Regular Monthly Meeting of the

Mayor and Common Council of Gloucester City

Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:30 P.M.
313 Monmouth Street
Minutes

1. **Call Meeting to Order:**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:**
3. **Roll Call:** Johnson, Keating, Parry, Spencer and Mayor James. Baus arrived at 7:38 pm, Hutchinson at 7:40pm
4. **Open Public Meetings Act Notice:** This meeting is being held in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, otherwise known as the "Sunshine Law." It has been legally noticed in accordance with the law and copies have been given to those requesting the same.
5. **Resolutions:**

R96 Introduction of 2014 Budget (requires roll call)
Roll Call: Baus, Hutchinson, Johnson, Keating, Parry, Spencer and Mayor James
This budget shall be advertised in summary form in the April 10, 2014 edition of the Gloucester City News and the Public Hearing for the same to be held at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Common Council on April 24, 2014 at 7:30 at 313 Monmouth Street, Gloucester City

Councilman Spencer stated that this is a fiscally responsible budget. It is going up 2.8 cents which amounts to a $20.00 increase to the average assessed home. We would rather not raise taxes since we are also raising the water and sewer rates but line items have gone up particularly health benefits.

Councilman Keating stated that he is not happy with a 2.8 cent increase and would like to see it reduced especially with the increase to water and sewer rates.

Mayor James and Councilman Spencer stated that we can look at reducing the budget when the finance committee meets. This is just the budget introduction and we can amend the budget if we decide to reduce the 2014 budget.

A motion was made by Councilman Spencer and Seconded by Councilman Johnson to approve. All in favor.

R97 Authorizing Refunds on the Planning and Zoning Board Escrow Account
A motion was made by Councilman Parry and seconded by Councilman Hutchinson to approve. All in favor.

6. **Ordinances**: *for first reading this evening with second reading and public hearing to be held on April 24, 2014 at 7:30 p.m., City Hall, 313 Monmouth St.*

O06 Amending the Ordinance regulating the Salaries of the Employees of the City of Gloucester City (Police Superior Officers and PBA)
Roll Call: Baus , Hutchinson, Johnson, Keating, Parry, Spencer and Mayor James
A motion was made by Councilman Hutchinson and seconded by Councilman Parry. All in favor.

For 2nd reading and public hearing this evening:
O04 Amending Section Chapters 71, 86 and 90 (Water Sewer Rate Increases)
Mayor James opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance 2014-04
No one else wishing to be heard. Mayor James closed Public Hearing.

A motion was made by Councilman Parry and seconded by Councilman Hutchinson to adopt Ordinance 2014-04. All in favor.

7. **Old Business/New Business**

a)	Bills paid from Feb.28 to March 20, 2014	$772,258.50
	Bills paid from Feb. 26 to Feb. 6, 2014	$ 28, 691.38
	Bills approved on March 27, 2014	572,465.19
	Total amount to be approved	$1,373,415.07

A motion was by Hutchinson to approve Bills. Seconded by Parry. All in favor.

8). **Communications:**

a) Request from VFW to sell Poppies May 22nd – May 26th

b) Request from PBA for fund raising carnival June 30th – July 3rd at Gloucester High School grounds

c) Request from Brendan Kain to renovate the Lions Rest Stop as his Eagle Scout Project

A motion by Councilman Spencer and seconded by Councilman Johnson to approve all three requests. All in favor.

8. **Open Forum:** The Governing Body has approved the following rules governing the procedures of the Open (General) Public Forum: Any citizen or taxpayer wishing to address the Governing Body may do so after approaching the rail, stating his or her name and address and being recognized by the chair. After all persons wishing to address the Governing Body have had the opportunity, persons may approach the rail for a second and final-minute interval during this session

Jim Kelly, 200 Monmouth Street- questioned if salaries for City employees would exceed the 2% cap.

Marge Keenan, 328 Walnut Street-discussed the latest County senior citizen meeting and the medical alert system for seniors.

Bob Egner, 417 Market Street- let the audience know that the Tree Committee will have 1000 trees to give away to residents on April 5th at the Community Garden.

No other citizens wishing to speak, Open Forum was closed.

Councilman Hutchinson thanks Senator Norcross for his help in getting the sound wall fixed at the park on Nicholson Road.

No other citizens wishing to speak, Open Forum was closed.

9. **Adjournment:**

A motion by Councilman Hutchinson and seconded by Johnson to adjourn the meeting. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm

ATTEST: JACK LIPSETT, INTERIM CITY CLERK