

CITY COUNCIL - ELIZABETH, N. J.

REGULAR MEETING - TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024

7:30 P. M.

AGENDA

ROLL CALL.

PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG.

PUBLIC SPEAKING: RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ORD. NO. 5939 – A Capital Improvement Fund Ordinance of the City of Elizabeth, in the County of Union, New Jersey, appropriating \$600,000.00 for renovations to Jackson Park in and for the City of Elizabeth, in the County of Union, New Jersey.

ORD. NO. 5940 – An Ordinance to authorize the establishment of a personalized handicapped parking space for Jeremy Ortiz, 1034 Anna Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

ORD. NO. 5941 – An Ordinance to authorize the establishment of a personalized handicapped parking space for Alexis Aguilar, 618 Marshall Street, Apt. 1, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

ORD. NO. 5942 – An Ordinance to rescind Ordinance No. 5672, adopted on June 14, 2022, which authorized the establishment of a personalized handicapped parking space for Eletece Silva, 19 Amity Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

ORD. NO. 5943 – An Ordinance to rescind Ordinance No. 5598, adopted on February 8, 2022, which authorized the establishment of a personalized handicapped parking space for Jose Lam, 139 Catherine Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

ORD. NO. 5944 – An Ordinance to rescind Ordinance No. 5663, adopted on June 14, 2022, which authorized the establishment of a personalized handicapped parking space for Heriberto Camacho, 140 Ripley Place, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

By the Clerk:

Letter dated January 8, 2024, from the Business Administrator request to amend the resolution adopted on October 10, 2023 authorizing the Elizabeth Destination Marketing Organization (EDMO), the Greater Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce (GECC), the Elizabeth Development Company (EDC) and the Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit Program Funding in partnership and collaboration with the City of Elizabeth to install and operate five interactive Business and Tourism KIOSK Systems at various locations in the City, specifically to include the additional location at Winfield Scott Plaza; Scott Park/City Hall area.
Which was received.

By the Clerk:

Letter dated January 8, 2024, from the Business Administrator recommending awarding a contract to FFF Enterprises, Inc., 1601 Old Greensboro Road, Kernersville, NC for the purchase of Flu Vaccines for the Flu Program for the period of December 31, 2023 through December 31, 2024 at a cost not to exceed \$35,000.00.
Which was received.

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ETC. (Cont'd)

By the Clerk:

Letter dated January 8, 2024, from the Business Administrator recommending awarding a contract to Winner Ford, 250 Berlin Road, Cherry Hill, NJ for the purchase of a 2024 Ford F450 Crew Cab 4x4 with outfit equipment for the Elizabeth Police Department as an addition to the fleet at the total cost of \$149,727.13. Which was received.

By the Clerk:

Letter dated January 11, 2024, from the Business Administrator request authorization for the proper City officials to apply, accept and sign all appropriate documents for the FY 25 Community Funding opportunity for an amount not to exceed \$7,000,000.00 for the purpose of replacing approximately 700 additional known lead service lines throughout the City of Elizabeth; for most projects, there is a 25% non-federal matching requirement associated with each request; however, as a historically disadvantaged community, the City of Elizabeth anticipates requesting a cost share waiver for this initiative. Which was received.

By the Clerk:

Letter dated January 11, 2024, from the Business Administrator request to amend the resolution adopted on August 22, 2023 authorizing the proper City officials to participate in the Sourcewell National Co-Op to utilize their award to Doron Precision Systems, Inc., 150 Corporate Drive, P.O. Box 400, Binghamton, NY for the purchase of one 660 Fireplus Driving Simulation System with a computer and accessories for the Elizabeth Fire Department in the amount of \$216,256.00 and a 3 DOF Motion System Option in the amount of \$29,100.00 at the total amount of \$245,356.00, specifically to authorize the proper City officials to execute the Software License Agreement. Which was received.

By the Clerk:

Letter dated January 11, 2024, from the Business Administrator recommending awarding a contract to Civic Plus, LLC, 302 South 4th Street, Suite 500, Manhattan, KS for proprietary software for website hosting and support for civic engagement and the Municode system for various departments and to authorize the proper City officials to execute any documents in connection with this contract in the amount not to exceed \$26,000.00. Which was received.

By the Clerk:

Letter dated January 11, 2024, from the Business Administrator request to amend the resolution adopted on September 26, 2023 awarding a contract to Comprehensive Medical Nutrition Solutions, 120 Farm Lane, Bound Brook, NJ for the provision of a Health Educator for the Department of Health and Human Services from the date of the award through June 30, 2024 at the rate of \$68.00 per hour not to exceed \$33,000.00, specifically to increase the previous amount of the contract by \$17,000.00 thereby raising the amount not to exceed \$50,000.00. Which was received.

By the Clerk:

Letter dated January 11, 2024, from the Business Administrator request authorization to renew the contract with Highway Service Corp., 548 Trumbull Street, Elizabeth, NJ for Police Authorized Towing and Storage Services for the third and final year under the same terms and conditions as the current contract from November 23, 2023 through November 22, 2024 at no charge to the city. Which was received.

By the Clerk:

Letter dated January 11, 2024, from the Business Administrator request authorization for the proper City officials to participate in a State Contract with Wfimer Public Safety Group, 104 Independence Way, Coatesville, PA for Firefighter Protective Clothing and Equipment for the Fire Department during the period of January 11, 2024 through May 14, 2024 at a cost not to exceed \$80,000.00. Which was received.

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ETC. (Cont'd)

By the Clerk:

Letter dated January 12, 2024, from the Business Administrator request authorization for the final premium adjustment as a result of an audit conducted by Regional Risk Managers, LLC regarding the Excess Workers Compensation Insurance Policy covering the period July 1, 2022 to July 1, 2023 in the total sum of \$9,993.00. Which was received.

By the Clerk:

Letter dated January 12, 2024, from the Business Administrator recommending awarding a contract to Saint Bamabas Management Services, LLC, One Source EAP Program, P.O. Box 235, Mount Freedom, NJ for the implementation of an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) & Alcohol Education Program for the period commencing January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 not to exceed \$35,000.00. Which was received.

By the Clerk:

Letter dated January 12, 2024, from the Business Administrator recommending awarding a contract to Skyline Environmental, Inc., 740 Highway 34 Suite E, Old Bridge Township, Matawan, NJ to provide professional services in connection with the Health & Safety Compliance Programs for the Year 2024 for the term January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 not to exceed \$150,000.00. Which was received.

By the Clerk:

Letter dated January 12, 2024, from the Business Administrator request authorization for the proper City officials to execute and issue a Hold Harmless Agreement and Certificate of Insurance for the proper Officials at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst located at Fort Dix, NJ for the purpose of City of Elizabeth Police Department Emergency Services Unit and Rifle Team firearm training at the firearm ranges located at US Government, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, NJ effective from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 Which was received.

By the Clerk:

Letter dated January 12, 2024, from the Business Administrator recommending awarding a contract to Atlantic Tactical, 14 World Fair Drive, Somerset, NJ for the purchase of weapon mounted lights and switches for the Elizabeth Police Department at the total cost of \$31,366.50. Which was received.

By the Clerk:

Letter dated January 12, 2024, from the Business Administrator recommending awarding a contract to Mall Chevrolet, 75 Haddonfield Road, Cherry Hill, NJ for the purchase of two (2) 2023 Chevrolet Tahoe's in the amount of \$100,185.40, one (1) 2023 Chevrolet Cargo Van in the amount of \$37,231.94 and one (1) 2023 Silverado in the amount of \$52,006.85 for a total amount of \$189,424.19 as replacement vehicles due to damages sustained in Hurricane Ida. Which was received.

By the Clerk:

Letter dated January 11, 2024, from the City Attorney request authorization for the proper City officials to execute all necessary documentation, agreements and/or contracts to facilitate consenting to the assignment of Wastewater Services for the City of Elizabeth's Wastewater System from E'Town Services, LLC, to the New Jersey American Water Company, Inc., will assume all of the duties and obligations in and to the contract from the date of assignment of contract including obligations to pay all debts, charges, claims, damages and liabilities relating to the contract or the property, vesting, accruing and/or arising from and after the date of assignment. Which was received.

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ETC. (Cont'd)

By the Clerk:

Letter dated January 16, 2024, from the Chief Financial Officer advising that additional grants may be appropriated in the 2024 SFY Budget by budget amendments (Chapter 159).
Which was received.

By the Clerk:

Letter dated January 16, 2024, from the Chief Financial Officer advising in compliance with the SFY 2016 Appropriations Act requires that your Honorable Body approve all payments related to accumulated/uncompensated absence benefits.
Which was received.

By the Clerk:

Letter dated January 16, 2024, from the Chief Financial Officer recommending that your Honorable Body consider requesting of the Director of the Division of Local Finance to make changes in the 2024 Municipal Budget to account for the City's local share of grants (Chapter 159) approved after the adoption of the budget.
Which was received.

By the Clerk:

Letter dated January 16, 2024, from the Chief Financial Officer request that your Honorable Body consider approving a bond ordinance authorizing the acquisition of Pine Street properties 39-45, 47-55, 57, and 59; entire Pine Street Acquisition is approximately \$2,700,000.00 with CDBG financing of \$1,700,000.00 and the bond ordinance of \$1,000,000.00; City would authorize obligations of \$950,000.00 with a down payment of \$50,000.00.
Which was received.

By the Clerk:

Letter dated January 2, 2024, from the Director of Health and Human Services request authorization to apply, accept and sign all appropriate documents from the New Jersey Department of Corrections: Locally, Empowered, Accountable, and Determined (NJLEAD) Reentry Initiative program to provide funds up to \$400,000.00 to implement innovative entrepreneurial development that will increase and improve the ability of incarcerated persons or the formerly incarcerated within 364 days of release to achieve economic stability and independence.
Which was received.

By the Clerk:

Letter dated December 29, 2023, from the Director of Planning and Community Development request authorization for the proper City officials to execute all documents necessary to discharge the City's second mortgage and cancellation of the Deed of Easement and Restrictive Covenant for 1112-1118 Dickinson Street in the amount of \$500,000.00.
Which was received.

By the Clerk:

Letter dated January 9, 2024, from the Director of Planning and Community Development request authorization for Prestige Environmental, 220 Davidson Avenue, Suite 307, Somerset, NJ to provide a Preliminary Assessment for 59 Pine Street due to the City's plan on acquiring this parcel with adjoining ones for open space not to exceed \$3,250.00.
Which was received.

By the Clerk:

Letter dated January 11, 2024, from the Director of Public Works recommending awarding a contract to USA Architects, Planners and Interior Designers, 20 North Doughty Avenue, Somerville, NJ to provide professional architectural services for the concept design phase services for the renovations to Liberty Square and Stephen Sampson Senior Centers at a lump sum cost not to exceed \$46,500.00 plus reimbursables.
Which was received.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS

NONE.

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

ORD. NO. 5945 – A Bond Ordinance of the City of Elizabeth, in the County of Union, New Jersey, providing for the acquisition of certain Pine Street properties and appropriating \$1,000,000.00 therefor and providing for the issuance of \$950,000.00 in Bonds or Notes of the City to finance the same.

ORD. NO. 5946 – An Ordinance to authorize the establishment of a personalized handicapped parking space for Nora Martinez-Maravilla, 331 Court Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

ORD. NO. 5947 – An Ordinance to authorize the establishment of a personalized handicapped parking space for Eliana Evangelista, 132 Marshall Street, Ft. 1, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

ORD. NO. 5948 – An Ordinance to authorize the establishment of a personalized handicapped parking space for Alejandra Fuentes, 214 Marshall Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

ORD. NO. 5949 – An Ordinance to authorize the establishment of a personalized handicapped parking space for Nery Garcia, 238 Marshall Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

PUBLIC HEARING AND FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF THE FOREGOING ORDINANCES SHALL TAKE PLACE AT THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2024 AT 7:30 P.M.

ORDINANCES ON FINAL PASSAGE

ORD. NO. 5939 – A Capital Improvement Fund Ordinance of the City of Elizabeth, in the County of Union, New Jersey, appropriating \$600,000.00 for renovations to Jackson Park in and for the City of Elizabeth, in the County of Union, New Jersey.

ORD. NO. 5940 – An Ordinance to authorize the establishment of a personalized handicapped parking space for Jeremy Ortiz, 1034 Anna Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

ORD. NO. 5941 – An Ordinance to authorize the establishment of a personalized handicapped parking space for Alexis Aguilar, 618 Marshall Street, Apt. 1, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

ORD. NO. 5942 – An Ordinance to rescind Ordinance No. 5672, adopted on June 14, 2022, which authorized the establishment of a personalized handicapped parking space for Eleteice Silva, 19 Amity Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

ORD. NO. 5943 – An Ordinance to rescind Ordinance No. 5598, adopted on February 8, 2022, which authorized the establishment of a personalized handicapped parking space for Jose Lam, 139 Catherine Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

ORD. NO. 5944 – An Ordinance to rescind Ordinance No. 5663, adopted on June 14, 2022, which authorized the establishment of a personalized handicapped parking space for Heriberto Camacho, 140 Ripley Place, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

NEW BUSINESS

Authorize an amendment to the 2024 Fiscal Year Capital Budget in the amount of \$1,000,000.00.

Authorize an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget to insert, as an item of Revenue, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) – HOPWA Grant 2024, in the amount of \$613,270.00.

Authorize an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget to insert, as an item of Revenue, the NJ Office of Emergency Management (NJOEM) – FEMA 406 HMP Cost Grant, in the amount of \$1,260,414.00.

Amend resolution adopted October 13, 2023, for the installation and operation of five (5) interactive Business and Tourism KIOSK Systems at various locations in the City of Elizabeth in partnership and collaboration with Elizabeth Destination Marketing Organization (EDMO), the Greater Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce (GECC), the Elizabeth Development Company (EDC) and the Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit Program Funding, specifically to include an additional location at Winfield Scott Plaza (Scott Park/City Hall area) for an interactive Business and Tourism KIOSK; EDMO will manage this KIOSK and the Elizabeth Police Department will effectuate the surveillance of the additional location as well.

Authorize the award of a contract to FFF Enterprises, Inc., 1601 Old Greensboro Road, Kernersville, NC, for the purchase of Flu Vaccines for the Flu Program for the period December 31, 2023 through December 31, 2024, at a cost not to exceed \$35,000.00.

Authorize the award of a contract to Winner Ford, 250 Berlin Road, Cherry Hill, N.J., for the purchase of a 2024 Ford F450 Crew Cab 4x4 with Outfit Equipment for the Elizabeth Police Department as an addition to the fleet, at a total cost of \$149,727.13.

Authorize the proper City Officials to apply, accept and sign all appropriate documents for the FY25 Community Funding – Appropriations Request, funding will be utilized for the replacement of approximately 700 additional known lead service lines throughout the City of Elizabeth, for a total amount not to exceed \$7,000,000.00.

Amend resolution adopted August 22, 2023, with Doron Precision Systems, Inc., 150 Corporate Drive, P.O. Box 400, Binghamton, N.Y., through the Sourcewell National Co-Op, for the purchase of one (1) 660 Fireplus Driving Simulation System with a Computer and Accessories for the Elizabeth Fire Department in the amount of \$216,256.00 and a 3 DOF Motion System Option, in the amount of \$29,100.00, for a total cost of \$245,356.00, specifically to authorize the proper City Officials to sign and execute the Software License Agreement and any required documents.

Authorize the proper City Officials to execute any documents awarding a contract to Civic Plus, LLC, 302 South 4th Street, Suite 500, Manhattan, KS, for Proprietary Software for Website Hosting and Support for Civic Engagement and the Municode System for various departments, in the amount not to exceed \$26,000.00.

Amend resolution adopted September 26, 2023 with Comprehensive Medical Nutrition Solutions, 120 Farm Lane, Bound Brook, N.J., for the provision of a Health Educator for the Department of Health and Human Services from the date of the award through June 30, 2024, at the rate of \$68.00 per hour, not to exceed \$33,000.00, specifically to increase the previously awarded amount by \$17,000.00, for a new total amount not to exceed \$50,000.00.

Authorize the renewal of a contract to Highway Service Corp., 548 Trumbull Street, Elizabeth, N.J., for the furnishing of Police Authorized Towing and Storage Services for the Police Department, for a third and final year under the same terms and conditions as the current contract for the period November 23, 2023 through November 22, 2024, at no cost to the City.

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

Authorize the award of a contract to Witmer Public Safety Group, 104 Independence Way, Coatesville, PA, for Firefighter Protective Clothing and Equipment for the Elizabeth Fire Department for the period January 11, 2024 through May 14, 2024, at a cost not to exceed \$80,000.00.

Authorize the final premium adjustment to Safety National Casualty Corporation, 1832 Schuetz Road, St. Louis, MO, for Excess Workers Compensation Insurance, as a result of an audit conducted by Regional Risk Managers, LLC covering the period July 1, 2022 to July 1, 2023, in the total sum of \$9,993.00.

Authorize the award of a contract to Saint Barnabas Management Services LLC, One Source EAP Program, P. O. Box 235, Mount Freedom, N.J., for the implementation of an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) and an Alcohol Education Program for the period commencing January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$35,000.00.

Authorize the award of a contract to Skyline Environmental, Inc., 740 Highway 34, Suite E, Old Bridge Township, Matawan, N.J., to provide professional services in connection with the Health & Safety Compliance Programs for the period January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.00.

Authorize the proper City officials to execute and issue a Hold Harmless Agreement and Certificate of Insurance for the proper Officials at Joint Base McGuire-Dix Lakehurst Fort Dix, N.J., for the purpose of City of Elizabeth Police Department, Emergency Services Unit and Rifle Team for firearm training at the firearm ranges located at the US Government, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, Fort Dix, N.J., effective from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

Authorize the award of a contract to Atlantic Tactical, 14 World Fair Drive, Somerset, N.J., for the purchase of Weapon Mounted Lights and Switches for the Elizabeth Police Department through the Bergen County Co-Op, at a total cost of \$31,366.50.

Authorize the award of a contract to Mall Chevrolet, 75 Haddonfield Road, Cherry Hill, N.J. for the purchase of two (2) 2023 Chevrolet Tahoe's in the amount of \$100,185.40; one (1) 2023 Chevrolet Cargo Van in the amount of \$37,231.94; and one (1) 2023 Silverado in the amount of \$52,006.85, one vehicle is an addition to the City fleet and three vehicles are replacements due to damages sustained during Hurricane Ida, through the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey, for a total amount of \$189,424.19.

Resolution consenting to the assignment of Wastewater Services for the City of Elizabeth's Wastewater System from E'Town Services, LLC, to the New Jersey American Water, Company Inc., the sole member of E'Town Services, LLC and authorize the proper City Officials to execute the Assignment of Contract Agreement and all necessary documentation, agreements and/or contracts to facilitate this assignment.

Authorize the proper City Officials to apply for, accept and sign all appropriate documents for grant funds awarded from the New Jersey Department of Corrections, Whittlesey Road, P. O. Box 863, Trenton, N.J., for the Locally, Empowered, Accountable, and Determined (NJLEAD) Reentry Initiative Program, to implement innovative entrepreneurial development that will increase and improve the ability of incarcerated or the formerly incarcerated persons within 364 days of release to achieve economic stability and independence, in the amount of \$400,000.00.

Authorize the proper City Officials to execute any and all documents necessary for the Discharge of the City of Elizabeth's Mortgage – HOME Rental Housing Program and Cancellation of the Deed of Easement and Restrictive Covenant on the property located at 1112-1118 Dickinson Street, in the amount of \$500,000.00.

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

Authorize the award of a contract to Prestige Environmental, 220 Davidson Avenue, Suite 307, Somerset, NJ to provide a Preliminary Assessment for the property located at 59 Pine Street, Elizabeth, N.J., for an amount not to exceed \$3,250.00.

Authorize the award of a contract to USA Architects, Planners, and Interior Designers, 20 North Doughty Avenue, Somerville, N.J., to provide professional architectural services in connection with the renovations to Liberty Square and Stephen Sampson Senior Centers – Concept Phase, at a lump sum cost not to exceed \$46,500.00 plus reimbursables.

Establish a handicapped parking space in front of the premises located at 234 Franklin Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Rescind resolution adopted September 13, 2022, which established a handicapped parking space in front of the premises located at 238 Marshall Street. (now personalized)

COMMENDATIONS:

Francesca Crincoli

)100th Birthday

Ibn McDaniels

)Elizabeth High School Student

)Full Scholarship to Syracuse University

MEMORIALS:

Louis “Smiley” Wilson

ADJOURNMENT