

**CITY OF SEA ISLE CITY, NEW JERSEY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2012 – 9:00 AM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. 185– A Resolution Authorizing a Closed Executive Session for the Purpose of Discussing Pending Litigation (Retirees v. SIC).

Mr. Kehner asked for a motion to adopt the resolution and go into closed session. Motion moved by Ms. Tighe and seconded by Mr. Edwardi. All ayes followed and the meeting adjourned into closed session at 9:02 am.

At 10:00 a.m., Council President Kehner called the meeting to order and asked everyone to rise for the flag salute and prayer. He then announced that the meeting had been advertised in accordance with P. L. 1975, Chapter 231.

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

Mr. Kehner then asked for a motion to adopt the minutes of the 10-09-12 Regular Meeting. Motion moved by Mr. McHale and seconded by Ms. Tighe. All ayes followed.

REPORTS-Mayor and Administrator: Mr. Savastano reported the 2013 preliminary budget projection will be about 2 cents on the tax levy. He emphasized the projection was preliminary as the Department Heads will not make budget presentations to the Mayor until November 30, 2012 and the Mayor is expected to present the budget with the State of the City address on 1/8/13. He went on to say that the Utility Budget projections cannot be made at this time as payments are still being collected; however a rate increase may be necessary.

Mr. Divney confirmed that ½ of the projected 2 cent increase is debt service and Mr. Savastano said yes.

Mr. Savastano next reported on the summer sewage flows that was requested at a previous meeting. He indicated that the July & August flows were the highest ever at 2,397,000 gallons which is right on the edge of the City's allocation and that a meeting with the MUA confirmed that it is amending the wastewater management plan county-wide and that Sea Isle will be requesting an increase in its allocation.

Architect, Bob Garrison next provided an update on the on-going facilities study. He explained that to date, he has been gathering data regarding needs and that the next update will be in the first quarter of 2013 and would include recommendations and costs. He then identified all of the departments and facilities and provided the needs of each. He went on to say that the public safety building has immediate needs that must be addressed by renovation or constructing a new facility. The other item identified was a gym and while the City continues to use the gym at the school, the need is not as immediate. Mr. Garrison went on record to say that he believes it is in the best interest of the City to obtain the school, however, it cannot be included in the equation of the study because there is no time line on if or when that may occur.

Mr. McHale indicated that he feels the City should enter into negotiations with the school board to get the school as he believes the biggest concern is that the City would sell the property. Mr. Divney responded that he felt we should not agree to anything long term. Mr. Savastano concluded by stating that the purpose of the study is to discuss the future needs of the City and that there is no rush as the City continues to operate, adding that the most immediate need is the Public Safety Building.

REPORTS-Council: Mr. Edwardi announced that the 5 and 6 year old soccer team went undefeated this year.

Mr. McHale announced that the reflectors now being seen around fire hydrants are the product of an Eagle Scout project. He also complimented the Halloween Parade and dance party.

Mr. Kehner announced that there will be a 2:00 p.m. workshop to discuss the capital plan. Also, the next meeting on 11/13/12 will be at 10:00 a.m., not 6:00 p.m. as originally scheduled due to a conflict with the Planning Board.

ORDINANCES – Introduction and First Reading:

Mr. Kehner asked for a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 1528 for first reading. Motion moved by Ms. Tighe and seconded by Mr. Edwardi. All ayes followed. The clerk read the ordinance by title: **1528 – An Ordinance**

to Amend the Revised General Ordinances of the city of Sea Isle City Chapter 12 “Property Maintenance” to Create a New Section Entitled “Maintenance of Commercial Property” and Require that the Windows and Doors of Vacant or Closed Commercial Buildings be Covered with Acceptable Window Coverings. Mr. Baldini explained that this is the ordinance requested by the Mayor to ensure the commercial areas remain festive and lively year-round even when the business is closed.

Mr. Kehner then asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance 1528 on first reading and publish according to law. Motion moved by Ms. Tighe and seconded by Mr. Edwardi. All ayes followed.

Mr. Kehner asked for a motion to introduce Ordinance 1529 for first reading. Motion moved by Mr. Divney and seconded by Mr. McHale. All ayes followed. The clerk read the ordinance by title: **1529 – An Ordinance Amending Bond Ordinance No. 1463 of the City of Sea Isle City, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey, Heretofore Adopted on the 27th Day of January, 2009 and Entitled Bond Ordinance Appropriating \$4,380,000 and Authorizing the Issuance of \$4,161,000 in Bonds and Notes of the City of Sea Isle City for the Various Improvements or Purposes Authorized to be Undertaken by the City of Sea Isle City, New Jersey.** Mr. Savastano explained that this will amend an existing bond ordinance to use \$250,000 to purchase a trash truck and a new computer server.

Mr. Kehner then asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance 1529 on first reading and publish according to law. Motion moved by Mr. Edwardi and seconded by Mr. Divney. All ayes followed.

Mr. Kehner asked for a motion to introduce Ordinance 1530 for first reading. Motion moved by Ms. Tighe and seconded by Mr. Divney. All ayes followed. The clerk read the ordinance by title: **1530 – An Ordinance of the City of Sea Isle City Authorizing the Acceptance of Land Donation Of Block 19.03, Lot 1, In Furtherance of Chapter XIV of the Sea Isle City Revised General Ordinances Entitled “Flood Damage Prevention” (Mitros).** Mr. Baldini explained that this is another land donation that was delayed, however, the taxes have been paid and the City can now accept the land donation.

Mr. Kehner then asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance 1530 on first reading and publish according to law. Motion moved by Ms. Tighe and seconded by Mr. McHale. All ayes followed.

Mr. Kehner announced that second reading and public hearing for Ordinances 1528, 1529 & 1530 will be 11-13-12 at 10:00 am.

CITIZEN COMMENT-Resolutions on Consent Agenda: There was no citizen comment on the resolutions.

RESOLUTION – Consent Agenda:

- 186 – Authorizing the Approval of Vouchers
- 187 – Authorizing Advertisement of Bids for Skate Park
- 188 – Authorizing Approval of a Raffle Application {Bishop McHugh 50/50}
- 189 – Authorizing Approval of a Raffle Application {Bishop McHugh Casino Night}
- 190 – Authorizing Cancellation of W & S Balances

Mr. Kehner asked for a motion to adopt resolution #186 to #190. Motion moved by Ms. Tighe and seconded by Mr. Edwardi. All ayes followed.

PENDING BUSINESS: Ms. Tighe asked for the status of 204 Sounds Avenue as it has been over a year since the attorney asked for time to get a CAFRA permit. Mr. Baldini said he would follow up on the matter.

Mr. Divney suggested discussion on the draft language received by the Solicitor regarding a fully enclosed structure as it relates to the outside bars. Mr. McHale said that he felt the structure should include language that it must be “solid” so that items cannot be passed through and all agreed. Regarding the no more than 50% of the licensed premise can be the outside bar, Ms. Tighe suggested that the definition of the actual building must be clear, i.e. not just “covered by a permanent roof” because several of the outside bars also have a roof. Discussion regarding the vestibule in the transition area between the inside and outside bar lead to several concerns that some bars cannot do, however all agreed to have Mr. Baldini provide a draft ordinance for review and discussion.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Divney addressed a letter from a resident opposing the use of car lifts due to safety and esthetics. All agreed not to decide based on safety and that prohibiting in the residential zones was acceptable. Mr. Edwardi felt strongly that they should be permitted in the Commercial zones and Mr. McHale and Ms. Tighe said they would consider allowing in Commercial zones as long as they are enclosed. Mr. Baldini will craft an ordinance for review.

CITIZEN COMMENT:

Lynn Shirk-209 54th St: Regarding the car lifts, she suggested consideration be given to the salt air and possible mechanical issues.

Steve Trulli-137 67th St: Asked Council to consider a synthetic ice skating rink at dealy field. He said that preliminary costs estimates are about \$75,000.00. He suggested a snack bar as well to raise money to offset the cost and to allow business to purchase boards for advertising.

Joe McDevitt-25 66th St: Asked if the school could be used as a fitness center with a pool and suggested artificial turf for Excursion Park.

Rick Wiener-5400 Pleasure Ave: Suggested a trunk-or-treat during the Halloween Parade.

Dave Helfrich-21 36th St: Asked if the 10% of the profits from Gillian's has been paid for 2012 and Mr. Savastano said no, but he would get the number by the next Council meeting.

Irene Jameson-1500 Landis Ave: Said that she likes Mr. Divney but that he should not negotiate with the School Board as she feels he does not have good relationship because he would not write a letter to the State supporting closing the school. Mr. Edwardi said that he acted on behalf of the Council as no one wanted to send a letter to the State.

Ann Organ-209 39th St: Said that Town Watch/Town Pride is seeking volunteers for the winter surveillance program.

Steve Hansbury-5712 Central Ave: Asked that the Council keep debt service in mind at the afternoon workshop as well as consideration for a handicap beach and also asked if the public could speak after each section.

Steve Trulli-137 67th St: Regarding the capital plan workshop, he suggested signs on the jetty as they are a hazard at high tide.

Mr. Kehner asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion moved by Ms. Tighe and seconded by Mr. Edwardi. All eyes followed and the meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

Cindy L. Griffith, City Clerk