

City Council  
January 7, 2015  
5:30 p.m.

The Atlantic City Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers at City Hall with Mayor Jones presiding. Council Members present were: Jimerson, Somers, Hayes, Hartkopf, Stuart, Halder, and Cord. Absent: none.

Somers moved, Hartkopf seconded, to approve the agenda as posted. All in favor.

Jimerson moved, Halder seconded, to approve the consent agenda which includes: minutes of the December 17, 2014 Council Meeting and Class C Liquor Licenses for The Alley Bar and Grill, The Pines Steakhouse, and Rancho Grande. All in favor.

City Attorney David Wiederstein introduced Jamie Arnold, a new associate in his office. Arnold and his family recently moved to Atlantic from North Carolina, where he previously practiced law. After the completion of the necessary paperwork, Arnold is expected to replace Wiederstein as City Attorney.

Hartkopf moved, Somers seconded, to approve the First Whitney Bank & Trust as the City's official bank for 2015. All in favor.

Somers moved, Jimerson seconded, to approve the Atlantic News Telegraph as the City's official newspaper for publications for 2015. All in favor.

Jimerson moved, Hartkopf seconded, to approve the City Council Committee assignments for 2015. All in favor.

Jimerson moved, Hayes seconded, to approve the City Council Liaison assignments for 2015. All in favor.

There was some discussion regarding the Cass County Public Safety Commission because of the withdrawal of the Cities of Anita and Griswold at the end of June, 2015. Cass County Supervisor Gaylord Schelling reported that a meeting will be held on January 27, to discuss the issue with the Mayors in the County. He said that a fair and equitable way of supporting the Communication Center needs to be determined. This is due to some of the Cities in the County not contributing to the cost of operating the Center.

Council Member Somers reported on the Personnel & Finance Committee's recommendation regarding a request from Don Sonntag for tax increment financing. Sonntag is asking for \$360,000 for the Southern View Estates Housing Project at 1700 East 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, which is between East 19<sup>th</sup> and East 22<sup>nd</sup> Streets. Somers related that the Committee is in favor of the project, if East 19<sup>th</sup> is widened to help alleviate traffic congestion.

Sonntag outlined his plans for the project, which could take up to three years to complete. It includes 28 condominium units and would add \$3,500,000-\$4,000,000 in valuation, with some of the units available for rent. Sonntag related that he would not be asking for tax abatement for the project.

City Administrator John Lund reported that he has been working on the FY16 budget, an upcoming bond issue, and union negotiations. He also gave an update regarding a proposed combined website for the City, County, Chamber of Commerce, and Cass Atlantic Development Corporation.

Mayor Jones asked that if anyone is interested in serving on the Historic Preservation Commission to contact him. It has been quite some time since the Commission has been active.

Council Committee Reports were given as follows: Cord-Department of Natural Resources training session; Jimerson-Fire Department; Somers-Personnel & Finance; Hayes-Cass County Environmental Agency.

Hayes moved, Hartkopf seconded, to approve the bills totaling \$106,139.54. All in favor.

Jimerson moved, Cord seconded, to adjourn at 6:15 p.m. All in favor.

David R. Jones  
Mayor

Attest: Deb Wheatley Field  
City Clerk