

**APRIL 28, 2020**  
**WORK SESSION MINUTES**

The Work Session of the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Cape May Point was called to order by Clerk Wallace at 12:00 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.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** The County's business task force is drafting a plan for gradual reopening of businesses. The timing isn't public yet, and from what Mr. O'Connor has seen is pretty ambitious, with most everything being open by June. Of course, the plan can't be implemented until the Governor lifts the stay-at-home order. The Borough has discretion over the beaches and park, everything else is controlled by the State. Commissioner vanHeeswyk reported the attorney for the taskforce made a presentation during a recent mayor conference call for county mayors and there was no unanimous consensus on timing, many feeling it was too soon to consider. The governor has stated public health takes priority and she feels Cape May Point needs to carefully consider the matter.

**COMMISSIONERS' DISCUSSION (NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS)**

**Increasing Water/Sewer Rates:** Commissioner Mullock felt the Borough should avoid increases as much as possible at this time. He was in favor of increasing sewer rates at this time, but not water rates. The Borough has used 42% less water in the first quarter of 2020 compared to 2019. He expects the figures for April will show a similar decrease in consumption. He is hoping that will offset most of the shortfall the CFO has projected at the end of 2020. Commissioner vanHeeswyk asked, with Cape May looking at raising rates to fund capital expenditure for the water system, if the water rate should be increased some now to build some surplus and ease a possibly large increase in the future. Mr. Mullock preferred to raise rates only when necessary and he thinks the Borough needs to take a comprehensive look at the contract and water supply during the next negotiation period. The commissioners agreed to raise just the sewer rate by ordinance at the next regular meeting.

**Cybersecurity Practices and Response Plan:** Clerk Wallace reviewed the documents with the commissioners. The Borough already does what is in the plan, but it needs to be adopted by resolution in order for the Borough to reduce its cyber incident deductible from \$10,000 to \$2,500. One of the biggest items is having daily, offsite backups which helps insure against having to pay ransomware attacks or loss of data if there is a hack.

Commissioner Mullock reported most of the road projects are completed with Brainard/Pearl/Yale awaiting final paving.

Commissioner vanHeeswyk reported the Borough is on the schedule to receive sand through back-passing from the Nature Conservancy. The benefits of that are reduced cost and sand that is more compatible with our beaches.

Mayor Moffatt reported the Beach Director will begin processing preseason tags this Friday.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

60-20 Authorizing Purchase of Toter 48-gallon EVR II Universal/Nestable Carts through Sourcewell Purchasing Cooperative

*Motions: Mullock, Moffatt*

*Roll call: all in favor*

61-20 Approval of Bill List

*Motions: Moffatt, Mullock*

*Roll call: all in favor*

**PUBLIC PORTION:**

Connie Campanella asked how people will reserve their recycling containers. Clerk Wallace explained reservations aren't required. Public Works has kept a log of which property owners have already received their can. People will need to provide proof of ownership when they pick up their can. Commissioner Mullock stated that enough cans have been ordered for everyone and should be picked up at Recycling and homebound residents who call will have theirs delivered.

Jeff Sowers asked if the Borough has put together a plan for complying with social distancing guidelines on the beaches once they can be reopened. Mayor Moffatt explained he has not done a plan yet, but wants to act in line with the other towns in the county to try to limit confusion and make policing easier. Mr. Sowers offered to help and Mayor Moffatt agreed to be in touch with him. Commissioner vanHeeswyk wasn't certain the Borough will be able to be completely in line with the rest of the County, stating the majority of people she has spoken to want to open later rather than sooner.

When no one else wished to speak, the meeting was adjourned at 12:41 pm on motion of Mayor Moffatt, seconded by Commissioner vanHeeswyk.

Respectfully submitted,

Accepted:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Elaine L. Wallace, RMC, CMR  
Municipal Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner Mullock

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner vanHeeswyk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Moffatt