

MINUTES PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY NOVEMBER 24, 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 meetings are being held at the Council Chambers, City Hall, at 4:30 p.m. (Caucus) and **7:00 p.m.** (Public Voting Session).

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

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

- 1. USA-PA Annual Report. (Nanton)
- 2. Interview of Housing Authority Commissioner Candidates. (Pabon)

TOPICS WERE DISCUSSED AT THE 4:30 PM CAUCUS MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 24, 2014.

ORDINANCE - PUBLIC HEARING (5 MINUTE MAXIMUM PER SPEAKER/PER ORDINANCE)

1. AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "ORDINANCE FIXING AND ESTABLISHING A SCHEDULE OF SALARIES AND SALARY RANGES AND INCREMENTS FOR OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY" (ORDINANCE NO. 218-79 AS AMENDED ADOPTED JULY 3, 1979.

Re: PBA 2014-2018

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.

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.

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

2. AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "ORDINANCE FIXING AND ESTABLISHING A SCHEDULE OF SALARIES AND SALARY RANGES AND INCREMENTS FOR OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY" (ORDINANCE NO. 218-79 AS AMENDED ADOPTED JULY 3, 1979.

Re: Public Safety Telecommunicators (July 2012-December 2017) Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Irizarry 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.

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.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Irizarry 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.

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 <u>five</u> (5) minutes.

R-583

Stan Sierakowski, 679 Charles St.: I'm against the appointment of Ken Gonzalez for several reasons. Ken Gonzalez received non-bid contracts from the City for representing clients in the First Time Homebuyers program. Mr. Blunda should have recused himself from rendering a legal decision. It should have been sent to the Middlesex County Attorney Ethics Board for a decision to be rendered in the matter. Mr. Gonzalez falsified records and unlawfully used a handicapped placard. Mr. Gonzalez did not run for re-election for Council because he was promised that he would be made a municipal judge. This was a quid-pro-quo. He lacks integrity.

R-583

David Caba, 139 Lewis St.: Mr. Gonzalez broke the law and he is being rewarded. How can a person judge others when he alone broke the law? He will have to recuse himself in all handicapped cases. What message are we sending to our youth? What deals were cut in this case?

R-583

Alan Silber, 244 Rector St.: Mr. Gonzalez committed fraud by illegally using a handicapped placard. On June 21, 2014, Kathy DePow, a city resident, sent an email that indicated that Mr. Gonzalez would be named Judge. This has been known for quite awhile. Mr. Gonzalez sat on the Board of Education when \$2.5m was stolen under his watch. Mayor Diaz

put this appointment on this agenda after she donated \$4000 to each Council Candidate (Petrick, Pabon, Diaz) for the last election.

R-583

Ken Balut, 359 Bruck Ave.: Why wasn't a female considered to replace the female judge? Mr. Gonzalez has had an issue with the Court Clerk in the past. This may result in a hostile work environment.

R-590 & R-591

Ken Balut: Are any monies going back to Morris Companies? Are we still negotiating for the road?

Jillian Barrick: It is approximately \$800,000.00.

R-583

Reinaldo Aviles, 16 Harbor Terr.: Ken Gonzalez did the right thing when he needed to. Mr. Gonzalez made a mistake. No one is perfect. You need to vote for the best interest of the City. Putting Mr. Gonzalez in the court may make it better. I don't think there will be a hostile work environment with the Court Clerk. There was a concern only because of her residency.

R-589

Mark Blunda: In 2014 the City entered into a contract with Feist Engineering. He can no longer perform the duties. This resolution assigns the existing contract to be completed. RFP's for professional service contracts will be going out on Wednesday and the Council will make a decision once the RFP's are received.

R-583

Mark Blunda: There is no contract between the City and Mr. Gonzalez. Mr. Gonzalez represents first time home buyers because the individuals can choose their own attorney. With regard to the unauthorized use of a handicapped placard, the Council has no jurisdiction over DMV traffic issues. It went before the Woodbridge Municipal Court. Judge Koch was moved up to Superior Court. The Mayor approached me about Ken Gonzalez being appointed to fulfill the unexpired term. I wrote to Judge Francis about the allegations. He read all the materials and called me. On his advice, I sent all the documents to the NJ Supreme Court Ethics Committee. I met with them in September and the committee found no conflict and provided me with a copy of their findings. In my 38 years of practice, I found that most judges are involved in politics.

Council Member Irrizary: Is there any ethical impediment for this not to be on the agenda?

Mark Blunda: No, there are no ethical issues to prevent the appointment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2013 Closed Session

January 23

February 11, 25

March 11, 25

April 8, 22

May 6, 20, 22

June 10, 24

July 8, 22

August 12

September 9, 23

October 7, 21

November 13, 25

2014 Closed Session September 22, 25 October 6, 20

2014 Regular Meeting

November 12

November 10

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.

SUPPLEMENTAL DEBT STATEMENT

Refunding Bonds

\$24,500,000.00

REPORTS

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

- 1. Water/Wastewater Utility Reports for the month of October 2014.
- 2. Investment Report for the month of October 2014.
- 3. Budget Status Reports YTD October 2014.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez to accept reports #1 - #3 and was carried by the following vote: Yea--Council Members Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--None.

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING (No Public Discussion)

1. 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: Stop Streets

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 December 10, 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.

2. REFUNDING BOND ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR THE CURRENT REFUNDING OF ALL OR A PORTION OF THE GENERAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS, 2007 (QUALIFIED **PURSUANT SERIES** PROVISIONS OF THE MUNICIPAL QUALIFIED BOND ACT, CONSTITUTING P.L. 1976 c.38, AS AMENDED), \$24,500,000 THEREFOR APPROPRIATING AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE BY THE CITY OF GENERAL IMPROVEMENT REFUNDING BONDS, WHICH MAY, AT THE OPTION OF THE CITY, BE ISSUED AS QUALIFIED BONDS PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF ACT, QUALIFIED BOND MUNICIPAL CONSTITUTING P.L. 1976 c.38, AS AMENDED, IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT EXCEEDING \$24,500,000 FOR FINANCING THE COST THEREOF.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, and seconded by Council Member Nanton 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 December 10, 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.

3. AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "PUBLIC CONTRACTING" (ORDINANCE NO. 1417-2008 AND AMENDMENTS) ADOPTED JUNE 25, 2008 ALSO KNOWN AS CHAPTER 98 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY.

ORDINANCE #3 REMOVED FROM THE AGENDA AT THE CAUCUS MEETING.

4. AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "ORDINANCE FIXING AND ESTABLISHING A SCHEDULE OF SALARIES AND SALARY RANGES AND INCREMENTS FOR OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY" (ORDINANCE NO. 218-79 AS AMENDED ADOPTED JULY 3, 1979.

Re: Management - Non-union

ORDINANCE #4 REMOVED FROM THE AGENDA AT THE CAUCUS MEETING.

5. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 4 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY TO ESTABLISH A REVISED FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE HARBORSIDE MARINA UTILITY RENTALS.

Jillian Barrick: Currently, there are minimum and maximum fees and we are proposing changes for seasonal services.

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, and seconded by Council Member Nanton 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 December 10, 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.

RESOLUTIONS

Consent Agenda - R-575-11/14 to R-581-11/14

R-575-11/14 Authorizing the refund of tax overpayments to Corelogic on various blocks and lots in the total amount of \$26,343.93.

R-576-11/14 Authorizing the refund of tax overpayment created by tax appeal to Peter Zipp, Esq., Attorney for 420-430 Market St. LLC, in the amount of \$3,017.80 for 266 Grace St. (Block 75, Lot 49).

R-577-11/14 Authorizing the refund of tax overpayment created by tax appeal to Peter Zipp, Esq., Attorney for 784 Pfeiffer Realty, LLC in the amount of \$27,242.95 for 782-784 Pfeiffer Blvd. (Block 385, Lot 1.01).

R-578-11/14 Authorizing the refund of tax overpayment created by tax appeal to Peter Zipp, Esq., Attorney for 240 Hall Ave., LLC, in the amount of \$3,139.17 for 240 Hall Ave. (Block 345, Lot 1).

R-579-11/14 Authorizing the refund of tax overpayment created by tax appeal to Amboy Investments, LLC, c/o Peter Zipp, Esq. in the amount of \$964.80 for 316 Prospect St. (Block 117, Lot 42).

R-580-11/14 Authorizing the refund of tax overpayment created by tax appeal to Horn Law Group, Attorney for Park West Ests. Co., in the amount of \$589.60 for 698 West Side Ave. (Block 341, Lot 25.01).

R-581-11/14 Authorizing the refund of tax overpayment created by tax appeal to Horn Law Group, Attorney for Park West Ests. Co. in the amount of \$589.60 for 702 West Side Ave. (Block 341, Lot 27.01).

Motion was made by Council Member Petrick, seconded by Council Member Nanton to adopt Resolutions #575-11/14 - #581-11/14.

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

R-582-11/14 Approving transfer of CY 2014 Budget Appropriations in the amount of \$59,900.00.

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.

R-583-11/14 Consenting to the appointment of Kenneth L. Gonzalez as a Judge of the Municipal Court of the City of Perth Amboy to fill the unexpired term of Municipal Court Judge Maria del Valle-Koch, commencing December 12, 2014.

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: I thank Mr. Blunda for all the research that was done on this matter. I thank the public for expressing concerns. I apologize for violating motor vehicle violations. I like to work with people. Anything I can do in the court to make it better I will strive to do.

Council President Pabon: I am satisfied with all the investigations and results.

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.

R-584-11/14 Authorizing settlement of the workers compensation litigation entitled Benjamin Salerno v. City of Perth Amboy C.P. No. 2012-1762 for the amount of \$37,113.00.

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 Irizarry, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--none. Abstain--Council Members Gonzalez, and Nanton.

R-585-11/14 Authorizing settlement of the workers compensation litigation entitled James Williams v. City of Perth Amboy C.P. No. 2013-18186 for the amount of \$28,380.00.

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.

R-586-11/14 Authorizing settlement of the workers compensation litigation entitled Sergio Mercado, Jr. v. City of Perth Amboy C.P. No. 2004-6910 for the amount of \$15,000.00.

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.

R-587-11/14 Authorizing a voluntary tender to Miguel Ojeda in the amount of \$12,960.00 in connection with a workers compensation litigation entitled Miguel Ojeda v. City of Perth Amboy C.P. No. 2013-1876.

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.

R-588-11/14 Authorizing release of professional review escrow fee to Robert Estrada for 625 Hanson Avenue, Block 293, Lot 18 Docket No. 2883 in the amount of \$540.00.

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.

R-589-11/14 Authorizing Center State Engineering, formerly known as Feist Engineering to perform engineering services for the balance of 2014 and to fulfill all outstanding contracts.

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.

R-590-11/14 Authorizing stipulation of settlement resolving the complaint filed by Morris Perth Amboy Associates for property located at 950 Convery Boulevard (Block 399, Lot 1).

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.

R-591-11/14 Authorizing stipulation of settlement resolving the complaint filed by Morris Perth Amboy Associates for property located at 1051-1057 Amboy Avenue (Block 469, Lot 1).

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.

R-592-11/14 Authorizing stipulation of settlement resolving the complaint filed by Sheina Associates, c/o Basic Line for property located at 975 & 985 High Street (Block 426, Lots 3.05 & 3.06).

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.

R-593-11/14 Authorizing clean communities minigrant program for group volunteer organization cleanups within the City of Perth Amboy during 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.

R-594-11/14 Authorizing submission of a grant application for a New Jersey Attorney General Conducted Energy Device Assistance Program.

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.

R-595-11/14 Authorizing refund of permit fee for the use of City Hall Park Circle in the amount of \$50.00 to the Perth Amboy Republican Organization.

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.

R-596-11/14 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 a Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Fund Grant in the amount of \$31,056.00.

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.

R-597-11/14 Appointing the following individuals with the corresponding terms to the Perth Amboy Arts Council:

Marc Anthony Alicea 1 Yr.
Olga Bautista 2 Yrs.
Vivianna Acuna-Francisco 1 Yr.

Ausrine Dereskeviciute 2 Yrs.
Laura McHugh 2 Yrs.
Greg Bender 3 Yrs.
Caroline Pozyicki 3 Yrs.
Thomas Ward 3 Yrs.
Okenssy J. Peña 2 Yrs.
Bienvenido Torres 2 Yrs.

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.

R-598-11/14 Authorizing a reduction of \$5,804.29 to the city's contract with Excel Environmental Resources, Inc., to take over environmental compliance at the library construction project.

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.

R-599-11/14 Awarding a contract to Vitalclick, LLC, for the purchase of Electronic EMD Guide Card System for the Police Department in an amount not to exceed the sum of \$16,944.00.

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.

R-600-11/14 Authorizing a contract with Gotham Technology Co., for firewall maintenance in an amount not to exceed \$10,680.30.

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.

R-601-11/14 Rescinding R-573-11/14 and authorizing the proper city officials to enter into an installment payment agreement with Pablo Perez (El Rincon Tropical) for unpaid water and sewer charges on 323 State Street (Blk. 126, Lot 10.01).

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.

LATE STARTER

R-602-11/14 Authorizing a sidebar agreement with Perth Amboy Police Officers William Dillon, David Formeza and Aurelio Vazquez, Jr. to serve as acting sergeants.

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 and was carried by the following vote: Yea-Council Members Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay-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. Abstain--none.

COMMUNICATIONS

- 1. Essex Special TV Products, Inc. advising the City of investigation and cleanup of environmental contamination associated with the property formerly occupied by Essex Chemical Corp. at 144 Grant St. (11/3/14)
- 2. NJDEP advising that no further action is necessary for the remediation of the property located at 672 Columbus Circle for removal of one-550 gallon #2 heating oil underground storage tank system. (11/4/14)
- **3.** Senator Cory Booker expressing his best wishes to the City of Perth Amboy in celebrating the 225th anniversary of NJ's ratification of the Bill of Rights. (11/11/14)
- **4.** NJDEP advising that no further action is necessary for the remediation of the property located at 314-316 Elm St. for removal of one-1000 gallon #2 heating oil underground storage tank system. (11/13/14)
- **5.** EnviroTrac submitted an amendment and supplements to the Response Action Outcome, dated October 8, 2013, for Vira Manufacturing, 1 Buckingham Ave. (11/18/14)
- **6.** FEMA announcing there is a public review period for the Draft Environmental and Historic Preservation Guidance for Federal Disaster Recovery and comments can be submitted through November 28, 2014. (11/18/14)

CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION

R-574-11/14 Authorizing a Closed Session at the November 24, 2014 Caucus Meeting to discuss the following:

- a. Tax Appeals
- b. Closed Session Minutes Review
- c. Potential Litigation
- d. Imperial v. City of Perth Amboy
- e. Public Safety Complex
- f. Perth Amboy v. Serghides
- g. Petit-Clair v. City of Perth Amboy
- h. Personnel

RESOLUTION #574 WAS ADOPTED AT THE NOVEMBER 24, 2014 CAUCUS MEETING HELD EARLIER IN THE EVENING.

Public Portion (5 Minutes Maximum Per Speaker)

Stan Sierakowski, 679 Charles St.: There was no investigation of Ken Gonzalez's handicapped placard issue. Mr. Benyola, who is a city employee, steered business to Mr. Gonzalez for first time homebuyers. There are 13 bar associations in the State of NJ. Judge Francis does not have subpoena power for investigations. It has to be done by the Attorney Ethics Committee.

Ken Balut, 359 Bruck Ave.: The Mayor couldn't find a qualified female attorney to replace Maria Koch as Judge. The Mayor made Mr. Blunda do an investigation on Mr. Gonzalez. Why don't you have an investigation of one of the sitting judges that is disrespecting our citizens? The façade at Landings is still not done. There is an agreement. Why is this taking so long?

Diane Signorile, Staten Island: My roots are in Perth Amboy. How can Perth Amboy hire a person to work in the city who serves as a Mayor in another town? You should vote the Tax Collector out. I am willing to fill in while you look for a replacement.

Alan Silber, 244 Rector St.: Ken Gonzalez used a handicapped placard improperly. That is fraud. A lawyer needs to argue both sides of each case. Mr. Blunda left out certain things when he gave permission to the Council to vote for Mr. Gonzalez.

David Caba, 139 Lewis St.: We need young people with a vision for the City. There's no vision for our City. The people of Perth Amboy need to wake up. Code Enforcement needs additional personnel.

Catherine Soto, 81 Center St.: I have an OPRA request for records on Nancy Martin. Her tax collector license is expired as of 2009. She should be relieved of her duties. I am an animal activist. I am asking for immediate action. I am giving you 48 hours for a response. We do not want her in Perth Amboy.

Amber Yehle, Toms River: I am an animal rights activist. Nancy Martin is the Mayor of Helmetta. Perth Amboy has a phenomenal shelter right now. Michal & Richard Cielesz left Perth Amboy and are now running the Helmetta Shelter. There is no proper recordkeeping in Helmetta. Your tax collector is trying to hide the atrocities in the Helmetta shelter. There are no licenses for the Cieleszs' to euthanize animals.

Wilma Matey, 125 Water St.: I am concerned about Nancy Martin working for Perth Amboy. Her son has 3-4 jobs with the Borough of Helmetta. We are bringing people into the City that are not credible. I am proud of the Perth Amboy shelter.

Enrique Aviles, 16 Harbor Terr.: The BID is funded by taxes collected in the district. The election of officers for the BID may be unruly. People that get appointed should govern themselves. The Council should look at how the BID is organized.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council President Pabon: Election monies don't buy me. I have never sold myself. I served in the military and I went to visit veterans during election time. There is nothing wrong with that. The process needs to be right. I am here to serve my City.

Council Member Irizarry: I wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Council Member Nanton: Our Green Team received a Sustainable Jersey Bronze Certification at the League of Municipalities. I want to congratulate the team. I congratulate Ken Gonzalez on his appointment as Municipal Court Judge.

Council Member Gonzalez: NJ elected officials supporting our councilmembers is not a bad thing. They are supportive of our team. We need them supporting us. We are making positive strides in the City. We want to make it a positive place. I have been practicing law for 19 years. I am looking forward to serving in this capacity.

Council President Pabon to Mark Blunda, Esq.: Please check into Nancy Martin's tax collector license.

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 8:55pm, and was carried by the following vote: Yea--Council Members Gonzalez, Irizarry, Nanton, Petrick and Pabon. Nay--None.

Elaine M. Jaskø

City Clerk

loel Pabor, Sr.

Council President