

**CITY OF SEA ISLE CITY, NEW JERSEY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2015 - 10:00 A.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
SEA ISLE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL**

ATTENDANCE: Mr. Gibson, Mr. Kehner, Ms. Tighe and Mr. Divney. Also attending was Administrator Mr. Savastano, Solicitor Mr. Baldini and Engineer Mr. Previti. **ABSENT:** Mr. Edwardi

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 3/10/2015 Regular Meeting. Motion moved by Ms. Tighe and seconded by Mr. Kehner. All ayes followed.

REPORTS-Mayor and Administrator: Mr. Savastano reviewed the process of the construction of a mono pole cell tower at Dealy Field stating that while the year-long process has been open and transparent there was a request at the last meeting to provide an informational session at this meeting.

Mr. Divney agreed that questions have been raised now that the process is getting started.

Mr. Baldini gave a historical overview of cell antennas on the 40th & 80th Street water towers and now a request has been made to place one in the center of the City. He then provided information and corresponding time frames for the request from Verizon, the City Council presentation, Recreation Committee presentation, bid process, award to Verizon and its application to the Planning Board. He also indicated the amount of revenue over 25 years would be about \$1.4 million from Verizon. If two additional cell carriers added antennas, the revenue could increase to \$4.8 million.

Mr. Previti next explained that the Planning Board requested information regarding radio frequency emissions and 2 reports were submitted along with the engineers report regarding the tower foundation.

Verizon Attorney Warren Stoloff explained that it is common practice for cell carriers to approach municipalities for use of land and that radio frequency emission concerns are always a concern, but they are completely controlled by federal regulation. He then introduced Dave Collins of Pinnacle Telecom Group who did the independent report presented to the Planning Board. He explained that the maximum permissible exposure accepted by the Federal regulations is very low and that the report indicates within 500 ft. of the pole, the maximum emission is more than 45 times below the standard maximum. He added that in comparison, the average kitchen has higher (3% to 7%) radio frequency emissions than cell towers and a baby monitor has about 25% more than a cell tower, but all within the federal standard. Ms. Tighe said there was some concern with fire and Mr. Collins explained that the pole is metal with a grounding and lightning rod on top, but if there was a fire there are only fiber optic wires that would burn itself out. Mr. Gibson asked about the height and Mr. Baldini said it is 65 feet, but can go up to 90 feet if other carriers approach the city in the future.

Mr. Previti addressed the concern of the weight of the lights saying that the foundation is being designed to have the 90 feet and the lights. Ms. Tighe asked about the pole currently at Dealy Field with an antennae and Mr. Previti said it was the repeater system for Police and Fire.

Representing Verizon, Claire Donato explained that when a community has high demands it blocks users, so calls cannot be made. The two locations on the water towers cannot accommodate the heavy use in the summer months and when there is an overload, the system cannot tell if a 9-1-1 call is being made or a regular call for a taxi at a bar. She went on to explain that the center of the City is in need of more capacity for Verizon users; it did not create the problem, the Sea Isle growth, progress and development created the demand.

CITIZEN COMMENT:

Anthony Edwardi-7200 Central Ave: Said there were many articles that describe the affects of radio frequency emissions and that he understands the FCC Regulations do not give Cities the right to fight, but there are towns that live green and prohibit the use of cell phones, etc. He next expressed concerns with decreasing property values, the ability for the pole to withstand wind and flooding. Mr. Previti said the pole will be built to withstand 115 mph winds and the building will be a flood elevation level. Mr. Edwardi then had a discussion with Andrew Peterson, Verizon's Radio Frequency expert regarding the distance necessary between towers, i.e. Edwardi suggested putting a pole out on the Parkway. In conclusion he stated that cell phones are bad and he provided pictures of towers on fire and that there are things citizens can do to "de-radio frequency".

Christina Weiler-74th St: Asked about the height and if the antennae would be 2G, 4G or 5G and Mr. Previti said it would be 65 feet and Andrew Peterson said it would be a panel style antennae that would be a 4G facility. She then expressed concerns with migrating birds being killed and that there are some voluntary guidelines that Verizon could implement to reduce the effects on the birds.

Dave Helfrich-21 36th St: Had several questions regarding AMPS per channel and Mr. Peterson responded.

Mike Monichetti-213 43rd St: Asked about a pole on 43rd street that has been there for 30-40 years. Mr. Divney asked that the topic stay on point regarding the Dealy Field pole.

Christina Weiler-74th St: Stated that the International Fire Station group will not permit antennae on the roof due to the fire and emissions potential.

Lynn Shirk-209 54th St: Asked if it could be turned off in the winter and the answer was no.

At 11:50 a.m. Mr. Divney called for a 10 minute break. The meeting reconvened at 12:00 noon.

REPORTS-Council: Mr. Divney reported that the Master Plan process is continuing and that public meetings will be scheduled in the near future.

ORDINANCE-Introduction and First Reading: Mr. Divney asked for a motion to take up Ordinance 1578 for introduction and first reading. Motion moved by Ms. Tighe and seconded by Mr. Kehner. All ayes followed. The Clerk read the Ordinance by title: **1578 – An Ordinance to Amend the Revised General Ordinances of the City of Sea Isle City, Chapter 4 Entitled “General Licensing” Relating to Regulations of Taxicabs and all Vehicles for Hire; Creating a Regulatory Framework for Operation of Vehicles for Hire; Declaring Certain Conduct to be Unlawful for Vehicles Engaged in the Business of Carrying Passengers for Hire and the Owners and Drivers Thereof and Providing Penalties for Violations Thereof.** Mr. Baldini explained that this will regulate “Uber” or internet taxi service within the City.

Mr. Divney then asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1578 on first reading and publish according to law. Motion moved by Ms. Tighe and seconded by Mr. Gibson. All ayes followed.

Mr. Divney asked for a motion to take up Ordinance 1578 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: **1579 – An Ordinance to Amend the Revised General Ordinances of the City of Sea Isle City, Chapter 7 Entitled “Traffic” Regulating the Speed Limit on Venicean Road and Pleasure Avenue and Designating One-Way Traffic on the Entire Length of Pleasure Avenue.** Mr. Savastano explained this is the result of the Committee’s review of traffic issues.

Mr. Divney then asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1579 on first reading and publish according to law. Motion moved by Ms. Tighe and seconded by Mr. Gibson. All ayes followed.

Mr. Divney announced second reading and public hearing for Ordinances 1578 & 1579 will be 4/28/15.

CITIZEN COMMENT~ Resolutions on Consent Agenda: There was no public comment on the resolutions.

RESOLUTION – Consent Agenda:

- 048** – Authorizing the Approval of Vouchers
- 049** – Authorizing Award of Bid for Towing, Storage and Lockout Services
- 050** – Opposing the Department of Interior’s Inclusion of the Atlantic Ocean in Its Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Draft Proposed Program (Five Year Program) for 2017-2022
- 051** – Authorizing a Contract Amendment for the Award of Emergency Contract
- 052** – Authorizing the Filing of the 2014 Tonnage/Recycling Report
- 053** – Authorizing Award of State Contract – Data/Phone Connectivity for New City Hall
- 054** – Authorizing Award of Contract for Sports Clothing
- 055** – Authorizing a Professional Service Contract for IT Consulting Services
- 056** – Declaration of Surplus Property Due to Super Storm Sandy

Mr. Divney next asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda, Resolutions #048 to #056. Motion moved by Mr. Kehner and seconded by Mr. Gibson. All ayes followed.

PENDING BUSINESS: There was no pending business.

NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business.

CITIZEN COMMENT:

Steve Hansberry-5712 Central Ave: Said there is no new information on the website regarding the beach fill, yet there is equipment on the beaches. Mr. Divney said it was reported at the last meeting that mobilization has begun and Mr. Savastano said it is being brought in at 57th Street and will be staged there temporarily.

Christina Weiler-74th St: Confirmed that Ordinance 1579 will reduce the speed limit on Pleasure Avenue to 15 mph and then asked what time construction is permitted to begin and was told 7:00 a.m.

Sheila Ruhl-85th St: Complained that bicycles are a problem and the lack of enforcement is an issue. She went on to suggest educating tourist, by creating a brochure about bicycle laws and safety to be distributed by the realtors, at the welcome center etc. Ms. Tighe said that there is a balance between enforcement and ticketing vs. letting people have fun and that information has been included in the e-newsletter.

Bill Wilson-55th St: As a CMC Bridge toll collector, he complained that jitneys drop off riders at the base of the bridge and they have to walk over to Avalon. He asked that consideration be given to allow the jitneys to take them over the bridge.

Mike Monichetti-4222 Park Rd: Agreed with the bike problem, but the zoning without required parking has added to the problem because more people are riding bikes. He next said that he attended the Off-shore drilling symposium in Atlantic City and voiced his concern with the seafood industry as well as the tourism industry that could be affected. Mr. Gibson said that the Council just adopted a resolution (#050) Opposing the plan for offshore drilling and asked the Clerk to read it in full.

Lynn Shirk-209 54th St: Complained about the sand on the Blvd. project blowing against the cars. Mr. Savastano said he would talk to the County about the issue. She also suggested prohibiting bikes on the blvd. will be a problem.

Mr. Divney asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion moved by Ms. Tighe and seconded by Mr. Kehner. All ayes followed and the meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m.