

**REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
March 26, 2015**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Kern with a salute to the flag.

Roll call was recorded as follows:

Present: D'Adamo, Dill, Gerety, McGuigan, Smith, Tapp & Kern
Also Present: Mayor Glasser, Administrator Swain, Atty. Franklin & Clerk
Degrassi & Deputy Clerk Samuelson

Absent: None

Open Public Meetings Act

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided. Agenda for this meeting has been provided to two local newspapers and posted in the City Clerk's Office

Communications

There were no communications read.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Glasser commended the Fire Department on the job they did at the Somers Point Village fire on Sunday morning, noting that they responded within eight minutes and not the thirty minutes that was reported in the newspaper. He also commended the Police and Emergency Management responders who did a great job. Councilman Tapp also commended everyone who responded stating that it was fully involved and coming out of the roof. He explained that the firemen escorted the residents back into their homes to get their belongings after the fire was out and one individual did not want to wait and actually spit on the fire truck. He commended the Department for putting up with this. Mayor Glasser also reported that we will be receiving \$171,000 in grant monies for the extension of the bike path. He thanked Jim Rutala and Administrator Swain for all of their work on this. Mayor Glasser also announced that on April 11th there will be a dedication of the Submarine Memorial which is at Bethel Road and Veterans Way.

Administrator's Report - No Report

Committee Reports

There were no Committee Reports.

Minutes

The minutes of the February 26, 2015 Budget Work Session, Regular Meeting and Executive Session as to content only were approved by a unanimous vote of those present.

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ORDINANCES

Ordinance No. 8 - Final Reading

M/S - Dill/Tapp

Meeting was opened to the public and duly closed. Ordinance No. 8 was then adopted on final reading by a unanimous vote of those present.

ORDINANCE NO. 8 OF 2015

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOMERS POINT, COUNTY OF ATLANTIC, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING CERTAIN UNEXPENDED PROCEEDS OF THE SALE OF PREVIOUSLY ISSUED BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE THE COST OF ADDITIONAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND TAKING RELATED ACTIONS

FIRST READING:	March 12, 2015
PUBLICATION:	March 18, 2015
FINAL ADOPTION:	March 26, 2015

Ordinance No. 9 - First Reading

M/S - Gerety/Dill

Approved on first reading by a unanimous vote of those present.

**CITY OF SOMERS POINT
ORDINANCE No. 9 of 2015**

**CALENDAR YEAR 2015 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK
(N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)**

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget up to 1.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Somers Point in the County of Atlantic finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2015 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council hereby determines that a 2.0% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$219,273.22 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

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Ordinance No. 9 (Continued)

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NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Somers Point, in the County of Atlantic, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2015 budget year, the final appropriations of the City of Somers Point shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$383,728.14, and that the CY 2015 municipal budget for the City of Somers Point be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

**FIRST READING: 03/26/15
PUBLICATION: 04/01/15
FINAL READING: 04/16/15
PUBLICATION: 04/30/15**

Waiver of 48-Hour Rule

M/S - Tapp/D'Adamo

The 48-hour Rule was waived unanimously in order to consider Resolutions No. 67 and 68.

RESOLUTIONS

Public Portion on Resolutions

Meeting was opened to the public and duly closed.

Consent Agenda - There were no items on the consent agenda.

Resolution No. 64 - Budget Resolution

M/S - McGuigan/Gerety

Councilman McGuigan stated that everyone has the budget as well as the user friendly version prepared by Administrator Swain. He pointed out that the budget can change as they continue to work on it urging everyone to take a look and not hesitate to make any suggestions.

Administrator Swain explained that the increase is 4.3% which would be \$68.00 increase per year for an average home valued at \$213,000.00. Council President Kern thanked the Committee and Administrator Swain for the many hours spent on the Budget. Councilman Smith also thanked them for their work. Councilman Dill stated that he has served for several years on the Budget Committee and he knows that it takes a lot of time and he appreciates their efforts. The Budget was then approved as introduced by a unanimous vote of those present.

No. 64 of 2015

**Subject: Municipal Budget of the City of Somers Point, County of Atlantic
for the Fiscal Year 2015**

BE IT RESOLVED that the following statements of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the Municipal Budget for the Year 2015;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said Budget be published in the Mainland Journal in the issue of April 8, 2015.

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Resolution No. 64 (Budget Resolution)(Continued)

The Governing Body of the City of Somers Point does hereby approve the following as the Budget for the year 2015:

	D'Adamo	Abstained (None
	Dill	
	Gerety	
RECORDED VOTE	Ayes (McGuigan	Nays (None
	Smith	
	Tapp	
	Kern	
		Absent (None

Notice is hereby given that the Budget and Tax Resolution was approved by the City Council of the City of Somers Point, County of Atlantic, on March 26, 2015.

A Hearing on the Budget and Tax Resolution will be held at City Hall, April 30, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at which time and place objections to said Budget and Tax Resolution for the year 2015 may be presented by taxpayers or other interested persons.

Resolution No. 65 - (Emergency Temporary Appropriation)

M/S - Tapp/Gerety

Adopted by unanimous roll call vote of those present. A complete copy of Resolution No. 65 is on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

Resolution No. 66

M/S - McGuigan/Tapp

Adopted by a unanimous vote of those present.

No. 66 of 2015

Subject: Recognizing April as National Poetry Month

Whereas, the Academy of American Poets established the month of April as National Poetry Month in 1996; and

Whereas, National Poetry Month seeks to highlight the extraordinary legacy and ongoing achievement of American poets; introduce Americans to the pleasures and benefits of reading poetry; bring poets and poetry to the public in immediate and innovative ways; make poetry an important part of our children's education; and

Whereas, as National Poetry Month, under the leadership and direction of the Academy of American Poets, is now the largest literary celebration in the world; and

Whereas, poetry enhances and enriches the lives of all Americans; and

Whereas, poetry, as an essential part of the arts and humanities, affects every aspect of life in America today, including education, the economy, and community pride and development; and

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Resolution No. 66 (Continued)

Whereas, poetry has produced some of the nation's leading creative artists and has inspired other artists in fields such as music, theatre, film, dance, and the visual arts; and

Whereas, the governing body of Somers Point recognizes the importance of the literary arts and by approving Resolution No. 162 of 2014 has created the position of Poet Laureate for the City of Somers Point; and

Whereas, Ms. Maria Provenzano was appointed to the position by Resolution No. 36 of 2015; and

Whereas, the influence of poetry has been felt throughout the history of this great city;

Now therefore, be it resolved, that the governing body of the City of Somers Point recognizes April 1 through April 30 as National Poetry Month and call upon public officials, educators, librarians, and all the people of Somers Point to observe this month, to celebrate the cultural riches our community has to offer, and to recognize the important role poetry plays in creating and sustaining this great nation with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs.

Resolution No. 67

M/S - Gerety/McGuigan

Adopted by a unanimous vote of those present.

No. 67 of 2015

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the City of Somers Point hereinafter referred to as "MUNICIPALITY" , is a member of the Atlantic County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund, hereinafter referred to as "FUND"; and

WHEREAS, the FUND has purchased Employment Practices Liability coverage from XL Insurance Company; and

WHEREAS, XL Insurance has arranged for the Fund members to have access to an EPL HELPLINE service and;

WHEREAS, the HELPLINE will provide the following services;

- Attorneys will answer *specific* HR and Employment Law questions
 - Confidential and timely responses
 - Attorney client privilege
 - Via Website/E-mail
 - By Telephone with written follow up response
- On Line Training
 - Managers/Supervisors
 - Slides, Audio, File Downloads
 - Small Chapters
 - Certificates of Completion
- Additional On Line Resources
 - Question of The Month
 - Case of The Month
 - HR Alerts via e-mail and posted on website
 - Federal/State News Updates
 - HR Posters
 - Model Policies/Handbook

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Resolution No. 67 (Continued)

WHEREAS, the FUND requires the MUNICIPALITY to designate specific managerial or supervisory individuals who will have access to the HELPLINE;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the governing body of the City of Somers Point does hereby appoint William E. Swain, City Administrator as its Contact Person.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governing body does hereby appoint Carol Degrassi, City Clerk as their additional Contact Person.

Resolution No. 68

M/S - McGuigan/Gerety

Adopted by a unanimous vote of those present.

No. 68 of 2015

Whereas, the City of Somers Point in conjunction with the Somers Point Economic Development Advisory Committee had commissioned and has adopted a family of logos which have been federally registered or which have common law trademark status; and

Whereas, the City of Somers Point owns the rights to each such logo; and

Whereas the Somers Point Green Team Advisory Committee has requested the right to adapt the Somers Point logo for use by the Green Team to promote its existence, purpose and goal of achieving environmental sustainability; and

Whereas a copy of the proposed logo is attached hereto with the slogan "Sustainability The Future Starts Here"; and

Whereas the logo is protected by the federal copyright filing as a derivative work of the original filed and registered logo; and

Whereas this governing body recognizes that the use of the proposed logo may increase awareness of the Committee and its goals; and

Whereas it has been determined that the proposed logo is restricted to the exclusive use of the Green Team Advisory Committee and shall not be used by any other person or entity for any other purpose; and

Whereas the exclusive use of the logo and slogan bearing the "sm" designation will not impinge upon the rights of the City to use or license any other logo

Now, therefore, it is hereby resolved that the Somers Point Green Team Advisory Committee is authorized to use the attached logo and slogan for its exclusive use in promoting the goals of the Green Team Advisory Committee and may be used in advertising, brochures, promotional materials and other such uses which shall remain subject to approval by this governing body as specified in Somers Code Section 31-17 and 31-18; and

It is further Resolved that all uses of the logo by the Somers Point Green Team Advisory Commission shall be submitted to the City Administrator, City Clerk and City Solicitor for compliance.

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Old Business

Councilman Dill advised that the Volunteer of the Year Dinner is this Saturday night at Sandi Pointe and the Council is invited to attend. Councilman Dill also advised that the Parking Committee received mail from Engineer Schneider regarding Exit 29 & 30 situation and requesting our feelings on whether or not we should have a traffic study done. He stated that the Turnpike Authority is willing to do this, however, we would request that it be done during the summer months, or make it a year-long study. He stated that he feels we should get as much information as we can. Councilman Smith stated that he opposes the change of the Exit from 30 to 29, however, he will vote for the study. Councilman McGuigan stated that he is fine with getting the study as long as we are not expending any funds for it. Councilman Tapp stated that he is fine with having the traffic study, stating that he feels everyone is on the same page in not wanting to do away with Exit 30. Mayor Glasser stated that he hopes the report will show the difference between commercial and passenger vehicles. Councilman Dill advised that he had asked that same question. Councilman Smith asked if we have a comparison and Councilman Dill advised that he will ask the Engineer to check on that.

Councilman Smith stated that we have a paid boat ramp and a free boat ramp stating that we haven't accepted the one by the Bridge yet. He asked if we could have a committee meet with Administrator Swain and Atty. Franklin to see where we are with all of this. Councilman McGuigan advised that he agrees and feels the Parking and Traffic Committee should look into it. Council President Kern agreed that this would go to the Parking and Traffic Committee.

New Business

Bingo License application for the Ocean City Education Foundation, Inc. was approved by a unanimous vote of those present.

Discussion of Bills

A bill list in the amount of \$820,155.96 as well as an additional bill list in the amounts of \$180.00, \$567,708.00 and \$310,395.00 were presented for discussion.

Public Portion

M/S - Tapp/Gerety

Meeting was opened to the public as follows:

Bill Sparks, 105 Braddock Avenue, came forward and addressed the governing body stating that they have done a good job keeping taxes down and when people complain they are talking about the overall taxes. He stated that he has trouble getting information from Mainland Regional High School with regard to their budget. He stated that he feels we should take a closer look at the schools.

Public portion was then closed.

Payment of Bills

M/S - Tapp/Gerety

Payment of the Bills was approved by a unanimous vote of those present.

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Adjournment

M/S - Tapp/Gerety

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Carol L. Degrassi, RMC/MMC
Municipal Clerk

Approved: 04/30/15