1/14 Accepting the bid and awarding a contract to Helios Construction Inc. for the beach promenade reconstruction project in an amount not to exceed \$1,395,600.00.**

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.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

1. **Middlesex County Utilities Authority submitted a copy of the Authority's 2014 Budget, Rate Schedule and Services – Solid Waste Division. (12/9/13)**
2. **Comcast advising that to insure that certain Hispanic customers have access to all the upcoming Winter Olympics On Demand programming, certain channels will be added to the MultiLatino Max lineup. (12/10/13)**
3. **NJDEP advising that no further action is necessary for the remediation of the 1500 gallon #2 heating oil underground storage tank system at 380 Sayre Avenue, Blk. 145, Lot 12. (12/12/13)**
4. **Edward Scala, Code Enforcement Director submitted a list containing violations and the allowed time for corrections to John Nemergut, the Project Manager for Harbortown Terrace. (12/16/13)**
5. **NJDEP submitted a copy of the Soil Remedial Action Permit issued to Chevron USA, Inc., 1200 State Street. (12/16/13)**

6. **Langan Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc. submitted a copy of the NJDEP Remedial Action Protectiveness/Biennial Certification Form – Ground Water for the former MGP Site located at Linden Street and Sadowski Parkway. (12/16/13)**
7. **Sayreville Borough Clerk submitted a copy of an Ordinance adopting the Sayreville Landfill and Melrose Redevelopment Plan and further amending the Zoning Map and Land Development Ordinance adopted on December 16, 2013. (12/24/13)**
8. **Transcend Wireless advising that Sprint Nextel will be undertaking minor maintenance work in and around the City's property at 800 Albert Street. (1/2/14)**
9. **Sovereign Consulting Inc. advising that a vapor intrusion investigation is being conducted under the direction of a Licensed Site Remediation Professional on behalf of the NJDEP at the M&M Auto site located at 410 East State Street. (12/16/13)**
10. **The Mayor and Council requesting Congressman Pallone, Senator Vitale, Assemblymen Wisniewski and Coughlin and Freeholder Director Rios to speak on behalf of the City in seeking assistance to dredge the sediment caused by Sandy in the marina. (1/2/14)**
11. **Mayor Wilda Diaz extending her support to the school administration and Board of Education in providing the absolute best education possible. (1/7/14)**

Council President Pabon: I don't believe this is against the Bd. of Ed. We don't wish them anything bad.

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

Stan Sierakowski, 679 Charles St.: The Mayor refuses any and all board meetings to be shown on public access television. The Mayor should give approval for those meetings to be aired. The citizens have a right to see those meetings.

Bob Sottilaro, 722 Gornik Dr.: Safety precautions should be considered by Code Enforcement in the Buckeye project. How much will we be getting in taxes from this project?

Greg Fehrenbach: There is no pilot nor tax abatements for this property. This was an arm's length agreement. It will be taxed appropriately. The Assessor will receive assistance from the tax attorneys in providing an appraisal on this property. There is no estimate yet of the monies the city will receive.

Ken Balut, 359 Bruck Ave.: The money pot at the Bd. of Ed. was ripe for stealing. We need to file a complaint and recover some of those monies. The Chief did not deserve the raise, especially since he was in uniform on election night at campaign headquarters. That was improper.

Alan Silber, 244 Rector St.: The video of the recent shooting is in the possession of the attorney general. It has not been released a month later. In 2011 there was an 83% graduation rate. In 2013 it was 58%. Something is wrong here. Perth Amboy is not the worst in the State. The condition of the old Zito house at 173 High St. is in terrible condition. It looks to still be tax exempt. Someone should look into this.

Mark Blunda: The City of Perth Amboy has no ability to release a video. No request can be made for the release of the video.

David Caba, 139 Lewis St.: We need this room packed at Council Meetings. We are not asking for the City to release the video tape. Where is the knife? Nobody knows where the knife is. The family is suffering. There may not have been a knife.

Council Member Gonzalez: Are you saying that it was fabricated?

David Caba: Anything is possible.

Council Member Petrick: Everyone should be happy that this is being investigated on a state level so there is no local politics involved.

Fernando Gonzalez, 129 High St.: I would suggest that a letter be written, on behalf of the community, to the attorney general asking what occurred in the Dixon Rodriguez matter, as soon as possible. Is Volpak still in the picture?

Greg Fehrenbach: I met with Volpak. They still have this as a significant asset. They want to use this to its best purpose, but they're not sure what that is now due to the current financial conditions. The property is back in developable status after Superstorm Sandy.

Council Member Gonzalez: Is there still cleanup going on at the property?



Greg Fehrenbach: Yes they are taking care of it.

Mayor Wilda Diaz: It would be a disservice to our children if we don't speak up on their behalf. I want the info on the shooting released as soon as possible. I am willing to prepare a letter but there is a process that we have to deal with. Starting January 25th at the Jankowski Center, we will have 10-15 sessions concerning the affordable health care act. We invite our Perth Amboy citizens to come out. We will help navigate them through the process and we will be able to sign them up.

Pastor Berny Falcon-Lopez, 654 Jacques St.: I want to thank all the organizations and individuals in helping us and supporting us during the holiday season in giving our poor people and homeless people food and gifts.

#### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Council Member Irizarry: There is a sign at the corner of Amboy Ave. and New Brunswick Ave. that is leaning and about to fall. For the record, I paid full market value for my house in the city. I believe a change is needed in our police policy in dealing with the mentally ill in the city. I would suggest a partnership with a hospital or a mental health facility to respond with the police to deal with mental health situations. We need to establish a dialogue between the Police Dept. and our residents. I would ask that an ad-hoc committee of the Council to deal with these solutions.

Council Member Nanton: We received a petition from a group of people on Oak St. regarding the problems with parking in the area. What is the status?

Greg Fehrenbach: It was forwarded to the Parking Utility and the Police Dept. The Police Dept. is still reviewing this.

Council Member Nanton: A property tax card company should be invited to attend a future caucus meeting. The town of Marlboro is working towards this. If you support your local merchants you get a discount on your taxes. Is the Council willing to discuss in a February closed session an evaluation of ourselves and set some goals for 2014?

Mark Blunda: I will have to see if that can be discussed in Closed Session.

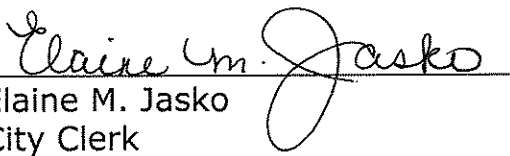
Council Member Petrick: Edith Hayes recently passed away and we should remember her.

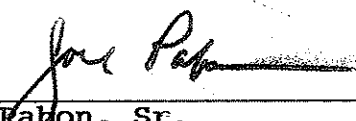
Council President Pabon: The person speaking at the microphone should be given respect. We cannot engage with people sitting in the audience. I am asking for mutual respect. I thank all the organizations for helping the poor and homeless in the city.

Council Member Irizarry: I thank the library board for its contribution.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm, 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