

**CITY OF SEA ISLE CITY, NEW JERSEY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2014 – 10:00 AM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
SEA ISLE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL**

ATTENDANCE: Mr. Edwardi, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Kehner, Ms. Tighe and Mr. Divney. Also attending was Mayor Desiderio, Administrator Mr. Savastano and Solicitor Mr. Baldini.

Mr. Divney called the meeting to order and asked everyone to rise for the flag salute and prayer. He then announced the meeting had been advertised in accordance with P. L. 1975, Chapter 231.

Mr. Divney then asked for a motion to adopt the minutes of the 11-25-14 Regular Meeting. Motion moved by Mr. Kehner and seconded by Ms. Tighe. All ayes followed.

REPORTS-Mayor and Administrator: Mayor Desiderio reported on a recent meeting with the Cape May County Engineer, Sheriff, SIC Police Chief and Council Members Edwardi and Gibson regarding the safety concerns on the Sea Isle Boulevard during construction. He went on to say that the County has committed to putting a guard rail on the South side and more reflectors. Also there is a commitment from the State police to strictly enforce the 40 mph speed limit. He also said that the County has informed the City the Blvd. will be the first to be salted or plowed in inclement weather. Ms. Tighe expressed concern that she was on the bridge right after the recent accident on the blvd and there was no police presence on the Sea Isle side directing traffic. Chief D'Intino said there was a misunderstanding that it will be corrected.

The next report by Chief D'Intino was an overview of the 9-1-1 Communication System to be purchased in 2015. He explained that the current system will be 8 years old and the plan was to upgrade prior to Superstorm Sandy. The plan is to purchase the equipment for the new City Hall dispatch Center. Mr. Divney asked if it will incorporate police, fire and ambulance and the Chief said yes, with fire and beach patrol also having their own channel and overflow calls to be handled by Cape May County.

Chief D'Intino also announced that the Landlord/Tenant hearings will be held in mid to late January. He said it will be done in one night as there are only 3-4 cases to be heard.

REPORTS-Council: Mr. Edwardi thanked the Mayor for County meeting and for the guard rail, something he did not think would happen when the meeting was over. Mr. Gibson agreed adding that everyone needs to be patient and part of the solution and slow down.

RESOLUTION NO. 189 – Adopting the 2015-2019 Capital Plan. Mr. Savastano gave an overview of the items included for 2015. He also detailed the school facility explained there is \$750,000 in 2016 for upgrades to the current school. Regarding the construction of a new facility; the cost would be about \$5 million with a tax impact of \$475,000 per year for 14 years. Additionally, to add a pool the cost would be another \$5 million with the same tax impact, and an annual maintenance and operating cost of \$500,000.

Mr. Divney said that nothing is included in 2015 because the City Hall staff will not vacate until the second half of the year and the Planning will address recreation in the master plan re-exam in 2015.

CITIZEN COMMENT-Resolution No. 189:

John Fee-220 43rd St: Asked about the \$600,000 for utility improvements and Mr. Savastano said it was the I&I program and water lines for all roadway reconstruction.

Ann Organ-209 39th St: Asked about the \$90,000 in 2019 for the 9-1-1 communication system and was told it was maintenance/upgrade after 4 years of usage.

Lynn Shirk-209 54th ST: Asked if the Ludlam Bay Landfill is still an open project and Mr. Savastano said yes. She also asked what the promenade lighting is and Mr. Savastano said there is a plan to replace the current lights with decorative lights.

Mr. Divney asked for a motion to adopt resolution no. 189. Motion moved by Mr. Gibson and seconded by Mr. Kehner. All ayes followed.

CITIZEN COMMENT-Resolutions on Consent Agenda:

John Henry-119 45th St: Said that the City should bid the professional service contracts.

RESOLUTIONS-Consent Agenda:

190 – Authorizing Approval of Vouchers

191 – Annual Notice Designating the 2015 City Council Meetings

192 – Establishing the 2015 Holiday Schedule for City Employees

193 – Requesting Permission for the Dedication by Rider (NJSA 40A-39) “Acceptance of Bequests and Gifts Fund” as Permitted by NJSA 40A:5-29

194 – Cancellation of Sewer Excess Charges

195 – Authorizing the Issuance of a License to Conduct Amusement Games (Island Breeze Casino)

196 – Authorizing Award of National Co-Op to Altec for Aerial Bucket Truck

- 197 – Authorizing a Non-Fair and Open Professional Services Contract for Municipal Engineer - 2015
- 198 – Authorizing a Non-Fair and Open Professional Services Contract for Municipal Prosecutor – 2015
- 199 – Authorizing a Non-Fair and Open Professional Services Contract for Public Defender – 2015
- 200 – Authorizing a Non-Fair and Open Professional Services Contract for Hearing Officer
(as needed) – 2015
- 201 – Authorizing a Shared Services Agreement - Township of Middle Court & SIC Municipal Court
Room Video Conferencing System & Maintenance (3 year contract)
- 202 – Authorizing Participation in the State Health Benefits Program for Employees
- 203 – Authorizing Participation in the State Health Benefits for Retirees
- 204 – Authorizing Participation in the State Health Benefits for Domestic Partner Act

Mr. Divney then asked for a motion to approve Resolutions #190 to #204. Motion moved by Ms. Tighe and seconded by Mr. Edwardi. All ayes followed.

PENDING BUSINESS: Mr. Divney said that there have been numerous discussions regarding the proposed brewery and the possibility of amending the ordinance. He then asked the Solicitor to write an ordinance that would allow Council to waive the distance requirements by resolution. Mr. Gibson said that over a month ago, there was no support and it is unfair to the applicant to keep dragging it out, because he still will have to go the Zoning Board; he concluded that there is no sense in asking for an ordinance. Ms. Tighe said she continues to support the brewery and have had citizens express support as well. She went on to say that the Council has always been pro-business and now it is blocking a new business from opening adding that the 1,000 ft. distance rule is archaic suggesting all businesses would like that protection from competition. Mr. Edwardi said he is pro-business but not comfortable with changing the 1,000 feet and asked if the applicant looked at other locations and Mr. Divney said there is only one place in the City that would not be within 1,000 ft. Mr. Kehner also said he is pro-business but the problem is at the State and the enforcement problems with State issued licenses for vineyards, wineries and now the Brewery licenses.

NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business.

CITIZEN COMMENT:

The clerk indicated a letter was received from Kevin McClory, 8401 East Landis Avenue asking to go on record that he is opposed to the brewery.

Phyllis Lynn-8406 Landis Ave: Said she is opposed to the brewery and has heard that the State is considering increasing from 200 ft. to 1,000 ft. like Sea Isle.

John Henry-119 45th St: Expressed concern with bike and pedestrian traffic on the Boulevard during construction. Mr. Gibson said there is consideration to prohibit bikes, but there is a concern because some need to ride bikes to work. Mr. Henry also asked if there will be more lights on the Boulevard and the Mayor said yes. His final question was why there was no flag at the parking lot at the old City Hall site and the Mayor said there was no light.

Doug Adams-14 53rd St: Said he supports the brewery. He then complained that he saw City workers pumping out the drain on the Acme private property lot.

May McGar-137 92nd St: Said that the church at 85th and Landis is opposed to the brewery.

Lynn Shirk-209 54th St: Suggested that if bikes are prohibited, accommodations need to be made for non-drivers getting to work. She then complained that the flag at the firehouse is in disrepair. The Mayor said it was the construction company's flag and it is now removed.

Dan Tumolo-7407 Pleasure: Said he experienced a car coming off the parkway exit in the wrong direction and that there is a need for better lighting.

Ken Merson-120 84th St: Said he is opposed to the brewery and changing the ordinance. He said it will be a parking issue, possible odor issue and the City should respect that there is a church there.

Ann Organ-209 39th St: Said that between 50th & 60th Streets on Landis there was flooding before the storm and Ms. Tighe said there was a high tide, full moon and then a heavy rain event.

Lynn Shirk-209 54th St: Said there is flooding at 54th & Central that never existed before the roadway reconstruction.

Dan Tumolo-7407 Pleasure: Agreed with Ms. Tighe that before the storm, he went to the beach and the tide was extremely high; up to the middle of the dune.

Bill Topley-5909 Central Ave: As the principal in the brewery, he said that he did have a discussion with the pastor at the church who said there are only 11 services per year and he didn't feel he had the right to weigh in. He also suggested checking out the website for questions, especially the process that does not have an odor.

Mike Monichetti-4222 Park Rd: Suggested NJ Transit be contacted as the buses exceed 40 mph on the Boulevard. He also said he saw the accident at the driver was going speeding and perhaps the speed limit should be reduced to 25 mph. He then suggested directional parking signs be installed at the base of the bridge next summer.

Mr. Edwardi said that the County Engineer said he would put the "Your Speed" signs up during construction.

Mr. Divney asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion moved by Ms. Tighe and seconded by Mr. Edwardi. All ayes followed and the meeting adjourned at 11:09 a.m.