

**APRIL 9, 2020**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Cape May Point was called to order by Clerk Wallace at 6:00 PM. The Open Public Meetings Statement was read by the Clerk who then led those present in the flag salute. Mayor Moffatt, Commissioner Mullock and Commissioner vanHeeswyk answered roll call. Also in attendance: Administrator Steve O'Connor, Clerk Elaine Wallace, and Solicitor Brock Russell. This meeting was held via teleconference under local operational guidance from the NJDCA , pursuant to P.L. 2020, c.11.

**COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:**

Commissioner Mullock reported the Ocean/Pavilion/Central road project was completed on time. He, Bill Gibson and Bruce Graham walked the project and found a few items that need to be corrected. An area on West Lake along Lake Lily was disrupted during construction and will be replanted. Mr. Mullock also reported the Pearl/Brainard/Yale project is moving along and there shouldn't be any interference for the June 20<sup>th</sup> Fire Company run, although it is unclear if that race will still be held because of COVID-19. Public Works removed the shoulder asphalt at the Coral/Lighthouse intersection in addition to the E. Lake/Lighthouse one, which are temporary measures until the County does the real projects. Mr. Mullock reported snow fencing on the beaches were once again successful in capturing sand this winter. He also commented that while Lake Lily may still look a little bare, more plants are coming. The commissioner then reported he had given the Audubon Society permission to continue the annual bird count on the Coral Avenue beach crossover because he did not want to miss a year of the critical scientific data, which could reflect what is happening in the world now and whether the novel coronavirus will have any effect on the bird populations. Lastly, he mentioned the new sewer caps installed during the latest road project are a throwback to the old one that contain fish logo and will be updated to include "Borough of Cape May Point" on them as required in the specifications. Commissioner vanHeeswyk agreed they look very nice.

Commissioner vanHeeswyk explained resolution 57-20 will authorize a watershed management plan to be conducted by Stockton Coastal Research Center on behalf of Cape May Point along with Cape May City and West Cape May. By joining with our neighboring towns, doing it will be affordable and will help the Borough with its CRS program. She also reported on the most recent executive order that limits construction activities

Mayor Moffatt announced the Borough is planning to sell preseason beach tags via mail only this year from now through May 31<sup>st</sup>. There is still uncertainty surrounding when the beaches will reopen and how that will be handled with regard to beach tag pricing. Pulling together everything and everyone for this summer may be more challenging than usual. Dr. Moffatt also thanked the Borough employees who are working through this crisis and well as the residents for abiding by the strict

regulations. He also advised observant neighbors to call the police when they see someone violating the executive orders.

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

February 25, 2020 Work Session

March 10, 2020 Work Session

March 12, 2020 Regular Meeting

March 24, 2020 Work Session

*Motions: Mullock, vanHeeswyk*

*Roll call: all in favor*

**ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION/PUBLICATION:** None

**RESOLUTIONS:**

57-20 Authorizing the Execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement with Stockton Coast Research Center for Development of a Watershed Management Plan for Cape May Point, NJ

*Motions: vanHeeswyk, Moffatt*

*Roll call: all in favor*

58-20 Pledging Borough Support of New Jersey's Wildlife Action Plan

*Motions: Mullock, vanHeeswyk*

*Roll call: all in favor*

59-20 Approval of Bill List

*Motions: vanHeeswyk, Moffatt*

*Roll call: all in favor*

**ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING:**

02-2020 Ordinance Appropriating \$100,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund

*Motion to open Public Hearing: Mullock, Moffatt*

*Roll call: all in favor*

Catherine Busch spoke in favor of the purchase of recycling containers.

Barbara Bassett spoke in favor of the purchase of recycling containers.

When no one else wished the speak, the public hearing was closed on motion of Commissioner Mullock, seconded by Commissioner vanHeeswyk. Commissioner Mullock explained the current tractor needs to be replaced because it is 20 years old and the steel parts are rusting and the hydraulic lines and connections are corroded and leaking. However, with the uncertainty of when the beaches will reopen and the financial impact of the coronavirus, he would like to approve the ordinance but not authorize the purchase of the beach tractor at this time. Commissioner vanHeeswyk agreed with his approach, expressing the same

concerns. She also suggested trying to purchase another used tractor to save money, if possible.

*Motion to Adopt: Mullock, vanHeeswyk*

*Roll call: all in favor*

03-2020 Amending Chapter 58, Section 8 (“Fees”) of the Code of the Borough of Cape May Point in Order to Increase Seasonal Beach Tag Fees

*Motion to open Public Hearing: Moffatt, vanHeeswyk*

*Roll call: all in favor*

Helen Selsden and Joel Adas asked how the tags will be handled this year. Mayor Moffatt repeated his earlier comments. Commissioner Mullock appreciated the Mayor’s consideration of what will happen if the beaches are closed longer than anticipated.

*Motion to Close Public Hearing & Adopt: Moffatt, vanHeeswyk*

*Roll call: all in favor*

**MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS:**

**Planning Board**

Gary Murphy – Class IV member – 4-year term expiring April 8, 2024

Eileen Leming – Alternate #1 – 2-year term expiring April 8, 2022

Mary Kelly – Alternate #2 – 2-year unexpired term ending April 8, 2021

Jeff Sowers – Alternate #3 – 2-year term expiring April 8, 2022

*Motions: Moffatt, vanHeeswyk*

*Roll call: all in favor*

**PUBLIC PORTION:**

Mary Kelly thanked everyone who is keeping the Borough running and the commissioners for moving ahead and facing these challenging times, particularly when making difficult decisions that aren’t universally popular. She also asked how the Borough’s alerts and notification system is working, stating she hasn’t gotten any even though she signed up for text messages. Clerk Wallace explained the system is strictly via email, and when clicking that you want text messages, that indicates the format of the email, not a text message via cellphone. She also asked anyone who is not getting message, to please contact her so she can look into it, but for now, she believes they are going out as intended.

Helen Chezem thanked everyone and echoed Mary Kelly’s comments about decision making. She stated it is nice to know that everything is being taken care of and still being able to keep abreast of what is going on. She also commented that she has received 2 email alerts from the new system.

Catherine Busch added her thanks to those already expressed. She also thanked the commissioners for supporting the wildlife management plan, which she presented at the March 10<sup>th</sup> work session. Pertinent information will be posted on the website on the “Our Environment” page.

Sandy Allison added her thanks for everyone’s hard work and for support of the wildlife management plan. She was glad to have the teleconference meetings to be able to stay in touch from a distance.

Barb Bassett also thank you everyone for their work and support of the wildlife management plan.

Helen Selsdan and Joel Adas were grateful to be able to listen to the meeting and that everyone is taking good care of the Point.

Commissioner Mullock thanked the Environmental Commissioner and Green Team for the great job they did on the wildlife management program. He also thanked Commissioner vanHeeswyk on getting the watershed management plan started.

Commissioner vanHeeswyk thanked everyone who joined the call, agreeing it is important to get information out. She reminded everyone to sign up for alerts and notifications through the website. It is the Borough’s best tool to get information out to the public quickly. She also advised the website is being updated all the time.

When no one else wished to speak, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm on motion of Commissioner vanHeeswyk, seconded by Mayor Moffatt.

Respectfully submitted,

Accepted:

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Elaine L. Wallace, RMC, CMR  
Municipal Clerk

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Commissioner Mullock

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Commissioner vanHeeswyk

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Mayor Moffatt