

# THE CITY OF SUMMIT

N E W J E R S E Y

CITY HALL 512 SPRINGFIELD AVENUE SUMMIT, NJ 07901

## **Preview of October 18 Common Council meeting agenda by Council President Marjorie Fox**

The next Common Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 18 at 7:30PM in Council Chamber at City Hall.

At this meeting, Fire Chief Eric Evers will provide an update on the Fire Headquarters project. The project has made substantial progress since the last update and Chief Evers will provide details on the construction and project finances.

The Finance Committee will introduce an ordinance to fund an emergency appropriation to provide for Summit's share of the unfunded portion of the Phase I flood mitigation project for the Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties. The Joint Meeting, which was formed in 1898, is currently comprised of 11 member municipalities and operates a wastewater treatment plant for those 11 member municipalities, as well the City of Elizabeth. The Joint Meeting plant suffered flood damage in 2012 as a result of Superstorm Sandy and thereafter, the Joint Meeting began planning for flood mitigation measures to prevent damage to the facility from future storms. The Joint Meeting cannot borrow for its capital projects and must rely on the member municipalities to fund their respective shares of operating and capital expenses. The Joint Meeting received a commitment from FEMA that 90% of the cost of the work would be reimbursed to the municipalities upon completion and the notes were to be issued by the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank, or I Bank. In 2020, the city issued and sold notes to the I-Bank for \$1,790,000 to fund its share of Phase 1 of the project. The project has suffered delays from many causes including COVID-19, the financing process and lengthy delays in receiving permitting approvals from New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. The project finally went out to bid and when bids came back in July 2022, the bids received were substantially more than the amount that was financed through the I-Bank. Those increased costs were attributable to the delays in soliciting bids, increased costs of construction materials and fuel, supply chain issues, and labor shortages. In order to award the contract with the lowest bidder and avoid the need to pay back the funds borrowed from the I-Bank, the Joint Meeting will require additional funds. Summit's allocable share of this increase is \$1,849,545 but the funding amount will be \$2 million to account for Section 20 costs such as fees for bond counsel, financial adviser, and auditor fees. The public hearing will be held on November 14.

Members of the public may comment by email to [cityclerk@cityofsummit.org](mailto:cityclerk@cityofsummit.org).

Comments must be received by noon on October 18. The rules for public comments are posted on the city [website](#). Duplicative or substantially similar comments may be summarized by the clerk and the clerk will stop reading emailed comments after 3 minutes.

Every Common Council meeting is broadcast live on the City of Summit [YouTube Channel](#), and HTTV Verizon channel 30 and Comcast channel 36 and 34.

**To view the complete Common Council agenda, go to:**

[https://www.cityofsummit.org/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/\\_10182022-970?html=true](https://www.cityofsummit.org/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_10182022-970?html=true)

**Next Common Council Meeting:** Tuesday, November 1, 2022 at 7:30PM