

**CITY OF SEA ISLE CITY, NEW JERSEY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2011 – 9:00 AM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

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

Council President Tighe called the meeting to order and announced that the meeting had been advertised in accordance with P. L. 1975, Chapter 231.

RESOLUTION NO. 064A – A Resolution Authorizing a Closed Executive Session for the Purpose of Discussing Pending Litigation (Muller v. SIC).

The clerk read the resolution by title and Ms. Tighe asked for a motion to adopt the resolution and go into closed session. Motion Moved by Mr. Kehner and seconded by Mr. Divney. All ayes followed and the meeting adjourned into closed session at 9:05 a.m.

At 10:00 a.m. Council President Tighe called the meeting to order and asked everyone to rise for the flag salute and prayer. She then announced that 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 4-26-11 Regular Meeting. Motion moved by Mr. McHale and seconded by Mr. Kehner. All ayes followed.

Ms. Tighe announced that the agenda included a resolution regarding the defeated school budget and that while member of the school board were present as well as the Superintendent and Administrator, the Council will entertain public comment, not the board. She went on to explain that she, Mr. Edwardi and members of the Administration met with members of the school board and administration.

REPORTS-Mayor and Administrator:

Mayor Desiderio reminded everyone that Community Day will be Saturday, May 21, 2011 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and will include a Bar-B-Que that will provide proceeds for the Ambulance Corps. He then announced that the Tri-for-our-Vets Marathon will be held on May 27, 2011, the Memorial Day Services will be May 30, 2011 at 10:00 a.m., the Grand Opening the of Entertainment Center will be June 4, 2011 with a performance by the Strathmere Ensemble and on June 6, 2011 the City will host the “Payton’s Promise” walk to raise money for CHOP. The Mayor next thanked the Council for Ordinance 1498 and encouraged the passage of the school budget. In conclusion, he stated that the City is working with the shops at the Spinnaker to help promote business along that area of the promenade.

Mr. Savastano reported that the contractor for the marina building had a sub-contractor default on the wall and roof panels and another contractor has been hired, but will unfortunately delay the completion until August 1, 2011. While they are trying to expedite the process, they have been informed that the City will exercise the liquidated damages clause of the contract. The company has paid for the temporary restrooms currently located on the site.

Mr. Savastano next responded to a question at the last meeting regarding the parking kiosks. He reported that the City purchased 20 kiosks for \$150,000. The kiosks will replace 184 meters and add an additional 130 spaces, for which the meters for 130 spaces would have cost approximately \$120,000; however, the operating costs would be about \$10,000 less.

Mr. Savastano then presented the first 2011 beach tag revenue numbers and happily announced that pre-season figures are up approximately \$30,000 over last year.

His final report is that the State will be going out to bid for a Fall beach replenishment of the north end and downtown areas to replace sand lost in the storm last year. The City would fund 100%, but would be reimbursed by the State and FEMA.

REPORTS-Council: Ms. Tighe responded to a question at the last meeting regarding the weight limitation on Central Avenue. She stated she met with the Chief and learned that the limit is 4 tons and it is strictly enforced. She next reported that Fox Philly 17 has put out its “Jersey Shore Hot List” and many Sea Isle categories have won, most significantly 1st for best beach and 2nd for best town. She then read several categories and local business winners. In conclusion, she announced the Council will hold a zoning issues workshop at 2:00 p.m. today in council chambers.

Mr. Divney added to the Mayor’s report regarding the Spinnaker Shops stating the Chamber and Revitalization have also been meeting with the Spinnaker Shops.

Mr. McHale announced that the Beautification Committee will be meeting tomorrow at 2:00 p.m. the Environmental Commission Turtle Party is Sunday, May 22, 2011 from 6 – 10 pm.

ORDINANCES – Second Reading and Public Hearing: Ms. Tighe asked for a motion to take up ordinance 1498 for seconding reading and public hearing. Motion moved by Mr. Edwardi and seconded by Mr. Kehner. All ayes followed. The clerk read the ordinance by title: **1498 – An Ordinance to Amend the Revised General Ordinances of the City of Sea Isle City Chapter 3, Section 4.8 Entitled “ Prohibited Acts” to Provide for an Additional Noise Free Zone Within the City.** Mr. Baldini offered an explanation of the ordinance.

CITIZEN COMMENT: There was no citizen comment on ordinance 1498.

Ms. Tighe then asked for a motion to adopt ordinance 1498 on second reading. Motion moved by Mr. McHale and seconded by Mr. Edwardi. All ayes followed.

RESOLUTION No. 065 - A Resolution Regarding the City of Sea Isle City Defeated School Budget. Ms. Tighe then opened the meeting up for citizen comment on resolution #065

CITIZEN COMMENT ~ School Budget:

Marita Bretzke-4904 Pleasure Ave: Asked what will the Council cut from this budget and what will be cut in the 2012/2013 school year as the Board has indicated it will not meet its costs under the new CAP and is considering eliminating Pre-K. Ms. Tighe said that after meeting with the Board members, she is convinced this year’s budget is bare bones and she will not support a cut. The Pre-K elimination in future years is a School Board decision not a Council decision; however, the Board is working on a plan for 2013 regarding the CAP issue and do have options available. Mr. Edwardi added that he will also not vote to cut the budget and opposes the elimination of Pre-K.

Seeing no other citizen comment, Ms. Tighe closed the comment section and asked Council for comments. Mr. Edwardi reiterated that the budget is lean and there are no cuts that would not affect the education of the Children and Mr. Divney agreed and asked if a referendum is possible to exceed the CAP. Mr. Kehner asked if the Board was doing any study regarding the future of the school. Mr. McHale suggested several feasibility studies have been done over the years and many changes have been made, but more can be done such as partnering with the school for the use of the facility. He added that he would not support eliminating Pre-K. Ms. Tighe cautioned that the public use of the school is a security issue.

Superintendent, Dr. Taylor indicated that the Board continues to reach out to the Department of Education and seek partnerships with Ocean City for Shared Services. Currently the plan is to reduce staff through attrition and investigating revenue ideas to help with the CAP. Administrator Mr. Grossi stated that a 2% CAP referendum is possible, but it cannot include mandated items. Mr. Kehner asked if the Board is considering a lawsuit against the State and Mr. Grossi said it would not be in the best interest of the City, but the Board does collaborate with the State Associations that are fighting the issue.

Ms. Tighe then asked for a motion to adopt Resolution #065, which will make no change to the defeated school budget. 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 and received an explanation of #066 and #070.

RESOLUTION – Consent Agenda:

- 066** Authorizing Various Refunds of Overpayments
- 067** Authorizing the Approval of Vouchers
- 068** Authorizing Fireworks Display (July 4 and December 31)
- 069** Authorizing the Purchase of a Pick-up Truck for the Police Department from State Contract (\$21,755.00)
- 070** Authorizing Change Order No. 1 for Reconstruction of the Boat Ramp
- 071** Authorizing an Amendment to the Award of a Fair and Open Professional Services Contract for Engineering/Architectural Services (*Exercising one year extension option*)
- 072** Authorizing the Award of Contract for Water & Sewer Pipes and Fittings

Ms. Tighe then asked for a motion to adopt the resolutions on the consent agenda #066 - #072. Motion moved by Mr. McHale and seconded Mr. Edwardi. All ayes followed.

PENDING BUSINESS: Ms. Tighe announced the 2:00 workshop regarding zoning issues.

Mr. McHale asked if anything has been done regarding the suggestion to prohibit parking on the West Side of Landis in the North End and Ms. Tighe said she briefly spoke with the Chief and will set up a meeting to further discuss.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Edwardi suggested West Jersey Avenue be re-named Laricks Lane in honor of the family that has occupied the corner of Landis and West Jersey for many years. All agreed to place it on the next agenda.

CITIZEN COMMENT:

Ellen Ramsey-2201 Landis Ave: Complained that the flooding on Landis in the North End has increased, apparently due to construction vehicles parking and compromising the wetlands.

Dave Helfrich-21 36th St: Asked about the demolition of the property on Sounds Avenue and the Gazebo and Mr. Baldini said the hearing was scheduled for 6/16/11 on Sounds Avenue and the City is proceeding with the tear down of the Gazebo. He then asked about the sign violation at Brizzles, a construction vehicle at 35th & Landis and if the pavilion on the promenade complies with the height restriction. Mr. Baldini said that the pavilion complies and Ms. Tighe said she would ask the administration to look into the other questions.

Dina Korber-121 90th St: Supports honoring the Laricks family and asked if tickets are issued to cars that park in driveways and over-hang onto sidewalks and Chief D'Intino said officers do have discretion, however, that situation does warrant a ticket.

Irene Jamison-1500 Landis Ave: Thanked the Council for removing the podium.

Ann Organ-209 39th St: Regarding the Noise Free zones, the judge has indicated there is no Community Service in Sea Isle. Mr. Baldini said that he would talk with the Judge as the program is run through the County, but the service is done in Sea Isle. She then complained that there are still limited programs for teens as suggested to the Recreation Department last year.

Meg Lennon-18 87th St: Asked if there was a citizen committee formed to look at outsourcing trash as suggested at the last meeting. Ms. Tighe said there was no committee formed as the suggestion was to hire an outside firm to do a study

Mike Monichetti-4222 Park Rd: Announced that the "Walk for Autism" grossed \$79,300 with a net of \$49,800, most of which will remain local in Cape May County. He then congratulated Mr. Edwardi and Mr. Kehner on the recent election and complained about some of the mailings from their opponents. He said that he felt the cartoons were offensive to the business community and his Italian heritage and it was distasteful to criticize Mr. Edwardi for his attendance when he was with his father who was fighting cancer.

Mr. McHale responded that the election is over and everyone needs to move forward, however, he takes offense to Mr. Monichetti's accusation regarding his Italian heritage as his wife is Italian and that makes his children half-Italian.

Ellen Ramsey-2201 Landis Ave: Stated that the mailings are a constitutional right to freedom of speech.

Ms. Tighe asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion moved by Mr. McHale and seconded by Mr. Divney. All ayes followed and the meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.

Cindy L. Griffith, City Clerk