



**MINUTES  
PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF PERTH AMBOY  
JANUARY 22, 2014  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**NOTICE OF MEETING**

Presiding Officer of the Council, Joel Pabon, Sr. advised the audience that notice of these meetings have 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 4:30 p.m. (Caucus) and **7:00 p.m.\* (Public Voting Session)**.

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 Petrick who led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council President 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.

**\*Meeting started at 7:35pm due to Caucus Meeting running late.**

### TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

1. **Capital Improvement Program & Capital Budget 2014. (Fehrenbach)**
  - a. **Water/Wastewater**
  - b. **Public Works**
  - c. **Plan of Action**
  
2. **Interview of candidates for the following boards:**
  - a. **Housing Authority**
  - b. **Board of Adjustment**

### 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-67**

Stan Sierakowski, 679 Charles St.: Who are the owners of the Anchor Marine property? Nancy Martin, our tax collector, is very knowledgeable and very helpful. I am going to see her and maybe she can find out for me. Why didn't you foreclose on the Rosengarten property?

#### **R-30**

Alan Silber, 244 Rector St.: Mr. Ken Gonzalez was on the Bd. of Ed. for 10 years. Thieves walked off with \$2m and he didn't see it. Mr. Gonzalez used a handicapped placard that didn't belong to him for 5 years. The people of Perth Amboy deserve a certain amount of integrity. I urge you to vote "no" on this appointment.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### **December 30, 2013 – Special Meeting**

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, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Abstain--none. Absent--none.

**BIDS**

Bids were received and opened on January 10, 2014 for the following:

1. Fire Engine/Pumper Repair & Preventive Maintenance
  - a. Fire & Safety Services \$50,000.00\*
  - b. Absolute Fire Protection Co., Inc. Did Not Comply
2. Fire Aerial Apparatus Repair & Preventive Maintenance
  - a. Absolute Fire Protection Co., Inc. Did Not Comply

(\* ) Recommendation of Award

**REPORTS**

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

1. Check register report for the month of December 2013 in the total amount of \$4,749,974.95.
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2. Nancy Martin, Tax Collector – 2013 Tax Sale Report.
  3. Nancy Martin, Tax Collector – Cash Receipts Calendar Year 2013.

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.

**ORDINANCES – FIRST READING  
(NO PUBLIC DISCUSSION)**

1. AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "PRECIOUS METALS AND GEMS" (ORDINANCE NO. 250-80 AND AMENDMENTS) ADOPTED MAY 20, 1980 ALSO KNOWN AS CHAPTER 331 ET SEQ OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY.

Re: Fingerprinting

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, and seconded by Council Member Gonzalez to adopt the above Ordinance on first reading and public hearing for second and final passage be set down for the meeting of the Council to be held on February 12, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Council Chambers, City Hall, 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 "PROPERTY MAINTENANCE" (ORDINANCE NO. 646-92 AND AMENDMENTS) ADOPTED NOVEMBER 16, 1992 ALSO KNOWN AS CHAPTER 335 ET SEQ OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY INCREASING THE MAXIMUM FINES FOR VIOLATIONS.**

Motion was made by Council Member Irizarry, and seconded by Council Member Gonzalez to adopt the above Ordinance on first reading and public hearing for second and final passage be set down for the meeting of the Council to be held on February 12, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Council Chambers, City Hall, 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 "BUILDINGS, UNSAFE" (ORDINANCE NO. 547-91 ET SEQ AND AMENDMENTS) ADOPTED MAY 21, 1991 ALSO KNOWN AS CHAPTER 175 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY INCREASING THE MAXIMUM FINES FOR VIOLATIONS.**

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, and seconded by Council Member Irizarry to adopt the above Ordinance on first reading and public hearing for second and final passage be set down for the meeting of the Council to be held on February 12, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Council Chambers, City Hall, and was carried by the following vote: Yea--Council Members Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

**R-30-1/14 Consenting to the appointment of Kenneth Gonzalez to the Perth Amboy Redevelopment Agency for a term expiring December 31, 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 Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none.  
Abstain--Council Member Gonzalez. Absent--none.

**R-31-1/14 Consenting to the appointment of David J. Volk to the Perth Amboy Redevelopment Agency for a term expiring on December 31, 2018.**

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-32-1/14 Appointing Bernadette Falcon-Lopez as Commissioner of the Perth Amboy Housing Authority for a term expiring December 31, 2018.**

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-33-1/14 Appointing Ronald L. Ray as a regular member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment for a term to expire on December 31, 2017.**

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-34-1/14 Appointing Reinaldo E. Aviles as a regular member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment for a term to expire on December 31, 2017.**

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-35-1/14 Appointing Elias Rivera as a member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment for a term to 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-36-1/14 Appointing Wilma Matey to fill the unexpired term of Alternate #1 to the Zoning Board of Adjustment for a 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-37-1/14 Authorizing submission of an application to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for a Hurricane Sandy Coastal Resiliency 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-38-1/14 Authorizing an agreement with Faith Perrin, DVM for veterinary services for the year 2014 including the rabies clinics to be held on April 26 and September 13, 2014, in an amount not to exceed \$7,800.00.**

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.

**Consent Agenda – R-39-1/14 - R-46-1/14**

**R-39-1/14 Authorizing a refund of tax overpayment in the amount of \$796.50 created by tax appeal to Peter Zipp, Esq. for Eduardo Trujillo, for Block 80, Lot 9 and Block 80, Lot 10.02 (234-238 Meade Street).**

**R-40-1/14 Authorizing a refund of tax overpayment in the amount of \$5,574.40 created by tax appeal to Peter Zipp, Esq., for Liberty Center LLC, for Block 353.01, Lot 3.06 (598-606 State Street).**

**R-41-1/14 Authorizing a refund of tax overpayment in the amount of \$2,041.70 created by tax appeal to Peter Zipp, Esq., for Carmen Ramirez, for Block 160, Lot 38 (362 Stockton Street).**

**R-42-1/14 Authorizing a refund of tax overpayment in the amount of \$2,092.76 created by an assessor's appeal to Robert Estrada for Block 293, Lot 20 (629 Hanson Ave.).**

**R-43-1/14 Authorizing a refund of tax overpayment in the amount of \$435.00 created by an assessor's appeal to Maria Duran and Jose L. Beato for Block 451, Lot 30 (393 Thomas St.).**

**R-44-1/14 Authorizing a refund of tax overpayment in the amount of \$393.13 created by an assessor's appeal to Wolff Enterprises, Inc. for Block 53, Lot 7 (273 Front St.).**

**R-45-1/14 Authorizing cancellation of special charge tax credit for 2007 on Block 334, Lot 23 in the amount of \$29.37.**

**R-46-1/14 Authorizing refund of a road opening permit in the amount of \$1,000.00 to Ubaldina Formeza for 429 Park Avenue, Blk. 223, Lot 12.**

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez to adopt Resolutions #39-1/14 - #46-1/14.

Council President asked for comments. There were none.

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

**R-47-1/14 Authorizing settlement of the workers compensation litigation entitled George C. Miller v. City of Perth Amboy C.P. no. 2011-31468 for the net amount of \$32,426.00.**

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-48-1/14 Authorizing settlement of the workers compensation litigation entitled William Lopez v. City of Perth Amboy C.P. no. 2012-16596 for the amount of \$32,226.00.**

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-49-1/14 Authorizing settlement of the workers compensation litigation entitled James Williams v. City of Perth Amboy C.P. no. 2012-19046 for the amount of \$15,666.75.**



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-50-1/14 Authorizing change order one to the contract with First Community Development Corporation of NJ, Inc. for custodial services in municipal buildings and to add the municipal court for the period January 1, 2014 through July 31, 2014 in an amount not to exceed \$10,734.00.**

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-51-1/14 Rescinding Resolution R-24-1/14 and re-authorizing a contract to Ferraioli, Wielkocz, Cerullo and Cuva, P.A., for professional financial services in an amount not to exceed \$80,000.00.**

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-52-1/14 Authorizing the release of maintenance bond (\$949.35) and escrow balance (\$890.00) to Jose Jacinto for 215 Wagner Ave., Block 433, Lots 23 & 24, Docket No. 2877 in the total amount of \$1,839.35.**

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-53-1/14 Authorizing the release of maintenance guaranty (\$744.83) and escrow balance (\$5.00) to Jojo Construction, Inc. for 366 Thomas St., Block 453, Lots 1 & 2.01, Docket No. 2864 in the total amount of \$749.83.**

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-54-1/14 Authorizing the release of maintenance guaranty to Steven Middleton for 418 Thomas St., Block 448, Lot 21.01, Docket No. 2800 in the amount of \$1,103.00.**

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-55-1/14 Approving a contract with La Casa Cultural to provide not-for-profit educational and cultural programs at the Perth Amboy Gallery Center for the Arts for the period commencing January 1, 2014 to December 31, 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-56-1/14 Authorizing a contract with Premier Plus for office supplies (no paper products or toner) in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00.**

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-57-1/14 Authorizing a contract with CDW Government for printer cartridges under state contract WSCA NASPRO in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00.**

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-58-1/14 Authorizing a contract with Service Tire Truck Center for the purchase of tire and tubes under state contract no. A82527, in an amount not to exceed \$43,850.00.**

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.

**Consent Agenda – R-59-1/14 - R-63-1/14**

**R-59-1/14 Authorizing various professional agreements for engineering, land surveying & construction management services for special projects to vendors who have submitted requests for proposals for calendar year 2014.**

**R-60-1/14 Authorizing various professional agreements for environmental services for special projects to vendors who have submitted requests for proposals for calendar year 2014.**

**R-61-1/14 Authorizing various professional agreements for architectural services for special projects to vendors who have submitted requests for proposals for calendar year 2014.**

**R-62-1/14 Authorizing various professional agreements for construction materials testing & inspection services and geotechnical engineering services for special project to vendors who have submitted requests for proposals for calendar year 2014.**

**R-63-1/14 Authorizing professional service agreements with Qualified Construction Management firms for special project who have submitted responses to requests for proposals for calendar year 2014.**

Mark Blunda: Resolutions #59 – #63 should be tabled.

The Council agreed to table the resolutions by the following vote: Yea-- Council Members Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

**R-64-1/14 Approving transfer of CY 2013 Budget Appropriation Reserves in the amount of \$1,674.01.**

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-65-1/14 Accepting the bid and awarding a contract to Fire & Safety Services for fire engine/pumper repair and preventive maintenance 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-66-1/14 Authorizing a settlement of the civil contract Action captioned Nova Crete v. City of Perth Amboy in an amount not to exceed \$4,000.00.**

Mark Blunda: Resolution #66 should be tabled.

The Council agreed to table the resolution by the following vote: Yea--Council Members Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

**R-67-1/14 Authorizing the tax collector to conduct 2014 accelerated tax sale.**

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-68-1/14 Authorizing collection of interest on delinquent taxes and assessments.**

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-69-1/14 Authorizing the 2013-2014 renewal of inactive license no. 1216-32-100-006 held in the name of Cali Entertainment Inc., effective January 23, 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-70-1/14 Rejecting and authorizing the re-bidding for fire aerial apparatus repair and preventive maintenance.**

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-71-1/14 Accepting a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in the amount of \$477,520.00 for the FY 2013 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program Award-SAFER.**

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.

**LATE STARTER**

**R-72-1/14 Authorizing an agreement with Alfred's Auction for the disposal by auction of surplus exercise equipment.**

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.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

1. **Middlesex County Office of the County Counsel advising that it will hold two (2) public hearings regarding the proposed sale of roadway improvements along CR-654, Maurer Rd., Perth Amboy. The hearings will be held on January 9 and 23, 2014 at the County Administration Building. (1/6/14)**

2. **Mayor Wilda Diaz advising that she has made the following appointments (1/7/14 & 1/9/14):**

<b>David Szilagyi</b>	<b>Planning Board 12/31/17</b>
<b>Steven Nascimento</b>	<b>Planning Board 12/31/17</b>
<b>Lisette Martinez</b>	<b>Planning Board 12/31/14</b>
<b>Kenneth Gonzalez</b>	<b>PARA 12/31/14</b>
<b>David J. Volk</b>	<b>PARA 12/31/18</b>
<b>Donna Pittel</b>	<b>Library Board 12/31/18</b>

3. **Mayor Wilda Diaz advising that she has appointed the following individuals to the Perth Amboy Police Dept. (1/8/14):**

<b>Tyrone V. Burch II</b>	<b>Jessica L. Irizarry</b>
<b>Anthony P. Garcia</b>	<b>Jennifer Morales</b>

4. **Mayor Wilda Diaz asking James S. Simpson, Commissioner, NJDOT, to contact her so that they can continue the discussion regarding the importance of the renovations to the City's historic Train Station. (1/9/14)**
5. **NJ Council on Affordable Housing (COAH) submitted a copy of its resolution approving Plainsboro Township's Spending Plan. (1/13/14)**

6. Robert T. Clarke, Esq., of the law firm of Apruzzese, McDermott, Mastro & Murphy, advising that the City's Law Director, Mark J. Blunda, has been selected for inclusion in the 2014 edition of U.S. News & World Report *Best Lawyers in America* in three separate practice areas: Employment Law – Management, Labor Law – Management and Litigation – Law & Employment. This is the seventh consecutive year that Mark has been named to *Best Lawyers*. (1/13/14)
7. NJDEP advising that based on a review of the information submitted including site plans, entitled **FIGURE –PHOTO LOG SECOND STREET MULTIPLE BLOCKS AND LOTS PERTH AMBOY NEW JERSEY DATED November 20, 2013** and prepared by Brinkerhoff Environmental Services, Inc., a Waterfront Development Permit will be required. (1/13/14)
8. MC Board of Chosen Freeholders submitted a copy of Resolution #13-2521 adopted on December 30, 2013, authorizing the vacation of a portion of the County Right-Of-Way along County Route 654, Maurer Rd., in the City of Perth Amboy and authorizing the execution of an agreement with Buckeye Perth Amboy Terminal LLC. (1/13/14)
9. FEMA Dept. of Homeland Security advising that it is transitioning its current disaster Joint Field Office operations in NJ and NY to the Sandy Recovery Office on January 15, 2014. (1/15/14)

#### **CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION**

**R-29-1/14 Authorizing a Closed Session at the January 22, 2014 Caucus Meeting to discuss the following:**

1. Public Safety Complex
2. Landings at Harborside
3. Potential Litigation
4. Appointment

ACTION ON RESOLUTION 29-1/14 WAS TAKEN DURING THE CAUCUS MEETING HELD AT 4:30 PM.



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

Virginia Lugo, Perth Amboy: With regard to the accelerated tax sale, how does this affect the citizens of the City? Accelerated tax sales will result in additional penalties for the property owners. Citizens should be told they have to pay by a certain date.

Greg Fehrenbach: The City has been doing this since 1994. We provide notices to the property owners in October (4 notices) before the sale at the end of December. I am not in favor of this but it cannot be changed.

David Caba, 139 Lewis St.: There has been no closure on the shooting that occurred last year by our Police Department Personnel. I have doubts about what occurred at that incident. I am still asking "where the knife is". This is destroying our City. The leadership has not stepped up to the plate to tell us what is going on. There's a cloud hanging over the City.

Chief Ben Ruiz: No one is more interested in due process than the Police Dept. I want to make sure everything is done properly. We want closure but there is due process. The County Prosecutor turned over the results to the Attorney General. All evidence is in the hands of the County Prosecutor's Office. We have to wait. Upon completion, everything will be made public. There is no time frame for the completion of the case. There is no deadline.

Council Member Petrick: As part of the evidence, is there a knife and a video tape?

Police Chief Ruiz: Yes.

Council Member Irizarry: Is there anything we can do to expedite the process?

Police Chief Ruiz: No. There's a checks and balances system to make sure that everything is reviewed. There's no contact with the family during an active investigation.

Council Member Petrick: It is important that there is no local influence on this case.

Stan Sierakowski, 679 Charles St.: Taxpayers can appeal their taxes up to March 30. I was present when Greg Diaz, the Mayor's husband, made comments at the last meetings to me and to former Council Member Fernando Gonzalez. We should have a police officer at the meetings.

Alan Silber, 244 Rector St.: I congratulate Mr. Blunda for his achievements (Comm. #6). The County Prosecutor confirmed to the newspapers that there is a video regarding the shooting the day following the shooting. We should send a letter asking to expedite the matter.

Council Member Petrick: Would it be appropriate to send such a letter?

Mark Blunda: We can ask for a status of the case. I will write such a letter.

Dorothy Carty-Daniel, 277 Water St.: There were internal concerns among some of our commissioners on the Housing Authority. Mr. Pete Perez voted on the issues he spoke about during the Caucus Meeting. PARTNER, a non-profit, was created so the Housing Authority wouldn't lose monies. HUD found no wrongdoing in how PARTNER was being run.

Steve Nascimento, 422 Great Beds: I have noted that there is work being done at Harbortown.

Greg Fehrenbach: A list of repairs was extended due to weather conditions.

Pedro Perez, 733 Franklin Dr.: I requested an audit of PARTNER from 2003-2010 because two top housing authority officials were being paid high salaries.

Leslie Dominguez Rodriguez, 758 Convery Blvd.: Changes and questions are good for boards. I felt bad for former Council Member Gonzalez for being harassed by the Mayor's husband, Greg Diaz. The county sheriff should be present at our meetings. We don't get due process by our police officers because of who the people were that were involved.

#### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Council Member Gonzalez to Greg Fehrenbach: I am providing you with paperwork for your review concerning the matter we discussed at the last meeting regarding a discount in taxes for local shoppers.

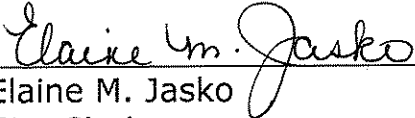
Council Member Petrick to Mark Blunda.: I ask that we include in the letter to the Attorney General that the family be contacted with info on the status report.


Council Member Nanton: Do you know when FEMA will come before us?

Greg Fehrenbach: I don't know yet.

**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 8:50pm, and was carried by the following vote: Yea--Council Members Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--none.

  
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Elaine M. Jasko  
City Clerk

  
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Joel Pabon, Sr.  
Council President

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