

**CITY OF SEA ISLE CITY, NEW JERSEY
COUNCIL WORKSHOP MINUTES
2015 – 2019 CAPITAL PLAN DISCUSSION
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2014 - 1:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

ATTENDANCE: Mr. Edwardi, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Kehner. Ms. Tighe and Mr. Divney. Also attending was Administrator Mr. Savastano and CFO Mrs. Doll.

Council President Divney called the workshop to order and asked everyone to rise for the flag salute. He announced that the meeting had been advertised in accordance with public law 1975, chapter 231.

Mr. Divney then explained that the process will be that the Council and Administration will review the items that are new or changed to the Plan then at the end of the workshop, the public will have the opportunity to speak on any topic.

CFO, Ms. Doll began by providing the financial statement and debt on current bonds. She also explained that in Sea Isle the average assessment is \$720,000 and the one-penny on the tax rate equals \$485,000 or \$70.00 per year on the average assessment.

Mr. Savastano next highlighted the items and estimated costs of the changes made in this 5-year plan from the last one:

Equipment and Vehicles: \$800,000 for a new fire truck in 2015 (replaces a 1996)
\$ 75,000 for a new pick-up truck and skid pumper in 2016

Ms. Tighe asked what the trade-in value was for the 1996 truck and Mr. Savastano said he would find out. Mr. Divney asked if the fire department was getting what it needed and Mr. Edwardi said it was and that the skid pumper is a necessity. All agreed to move \$20,000 for the pumper to 2015

Beach, Bay & Promenade: \$1,000,000 for beach fill maintenance in 2019
\$ 200,000 for bulkheads in 2015 (80th & 93rd Streets)

Ms. Tighe asked if the \$30,000 designated for beach signs will suffice in 2015 and Mr. Savastano said he will re-visit the amount and discuss with the Chief. Mr. Divney asked about the landfill funds moving out to 2017 and Mr. Savastano said due to the environmental conditions, the passive park idea will not happen.

Facilities and Buildings: \$150,000 in 2015 to increase the number and improve the crosswalks on Central and Pleasure Avenues using thermoplastic for longevity
\$50,000 in 2015 and \$750,000 in 2016 for 4501 Park Road – improvements to the school, gym and grounds

Mr. Divney indicated that he would like the crosswalks to be done before next summer and Mr. Savastano said that the funding ordinance timing may not be possible. He then asked Mr. Savastano for the costs if the school was demolished and a new facility was built. Mr. Savastano said that demolition and construction of a new recreation facility would be \$3 - \$5 million. To build an indoor pool, another \$4 - \$5 million; with estimated maintenance and operating costs of \$500,000 annually. Mr. Edwardi said he supports renovating the school and gym and building a pool in the back.

Operations/Office Equipment: \$400,000 in 2015 for an emergency 911 Systems
\$ 50,000 in 2015 for police digital mobile radio

Mr. Savastano said that a presentation will be made for both of these items. Mr. Divney asked if the radio system will be integrated with the fire department and ambulance squad as well as with Cape May County for possible consolidation and Mr. Savastano said yes, but it will be addressed in the presentation. Mr. Divney suggested the City look for alternatives for shared services with other municipalities or the county.

Mr. Divney next addressed the debt service, indicating that other than the new city hall which was unplanned, the debt planning has been on target. Mr. Kehner said that he agreed with Mr. Edwardi to renovate the school and add a pool, but there needs to be an engineering structural report done on the piling before any renovations. Mr. Divney agreed adding that to make an informed decision, he asked the Administration what recreation services are currently provided and what could be provided with a recreation facility and knowing that the pool would cost 2 cents a year. Mr. Edwardi suggested seeking possible recreation grants. To conclude, Mr. Divney indicated that it is clear the consensus is that the school facility/area shall be for recreational purposes.

PUBLIC COMMENT-Facilities and Buildings:

Stacey Olandt - 216-45th St: Expressed support for a pool.

Jeri Musselman-234 85th St: Supports a new facility with a pool and presented possible uses for both.

Linda Layton-4445 Venicean Rd: Expressed support for a new facility with a pool and suggested the City send out a questionnaire to poll the residents.

Steve Hansbury-5712 Central Ave: Asked what the projected debt will be in 2019 and Mr. Divney said about \$96 million.

Ann Organ-209 39th St: Said that in March, 2010 a meeting held with the children indicated that they all wanted a recreation facility. She then questioned the need for new vehicles, specifically a fire truck.

John Henry-119 45th St: Said that a new PA system was needed in the current Council Chambers. He then suggested that fees and memberships will not pay for the ongoing costs of a pool and as a taxpayer bearing the burden, he does not feel he should have to pay a fee as well.

Joe Meier-117 92nd St: Said that the peak population occurs in 2 months and to ask 7,000 taxpayers to support the cost of a pool is not governments responsibility and agrees that fees and memberships will never cover the on going operating burden.

Dan Tumolo-7407 Pleasure Ave: Said that the Board of Education did a piling study four years ago and all necessary repairs were done to the building. He added that he supports renovating the school and that demographics will drive what programs could be offered.

Sheila Rule-243 85th St: Said that fundraisers would be done for purchasing accessories and that the community is willing to help offset costs.

Ms. Tighe interjected that the Recreation Commission needs to be involved and Mr. Divney agreed adding that he will serve as the liaison and attend the next meeting. Mr. Edwardi agreed but stated infrastructure is governments job and the City owns the building and should renovate it for all to use.

At 2:20 pm, Mr. Edwardi left the meeting.

Lynn Shirk-209 54th St: Suggested that parents need to be more involved

Mr. Divney then asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion moved by Ms. Tighe and seconded by Mr. Kehner. All ayes followed and the meeting adjourned at 2:22 p.m.