

AUGUST 8, 2019
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Cape May Point was called to order by Deputy Mayor vanHeeswyk at 6:10 PM. The Open Public Meetings Statement was read by the Mayor who then led those present in the flag salute. Commissioner Mullock and Deputy Mayor vanHeeswyk answered roll call. Mayor Moffatt was absent. Also in attendance: Administrator Steve O'Connor, Clerk Elaine Wallace, and Solicitor Brock Russell.

OVERVIEW OF UPCOMING PROJECTS: Borough Engineer Bruce Graham reviewed the upcoming projects which include the second and third phased of the Lake Lily Project. The bid opening for the porous walkway will be August 22nd and the landscaping will be bid in September. Hopefully the work will be completed by the end of October and is still within the amount budgeted. The next project is the Ocean/Pavilion/Central road reconstruction and replacing French drains with storm drains that will be piped to the lake the length of the project. The work is expected to start the second week in September and should be done early in December, weather permitting. The next project is Pearl/Brainard/Yale which includes reconstruction of portions of Pearl and Brainard and then some drainage work on Yale. Mr. Graham expects work to begin there in October, but it probably won't be finished until early spring. The final project is Yale Avenue, for which a NJDOT grant application has been submitted. This is a large project which includes replacement of water mains and services as well as complete road reconstruction. The Borough is also exploring additional funding sources for the water work. Commissioner Mullock explained the road projects all contain storm management elements as part of the overall flood mitigation plan.

ANNUAL BEACH SURVEY PRESENTATION TO GOVERNING BODY: Dr. Stewart Farrell, founder of the Stockton Coastal Research Center and resident, gave a presentation on his 2019 Beach Survey. He reviewed the facts and figures from the report and explained how sand flows from Cape May to Cape May Point, with some eventually making its way into the bay. He commented on the beach saver reefs, which have been fairly successful in keeping sand from washing into the bay resulting in the Whilldin and Lehigh structures being almost buried now. Dr. Farrell also showed photographs that were taken after the nor'easter in 1992 showing extensive erosion of the beaches vs. the state of the beaches presently. Commissioner Mullock asked if the jetty at Alexander should be extended, but Dr. Farrell felt it would scarcely be worth the high cost due to the water depth and roughness. He also stated that as long as the Army Corp continues to pumps and in Cape May, the Point will get sand naturally. Commissioner vanHeeswyk asked if sand could be moved during the next beach replenishment to allow Whilldin and Coral beaches to reopen. Dr. Farrell felt it wouldn't be a simple task to move the sand, it would be easier to put up pilings or some other structure to warn people of the hazard. Dan Simmler state it was great to hear the beaches are gaining sand and protecting the Borough. He was sad when Coral Avenue beach was closed to swimming and asked if the beach would continue

to lose shoreline. Dr. Farrell said it's a balance between sand coming in vs. sand going out, but as long as there is sand in the Nature Conservancy, it will continue to come into the Point. Emelia Oleson asked what process is used to determine which sand to bring in. Dr. Farrell explained the Army Corp uses whatever sand they can get US Fish and Wildlife to permit.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:

Commissioner Mullock was pleased to see the County has installed the speed sign on Cape Avenue. Commissioner vanHeeswyk advised not everyone is pleased with the sign. They discussed unintended consequences and how enforcement and signage are a balancing act. Mr. Mullock said the Borough will watch to see if the sign is effective in reducing speeding.

Commissioner vanHeeswyk reported on a meeting she attended with Senator Menendez who is looking for a solution soften the blow of flood insurance premium increases that will be going into effect under the Biggert-Waters Act. She is hoping it can be addressed through infrastructure and mitigation. In addition, FEMA is working on revising the flood maps. She is concerned the people who are diligently building to current regulations could be out of compliance as early as 2024 and would have to make changes to their new homes in order to continue qualifying for flood insurance premium discounts. Lastly, she reported the 2018 audit came back clean, once again. She thanked the Borough's employees that make good audits possible.

COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

July 9, 2019 Work Session
July 11, 2019 Regular Meeting
July 23, 2019 Work Session

*Motions: Mullock, vanHeeswyk
Roll call: all those present in favor*

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION/PUBLICATION: None

RESOLUTIONS:

83-19 Authorizing the Extension of the Grace Period for the August 2019 Tax Quarter

*Motions: vanHeeswyk, Mullock
Roll call: all those present in favor*

84-19 Authorization to Accept the Audit Report for 2018

*Motions: vanHeeswyk, Mullock
Roll call: all those present in favor*

85-19 Authorizing Special Event Permit to Sherrie Epps
Motions: vanHeeswyk, Mullock
Roll call: all those present in favor

86-19 Bill Payment
Motions: vanHeeswyk, Mullock
Roll call: all those present in favor

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING: None

PUBLIC PORTION:

Mary Kelly, 421 Cambridge commented on how delightful last Sunday was, as the ordinances prohibiting construction after 3 pm on Saturday and all day Sunday are now in effect. She thanked the Borough Planning Board and Governing Body for the improvement in quality of life. Ms. Kelly then expressed concern that she was told there were no records from the construction office responsive to an OPRA request she recently submitted. She has seen inspectors come and go throughout the project next door to her and couldn't believe there is no record of that. Commissioner vanHeeswyk explained that sometimes things are handled immediately through phone calls and there isn't always a record of that. Ms. Kelly again stated she didn't understand how inspections could be tracked if there isn't a record of when they are performed. She felt that is not a good way of doing business.

When no one else wished to speak, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 pm on motion of Commissioner Mullock, seconded by Commissioner vanHeeswyk.

Respectfully submitted,

Accepted:

Elaine L. Wallace, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk

Commissioner Mullock

Commissioner vanHeeswyk

A B S E N T
Mayor Moffatt