

JULY 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 the Borough Clerk 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 Ed Grant, Clerk Elaine Wallace, and Solicitor Brock Russell. This meeting was held via teleconference under local operation guidance from the NJDCA, pursuant to P.L. 2020, c. 11.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Traffic Calming: The topic will be discussed at the next work session to finalize the items and make sure everyone is on the same page. Then, the projects can get on the County agenda for the fall.

Sustainable Jersey: The modification and extension for the 2019 grant has been completed. The unused funds were a result of the level of support given by Rutgers for the raingarden project. The Borough requested using the remaining funds for signage for the raingarden and Lake Lily, as well as to purchase more composting bins and mosquito dunks.

JIF Policy Manual: This must be updated every 2 years and the Borough will complete it over the coming months.

Accounts Payable: He reviewed the process and the governing body has agreed to have Mr. Grant review all invoices prior to them being submitted to the commissioners for approval. This will add an extra level of oversight and allow the ability to see if there are things that might qualify for points toward Sustainable Jersey certification.

Public Works: Stepping stones were installed at Lake Lily as recommended by the Environmental Commission so people don't walk through the new landscaping. As a result of complaints about overflowing bike racks at Sites and Brainard, Bill Gibson borrowed additional bike racks from another town for the July 4th holiday until newly ordered ones are delivered.

Tree Removal on Brainard Dune: The Borough has issued a summons to the homeowner. The matter was also forwarded to NJDEP but what action they may take is unknown at this time.

Lake Lily Grant: The landscaping contract is being finalized. The engineer is working on as-built drawings. Then, the Borough will be able to draw down funds.

NJDOT Grant Applications: Application were submitted for Yale and E. Lake Drive. The announcements are usually made by the State in November.

Water System: The Borough is working on GPS for all the valves in the water system.

Ocean/Central/Pavilion: The project still has a small punch list remaining and there may be a change order forthcoming. That project will be closed out shortly.

Pearl/Brainard: The punch list is more extensive. The test borings were ordered. Hopefully both road projects will be completed shortly so the Borough can draw down funds.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:

Cape May County Hazard Mitigation Plan: Commissioner vanHeeswyk worked on this the last time around at the request of OEM Coordinator Irene Schreiner. She felt she and Ed Grant could easily complete this year's. All commissioners were in favor of proceeding that way. Clerk Wallace will send a Letter of Intent to Participate to the County Emergency Management Coordinator.

Commissioner Mullock reported the final draft has been submitted for the beaches, although he would like to add "Please obey beach rules" at the top. He thanked Jeff Sowers, Ed Grant, and Bill Gibson for working on the signs. Commissioner vanHeeswyk spoke with Jeff Sowers earlier in the day and he suggested putting up temporary signs about wearing masks and being careful. Ed Grant will check with JIF to see if they have any signs available. He will also check with them if they have any guidelines on how to enforce mask wearing outdoors. Commissioner Mullock also reported the Environmental Commission (EC) has approved Jonathan Westcott's year 7 dune plan and will send a recommendation to the governing body to approve. The plan focuses on planting grasses on the ocean-side and keeping them tight to the dunes to avoid losing blanket space. Clerk Wallace will prepare the necessary resolution once she receives that recommendation. The Environmental Commission also had extensive discussion on the algae at Lake Lily. Algae has been a big problem throughout the state, in fact the NJDEP is launching 5 studies on algae. The EC is asking the governing body to consider entering a contract with Princeton Hydro for lake management. During the most recent meeting, they watched a presentation by Dr. Sousa of Princeton Hydro that outlined all the various causes of algae, a number of which the Borough is experiencing. Science has found the previous popular treatment for algae actually worsens it over time. The first step will be conducting a scientific study of the lake conditions to determine what can be done without adding chemicals and carcinogens to the lake. Mr. Mullock was pleased to speak with Dick Saari who said Friends of Lake Lily is willing to work with the Borough to help fund a contract for lake management.

Commissioner vanHeeswyk advised the public that estimated 3rd quarter tax bills were sent recently and must be paid. The State must adopt its budget before our tax rate can be struck, hopefully before the next tax quarter. She also announced the Borough audit should be finalized soon.

Mayor Moffatt announced beach tag sales for June were up compared to last year. The Tag Director is reminding the taggers to wear masks and maintain social distance. Dr. Moffatt also reported on a recent letter from the Acting County Administrator that confirms there has been an influx of out-of-county youngsters testing positive to COVID-19 at the local Urgent Cares. He reminded everyone to protect themselves.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

May 26, 2020 Work Session

Motions: vanHeeswyk, Moffatt

Roll call: all in favor

Commissioner Mullock appreciated the input and comments of the public. The Board did what was best for the Borough and did it according to law.

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION/PUBLICATION:

07-2020 Amending Chapter 105, "Land Use Procedures", Article 1 "Planning Board", Section 8, "Powers and Duties" of the code of the Borough of Cape May Point

Second Reading & Public Hearing – August 13, 2020 at 6:00 pm

Motions: Moffatt, vanHeeswyk

Roll call: all in favor

08-2020 Ordinance Appropriating \$6,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund

Second Reading & Public Hearing – August 13, 2020 at 6:00 pm

Motions: vanHeeswyk, Moffatt

Roll call: all in favor

RESOLUTIONS:

83-20 Resolution Requesting Approval for the Inclusion of Revenue: JIF Cybersecurity Grant of \$725

Motions: vanHeeswyk, Moffatt

Roll call: all in favor

84-20 Approval of Bill List

Motions: vanHeeswyk, Moffatt

Roll call: all in favor

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING:

06-2020 Salary Ordinance

Motion to Open Public Hearing: vanHeeswyk, Moffatt

Roll call: all in favor

Thomas Maye asked what the percent increase was. Clerk Wallace explained there wasn't a set increase for everyone. Only the ranges that needed to be updated to accommodate a current salary were changed.

Mary Kelly asked if the Borough follows section 3 of the ordinance by having department reads establish a specific salary in writing and file with the CFO. Clerk Wallace explained the actual salaries are set by resolution each year and filed with the CFO.

When no one else wished to speak, the public hearing was closed.

Motion to adopt: vanHeeswyk, Moffatt

Roll call: all in favor

PUBLIC PORTION:

Jeff Sowers was pleased to see a police officer going above and beyond the call of duty and knocking on the doors of houses when cars were parked in the wrong direction and asking the owner to move them. He asked if the fines from tickets go to the Borough or Cape May. Solicitor Russell explained it depends on what type of violation it is. Ordinance violations come to the Borough, others go to the State.

Thomas Maye commented that more cars than ever are parking in the wrong direction and he has seen police cars drive by without stopping to address parking violations. Mayor Moffatt said the police are aware they are supposed to be enforcing the regulations, but he will still send a reminder to the Chief.

Sandy Allison also complained about cars parked facing the wrong way near her house. She again expressed concern with the number of cars and bikes parked at the Alexander beach entrance with the people using the entrance to go to the Lower Township beaches. She believes all the cars and bikes are making it dangerous for people to walk to and from the beach. She suggested adding pedestrian crossing signs. She again suggested limiting parking to residents and guests. Ms. Allison said she asked the beach tagger on Alexander why he doesn't sit at the entrance to the beach and he explained he has to be down on the beach to be able to tag both people using the entrance, as well as people coming from the Lower Township beach. She still thinks taggers should be at the beach entrance. Commissioner vanHeeswyk explained that only the first 1/3 of the beach entrance is located in Cape May Point. The remaining 2/3 as well as the jetty are all in Lower Township. The boundary cross right in front of the platform. Commissioner Mullock agree the parking is becoming a problem that he thinks will get worse. He thought maybe the tagger should be stationed at the top of the ramp and turn away anyone who wishes to go onto Lower Township's beach. He also thought moving the entrance might help.

Mary Kelly expressed concern, both her own and her neighbors', about speeding on Cambridge. Although she isn't a fan of speed bumps, she felt something may need to be done. She added that people are parking the wrong way on Cambridge, too.

When no one else wished to speak, the meeting was adjourned at 6:57 pm on motion of Commissioner Mullock, seconded by Mayor Moffatt.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine L. Wallace, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk

Accepted:

Commissioner Mullock

Commissioner vanHeeswyk

Mayor Moffatt