

**CITY OF SEA ISLE CITY, NEW JERSEY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2013 – 10:00 AM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
SEA ISLE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL**

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

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

Ms. Tighe then asked for a motion to adopt the minutes of the 9-10-13 Regular Meeting and closed session for content only. Motion moved by Mr. Gibson and seconded by Mr. Divney. All ayes followed.

REPORTS-Mayor and Administrator: Mayor Desiderio presented the Municipal Alliance Committee (MAC) State Volunteer of the Year Award to employee Mark Evangelisti.

The Mayor then left the meeting announcing that he was going to Ocean City to attend a back bay dredging meeting

CFO Mrs. Doll reported that on 9/10/13 bids were taken for a Bond Note sale in the amount of \$10,800,000 and was awarded to TD Securities for an interest rate of .613%.

Mr. Savastano reported announced that the Cape May County Board of Taxation has ordered a revaluation of properties for Sea Isle. He explained that the re-assessment will occur in 2014 & 2015 and the changes would hit the 2016 taxes. He went on to report that a funding ordinance will be introduced in late October or 1st meeting in November to pay for the revaluation and the amendment to the tax maps. The Bond Ordinance will be \$500,000 - \$700,000 and can be paid back over 5 years.

Ms. Tighe asked when the last re-valuation was done and Mr. Savastano said in 2005 & 2006 to affect the 2007 tax bills. Mr. Divney asked what triggers the order and Mr. Savastano said primarily it is anything more than a 10-15% deviation of assessment vs. value. Mr. Baldini added that generally 1/3 of the values go down, 1/3 go up and 1/3 stay the same.

REPORTS-Council: Ms. Tighe announced that a Capital Plan Workshop had been scheduled for 2:00 pm on October 22, 2013. She then asked when the 2014 budget projections will be presented and Mr. Savastano said he would be prepared to provide the information at the 10/8/2013 meeting.

ORDINANCES-Introduction and First Reading: Ms. Tighe asked for a motion to take up ordinance 1553 for introduction and first reading. Motion moved by Mr. Edwardi and seconded by Mr. Kehner. All ayes followed. The clerk read the Ordinance by title: **1553 – An Ordinance of the City of Sea Isle City Authorizing the Acceptance of Land Donation of Block 15.03, Lot 10.01 in Futherance of Chapter XIV, of the Sea Isle City Revised General Ordinance Entitled “Flood Damage Prevention”**. Mr. Baldini explained that the owners of the property at 13th & Landis offered to donate it to the City. The property has been reviewed and inspected by the City Engineer.

Ms. Tighe then asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance 1553 on first reading and publish according to law. Motion moved by Mr. Divney and seconded by Mr. Kehner. All ayes followed and Ms. Tighe announced second reading and public hearing will be 10/22/2013 at 10:00 a.m.

Ms. Tighe asked for a motion to take up ordinance 1554 for introduction and first reading. Motion moved by Mr. Gibson and seconded by Mr. Kehner. All ayes followed. The clerk read the Ordinance by title: **1554 – An Ordinance to Amend Chapters 14 and 26 Flood Damage Prevention and Zoning Ordinances to Maintain the Highest Level of Flood Protection for the City of Sea Isle City**. Mr. Baldini explained that this will adopt height requirements based on the new FEMA maps that were recently released. He further explained that the old maps were compared with the new maps and the ordinance is adopting the most stringent without affecting flood insurance. He went on to explain the differences in A and V zones.

Mr. Gibson thanked the Administration for expediting the ordinance and stated that these heights are for new construction. Mr. Divney asked if existing construction will be penalized and Mr. Baldini said that insurance underwriters will not look at local ordinances and require certificates of elevation based on the FEMA/FIRM regulations. Mr. Kehner expressed concern that the public safety building is identified as P-3 and there may be a problem with the height. Mr. Savastano responded that municipal buildings are exempt.

Ms. Tighe then asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance 1554 on first reading and forward to the Planning Board for its review. Motion moved by Mr. Edwardi and seconded by Mr. Kehner. All ayes followed.

CITIZEN COMMENT ~ Resolutions on Consent Agenda

Ann Organ-209 39th St: Asked for the amount of #141 and Ms. Tighe said \$863,854.33

RESOLUTION – Consent Agenda:

145 – Authorizing Approval of Vouchers

Ms. Tighe then asked for a motion to adopt the resolutions on the consent agenda. Motion moved by Mr. Kehner and seconded by Mr. Edwardi. All ayes followed.

PENDING BUSINESS: Ms. Tighe announced that ordinance regarding the 10 ft. ceiling and % of glass issue on commercial properties will be introduced at the next meeting. She went on to say that based on what has been built the minimum glass will be around 33%-34% and that the ceiling height will be nothing below 10 ft.

Ms. Tighe also reported that the County will be painting stripes at the right turn from JFK onto Park Road. She added that in response to complaints regarding dogs on the beach, she has put a reminder in the e-newsletter about owner clean-up responsibility and leash requirements; however she also learned that enforcement is strong as the Police issued 61 tickets this summer. She then asked that the Chief provided a summer update and Mr. Savastano said it will be 10/22 or 11/12. Ms. Tighe's final report was that she is developing a committee to review mixed-use zoning to include herself, Mr. Divney, the Administrator and the chair of the Zoning and Planning Boards and ultimately members of the real estate and development community.

Mr. Divney asked about the request to have flashing lights on Landis Avenue and Mr. Savastano said that all of the lights have a sensor so traffic does not have to wait long; however, the Chief is discussing with the County the possibly at 33rd and 53rd streets.

Mr. Gibson left the meeting at 10:45 am to attend the back bay dredging meeting in Ocean City.

NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business.

CITIZEN COMMENT:

John Fee-220 43rd: Had several questions regarding the flood elevation ordinance and after some discussion Ms. Tighe suggested anyone with questions should go to the construction officials office and get specific answers regarding their property.

Tom Gleeson-132 51st St: He expressed concern with the V Zone in T.I. where his office is located as it is one of the highest points in the City and asked why it is not an A Zone. Mr. Baldini said that the zones throughout the City are for the greater good to remain in the CRS program and continue to get the resident discount. They continued to debate the issue

Ann Organ-209 39th St: Asked why no one answered her e-mail regarding a trash complaint on her neighbors property also she called code enforcement 3 times and no one returned her call. The Chief said that Code enforcement did go to the property and it was a house clean up for bulk trash and Mr. Divney said he also rode by and assumed it would all be picked up on bulk trash. Mrs. Organ said it was too early as it was 2 weeks prior to bulk trash and an eyesore. She next complained that the light at 44th & Landis cannot be seen if on a bike and suggested a light facing the West should be considered. The Chief responded that if the pedestrian light is pushed the signals can be seen for safe crossing. In conclusion, she asked when the landlord/tenant hearings will be held and Mr. Baldini said they have not been scheduled but will be December or January.

Mike Davis-361 46th Pl: Agreed with the concern at the 44th & Landis light.

Dave Cohan-5011 Marine Pl: Suggested bicyclist should be more responsible as they are considered motor vehicles.

Mike Davis-361 46th Pl: Suggested realtors give out notices regarding dogs on the beach and Mr. Kehner said that they give out an entire package that does include local ordinances like dogs on the beach.

Ms. Tighe asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion moved by Mr. Edwardi and seconded by Mr. Kehner. All ayes followed and the meeting adjourned at 11:17 am.