

**REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
April 23, 2026**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Gerety with a salute to the flag. Roll call was recorded as follows:

Present: DePamphilis, Dill, Johnston, McGuigan, Shields, Slaughter, Gerety

Also Present: Mayor Tapp, Administrator Frost, City Clerk Heath, City Solicitor Smith, and City Engineer Schneider

Open Public Meetings Act:

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided to two local newspapers. The agenda has been posted at City Hall and on the City’s website, somerspointgov.org.

On the motion of Council Member Dill, seconded by Council Member DePamphilis, the 48-hour rule was waved, and Resolution 142 was added to the agenda.

Council President Gerety moved Proclamation 13 of 2026 to the top of the meeting.

Proclamations:

No. 13 of 2026

Subject: Declaring the Week of May 16 as National Safe Boating Week

WHEREAS, boating is a cherished recreational activity enjoyed by residents, families, and visitors throughout our community, contributing to local quality of life, tourism, and economic vitality; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, and the United States Power Squadrons have worked diligently to promote safe boating practices and provide valuable education to reduce accidents, injuries, and fatalities on our nation’s waterways; and

WHEREAS, the National Safe Boating Council and its partners promote the annual North American Safe Boating Campaign, encouraging boaters to “Wear It!” and highlighting the importance of wearing Coast Guard–approved life jackets; and

WHEREAS, responsible boating practices — including proper vessel maintenance, sober operation, the use of life jackets, completion of certified boating safety courses, and awareness of weather and water conditions — significantly reduce preventable tragedies; and

**REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
April 23, 2026**

WHEREAS, our community recognizes the importance of educating children, teens, and adults on safe boating behaviors to ensure enjoyable and incident-free experiences on our lakes, rivers, and coastal waters; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we join communities across the United States in supporting National Safe Boating Week and promoting a culture of safety on the water;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dennis Tapp, Mayor, do hereby proclaim the week of May 16–22, 2026, as:

NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK

in the City of Somers Point, and I encourage all residents, visitors, and boating enthusiasts to practice safe boating habits, complete safety training, and join in efforts to make our waterways safer for everyone.

Mike Kedziora introduced members of the U.S. Coast Guard that were present for the meeting.

Mayor Tapp presented the members with a signed Proclamation.

Public Portion Resolutions:

Council President Gerety duly opened the meeting to the public for Resolutions 134, 135 and 136 only.

John Helbig of Somers Point asked for clarification on budget details, how it affects tax rates and urged Council to think of more ways to bring in revenue for the City.

Patricia Pierson of Somers Point urged Council to find ways to lower taxes.

Hearing nothing further from the public, the public portion was duly closed.

Resolution No. 134 of 2026

M/S- Dill/DePamphilis

This resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote of those present.

No. 134 of 2026

Subject: Read Budget by Title Only

Introduced by: Council President Gerety, Council Members Dill and McGuigan

**REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
April 23, 2026**

WHEREAS, N.J.S 40A:4-8 provides that the budget be read by title only at the time of the public hearing if the resolution is passed by not less than a majority of the full governing body, providing that at least one week prior to the date of the hearing a complete copy of the approved budget as advertised has been posted in City Hall and copies have been made available by the City Clerk to persons requiring them; and

WHEREAS the City Clerk affirms hereto that these two conditions have been met; and

WHEREAS City Council hereby declares that at least one week prior to the date of the hearing a complete copy of the approved budget as advertised has been posted on the City's website. Also, copies have been made available by the City Clerk to people requiring them.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Somers Point that the budget shall be read by title only.

Resolution No. 135 of 2026

M/S- Dill/Shields

This resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote of those present.

No. 135 of 2026

Subject: Self-Examination of the 2026 Budget

Introduced by: Council President Gerety

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-78b has authorized the Local Finance Board to adopt rules that permit municipalities in sound fiscal condition to assume the responsibility, normally granted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, of conducting the annual budget examination; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:30-7 was adopted by the Local Finance Board on February 11, 1997; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.2 through 7.5, the City of Somers Point has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of Local Government Services, and the Chief Financial Officer has determined that the local government meets the necessary conditions to participate in the program for the 2026 budget year.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the City of Somers Point that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.6a & 7.6b and based upon the Chief Financial Officer's certification, the governing body has found the budget has met the following requirements:

1. That with reference to the following items, the amounts have been calculated pursuant to law and appropriated as such in the budget:

**REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
April 23, 2026**

- a. Payment of interest and debt redemption charges
 - b. Deferred charges and statutory expenditures
 - c. Cash deficit of preceding year
 - d. Reserve for uncollected taxes
 - e. Other reserves and non-disbursement items
 - f. Any inclusions of amounts required for school purposes.
2. That the provisions relating to limitation on increases of appropriations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.2 and appropriations for exceptions to limits on appropriations found at N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.3 et seq., are fully met (complies with CAP law).
 3. That the budget is in such form, arrangement, and content as required by the Local Budget Law and N.J.A.C. 5:30-4 and 5:30-5.
 4. That pursuant to the Local Budget Law:
 - a. All estimates of revenue are reasonable, accurate and correctly stated,
 - b. Items of appropriation are properly set forth
 - c. In itemization, form, arrangement and content, the budget will permit the exercise of the comptroller function within the municipality.
 4. The budget and associated amendments have been introduced and publicly advertised in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Budget Law, except that failure to meet the deadlines of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 shall not prevent such certification.
 6. That all other applicable statutory requirements have been fulfilled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution will be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services upon adoption.

Resolution No. 136 of 2026

M/S- Dill/DePamphilis

This resolution was adopted by a unanimous roll-call vote of those present.

Council Member Johnston commented on the tax collection process with new developments in the City.

Council President Gerety explained that a major part of the tax increases this year was due to the City leaving the State Health Benefits program and mentioned it will not be a factor in next year's budget.

Council Member Dill thanked Administration, the Auditor, Chief Financial Officer, and the Budget Committee for their time and effort in achieving the finalized budget.

**REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
April 23, 2026**

Please see the full budget at the front of the Minutes Book.

Communications:

None

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Tapp talked about a positive article on financebuzz about Somers Point. He thanked John Helbig, Steve Hornig and the Public Works team for their work during the City-Wide cleanup. He also gave details about opening day for Somers Point Little League, as well as Bayfest.

Administrator's Report:

None

Solicitor's Report:

None

Engineer's Report:

City Engineer Schneider provided updates on the New Jersey Avenue project and confirmed that no historic curbs would be removed.

Committee Reports:

Council Member Shields praised the Somers Point Volunteer Fire Department after attending a meeting with them.

Council Member Johnston announced May events being held by the Library Committee. She gave updates on the Parking Committee's conversations with Park Mobile and the City's Chief of Police regarding the boat ramps. She gave multiple updates on the Economic Development Advisory Commission such as adopting their budget, working with the Small Business Association to welcome new businesses in town, and joining associations to assist in EDAC's goals. Council Member Johnston on behalf of EDAC also requested that Council vote no on Ordinance 9 of 2026.

**REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
April 23, 2026**

Approval of Minutes:

On the motion of Council Member Dill, seconded of Council Member Shields, and carried to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of 4/7/2026 and Regular Meeting Minutes of 4/9/2026, approved as to content only.

Ordinances:

Ordinance No. 9 of 2026

(Second Reading/Public Hearing/Adoption)

M/S- McGuigan/Dill

This ordinance was adopted by the following roll-call vote of those present:

Johnston- No

Shields- Yes

Slaughter- No

Dill- Yes

McGuigan- Yes

DePamphilis- No

Gerety- Yes

Council President Gerety duly opened the meeting to the public.

Max Slusher of Somers Point shared his opposition to the Ordinance and reasons why.

Hearing nothing further from the public, the public portion was duly closed.

Council Member Dill requested clarification on the budget.

Council Members Johnston, Slaughter and DePamphilis expressed their concerns and opposition to changing the ordinance at this time.

Council President Gerety gave a brief explanation on the reasoning for this Ordinance.

**No. 9 of 2026
An Ordinance Modifying Section 228-10 “Use of Proceeds” of the Municipal Code**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Somers Point recognizes the importance of fostering responsible development, redevelopment, and business growth within the community; and

**REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
April 23, 2026**

WHEREAS, the City Council further acknowledges the value of coordinated efforts to promote the City and its community events in order to support local commerce, tourism, and civic pride; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it necessary and appropriate to clarify the budgetary control and oversight of hotel and motel occupancy tax revenues to ensure fiscal responsibility and accountability.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Somers Point, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1 Amendment to Section 228-10, "Use of Proceeds," in Article II of Chapter 228 (Taxation)1.

Section 228-10, "Use of Proceeds," of Article II of Chapter 228 of the Municipal Code of the City of Somers Point is hereby amended to read as follows:

From and after the effective date of this Article, all hotel and motel occupancy tax revenues collected by the

City of Somers Point shall be deposited into the City's general revenues and included within the City's annual municipal budget in accordance with applicable law.

An amount not to exceed thirty-three and one-third percent (33 1/3%) of the total hotel and motel occupancy tax revenues received by the City during the preceding calendar year may, at the sole discretion of the governing body, be appropriated in the subsequent annual municipal budget as a separate line-item for the Somers Point Economic Development Advisory Committee.

No funds shall be expended by the Somers Point Economic Development Advisory Committee except pursuant

to a specific appropriation in the adopted municipal budget and prior authorization by resolution of the governing body.

The Economic Development Advisory Committee shall have no independent authority to obligate, encumber, or expend municipal funds.

SECTION 2. Severability.

If any section, paragraph, clause, or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unenforceable by

a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect or invalidate the remaining provisions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 3. Effective Date.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication according to law.

Ordinance No. 11 of 2026

(Second Reading/Public Hearing/Adoption)

M/S- McGuigan/Dill

This ordinance was adopted by a unanimous vote of those present.

**REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
April 23, 2026**

Council President Gerety duly opened the meeting to the public.

Hearing nothing from the public, the public portion was duly closed.

No. 11 of 2026

An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 10 of 2026 to Correct a Typographical Error Appearing in the Ordinance Preamble

WHEREAS Ordinance No. 10 of 2026 granting authority to establish a Restricted Parking Zone in front of a Bay Avenue Residence in Somers Point, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS in one of the preamble paragraphs to said ordinance there was a typographical error which identified the property address as 824 Bay Avenue instead of the correct address of 827 Bay Avenue, which was correctly identified elsewhere in the ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED THAT:

Section 1. The single reference in the preamble to Ordinance No. 10 of 2026 containing the typographical error identifying the address of the subject property as 824 Bay Avenue is amended to 827 Bay Avenue.

Section 2. All other terms, conditions, and provisions in Ordinance No. 10 of 2026 remain in full force and effect.

Section 3. The provisions of this Ordinance are severable. To the extent any clause, phrase, sentence, paragraph, or provision of the Ordinance shall be declared invalid, illegal, or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall continue in full force and effect.

Section 4. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication according to law.

Ordinance No. 12 of 2026

(Second Reading/Public Hearing/Adoption)

TABLED

Council President Gerety duly opened the meeting to the public.

**REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
April 23, 2026**

Steve of Margate expressed his concern with certain environmental effects caused by construction and urged Council to address it within an Ordinance.

Paul Striefsky of Somers Point asked for clarification on the Ordinance and expressed his concerns regarding certain details and verbiage.

Hearing nothing further from the public, the public portion was duly closed.

Council Member Dill motioned to table the Ordinance, Council Member Johnston seconded.

This ordinance was tabled by the following roll-call vote of those present:

DePamphilis- Yes

McGuigan- No

Shields- No

Dill- Yes

Slaughter- Yes

Johnston- Yes

Gerety- Yes

No. 12 of 2026

TABLED

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 169, "LITTERING AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE," ARTICLE I, GENERAL PROVISIONS, SECTION 169-11, ENTITLED "CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS," OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF SOMERS POINT

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Somers Point has determined that construction and demolition sites may create conditions that allow litter, debris, and other materials to be dispersed onto adjacent properties and public rights-of-way; and

WHEREAS the City Council finds it necessary to establish clearer standards for the containment and management of construction debris in order to protect public property, neighboring properties, and the general welfare of the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Somers Point, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1.

Chapter 169, "Littering and Property Maintenance," Article I, General Provisions, Section 169-11, entitled "Construction Debris," is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 169-11. Construction Debris.

It shall be unlawful for any property owner, agent, or contractor having responsible charge of a construction or demolition site to permit the accumulation of litter, debris, or trash before, during, or after completion of any construction or demolition project.

Accordingly, any property owner, agent, or contractor having responsible charge of a construction or demolition site shall comply with the following requirements:

REGULAR MEETING MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL April 23, 2026

A. Containers for Debris.

Adequate containers shall be provided for flyable materials and non-flyable debris and/or trash at locations on the construction or demolition site convenient to the active area of construction or demolition. Such containers shall be maintained and emptied with sufficient frequency to prevent spillage or the wind-driven transport of materials or debris from the site.

B. Perimeter Barrier and Soil Control.

A solid wood fence or other barrier approved by the City, with a minimum height of two (2) feet where applicable, shall be installed as necessary to contain debris, sediment, and other materials and to prevent their migration off site.

All soil and sediment control measures shall comply with the Vegetative and Engineering Standards, Chapters 1 through 32 inclusive, promulgated pursuant to the Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Act of 1975, as amended (N.J.S.A. 4:24-39 et seq.), and the New Jersey Administrative Code (N.J.A.C. 2:90-1.1 et seq.).

C. Portable Toilets.

Where portable toilet facilities are utilized, such units shall be located entirely within the construction fencing on the subject property, with the entrance door facing away from the street right-of-way. Under no circumstances shall a portable toilet be placed within any municipal or county street or State highway right-of-way.

D. Responsibility for Cleanup of Adjacent Areas.

The property owner, agent, or contractor having responsible charge of a construction or demolition site shall ensure that all sidewalks, streets, public rights-of-way, and adjacent properties remain free of construction debris, litter, dust, or other materials originating from the construction or demolition site on a daily basis. Any such materials that migrate beyond the limits of the construction site shall be removed promptly. Failure to remove such materials upon notice from the City shall constitute a violation of this section; and The Public Works Department Supervisor is authorized to cause the removal of such items and the cost of such removal shall be certified by the Supervisor to the Chief Financial Officer of the City and shall be charged to the property owner or the contractor responsible for the site. If the cost is not paid within ten days following issuance of an invoice to the owner and contractor, the cost shall constitute a lien upon the property and shall be added to the assessment for taxes in the next quarterly tax bill.

E. Violations and Penalties.

Any property owner, agent, or contractor who violates any provision of this ordinance shall, upon conviction in Municipal Court shall be subject to the General Penalty provisions set forth in Article II General Penalty of the Somers Point Municipal Code Sections 1-15 through 1-19 with a minimum fine of \$100 for each initial offense.

F. Acknowledgement.

The issuance of a zoning permit or construction permit shall constitute acknowledgment of, and agreement to comply with, the provisions of this section.

G. Enforcement

The provisions of this Section may be enforced and notice of violations may be issued by any member of the Somers Point Police Department, the Somers Point Fire Department, the Somers Point Construction Official, Code Enforcement Officer, Zoning Official, or their designee(s).

SECTION 2.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

**REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
April 23, 2026**

SECTION 3.

If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, or clause of this ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this ordinance.

SECTION 4.

This ordinance shall take effect after final passage and publication as required by law.

Resolutions:

Public Portion Resolutions:

Council President Gerety duly opened the meeting to the public.

Hearing nothing from the public, the public portion was duly closed.

Resolution No. 130 of 2026

M/S- Dill/Johnston

This resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote of those present.

No. 130 of 2026

Subject: Awarding Bid for the Ocean Avenue Stormwater Repairs

Introduced By: Council Member Dill

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2026, the City of Somers Point received bids for the Ocean Avenue Stormwater Repairs; and

WHEREAS, South State, Inc., of Bridgeton, New Jersey was the lowest responsible bidder; and

WHEREAS, the City Engineer's office has recommended that the City award the contract to Arawak South State, Inc., of Bridgeton, New Jersey in the amount of \$857,360.00; and

WHEREAS, the NJDEP must also concur with this resolution awarding a contract to South State, Inc., of Bridgeton, New Jersey in the amount of \$857,360.00

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Somers Point as follows:

- 1.) The Contract for the Ocean Avenue Stormwater repairs is hereby awarded to South State, Inc., of Bridgeton, New Jersey in the amount of \$857,360.00

**REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
April 23, 2026**

- 2.) The Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to enter into a formal contract with South State, Inc., of Bridgeton, New Jersey signing on behalf of the City.
- 3.) The Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to sign all necessary forms required by NJDEP.

Resolution No. 137 of 2026

M/S- Dill/Shields

This resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote of those present.

Council Member Dill expressed his appreciation for the people who wanted to join the Police Department and thanked the Chief for hiring them.

No. 137 of 2026

Subject: A Resolution Confirming the Hiring by the Chief of Police of the City of Somers Point of One Provisional Police Officer, Authorizing her enrollment in the Atlantic County Police Academy, and Appointing the Same to the Position of Provisional Police Officer in the Somers Point Police Department Effective April 27th, 2026

Proposed by: Mayor Tapp

Introduced By: Council President Gerety

WHEREAS, the City of Somers Point is desirous of hiring one police officer to replace an existing vacancy; and

WHEREAS, the Civil Service Act, N.J.S.A. 11A:1-1 et seq., was amended to include a provision stating that "[t]he Civil Service Commission shall exempt from the requirement to take an examination for an entry-level law enforcement officer position ... a person who successfully completes a full Basic Course for Police Officers training course or a full Basic Course for Correction Officers training course at a school approved and authorized by the New Jersey Police Training Commission within nine months from the date of hire as a temporary entry-level officer," N.J.S.A. 11A:4-1.3(a); and,

WHEREAS, that amendment further provided that "[a] municipal ... police department may hire a person, exempt from the requirement to take an examination ... upon adoption of ...[a] resolution by the governing body authorizing such hiring ... and the adoption of a conflict of interest and nepotism policy," N.J.S.A. 11A:4-1.3(a); and,

WHEREAS, the City Council previously adopted ordinance (No. 2 of 2022) codified as Chapter 44, Article II, § 44-4 Subsection C, which would allow the hiring of such applicants; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council previously adopted ordinance (No 6 of 2022) codified as Chapter 44, Article II, § 44-4 Subsection C, setting forth a conflict of interest and nepotism policy; and,

WHEREAS, Caroline Gitsas is eligible to be hired provisionally per N.J.S.A. 11A:4-1.3(a); and

WHEREAS, Caroline Gitsas has passed a rigorous background investigation and met all Police Training Commission Requirements; and

**REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
April 23, 2026**

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police has recommended that Caroline Gitsas be appointed provisionally to serve as a Police Officer in the Somers Point Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the salary and benefits to be paid to the provisional officer shall be in compliance with the Somers Point Salary Ordinance and the terms and conditions of a Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Somers Point and Mainland PBA, Local 77; and

WHEREAS, sufficient funds are available within the Budget of the City of Somers Point to satisfy this financial obligation.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council acknowledge, authorize and confirm the appointment of Provisional Officer Caroline Gitsas effective April 27th 2026; and

It is FURTHER RESOLVED, that Provisional Police Officer Caroline Gitsas is approved for and is authorized to attend the Atlantic County Police Academy; and

It is FURTHER RESOLVED, that Provisional Police Officer Caroline Gitsas will be sworn in by the Mayor on April 24th 2026; and

It is FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council hereby extend their congratulations to Caroline Gitsas upon her appointment as a Provisional Patrol Officer in our excellent Police Force.

Resolution No. 138 of 2026

M/S- Dill/Shields

This resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote of those present.

Council Member Dill expressed his appreciation for the people who wanted to join the Police Department and thanked the Chief for hiring them.

Mayor Tapp announced that the new hires would be sworn in the following day at 4:00 p.m.

No. 138 of 2026

Subject: A Resolution Confirming the Hiring by the Chief of Police of the City of Somers Point of One Provisional Police Officer, Authorizing his enrollment in the Atlantic County Police Academy, and Appointing the Same to the Position of Provisional Police Officer in the Somers Point Police Department Effective April 27th, 2026

Proposed by: Mayor Tapp

Introduced By: Council President Gerety

WHEREAS, the City of Somers Point is desirous of hiring one police officer to replace an existing vacancy; and

WHEREAS, the Civil Service Act, N.J.S.A. 11A:1-1 et seq., was amended to include a provision stating that "[t]he Civil Service Commission shall exempt from the requirement to take an examination for an entry-level law enforcement officer position ... a person who successfully completes a full Basic Course for Police Officers training course or a full Basic Course for Correction Officers training course at a school approved and authorized by the New Jersey Police Training Commission within nine months from the date of hire as a temporary entry-level officer," N.J.S.A. 11A:4-1.3(a); and,

**REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
April 23, 2026**

WHEREAS, that amendment further provided that "[a] municipal ... police department may hire a person, exempt from the requirement to take an examination ... upon adoption of ...[a] resolution by the governing body authorizing such hiring ... and the adoption of a conflict of interest and nepotism policy," N.J.S.A. 11A:4-1.3(a); and,

WHEREAS, the City Council previously adopted ordinance (No. 2 of 2022) codified as Chapter 44, Article II, § 44-4 Subsection C, which would allow the hiring of such applicants; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council previously adopted ordinance (No 6 of 2022) codified as Chapter 44, Article II, § 44-4 Subsection C, setting forth a conflict of interest and nepotism policy; and,

WHEREAS, Jayden Harrington is eligible to be hired provisionally per N.J.S.A. 11A:4-1.3(a); and

WHEREAS, Jayden Harrington has passed a rigorous background investigation and met all Police Training Commission Requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police has recommended that Jayden Harrington be appointed provisionally to serve as a Police Officer in the Somers Point Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the salary and benefits to be paid to the provisional officer shall be in compliance with the Somers Point Salary Ordinance and the terms and conditions of a Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Somers Point and Mainland PBA, Local 77; and

WHEREAS, sufficient funds are available within the Budget of the City of Somers Point to satisfy this financial obligation.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council acknowledge, authorize and confirm the appointment of Provisional Officer Jayden Harrington effective April 27th 2026; and

It is FURTHER RESOLVED, that Provisional Police Officer Jayden Harrington is approved for and is authorized to attend the Atlantic County Police Academy; and

It is FURTHER RESOLVED, that Provisional Police Officer Jayden Harrington will be sworn in by the Mayor on April 24th 2026; and

It is FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council hereby extend their congratulations to Jayden Harrington upon his appointment as a Provisional Patrol Officer in our excellent Police Force.

Resolution No. 139 of 2026

M/S- Dill/Johnston

This resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote of those present.

Council Member Dill honored James Daugherty for his longevity in Public Works.

City Solicitor Smith shared an anecdote about James Daugherty.

No. 139 of 2026

Subject: Authorizing Agreement with DPW Level 12 Employee James Daugherty

Introduced By: Council President Gerety

**REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
April 23, 2026**

WHEREAS, after long and dedicated service to the City of Somers Point, DPW Level 12 Employee James Daugherty retired from the Somers Point Public Works Department effective February 28th, 2026; and

WHEREAS, upon retirement James Daugherty is entitled to certain payments and benefits in accordance with the Teamsters Union Local No 115 agreement effective January 1st, 2026 between the City of Somers Point and the Collective Bargaining Unit; and

WHEREAS, the City of Somers Point has determined that James Daugherty will have an accumulated, reimbursable total of 41.37 days of unused sick leave, 30.90 days of unused vacation days, and various pro-rated stipends for Calendar Year 2026 as of the effective date of his retirement; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the agreement between the City of Somers Point and Teamsters Union Local No 115, the City of Somers Point shall tender to James Daugherty payment for unused sick leave, authorized leave and various stipend amounts for Calendar Year 2026 to James Daugherty in his retirement as defined in the attached termination agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Somers Point hereby authorizes the City Administrator to provide all rights and entitlements to James Daugherty as enumerated in the termination agreement between the City of Somers Point and Teamsters Union Local No 115.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Somers Point congratulates James Daugherty and wishes him the best of luck in his retirement.

Resolution No. 140 of 2026

M/S- Johnston/Dill

This resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote of those present.

No. 140 of 2026

AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION

Subject: Advice of Counsel Regarding a Potential Modification to the Redevelopment Agreement for the Project at Bay and Maryland Avenues

Introduced By: Council President Gerety

WHEREAS, while the Sen. Byron M. Baer Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.) requires all meetings of the Somers Point City Council to be held in public, and N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) sets forth nine (9) types of matters that may lawfully be discussed in “Executive Session,” i.e. without the public being permitted to attend; and

WHEREAS, the Somers Point City Council has determined that there is one (1) topic which requires the advice and counsel of the City Solicitor and is a matter permitted by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) as an exception to open public meeting requirements; and is necessary to be discussed

**REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
April 23, 2026**

without the public in attendance during an Executive Session to be held on April 23, 2026, during a public meeting to be held commencing at 7:00 P.M; and

WHEREAS there are nine (9) exceptions to public meetings set forth in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b). Listed below, is the exception relied upon; and after the exception is a space within which the number of issues to be privately discussed that fall within that exception shall be written and within which additional information that will disclose as much information about the discussion as possible without undermining the purpose of the exception shall be written.

1 “(7) Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may become a party. Any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer.”

The nature of the matters to be discussed, described as fully as possible without undermining the need for confidentiality:

Discussion and Advice of Counsel and attorney-client privileged communications regarding the status of a potential modification to the redevelopment plan and agreement for Block 1007, Lots 1, 2 and 3; Block 1008, Lot 3; and Block 1211, Lot 2 (portion) in the AH-1 and AH-2 Zones (Bay, Maryland and Pleasant Avenues).

WHEREAS the length of the Executive Session is estimated to be approximately 30 minutes after which the public meeting of the City Council shall reconvene;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Somers Point will go into Executive Session for **only** the above stated reason;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council directs the City Clerk to make ten (10) photocopies of this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the blank spaces within this form of resolution are to be filled out in conformity with a Consent Judgment and Memorandum of Understanding dated June 8, 2009, that arose that the City Council hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subject(s) will be made public at a time when the public’s interest in disclosure is greater than any privacy or governmental interest

being protected from disclosure. For each of the above items, the estimated date by which such disclosure can be made and/or the occurrence that needs to take place before disclosure can be made are listed below (attach separate sheet if necessary)

| Subject of Discussion | Estimated Date | Necessary Occurrence |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| See Exception 7 | Unknown at this time | Discussion by City Council relative to the potential of entering into a redevelopment plan and |

**REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
April 23, 2026**

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| | | agreement for properties in the AH-1 and AH-2 Zones. |
|--|--|---|

Resolution No. 141 of 2026

M/S- Dill/Johnston

This resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote of those present.

No. 141 of 2026

Subject: Amending Resolution Number 60 of 2026- Change Order 2 – Contract No. 129 – FY 2023 Safe Routes to Transit – Shore Road Pedestrian Improvements

Introduced By: Council Member Dill

WHEREAS, in accordance with Resolution 274 of 2024, Fred M. Schiavone Construction, Inc., of Malaga, New Jersey was awarded the contract for the FY 2023 Safe Streets to Transit – Shore Road Pedestrian Improvements for the sum of \$951,305.75; and

WHEREAS, construction is underway, and it has been determined that additional work within the County right-of-way is required to accommodate the improvements, for which the County is responsible; and

WHEREAS, the additional work includes the reconstruction of three inlets at Maryland Avenue and the replacement of two existing 2 x 2 inlets with Type A inlets at New York Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the City will include this work within its current construction contract, and the County will reimburse the City upon completion; and

WHEREAS, the cost to complete the work is for an amount not to exceed \$59,640.00; and

WHEREAS, the City Engineer has recommended approval of these changes; and

WHEREAS, those changes have resulted in a change of the contract amount as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Contract Amount | \$951,305.75 |
| Change Order 1 | \$0.00 |
| Change Order 2 | \$59,640.00 |
| Revised Contract Amount | \$1,010,945.75 |

**REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
April 23, 2026**

Total Deduction: \$0 Total Additional: \$59,640.00 Net Change:
6.27%

WHEREAS, the NJDOT Local Aid Office must also concur with this change order;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Somers Point that the above listed change to the contract for the FY 2023 Safe Routes to Transit – Shore Road Pedestrian Improvements is hereby approved and that the Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute all documents in this regard on behalf of the City.

Resolution No. 142 of 2026

M/S- McGuigan/Dill

This resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote of those present.

Council Member Slaughter requested clarification on the use of this grant.

Council Member McGuigan gave a brief explanation on the envisioned use for the grant.

No. 142 of 2026

Subject: Authorizing the City to Apply for the Community Development Block Grant Program for FY 2026

Introduced by: Council President Gerety

WHEREAS, the City of Somers Point has opted to participate in the Atlantic County community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program for FY 2026; and

WHEREAS, as a participant, the City of Somers Point expects to be allocated approximately \$60,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2026; and

WHEREAS, the City of Somers Point desires to allocate these CDBG funds toward a recreational passenger van; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the complete cost of the project will be approximately \$80,000.00; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Somers Point as follows:

1. This resolution shall serve to indicate the commitment of the City of Somers Point to provide any necessary anticipated matching funds for this project.
2. The City of Somers Point shall be responsible for the 25% matching funds needed for this grant application.
3. The Mayor and the City Administrator are authorized to prepare and sign the FY 2026 CDBG grant application on behalf of the City.

**REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
April 23, 2026**

Old Business:

None

New Business:

- City Council approved a Social Affair Application for National Multiple Sclerosis Society of New York for an event at Greate Bay Country Club on 10/8/2026 from 6:00-10:00 PM.

Discussion of Bills:

Administrator Frost reported a Bill List dated 4/21/2026 in the amount of \$2,616,190.87, a Record of Payment dated 4/9/2026 in the amount of \$52,455.00, a Manual Bill List dated 4/1/2026 in the amount of \$126,150.00, a Manual Bill List dated 4/15/2026 in the amount of \$171,125.00, and a Manual Bill List dated 4/1/2026 in the amount of 1,601,014.38.

Public Portion:

Council President Gerety duly opened the meeting to the public.

Patricia Pierson of Somers Point expressed her approval for Council Member Johnston’s plans for the boat ramps. She mentioned how great the article from financebuzz about Somers Point was. She gave praise to multiple improvements around town. Pierson recommended Council leave EDAC as is and expressed her faith in the Council Member appointed to run the Commission.

Ed O’Donnell of Somers Point talked about what he thinks candidates should be focusing on in the upcoming election.

Bob of Somers Point praised the City’s recent work on Bay Avenue. He urged the City to fix streetlights in public areas like the beach. He also requested they work on traffic control around the City, specifically on Bay Avenue.

Kim O’Brien of Somers Point requested clarification on the cost of leaving the State Health Benefits Program.

Joe of Somers Point requested a permit parking spot for his property on East New Jersey Avenue.

Hearing nothing further from the public, the public hearing was duly closed.

**REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
April 23, 2026**

Payment of Bills:

M/S: Johnston/Shields

The Bill List was approved by a unanimous vote of those present. A complete list of bills is on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

Comments from Governing Body:

None

Recess:

The Governing Body recessed briefly at 8:37 p.m. before going into Executive Session at 8:45 p.m.

Reconvene:

Council President Gerety reconvened the Governing Body to Open Session at 8:52 p.m.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before City Council, Council Member Dill moved, Council Member Johnston seconded and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelby Heath, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Approved: 5/14/2026