

**FEBRUARY 11, 2020  
WORK SESSION MINUTES**

The Work Session of the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Cape May Point was called to order by Mayor Moffatt at 12:00 PM. The Open Public Meetings Statement was read by the Mayor 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.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT** None

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

Traffic Calming Measures on County Roads: Mayor Moffatt reported County Engineer Bob Church has sent him suggestions for the Borough to consider. The recommendations on Lighthouse Avenue were previously discussed and approved by the Board and well received by the people most effected. One new suggestion is speed tables on Cape Avenue. The Board liked the idea, but would prefer them to be at intersections, rather than mid-block as recommended by Mr. Church. Bump outs at Ocean/Cambridge, at Union Chapel, at St. Agnes, and the Red Store were good suggestions that would improve traffic around the circle as well as increase green space and make the area more attractive. Mayor Moffatt felt the suggestion of sidewalks in that area would ruin the character of the neighborhood. The Board was opposed to suggestions effecting the intersection of Cedar and Alexander. Commissioner vanHeeswyk made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mullock, to approve the most recent suggestions, with amendments as noted. A letter will be sent to Bob Church notifying him of the Borough's decision.

ANJEC Sample Ordinance to Reduce Plastic: Clerk Wallace passed out the sample ordinance. Commissioner vanHeeswyk suggested it be forwarded to the Environmental Commission for comments before the Board considers it.

Right-of-Way request by AT&T: Clerk Wallace advised the Commissioners that the Engineer recommended a face-to-face meeting with the applicant for a small cell antenna on Lighthouse Avenue. The Board determined it would be best for the applicant to attend an upcoming work session so all commissioner could be involved in the discussion.

Commissioner Mullock reported the CFO has found a way to avoid a tax increase this year. He thought if the Borough did a 1 cent tax increase anyway for the next 3 years, the Borough could pay off its existing debt. Commissioner vanHeeswyk also spoke with the CFO and the change was made at the suggestion of the Auditor.

Commissioner Mullock also commented on the upcoming Yale Avenue project which will be a sizable investment depending on what grants may be obtained. It's possible the Borough could have to bond for a portion of the cost. Commissioner

vanHeeswyk asked the Administrator if he had contacted Triad Associates about the grant opportunity presented at a recent Coastal Coalition meeting and mentioned by her previously. Mr. O'Connor stated Bruce Graham was looking into it, but he'll reach out again.

Commissioner vanHeeswyk reported the federal shore protection funding work plan was released the day before and the Borough's beach replenishment is still on it. It appears the Borough's project will move forward this fall.

**REVIEW OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING AGENDA:** The Clerk reviewed the agenda items for the February 13<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.

**PUBLIC PORTION:**

Connie Campanella commented that the intersection of Lighthouse and Coral was not mentioned as part of the plan approved today. Mayor Moffatt stated that intersection was included in the original discussions. Ms. Campanella then asked Commissioner Mullock what accounted for the \$20,000 increase in an 'other expense' item under the 'parks and public property' line of his budget. Mr. Mullock explained it was for additional costs for maintenance of public properties as a result of more Borough involvement in public areas such as the garden areas at the circle and Lake Lily which used to be handled predominantly by volunteers. There has been an increase of contracted help in the recent past. Ms. Campanella asked if the Borough plans to make changes to the Bedfellows program. There are no such plans. Ms. Campanella expressed concern that this could push away volunteers by saying they are not needed. She would have liked to have a conversation with Mr. Mullock about volunteers before something was done. Administrator O'Connor pointed out the line was underfunded in 2019, resulting in a budget transfer. The current budget increase will be for upcoming projects and maintenance not for salaries and wages. Some of the upcoming road projects will increase green space and having someone dedicated to the care of Borough lands is proactive. Mr. Mullock expressed great respect for the role volunteers have played in making Cape May Point the community it is, and would never turn them away. He, himself, is an active volunteer. He gave an overview of activities over the last 6 or 7 years and how donations and volunteers have worked hand in hand with the Borough for the betterment of the community. Mrs. Campanella, stating everyone is aware of the situation, worried that recent issues with Friends of Lake Lily precipitated a movement against volunteer organizations. Commissioner Mullock said that wasn't the case. He gave an overview of that situation which began with the application of carcinogenic herbicide to the lake by a third party that was contracted by the Friends of Lake Lily. Only the Borough can contract for work on public lands.

Jeff Sowers found the speed tables an interesting idea, but wasn't sure that the Borough wouldn't be trading a speeding problem for a noise problem caused by trucks driving over the speed table. Commissioner vanHeeswyk stated tables are supposed to make less noise than bumps or humps because they are flatter and broader. Mayor Moffatt reported not hearing noise when he visited the Dennisville.

Arlene Buchanan thanked the Commissioners for working on reducing speeding. She thought there should be not one, but three speed tables. She was also in favor of installing as top sign to further reduce speeding. She has seen the speed tables work well at intersections in Haddonfield. Commissioner vanHeeswyk advised the County has refused to put in additional stop signs.

Helen Chezem reported her town painted triangles on the speed tables so there wasn't as much marking. She reported cars don't make noise when traversing, but some trucks do when their contents bounce.

Isabelle Neary agreed with Ms. Buchanan that one speed table isn't enough.

Cathy Stambaugh supposed having speed tables at intersections and liked the idea of only painting triangles on them.

Sandy Allison was glad the Borough was addressing Cape Avenue but was disappointed they weren't talking about Alexander and Pearl. Mayor Moffatt explained only County roads are being addressed. Ms. Allison noted the addition of vegetation and grass in the proposed bump outs. The Environmental Commission has been trying to eliminate grass where possible to avoid mowing and fertilizing. Lastly, she asked if the entrance to Alexander Avenue beach will get a split rail fence before this summer and if something could be done about the slope.

Mike Keosky asked if the Borough would do a resolution to recommend 3 speed tables at intersections on Cape. Mayor Moffatt clarified that it would be a conversation with the County Engineer, not a resolution. Mr. Keosky agreed with Arlene Buchanan's husband about the intersection of Alexander and Cape and felt foliage there needs to be trimmed back. Mayor Moffatt responded that traffic calming studies show that would increase speeding.

Mike Neary thought having the first speed table at the y-intersection of Alexander and Cape would slow everyone down. Mayor Moffatt agreed, and stated the bump out that was installed slowed people down considerably.

Mayor Moffatt and Administrator O'Connor left at 1:18 pm for a meeting with Atlantic City Electric.

Mike Neary asked if the Borough decided to raise taxes by 1 cent with the idea of paying down debt, would the money go into a special fund. The money would go into the general fund as is required by statute.

Jeff Sowers asked if the Borough could get speed tables on Lincoln avenue as well. Commissioner vanHeeswyk feared asking for more at this time might jeopardize what the County is currently willing to do. Previously, the County Engineer's office was only willing to put crosswalks on Lincoln.

Mike Keosky suggested asking to get the speed limit decreased on Cape Avenue. Mrs. vanHeeswyk explained the new County Engineer was not open to that when she suggested it last fall. Mr. Keosky also asked if the proposed changes at Coral/Lighthouse would be sufficient to slow people down. The owner on the corner is very concerned about speeding. The last time the County agreed to do something at that corner, Commissioner vanHeeswyk voted for curbing, but was outvoted so only striping was installed. If the County doesn't come through this year, maybe the Borough could put up some signs on Coral. Connie Campanella recalled something being promised there as a short-term solution.

Isabelle Neary supported requesting 3 speed tables, saying it would be in the best interest of the public. Commissioner vanHeeswyk advised the Board will take all public comments into consideration before meeting with the County Engineer again.

When no one else wished to speak, the meeting was adjourned at 1:25 pm on motion of Commissioner vanHeeswyk, seconded by Commissioner Mullock.

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