

**MINUTES OF THE ASBURY PARK HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 14, 2020**

The session convened at 6:17 pm with the following persons present:

**Present:**

Chairman Gregory Hopson, Sr.

Vice Chairman Frank Syphax

Commissioner Angeline Brown

Commissioner Charlotte McAllister

Commissioner Garrett Giberson

Commissioner Carol Torre

Commissioner Donna Troppoli

**Also Present:**

Thomas Sahlin, Executive Director

Qaasim Johnson, Director of Housing

Edwin McDonald, Director of Maintenance

David Solomon, Esq., Legal Counsel Associate

Required Public Notice read by: Thomas Sahlin

**NOTICE:** In accordance with the Local Public Meetings Act of 1975 and as *amended*, advanced notice of the meeting including the Agenda, was sent to the local newspapers, delivered to the City Clerk's Office, and posted at all Asbury Park Housing Authority Offices at least (48) hours prior to convening the meeting.

Salute to the Flag led by: Thomas Sahlin

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**(Motion to Open Public Participation moved by Chairman Hopson and seconded by Commissioner Giberson.)**

Thomas Sahlin – Please be advised that there is a three minute rule for speaking. Please give your name and address.

**E. Mignoli, Asbury Park Resident** – Safety and Security Issues and Police Non-Response

Thomas Sahlin – To attempt to address one of your concerns, we entered into a contract with a third-party security company. We had resident security monitors in place for years. Unfortunately, with the pandemic and wanting to keep our residents safe, we had to pull them off of their posts. We did not want out residents to be on the front lines and being exposed to people coming and going. We are still in the process of getting our contractor on site. With the limitations of funding, we wish we could do more but we can't.

Vice Chair Syphax – When will the security come aboard?

Thomas Sahlin – We have a final version of the contract sent over to the contractor. There were some terms and conditions adjusted on the contract itself. Simultaneously, their project manager has been working with their HR department to pull together staffing on their side. I can't give you an exact date when they will start, but they are pulling their people together to get them on site.

Vice Chair Syphax – Will it be before the end of the month?

David Solomon – If I may, if we are going to continue talking about the Security Guard contract, I ask that we go into Executive Session.

**Barbara Yarborough, Washington Village Resident-** Security Guard Stipend

David Solomon – Tom, before you speak, just by the fact that you will be talking about a personnel matter, at the very least was the person speaking an employee of the Housing Authority?

Thomas Sahlin - Not in that sense, no. It was a program that was set of for residents to volunteer and they received a stipend.

David Solomon – Just by the fact that they received a stipend, I would still at the very least ask the individual speaking to waive the ability to have this matter discussed in Executive Session first before it's discussed in Public Session. The board will have the opportunity to discuss this so that her personal matters aren't being discussed for the public to view.

Barbara Yarborough – I would wait for the Executive to discuss it. How would I know when I will be able to speak to someone or when someone will get back to me?

Thomas Sahlin – Yes.

**(Motion to close Public Participation moved by Chairman Hopson and seconded by Commissioner Giberson.)**

#### **ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD AUGUST 10, 2020**

(Approval of the minutes was moved by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Giberson.)

Ayes- Commissioners Brown, Giberson, Troppoli, Torre, Vice Chair Syphax and Chairman Hopson

Opposed- None

Absent- None

Abstain- Commissioner McAllister

#### **ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETING HELD AUGUST 10, 2020**

(Approval of the minutes was moved by Commissioner Giberson, seconded by Commissioner Brown.)

Ayes- Commissioners Brown, Giberson, Troppoli, Torre, Vice Chair Syphax and Chairman Hopson

Opposed- None

Absent- None

Abstain- Commissioner McAllister

#### **RESOLUTION 09-01-2020 - RESOLUTION APPROVING EXPENDITURES FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2020, INCLUDING SECTION 8 EXPENDITURES**

(Acceptance of this Resolution was moved by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner McAllister.)

**(There were no further discussions or comments on this Resolution from the Commissioners.)**

Ayes- Commissioners Brown, McAllister, Giberson, Troppoli, Torre, Vice Chair Syphax and Chairman Hopson

Opposed- None

Absent- None

Abstain- None

#### **RESOLUTION 09-02-2020 - RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ASBURY PARK HOUSING AUTHORITY TO RENEW ITS CONTRACT WITH FLORIO, PERRUCCI, STEINHARDT, CAPPELLI, TIPTON & TAYLOR, LLC. FOR LEGAL SERVICES FOR ONE YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021, SUBJECT TO LEGAL COUNSEL OPINION**

(Acceptance of this Resolution was moved by Chairman Hopson, seconded by Commissioner Giberson.)

**(There were no further discussions or comments on this Resolution from the Commissioners.)**

Ayes- Commissioners Brown, McAllister, Giberson, Troppoli, Torre, Vice Chair Syphax and Chairman Hopson

Opposed- None

Absent- None

Abstain- None

Thomas Sahlin – We have an added starter prepared to *Adopt a Selection and Reorganization* of the Board for the upcoming year.

**(Acceptance of this Added Starter was moved by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner McAllister.)**

Ayes- Commissioners Brown, McAllister, Giberson, Troppoli, Torre, Vice Chair Syphax and Chairman Hopson

Opposed- None

Absent- None

Abstain- None

**(Chairman Hopson motioned to close Public Session and go into Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner McAllister.)**

Ayes- Commissioners Brown, McAllister, Giberson, Troppoli, Torre, Vice Chair Syphax and Chairman Hopson

Opposed- None

Absent- None

Abstain- None

**(Commissioner Giberson motioned to close Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner Torre.)**

**(Chairman Hopson motioned to Re-Open Public Session, seconded by Commissioner Giberson.)**

**Motion to close, moved by Chairman Hopson, seconded by Commissioner Troppoli.**

All in favor.

Meeting Adjourned, 7:20 p.m.

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Thomas Sahlin, Executive Director

Date