

ORGANIZATION MEETING

PROCEEDINGS OF CITY COUNCIL

(OFFICIAL)

ELIZABETH, N.J.

Tuesday
January 1, 2013
12:00 noon

The organization meeting of the City Council for the Year 2013 was held this afternoon in the City Council Chambers, City Hall.

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor J. Christian Bollwage; City Attorney William R. Holzapfel, Esq.; Union County Assemblywoman Annette Quijano; Union County Freeholder Daniel Sullivan; Union County Freeholder Angel Estrada, Kean University President Dawood Farahi; Union County Manager Alfred Faella

City Clerk, Yolanda M. Roberts, called the meeting to order and announced notice of this Organization Meeting was mailed or delivered to the Star Ledger, Homes News Tribune, and Cablevision of Elizabeth, and posted and filed in the City Clerk's Office in compliance with the terms of the Open Public Meetings Law, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, on December 27, 2012.

Reverend Larry E. Dixon, Mount Teman AME Church, Elizabeth, N.J., delivered the opening prayer.

City Clerk, Yolanda M. Roberts, led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

The Honorable Carl L. Marshall, Judge, Elizabeth Municipal Court, administered the Oath of Office to Councilwoman-Elect Patricia Perkins-Auguste, (bible held by Mr. Clairvoux Auguste, Husband, Kiervo and Tyrell Auguste, Sons)

The Honorable Roman A. Montes, Chief Judge Elizabeth Municipal Court, administered the Oath of Office to Councilman-Elect Frank J. Cuesta, (bible held by Mrs. Karen Cuesta, wife and Christopher, Son)

The Honorable Roman A. Montes, Chief Judge Elizabeth Municipal Court, administered the Oath of Office to Councilman-Elect Manny Grova, Jr., (bible held by Mrs. Christina Grova, wife and Family)

The City Clerk called the roll and the following members of City Council answered to their names:

PRESENT: Council Members-at-Large: Patricia Perkins-Auguste ; Frank J. Cuesta; Manny Grova, Jr.
Council Members: (Vacant) 1st Ward; Nelson Gonzalez, 2nd Ward; Joseph Keenan, 3rd Ward; Carlos Cedeno, 4th Ward; William Gallman, Jr., 5th Ward; Frank O. Mazza, 6th Ward - 8.

ABSENT:

The City Clerk announced that the first order of business would be the election of a Temporary President of City Council and then called for nominations.

Councilman Cuesta nominated Councilman Grova, which was seconded by Councilman Gonzalez.

There being no further nominations, Councilman Gonzalez moved that nominations be closed.

The City Clerk cast the necessary ballot and then declared Councilman Grova, elected unanimously, as Temporary President.

Temporary President Grova wished everyone a Happy New Year and thanked his colleagues for the honor bestowed upon him. He congratulated Mayor-elect J. Christian Bollwage and Council-at-Large Perkins-Auguste and Cuesta.

Temporary President Grova announced that the next order of business would be the election of a President of the City Council for the Year 2013, and called for nominations.

Councilman Keenan nominated Councilman Gallman, which was seconded by Councilman Gonzalez.

There being no further nominations, Councilwoman Perkins-Auguste moved that nominations be closed.

Whereupon Temporary President Grova cast the necessary ballot and then declared Councilman Gallman, elected unanimously, as President of the City Council for the Year 2013.

Councilman Gallman then assumed the Chair as President.

Council President Gallman wished everyone a Happy New Year. He thanked his colleagues for electing him Council President for 2013 and for the honor and privilege to serve all of you.

Council President Gallman congratulated Councilwoman Perkins-Auguste and Councilmen Cuesta and Grova on their election as Council-at-Large.

Council President Gallman congratulated the City's Mayor Chris Bollwage, who won the Primary Election by 76% of the votes. He continued that it is obvious that the Mayor and his Team are doing a great job in leading the City of Elizabeth in the right direction.

Council President Gallman announced that he would like to recognize everyone who helped during Super Storm Sandy, the Department of Public Works for their cleaning-up efforts, Emergency Personnel for keeping residents safe and the Mayor for providing updated information. Council President Gallman requested a moment of silence for victims of Sandy Hook and for Union County Freeholder Chester.

Council President Gallman announced that the next order of business would be the election of a President Pro Tem of the City Council for the Year 2013 and called for nominations.

Councilman Cuesta nominated Councilman Grova, which was seconded by Councilman Cuesta.

There being no further nominations, Councilwoman Perkins-Auguste moved that nominations be closed.

Whereupon Council President Gallman cast the necessary ballot and then declared Councilman Grova, elected unanimously, as President pro tem of the City Council for the Year 2013.

Council President Gallman then appointed Councilwoman Perkins-Augusta as Floor Leader of the City Council for the Year 2013.

Council President Gallman appointed Councilman Gonzalez to deliver the prayer and lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Council President Gallman then announced that the Honorable Roman A. Montes, Chief Judge Elizabeth Municipal Court, will administer the Oath of Office to Mayor-Elect J. Christian Bollwage.

Chief Judge Montes administered the Oath of Office to Mayor-Elect J. Christian Bollwage, (bible held by Mrs. Nancy Bollwage, wife and Jacqueline , his daughter)

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

By the Clerk:
January 1, 2013
Honorable Members of City Council
City of Elizabeth
New Jersey 07201
Ladies & Gentlemen:
Subject to the confirmation of your Honorable Body, I herewith appoint Ms. Krishna H. Garlic, 126 Broadway, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07206, to serve as Director of Health and Human Services.
Sincerely,
J. Christian Bollwage, Mayor
Which was received.

By the Clerk:
January 1, 2013
Honorable Members of City Council
City of Elizabeth
New Jersey 07201
Ladies & Gentlemen:
Subject to the confirmation of your Honorable Body, I herewith reappoint Mr. Paul Addessa, 1120 Edgewood Road, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07208, to serve as Director of Recreation.
Sincerely,
J. Christian Bollwage, Mayor
Which was received.

By the Clerk:
January 1, 2013
Honorable Members of City Council
City of Elizabeth
New Jersey 07201
Ladies & Gentlemen:
Subject to the confirmation of your Honorable Body, I herewith reappoint Mr. James Cosgrove, 229 Winding Road, Iselin, New Jersey 08830, to serve as Director of the Elizabeth Police Department.
Sincerely,
J. Christian Bollwage, Mayor
Which was received.

By the Clerk:

January 1, 2013

Honorable Members of City Council

City of Elizabeth

New Jersey 07201

Ladies & Gentlemen:

Subject to the confirmation of your Honorable Body, I herewith reappoint William Holzapfel, Esq., 56 Georgian Court, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07208, to serve as City Attorney and Director of the Department of Law.

Sincerely,

J. Christian Bollwage, Mayor

Which was received.

By the Clerk:

January 1, 2013

Honorable Members of City Council

City of Elizabeth

New Jersey 07201

Ladies & Gentlemen:

Subject to the confirmation of your Honorable Body, I herewith reappoint Mr. John Papetti, Jr., 35 Carolyn Road, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07201, to serve as Director of Public Works.

Sincerely,

J. Christian Bollwage, Mayor

Which was received.

By the Clerk:

January 1, 2013

Honorable Members of City Council

City of Elizabeth

New Jersey 07201

Ladies & Gentlemen:

Subject to the confirmation of your Honorable Body, I herewith reappoint Mr. William Reyes, Jr., 1035 Rutgers Road, Mountainside, New Jersey 07092, to serve as Director of Planning and Community Development.

Sincerely,

J. Christian Bollwage, Mayor

Which was received.

By the Clerk:

January 1, 2013

Honorable Members of City Council

City of Elizabeth

New Jersey 07201

Ladies & Gentlemen:

Subject to the confirmation of your Honorable Body, I herewith reappoint Mr. Onofrio Vitullo, 332 Redcliffe Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07206, to serve as Director of the Elizabeth Fire Department.

Sincerely,

J. Christian Bollwage, Mayor

Which was received.

By the Clerk:
January 1, 2013
Honorable Members of City Council
City of Elizabeth
New Jersey 07201

Ladies & Gentlemen:
Subject to the confirmation of your Honorable Body, I herewith reappoint Ms. Bridget Zellner, 1617 Westover Road, Linden, New Jersey 07036, to serve as the Business Administrator.
Sincerely,
J. Christian Bollwage, Mayor
Which was received.

By the Clerk:
January 1, 2013
Honorable Members of City Council
City of Elizabeth
New Jersey 07201

Ladies & Gentlemen:
Subject to the confirmation of your Honorable Body, I herewith reappoint Carl L. Marshall, Esq., 625 Union Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ, to serve as a Judge of the Municipal Court for a term of three years, effective January 1, 2013.
Sincerely,
J. Christian Bollwage, Mayor
Which was received.

By the Clerk:
January 1, 2013
Honorable Members of City Council
City of Elizabeth
New Jersey 07201

Ladies & Gentlemen:
Subject to the confirmation of your Honorable Body, I herewith appoint Mr. Dieufort Eustache, 1008 Boudinot Place, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07201, to serve as a Member of the Elizabeth Parking Authority for a five year term. A copy of Mr. Eustache's resume is attached for your perusal.
Sincerely,
J. Christian Bollwage, Mayor
Which was received.

By the Clerk:
January 1, 2013
Honorable Members of City Council
City of Elizabeth
New Jersey 07201

Ladies & Gentlemen:
Subject to the confirmation of your Honorable Body, I herewith appoint Ms. Christina Odermatt, 59-61 Elmora Avenue, Apt 3B, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07202, to serve as a Member of the Elizabeth Parking Authority for a five year term. A copy of Ms. Odermatt's resume is attached for your perusal.
Sincerely,
J. Christian Bollwage, Mayor
Which was received.

By the Clerk:
January 1, 2013
Honorable Members of City Council
City of Elizabeth
New Jersey 07201
Ladies & Gentlemen:

Subject to the confirmation of your Honorable Body, I herewith appoint Councilman William Gallman, 620 Court Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07201, to serve as a Class III Member of the Planning Board for a one year term.

Sincerely,
J. Christian Bollwage, Mayor
Which was received.

By the Clerk:
January 1, 2013
Honorable Members of City Council
City of Elizabeth
New Jersey 07201
Ladies & Gentlemen:

Subject to the confirmation of your Honorable Body, I herewith make the following re-appointments to the Board of Adjustment:

I herewith re-appoint Commissioner George A. Castro, II, 916 Park Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07208, to serve as a Member of the Board of Adjustment for a new term of four years;

I herewith re-appoint Commissioner Salvatore Coppa, 18 South Seventh Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07202, to serve as a Member of the Board of Adjustment for a new term of four years;

I herewith re-appoint Commissioner Jose Nunes, 1127 Harding Road, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07208, to serve as a Member of the Board of Adjustment for a new term of four years;

I herewith re-appoint Commissioner Rev. Larry E. Dixon, 550 Riverside Drive, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07208, to serve as a Member of the Board of Adjustment (Alternate No. 1) for a new term of two years;

I herewith re-appoint Commissioner Elizabeth Cano, 210 Stiles Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07208, to serve as a Member of the Board of Adjustment (Alternate No. 2) for a new term of two years.

Sincerely,
J. Christian Bollwage, Mayor
Which was received.

By the Clerk:
January 1, 2013
Honorable Members of City Council
City of Elizabeth
New Jersey 07201
Ladies & Gentlemen:

Subject to the confirmation of your Honorable Body, I herewith make the following re-appointments and appointment to the Insurance Fund Commission: I herewith re-appoint Rocco DiPaola, Esq., 219 Halsted Road, Elizabeth 07208, to serve as a member of the Insurance Fund Commission for a new two year term.

I herewith re-appoint Mr. Paul Lesniak, 750 Jackson Avenue, Elizabeth 07201, to serve as a member of the Insurance Fund Commission for a new two year term. I also appoint Ms. Marie Krupinski, 8 General Karge Court, Elizabeth 07202, to serve as a member of the Insurance Fund Commission for a term of term of two years. A copy of Ms. Krupinski's resume is attached for your perusal.

Sincerely,
J. Christian Bollwage, Mayor
Which was received.

By the Clerk:
January 1, 2013
Honorable Members of City Council
City of Elizabeth
New Jersey 07201
Ladies & Gentlemen:

Please be advised that I am making the following appointment to the Board of the Trustees of the Free Public Library:
Please be advised that I am appointing Ms. Kenyetta E. Jackson, 731 Madison Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07201, to serve as a Trustee of the Free Public Library to fill the unexpired term of Ms. Evelyn Altobelli (December 31, 2013) who has recently resigned. A copy of Ms. Jackson's resume is attached for your perusal.

Sincerely,
J. Christian Bollwage, Mayor
Which was received.

By the Clerk:
January 1, 2013
Honorable Members of City Council
City of Elizabeth
New Jersey 07201
Ladies & Gentlemen:

Please be advised that I am making the following appointment to the Board of the Trustees of the Free Public Library:
Please be advised that I am appointing Mr. Kevin B. Weaver, 748 Livingston Road, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07208, to serve as a Trustee of the Free Public Library for a five year term. A copy of Mr. Weaver's resume is attached for your perusal.

Sincerely,
J. Christian Bollwage, Mayor
Which was received.

By the Clerk:
January 1, 2013
Honorable Members of City Council
City of Elizabeth
New Jersey 07201
Ladies & Gentlemen:

I herewith re-appoint Commissioner Maria Z. Carvalho, 6 Palisade Road, Elizabeth 07208 to serve as a (Class II) Member of the Planning Board for a new term of one year.
I herewith re-appoint Commissioner Gordon Haas, 27 Decker Avenue, Elizabeth 07208 to serve as a (Class IV) Member of the Planning Board for a new term of four years.

I herewith appoint Commissioner Charles T. Shallcross, 117 Princeton Road, Elizabeth 07208 to serve as a (Class IV) Member of the Planning Board for a term of four years.
I herewith re-appoint Commissioner Thomas Urban, 225 Hillside Road, Elizabeth 07208 to serve as a (Class IV) Member of the Planning Board for a new term of four years.

I herewith appoint Commissioner Norma Marcela Nunez, 668 North Broad Street, Apt. A17, Elizabeth 07208 to serve as a Member of the Planning Board to fill the unexpired term of Commissioner Thomas Callinan (12/31/14) who has recently resigned.

I herewith re-appoint Commissioner Georgette Gonzalez, 158 Princeton Road, Elizabeth 07208 to serve as my designee to the Elizabeth Planning Board.
I herewith appoint Mr. Isaias Rivera, 816 Bayway Avenue, Elizabeth, 07202 to serve as a member of the Planning Board (Alternate #1) for a term of two years. A copy of Mr. Rivera's resume is attached for your perusal.

I herewith appoint Rosa Moreno, 17 Clover Street, Elizabeth 07202 to serve as a member of the Planning Board (Alternate #2) for a term of two years. A copy of Ms. Moreno's resume is attached for your perusal.
Sincerely,
J. Christian Bollwage
Mayor
Which was received.

NEW BUSINESS

BY CITY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elizabeth does hereby advise and consent to the reappointment of William Holzapfel, Esq., 56 Georgian Court, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07208, to serve as City Attorney and Director of the Department of Law, pursuant to the Code of the City of Elizabeth.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Perkins-Auguste, Cuesta, Grova,
Gonzalez, Keenan, Cedeno, Mazza,
and President Gallman - 8

NEGATIVE: None

BY CITY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elizabeth does hereby advise and consent to the re-appointment of Rocco DiPaola, Esq., 219 Halsted Road, Elizabeth 07208, as a Member of the Insurance Fund Commission for a new two year term, pursuant to the Code of the City of Elizabeth.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Perkins-Auguste, Cuesta, Grova,
Gonzalez, Keenan, Cedeno, Mazza,
and President Gallman - 8

NEGATIVE: None

BY CITY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elizabeth does hereby advise and consent to the reappointment of Ms. Bridget Zellner, 1617 Westover Road, Linden, New Jersey 07036, to serve as Business Administrator, pursuant to the Code of the City of Elizabeth.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Perkins-Auguste, Cuesta, Grova,
Gonzalez, Keenan, Cedeno, Mazza,
and President Gallman - 8

NEGATIVE: None

BY CITY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elizabeth does hereby advise and consent to the reappointment of Mr. James Cosgrove, 229 Winding Road, Iselin, New Jersey 08830, to serve as Director of the Elizabeth Police Department, pursuant to the Code of the City of Elizabeth.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Perkins-Auguste, Cuesta, Grova,
Gonzalez, Keenan, Cedeno, Mazza,
and President Gallman - 8

NEGATIVE: None

BY CITY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elizabeth does hereby advise and consent to the reappointment of Mr. Onofrio Vinullo, 332 Redcliffe Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07206, to serve as Director of the Elizabeth Fire Department, pursuant to the Code of the City of Elizabeth.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Perkins-Auguste, Cuesta, Grova,
Gonzalez, Keenan, Cedeno, Mazza,
and President Gallman - 8

NEGATIVE: None

BY CITY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elizabeth does hereby advise and consent to the reappointment of Mr. John Papetti, Jr, 35 Carolyn Road, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07201, to serve as Director of Public Works, pursuant to the Code of the City of Elizabeth.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Perkins-Auguste, Cuesta, Grova,
Gonzalez, Keenan, Cedeno, Mazza,
and President Gallman - 8

NEGATIVE: None

BY CITY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elizabeth does hereby advise and consent to the reappointment of Mr. William Reyes, Jr, 1035 Rutgers Road, Mountainside, New Jersey 07092, to serve as Director of Planning and Community Development, pursuant to the Code of the City of Elizabeth.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Perkins-Auguste, Cuesta, Grova,
Gonzalez, Keenan, Cedeno, Mazza,
and President Gallman - 8

NEGATIVE: None

BY CITY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elizabeth does hereby advise and consent to the reappointment of Mr. Paul Addessa, 1120 Edgewood Road, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07208, to serve as Director of Recreation, pursuant to the Code of the City of Elizabeth.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Perkins-Auguste, Cuesta, Grova,
Gonzalez, Keenan, Cedeno, Mazza,
and President Gallman - 8

NEGATIVE: None

BY CITY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elizabeth does hereby advise and consent to the re-appointment of Carl L. Marshall, Esq., 625 Union Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07208 to serve as a Judge of the Municipal Court for a term of three years effective January 1, 2013 pursuant to the Code of the City of Elizabeth.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Perkins-Auguste, Cuesta, Grova,
Gonzalez, Keenan, Cedeno, Mazza,
and President Gallman - 8

NEGATIVE: None

BY CITY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elizabeth does hereby advise and consent to the appointment of Ms. Krishna H. Garlic, 126 Broadway, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07206, to serve as Director of Health and Human Services, pursuant to the Code of the City of Elizabeth.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Perkins-Auguste, Cuesta, Grova,
Gonzalez, Keenan, Cedeno, Mazza,
and President Gallman - 8

NEGATIVE: None

BY CITY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elizabeth does hereby advise and consent to the appointment of Councilman William Gallman, 620 Court Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07201 as a Class III Member of the Planning Board for a one year term pursuant to the Code of the City of Elizabeth.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Perkins-Auguste, Cuesta, Grova,
Gonzalez, Keenan, Cedeno, Mazza,
and President Gallman - 8

NEGATIVE: None

BY CITY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elizabeth does hereby advise and consent to the re-appointment of Commissioner George A. Castro, II, 916 Park Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07208 to serve as a Member of the Board of Adjustment for a new four year term pursuant to the Code of the City of Elizabeth.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Perkins-Auguste, Cuesta, Grova,
Gonzalez, Keenan, Cedeno, Mazza,
and President Gallman - 8

NEGATIVE: None

BY CITY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elizabeth does hereby advise and consent to the re-appointment of Commissioner Salvatore Coppola, 18 South Seventh Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07202 to serve as a Member of the Board of Adjustment for a new four year term pursuant to the Code of the City of Elizabeth.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Perkins-Auguste, Cuesta, Grova,
Gonzalez, Keenan, Cedeno, Mazza,
and President Gallman - 8

NEGATIVE: None

BY CITY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elizabeth does hereby advise and consent to the re-appointment of Commissioner Jose Nunes, 1127 Harding Road Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07208 to serve as a Member of the Board of Adjustment for a new four year term pursuant to the Code of the City of Elizabeth.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Perkins-Auguste, Cuesta, Grova,
Gonzalez, Keenan, Cedeno, Mazza,
and President Gallman - 8

NEGATIVE: None

BY CITY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elizabeth does hereby advise and consent to the re-appointment of Commissioner Rev. Larry E. Dixon, 550 Riverside Drive, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07208 to serve as a Member of the Board of Adjustment (Alternate No. 1) for a term of two years pursuant to the Code of the City of Elizabeth.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Perkins-Auguste, Cuesta, Grova,
Gonzalez, Keenan, Cedeno, Mazza,
and President Gallman - 8

NEGATIVE: None

BY CITY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elizabeth does hereby advise and consent to the re-appointment of Ms. Elizabeth Cano, 210 Stiles Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey, 07208 to serve as a Member of the Board of Adjustment (Alternate No. 2) for a term of two years pursuant to the Code of the City of Elizabeth.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Perkins-Auguste, Cuesta, Grova,
Gonzalez, Keenan, Cedeno, Mazza,
and President Gallman - 8

NEGATIVE: None

BY CITY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elizabeth does hereby advise and consent to the re-appointment of Mr. Paul Lesniak, 750 Jackson Ave., Elizabeth 07201, as a Member of the Insurance Fund Commission for a new two year term, pursuant to the Code of the City of Elizabeth.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Perkins-Auguste, Cuesta, Grova,
Gonzalez, Keenan, Cedeno, Mazza,
and President Gallman - 8

NEGATIVE: None

BY CITY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elizabeth does hereby advise and consent to the appointment of Ms. Marie Krupinski, 8 General Karge Court, Elizabeth 07202, as a Member of the Insurance Fund Commission for a two year term, pursuant to the Code of the City of Elizabeth.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Perkins-Auguste, Cuesta, Grova,
Gonzalez, Keenan, Cedeno, Mazza,
and President Gallman - 8

NEGATIVE: None

BY CITY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elizabeth does hereby advise and consent to the appointment of Mr. Dieufort Eustache, 1008 Boudinot Place, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07201, as a Member of the Elizabeth Parking Authority for a five year term pursuant to the Code of the City of Elizabeth.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Perkins-Auguste, Cuesta, Grova,
Gonzalez, Keenan, Cedeno, Mazza,
and President Gallman - 8

NEGATIVE: None

BY CITY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elizabeth does hereby advise and consent to the appointment of Ms. Christina Odermatt, 59-61 Elmora Avenue, Apt.3-B, Elizabeth, New Jersey, 07202 as a Member of the Elizabeth Parking Authority for a five year term pursuant to the Code of the City of Elizabeth.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Perkins-Auguste, Cuesta, Grova,
Gonzalez, Keenan, Cedeno, Mazza,
and President Gallman - 8

NEGATIVE: None

Council President Gallman then presented His Honor the Mayor and announced that the Mayor will administer the Oath of Office to all appointments.

Council President Gallman announced that the Mayor will deliver his Annual Message.

Reverend Clergy, members of the City Council, elected officials, friends, family and citizens; 2012 has been an eventful and unprecedented year for our City.

From new development and jobs to a historic hurricane, the City of Elizabeth always rises to the occasion –

- Communicating vital information
- Creating opportunities
- And serving our residents

Together, we accomplish this by:

- Sharing our creativity
- Assisting our neighbors
- And revitalizing our community

Because we are a City that:

- Transforms ideas into action
- Grows with committed partners
- And moves forward with determination

Leadership is defined by many things:

- A strong vision
- Successful management of resources
- The ability to get things done

The future of our City demands no less – leaders, who are capable, hard working and ready to take action.

This Year, we will:

- Initiate new projects
 - Strengthen services
 - Bring more progress
 - And create a stronger - more exciting future - for our City ----
- It all begins with providing the protection that residents expect and deserve.

In 2012 - our first responders were there safeguarding lives.

Seventeen new police recruits were hired and assigned throughout our City. With this additional manpower:

- Property crime, burglary and thefts were down 13%
- And overall crime was down 23%

More than 20,000 incidents required response last year and our public safety forces must be prepared to meet future challenges our City faces.

When a car collided with a fuel tanker on Rt. 1&9 early one Winter morning, Elizabeth Police, Fire and EMS were first on the scene, evacuating Gibbons Court and making sure the area was secure.

More personnel and access to state-of-the-art equipment can be life-saving:

- A 1.7 million dollar foam delivery unit - capable of producing 2,000 gallons of finished foam
- \$80,000 oxygen filling station – supporting personnel and improving operations
- And with 22 new firefighters, the Elizabeth Fire Department is stronger than ever

Just as our emergency services require the necessary tools and preparation to be at the top of their performance - our young people require instruction, guidance and opportunities to succeed.

2012 brought the closure of St. Patrick's - one of the City's oldest schools.

I worked closely with the administration in an effort to keep the school open – writing letters to the Archbishop - and even the Pope.

Achieving nationwide recognition, St. Pat's had been a testament to the level of ability and competitiveness - that can be offered by Catholic Schools.

Months later, promise was ignited for a new future - and history to be made. Strengthening educational opportunities for our residents, The Patrick School opened on Morris Avenue.

Re-purposed into an active learning center for our young people, this School marked another momentous occasion for our City.

Continuing traditions and providing role models that connect our community's future with education and character-building experience - is our Office of Youth.

In 2012, our Building Future Leaders (BFL) program:

- Hosted free SAT classes
- Participated in volunteer and service projects

Focusing on:

- Plans for achievement
- Identifying personal and professional goals

Our S.O.A.R. and Safe Haven programs work closely with our City's students to broaden horizons and support growth.

350 Middle school students were sent to summer camp to learn about:

- Conflict resolution
- And developing positive life skills

As our young people strengthen their ability to work together and express themselves, our Seniors are:

- Sharpening technical and language proficiency
- Excelling in the performing and visual arts

They also showcased their talents in:

- A Multi-Culture Choir that sang at events, churches and municipal buildings

• As well as fashion shows – where they modeled their designs
Just as our City strengthens the services provided to our Seniors – our Seniors volunteer their time to support the community.

- Walking in October to raise Breast Cancer Awareness
- And participating in the first Community Senior Outreach Day

With the ongoing challenges of our economy; free vaccinations, treatments and screenings are strengthening the health of our residents.

In 2012 we provided:

- More than 2,500 children with free dental services
- 1300 immunizations and vaccinations

Receiving the proper medical and preventive care is also important to maintaining overall wellness – particularly with babies and children.

Public health needs are met through Baby Keep-Well Clinics and Child Health Conferences.

- Physician examinations
- And nutritional services to keep our youngest residents strong

The Elizabethtown Healthcare Foundation has provided a \$10,000 grant that will enable 350 Infant CPR Anytime kits to be distributed - strengthening life-saving skills.

With the 3rd largest Nursing School in the country, Trinitas is increasing the number of trained professionals within our City:

- Graduating 131 new Nurses
- And receiving 2 Centers of Excellence designations from the National League of Nursing

Comprehensive fitness is vital to leading long and productive lives and the City's Recreation Department continues to offer programs that support strong and active living.

In addition to managing 18 playgrounds and 5 Centers throughout our community, the Department:

- Supplied free lunches to more than 1,400 children each day
- Operated an in-ground pool, 7 Spray Fountains and Union County's largest, municipal spray park

Encouraging exercise and skill development, the Department:

- Co-sponsored youth basketball tournaments
- Made baseball, softball and soccer possible at local fields

Free activities enable our residents to try new things and for some, develop enjoyable and lasting hobbies.

The Recreation Department continues to receive an overwhelming response for:

- Children's Dance Program
- Arts and Craft Classes
- And design is underway for the new Holland Playground and Skate Park
- A synthetic turf field at O'Brien Playground
- Along with interior and exterior renovations to the Exleben Pool

Building stronger communities requires investments in affordable housing. The Housing Authority has been working hard to increase opportunities and strengthen existing structures:

- Kitchen renovations at Mravlag Manor
- Elevator upgrades at Kennedy Arms & O'Donnell Dempsey

One of the challenges associated with housing in an urban environment, is not just to identify physical locations—it is making that new construction affordable.

Our Elizabeth Home Improvement Program is strengthening housing opportunities.

The 805 East Jersey Street and Siloam Hope Cares Projects:

- Created 17 units

Including the City's first African American Cultural and Education Center:

- Art work and historical data
- Along with training and readiness programs

The 17 million dollar E-Port Homes project will produce:

- 52 affordable housing units

Renovation of Oakwood Plaza is difficult - but that has never stopped our City before. The strength of our commitment and dedicated partners are turning this vision into reality. One building has been demolished and the current structures will be transformed into new developments.

- Townhouse style homes
- Improved layouts
- and energy efficient systems

Whether you live here, travel to Elizabeth for work or visit our municipality - our City is always moving. Strengthening foundations is essential to having an effective flow of transportation and improved quality of life.

From paving projects to streetscape initiatives, the Department of Public Works has made significant investments in our infrastructure and neighborhoods.

- With Groundwork Elizabeth, completed Phase 1 of the Elizabeth River Trail
- And Phase II is in the design stage -- providing greener options for navigating our City

The Elizabeth Parking Authority has supported the City's Go Green initiatives:

- Reducing energy consumption
- And overall costs with green technology

In recent years, our community has been subjected to stronger weather patterns that have brought intense rain and flooding.

To mitigate these issues, awards for drainage improvements have been made for:

- The low areas of North Avenue and South Street
- Third Avenue - between Lt. Glenn Zamorski Drive and South First Street
- And in partnership with E-Town Services, combined sewer and flood control improvements were made on Westfield and Park Avenues

For years, many Elizabethport residents had to travel across the City to meet their grocery needs; resulting in

additional time and money spent.

We have been working with the Elizabeth Development Company to address this issue, create new jobs and strengthen options.

In December, we cut the ribbon at SUPERFOOD Supermarket featuring:

- A deli
- Fresh Food Kiosks
- And delivery services

Many throughout our City and State still cannot find employment and are now faced with unemployment benefits that are set to expire. Creating jobs for our residents and putting people back to work in this challenging economy remains a priority.

We embarked on 2 new jobs initiatives:

- ElizabethHires
- And Elizabeth Works

More than 200 City residents were hired to perform public works duties throughout our neighborhoods. From cleaning sidewalks and removing debris to greening our streets, the ElizabethHires program provided individuals with a job, where:

- Skills could be honed
- Experience gained
- And income earned

This successful program received an overwhelming response and placed our residents' first. ElizabethWorks focused upon providing our young people with opportunities.

Made possible through the Union County Workforce Investment Act and working hand-in-hand with the Elizabeth Development Company-youth throughout our City were placed with local organizations and businesses.

From Groundwork Elizabeth and Boxwood Hall to Atlanta and Bayway Catering, this program introduced our youth to the responsibilities of work - and rewards that could be reaped - from experience.

The chances of being considered for employment are increased if you've already been trained.

The Retail Skills Center has been opening doors and strengthening resumes by providing opportunities to increase knowledge and abilities:

- 23 Job Fairs
- 164 Residents Trained
- And 464 job placements

Embarking upon a \$30 million dollar renovation project, Jersey Gardens has made great strides in transforming its appearance:

- Completion of a rooftop solar system
- Updated flooring, lighting and signage

Enhancing the shopping experience - providing more jobs:

- WiFi Hotspots
- Lounge Soho
- Puma and Coach
- And the largest Tommy Hilffger Outlet in the world

Throughout the years, hotels, restaurants and even a movie theater have joined this spectacular landscape in Elizabeth.

A new Applebee's in 2012:

- Hiring 91 residents
- Featuring public safety departments and local schools within the restaurant

And coming soon across the street - will be a new Embassy Suites. This \$40 million dollar, 8 story development will create 50 new permanent jobs and include:

- 189 rooms
- Multifunctional meeting space
- Fitness center - indoor pool

When the Mall opened, some feared it would adversely impact smaller businesses. That did not happen - and our special improvement districts continue to thrive.

Elizabeth Avenue has a 96 % occupancy rate and has welcomed new businesses that are succeeding within our

City:

- Elizabeth Fitness
- The Flower Puff II
- Casablanca Supermarket

The Elizabeth Avenue Partnership has been working closely with the City to:

- Implement beautification
- Security
- And street cleaning initiatives

From Catherine Street to Rt. 1&9, improvements were incorporated:

- With new sidewalks, curbs
- Decorative lighting - completing a 5 phase streetscape project

Providing Jersey fresh fruits, vegetables and baked goods, the Farmer's Market brought vendors from near and far to showcase their products within our City:

- Approximately 5,000 WIC Checks were processed
- And nearly 3,000 Senior Vouchers were accepted

The Greater Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce is strengthening business connections and raising awareness with their GoElizabethNJ e-newsletter featuring:

- Tourist attractions
- Neighborhood profiles

Developed to strengthen the visibility of our community, this initiative will also include reader interaction and contests for subscribers - leading up to the 350th anniversary of our City in 2014.

In the Fall, an unprecedented superstorm made landfall in New Jersey. Hurricane Sandy arrived with a force unlike any we have seen in our lifetime.

- High winds uprooted trees
- Utility lines were down and traffic lights out
- Flooding from the Elizabeth River and Waterfront
- And the Marina, as we once knew it, was gone

Rushing water and an unparalleled storm surge - forced our Boardwalk to be broken into pieces. Our Pier washed away and debris covered the area. Gas restrictions were implemented and the damage throughout our City was evident; however that did not compare to the power that was lost for weeks.

Cold and without heat, our residents struggled to stay warm. There was no electricity - many lost significant food when refrigerators had to be emptied.

This was an emergency our City had never experienced, but we were ready.

- Water rescues were made downtown
- City Hall and firehouses ran on generator power
- Shelters and charging stations were opened
- And I remained in communication with you during the crisis through our website, social media and Reverse 911 calls

As soon as Hurricane Sandy occurred, I reached out to PSE&G and asked for a schedule for when power would be restored. Out of 51,000 PSE&G accounts - 49,000 were without power.

I spoke with PSE&G multiple times a day, fighting for the safety of our residents. I initiated a social media campaign to garner support for Five Off Credit On legislation.

With an online petition, I asked New Jersey's Legislators and Governor to pass and sign a Bill, which enables residents to receive 1 month of free electricity if they are without power for 5 or more days.

Although our City was suffering, we were willing to help others in need.

In the days that followed, our EMS Division set up their portable field hospital in Seaside Heights - providing a safe place for medical personnel to assist victims.

Our Neptune System, which has tremendous pumping capacity, was utilized by the EFD to remove 2 million gallons of water from the ventilation shaft of the Holland Tunnel.

We have weathered emergencies and storms before -- and this will not break us.

We will rebuild what was lost and create a better and stronger Waterfront for our City.

Our City is stronger today because we, the people, pull together during difficult times:

- Neighbors helping neighbors
- Volunteering, donating
- And delivering assistance

President John F. Kennedy once said, "...we have examined where we are strong...where we...succeed and...now it is time to take longer strides...for a great new...enterprise...."

We have:

- Built infrastructure
- Developed affordable housing
- Upgraded playgrounds and recreational facilities – all to strengthen our fast growing City

Soon the Baker Center will transform North Elizabeth - creating pedestrian-oriented services and supporting an all-in-one village.

The City has designated a developer for the 22 acre site, which will:

- Create 500 residential units
- And contain more than 400,000 square feet of retail

Demolition of the present structure is underway and upon completion, the Center will create a consumer destination minutes away from mass transit.

Residents and visitors will be able to stroll from store to store along tree-lined walkways, illuminated with decorative lighting.

Commuters waiting for their train to arrive can shop for that last minute gift or relax at an outdoor table - surrounded by green space - all within the complex.

More than 70 percent of New Jerseyans live in urban areas. These are historic cities like Elizabeth - each with their own unique characteristic and potential.

To grow our economy we must take advantage of opportunities that:

- Make our City stronger
- Our neighborhoods better
- And create higher-paying jobs for today and tomorrow

Together with the Wakefern Food Corporation and the Elberon Development Company, ground was broken on a new 80 million dollar, grocery warehouse:

- 524,000 square feet of space
- Temperature controlled area - which will increase storage capabilities by more than 58%
- And create more than 150 permanent jobs and be operational at the end of 2013.

Seafigo is strengthening its operations by moving its current location from Dowd to North Avenue. The \$60 million dollar new development will feature:

- 175,000 square feet of refrigerated space
- 18,000 square feet designated for offices
- And 150 new jobs

The new 152,000 square foot FedEx building also strengthened opportunities for our City. Located on Dowd Avenue.

This \$45 million dollar development:

- Improved distribution capabilities and operational efficiency
- Created 100 new jobs - And saved more than 300

Realizing the potential of our great City is all about:

- Leadership
- Vision
- Working together and building partnerships

With New Jersey Transit we must develop a new Midtown Train Station:

From stairways to elevators, this new state-of-the-art station will:

- Increase safety and services
- Promote intermodal transportation
- Connectivity and operations

It will also provide a direct link to Western Union County with the proposed bus rapid transit project. This surrounding community makes the project even more important because the resources residents need and want are close by.

- Shops on Morris Avenue
- Midtown Business District
- Union County Courthouse
- Union County College

And this area will become even stronger – with new retail and residential units right next to the Midtown Train Station.

An RFP will be issued this week for the development of Parcels B & D, bringing:

- High-end apartments
- Street-level shops
- And restaurants

Enjoying a day or night out will be as easy as walking down the street. From residents and visitors to students and professors - unlimited possibilities will soon be available.

The proposed *University Boulevard* will combine the collegiate experience at Kean University with the diversity and appeal of our exciting City.

Together, this partnership will create a one-stop entertainment, dining and shopping experience along Morris Avenue:

- Linking 2 train stations
- 3 municipalities
- And 2 institutions of higher education

Kean University has been recognized for its talented students and compassion to help others. Applying these resources to strengthen our community, *University Boulevard* will start with an 8 story building, which will house wellness centers staffed by Graduate Students.

From occupational and physical therapy to speech-language pathology, this initiative will provide:

- New locations for residents to receive the assistance they need
- An active environment for students to gain hands-on experience

Further strengthening services:

- Interest will be sought from corporate and non-profits
- Rental space for organizations and community groups
- Legislative and consulate offices - providing in-person assistance

Celebrating our heritage, *University Boulevard* will incorporate:

- Restaurants featuring authentic international cuisine and shops
- Art galleries, highlighting talent from different countries
- Along with retail and office space

This state-of-the-art destination will include:

- Faculty and Student housing
- Satellite offices for City services
- A language center

The true strength of a community cannot be measured by any number alone - not by its population, size or buildings on its streets—the strength and heart of any City - lies in its people.

Our neighborhoods are stronger than ever because of:

- Investments our residents make
- The commitment of local partners

And the shared belief that our strength is reinforced by our ability to:

- Meet needs and exceed expectations
- Create foundations for the future
- Implement quality programs

The strength of our spirit cannot be broken and we are stronger today because our City works together with:

- Local Schools, Non-Profits, Colleges and Universities
- County and State and Federal Agencies
- And Above All – our Residents

We are transforming lives and improving landscapes for a stronger tomorrow. May God Bless the City of Elizabeth and May God Bless the United States of America.

--30--

Council President Gallman ordered that the Mayor's message be received and spread in full upon the minutes of the City Council.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

There being no one present who desired to be heard, Council President Gallman declared the public speaking portion of the meeting closed.

Reverend Larry E. Dixon delivered the benediction.

Councilwoman Perkins-Auguste moved that City Council do now adjourn,

Which was carried unanimously.

Whereupon Council President Gallman declared City Council adjourned at

1:55 p.m.

APPROVED

WILLIAM GALLMAN, JR.
President of City Council

YOLANDA M. ROBERTS, R.M.C.
City Clerk