

Ordinance

Ordinance No. 5

OF THE
CITY OF ATLANTIC CITY, N.J.

Date...2-21-2024
Date to Mayor.3-21-2024

Approved as to Form and Legality on Basis of Facts Set Forth

Factual contents certified to by

Legislative Counsel/ Robert Tarver, Esq.

/ Robert Tarver, Esq.

Prepared by the Legislative Counsel

Council Member ALL COUNCIL Presents the following Ordinance:

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING GEORGE “BUDDY” GROVER, III WAY
AS THE ADDITIONAL DESIGNATION OF RHODE ISLAND AVENUE
BETWEEN PACIFIC AVENUE & ATLANTIC AVENUE**

WHEREAS, GEORGE “BUDDY” GROVER, III, of Atlantic City, New Jersey, was born September 24, 1927, in Hamilton Square, New Jersey, and attended what is now known as Hamilton High School West. He briefly attended Rutgers University until he received a draft notice in the summer of 1945. **BUDDY** failed the physical and the Army rejected him. Two months later, he joined the Marine Corps and a year after that he received a Navy ROTC scholarship to attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, fitting in well with the gentele Southern lifestyle, often escorting debutantes to cotillion balls; and

WHEREAS, BUDDY was frequently featured in newspapers and magazines and on numerous television and radio stations. He was a beloved figure in tourism as an ambassador for Atlantic City. Being the lighthouse keeper for the Absecon Lighthouse at his age was a novelty that attracted media attention from far and wide, but for those who knew him, it was just the pinnacle of an amazing life; and

WHEREAS, BUDDY worked in the Shelburne Hotel in Atlantic City. Eight years later, at the age of 38, he went to work for the United States Post Office as a letter carrier. **BUDDY** retired from a 22-year career as a mail carrier, having worked every block on every street in every neighborhood in Atlantic City. Decades after he retired at the age of 60, grown men and women recognized him as the mailman they knew from their childhood; and

WHEREAS, BUDDY and his wife, Aurora traveled to exotic places such as South Asia, Australia, New Zealand, Scandinavia and South America and they also spent winter months in her native Spain; and

WHEREAS, Shortly after his wife passed away in 2008, Buddy began volunteering at the Absecon Lighthouse. Soon he was donning a replica of a United States Lighthouse Service keeper's uniform and climbing the 228-steps to the top of the lighthouse on a regular basis. Visitors were always awed when he told them how old he was and he often would joke and say he was the “future ghost of the Absecon Lighthouse”; and

WHEREAS, BUDDY was twice honored as the lighthouse's “Volunteer of the Year”, and he was recognized by the New Jersey Lighthouse Society in 2022 “for outstanding achievement to educate, inform and generate appreciation for lighthouses.” He also served on the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Outside of the lighthouse, **BUDDY** was a natty dresser who enjoyed socializing with friends and putting on his tux to attend gala events such as the Miss America and the Miss'd America pageants; and

WHEREAS, **BUDDY'S** life-long love of organ music led him to volunteer with the Historic Organ Restoration Committee, which is restoring the gigantic pipe organ in the Jim Whelan Boardwalk Hall. He also served on the Historic Organ Restoration Committee Board and was Treasurer of the Southeast Jersey Chapter of the American Guild of Organists; and

WHEREAS, **BUDDY** was a member of Chi Psi Fraternity, a Lifetime Member of the General Alumni Association of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and the National Association of Letter Carriers; and

WHEREAS, **BUDDY** departed this life on January 4, 2024 at the age of 96; and

WHEREAS, The City Council is tasked with the recognition of Atlantic City residents who have made a lasting and immeasurable impact upon the City; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that the City Council hereby wishes to pay tribute to the life and legacy of **GEORGE "BUDDY" GROVER, III** and recognize his outstanding efforts to charm and enlighten thousands of visitors to Atlantic City by designating the corner of Rhode Island Avenue between Pacific Avenue and Atlantic Avenue as **GEORGE "BUDDY" GROVER, III WAY**.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Atlantic City that:

SECTION 1. Rhode Island Avenue between Pacific and Atlantic Avenue shall be additionally designated as **"GEORGE "BUDDY" GROVER, III WAY"**.

SECTION 2. The appropriate City Department or Division shall post proper street signage setting forth the designation stated herein.

SECTION 3. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

March 20, 2024

DO NOT USE SPACE BELOW THIS LINE

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE ON FINAL PASSAGE													
COUNCIL MEMBER	AYE	NAY	N.V	A.B.	MOT.	SEC.	COUNCIL MEMBER	AYE	NAY	N.V.	A.B.	MOT.	SEC.
CROUCH	X					X	SHABAZZ	X				X	
DUNSTON	X						TIBBITT	X					
KURTZ	X						WEEKES	X					
MARSHALL	X						ZIA				X		
RANDOLPH, PRESIDENT								X					
X-Indicates Vote NV-Not Voting AB-Absent MOT-Motion SEC-Second													

Adopted on first reading at a meeting of the Council of the City of Atlantic City, N.J. on ...FEBRUARY 21, 2024.....

Adopted on second and final reading after hearing on...MARCH 20, 2024.....

Approved By.../s/.....*M. Marshall*.....Date...3-22-24.....By Council.....Ride _____

Mayor

Aye

Nay

This is a Certified True copy of the Original Ordinance on file in the City Clerk's Office.

/s/ *Paula Geletei* PAULA GELETEI, City Clerk