



**MINUTES  
PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF PERTH AMBOY  
SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING  
DECEMBER 22, 2014  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**NOTICE OF MEETING**

Special Public Meeting of the Council of the City of Perth Amboy was held on Monday, December 22, 2014, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Perth Amboy, New Jersey at 4:30 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 and posted on the bulletin board in the City Clerk's office and on the City's website.

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.

The sole purpose of this meeting is to consider three financial resolutions.

Council President Joel Pabon called the meeting to order with the following Council Members present: Lisa Nanton and William Petrick. Absent--Council Member Fernando Irizarry.

Also present at this meeting were: Elaine M. Jasko, City Clerk, and Jill A. Goldy, CFO/Comptroller.

Absent were: Jillian C. Barrick, BA and Mark, J. Blunda, Esq., Director of Law.

## 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.

## RESOLUTIONS

**R-662-12/14 Approving transfer of CY 2014 Budget Appropriations in the amount of \$750,000.00.**

Jill Goldy, CFO/Comptroller: This resolution requires 4 votes. Since we only have three (3) council members present, we cannot take action on this resolution this evening. This should be removed.

Council removed the resolution from the agenda.

**R-663-12/14 Authorizing change in custodian of petty cash fund for Police Department Public Safety.**

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

Council President asked for comments.

Jill Goldy, CFO/Comptroller: This is to change the custodian of the petty cash funds from Ben Ruiz to Acting Deputy Chief Lawrence Cattano.

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

**R-664-12/14 Authorizing change in custodian of petty cash fund for undercover narcotics purchases.**

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 Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--Council Member Irizarry.

## COMMUNICATIONS

- 1. Mayor Wilda Diaz advising that effective December 15, 2014, and until further notice, Captain Larry Cattano will serve as Acting Deputy Chief of Police in command of Police Department operations. (12/15/14)**

## PUBLIC PORTION (5 MINUTES MAXIMUM PER SPEAKER)

Leslie Dominguez Rodriguez, 758 Convery Blvd.: There is a man by the name of Nicholas Serrano, from a private investigation firm that is questioning certain voters that voted in the last City Election. This is part of the Pabon, Petrick and Diaz campaign. Sergio Diaz is attacking latino voters. People are being harassed. I want the public to know what is going on in Perth Amboy. There is no voter violation here. Sergio Diaz needs to accept his loss. Mr. Diaz and Mr. Pabon should steer their running mate.

Ken Balut, 359 Bruck Ave.: Were there police promotions made recently?

Council Member Petrick: I believe so.

Ken Balut: Were they done in the closet? Who was promoted?

Council Member Petrick: The promotions were made by the administration. The Council does not make promotions.

Ken Balut: This is politics in the police department.

Linda Ferreira, 395 Bruck Ave.: The autistic and dead end signs on Leon Ave., which I asked about at a past meeting, have not been put up. There is a street sign on Birch Ave. and Bruck Ave. that has been lying on the ground for a long time, and nothing has been done about it. The private investigator is impersonating law enforcement officials.

Stan Sierakowski, 659 Charles St.: Chief Ben Ruiz was charged for theft of city services and was suspended. There was an allegation that the Chief also stole motorcycle parts. The BA recommended his suspension to the Mayor six months ago. Mayor Diaz over-ruled that recommendation. The Chief also impregnated a subordinate. The character of Mayor Diaz is flawed.

David Caba, 139 Lewis St.: What is the city's policy for employees getting involved in politics?

Council Member Petrick: The Attorney should answer the question when he is here.

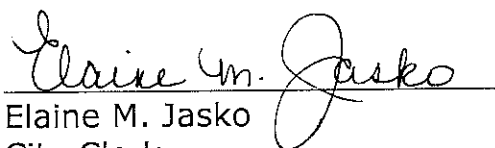
David Caba: I will ask him next time. Why did Senator Vitale only give money to the Pabon, Petrick, Diaz election campaign?

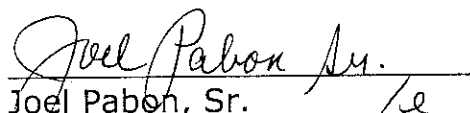
Alan Silber, 244 Rector St.: It is interesting that the Woodbridge Township Redevelopment Agency Attorney was hired by Sergio Diaz to challenge the recent city election. Why were the police promotions made in the Police Dept. and not at City Hall, like all other promotions? You should hold back your vote from the Mayor's agenda items if she keeps the Council out of the loop.

### COUNCIL COMMENTS

### 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 5:00 pm, and was carried by the following vote: Yea--Council Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Absent--Council Member Irizarry.

  
 Elaine M. Jasko  
 City Clerk

  
 Joel Pabon, Sr.  
 Council President