

**OCTOBER 27, 2020
WORK SESSION MINUTES**

The Work Session of the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Cape May Point was called to order by the Borough Clerk 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 Ed Grant, Clerk Elaine Wallace, and Solicitor Brock Russell.

COMMISSIONERS' DISCUSSION (NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS)

2020 Best Practices Inventory: Clerk Wallace reviewed the results of this year's inventory, will be fully certified and filed through the State portal by the end of the month. The final score again exceeded the threshold to qualify for full state aid. Commissioner vanHeeswyk commended the employees who work on the inventory.

Commissioner Mullock gave a brief update on the recent and seasonal activities of Public Works and announced that the new "gator" has arrived. This vehicle will be used by Public Works and will serve in emergencies when beach access is necessary.

Commissioner vanHeeswyk reported the Army Corp is ramping up the replenishment project moving sand from the Lower Meadows and moving it to Cape May Point and Cape May. Due to COVID-19, only one representative of the Borough will be able to attend meetings. Mrs. vanHeeswyk will attend the kickoff meeting, but she will bring Ed Grant and Bill Gibson up to speed on the project. She also reported she has been working on the hazard mitigation plan with Ed Grant. Including possible projects in the plan is important to increase possible grant funding. Mrs. vanHeeswyk reported 29 residents were on the October 21st flood risk Zoom presentation organized by the Borough's Floodplain manager. Information was provided on how to reduce flood risk and ways to lower flood premiums. Being diligent about flood insurance saved one resident thousands of dollars. Lastly, the FEMA coastal restudy is coming up and Mrs. vanHeeswyk will be on the call for that November 13th.

Mayor Moffatt had questions about the upcoming pool ordinance and the definition of spa. Solicitor Russell explained the definition of pool covers hot tubs and spas, but not temporary pools like kiddie pools. Dr. Moffatt felt people have a problem with regulating hot tubs and the ordinance might need more work. He also spoke about the proposed bamboo ordinance, which was copied from Linwood. The Borough received correspondence indicating Linwood has suspended their ordinance because of difficulty enforcing it. The Linwood police chief is willing to speak with Solicitor Russell and the governing body about the problems they are having with the ordinance. Solicitor Russell stated he could check to see if other towns have ordinances that are workable. Mayor Moffatt does not want the adopt an

unworkable ordinance and felt the Borough needs to hear input from the Linwood Police Chief.

Commissioner Mullock was happy to announce a young couple with a child moved into the Borough.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Sustainable Jersey: Mr. Grant reported 2 of 4 outstanding items are finished and the remaining 2 are being worked on now. He anticipates getting everything done by the deadline. The rain garden grant is being closed out and then the door will be open to other grants.

Public Works Items: Mr. Grant is still working on getting an account at Tractor Supply Company. He encountered problems both online and in person. The store will be reaching out to the main office to try to resolve the issue. When looking into putting solar panels on the pump station, the Borough was told there isn't enough space on the roofs to justify a project there. He'll speak with the vendor and see if something can be worked out to meet grant criteria.

Various Grants: There are two resolutions on the agenda for grant applications for engineering a new emergency services building. While speaking with the grant consultant, they touched on the future of St. Mary's. The consultant felt there are opportunities to fund a feasibility study through USDA Rural Development. A resolution may be on the next meeting agenda to authorize an application. Commissioner Mullock explained the Borough isn't at a point to design the new emergency services building yet, but grant funding has to be found now. The Borough used the same process when it started the Lake Lily project. A new emergency services building is needed for the safety and welfare of the employees, emergency workers, and citizenry. Getting a grant will allow the Borough to have a building that could withstand a Category 5 storm.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Catherine Busch asked if both resolutions about grants apply to different aspects of the same project. Ed Grant confirmed that was the case.

RESOLUTIONS:

- 115-20 Authorization to Apply for Grant Funding through the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program and to Execute a Grant Agreement with the Federal Emergency Management Agency

Motion to adopt: vanHeeswyk, Mullock

Roll call: all in favor

- 116-20 Approval to Submit a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Agreement with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for the FY 2021 FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program

Motion to adopt: vanHeeswyk, Mullock

Roll call: all in favor

117-20 Authorizing the Water/Sewer Clerk to Refund Overpayment of Water/Sewer Bill - Whipple

Motion to adopt: Moffatt, vanHeeswyk

Roll call: all in favor

118-20 Approval of Bill List

Motion to adopt: vanHeeswyk, Moffatt

Roll call: all in favor

PUBLIC PORTION:

Jeff Sowers, 711 Cape Avenue, asked if the beaches will be closed during the beach replenishment. The plans seem to indicate the trucks will be using the roads, but she will ask about it at the preconstruction meeting. Mr. Sowers asked if the Borough could elaborate on the St. Mary's feasibility study. Commissioner Mullock stated he has made a commitment to the Sisters to keep the matter confidential, so he's said as much as he can. He has previously stated he'd like to see a world-class, non-profit environmental and nature center at the site, but didn't want to say more.

Dale Coleman, 206 Lehigh Avenue, thanked the Mayor for listening to his concerns about the proposed bamboo ordinance. He hopes the Borough can find something that makes sense for all members of the community. Mr. Coleman asked if the ordinance will be removed from the November 12 agenda. Solicitor Russell explained the ordinance must appear on the agenda to be acted upon by the Commissioners in whatever manner they determine is appropriate.

Sandy Allison, 305 Alexander Avenue, found the Zoom Flood Insurance meeting to be well done. In speaking with Lou Belasco, he said the sessions was recorded. Clerk Wallace announced the video was posted to the Borough website on October 29th. Mrs. Allison felt the new fencing at the Alexander beach entrance and the State Park signs have made a big improvement. She also expressed concern over demolitions and safety and asked if anyone has considered suggestions she submitted several years ago about cleanliness and safety precautions. The commissioners did not have a definitive answer for her on that, but didn't recall any recent ordinances pertaining to that. Mrs. Allison would deliver another copy to Borough Hall if she has one.

When no one else wished to speak, the meeting was adjourned at 12:42 pm on motion of Commissioner Mullock, seconded by Commissioner vanHeeswyk.

Respectfully submitted,

Accepted:

Elaine L. Wallace, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk

Commissioner Mullock

Commissioner vanHeeswyk

Mayor Moffatt