

JANUARY 23, 2024
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 Busch and Commissioner vanHeeswyk answered roll call. Also in attendance: Administrator Ed Grant, Clerk Elaine Wallace, and Solicitor John Amenhauser. This meeting was held electronically via ZOOM under local operation guidance from the NJDCA pursuant to P.L. 2020, c.11.

COMMISSIONERS' DISCUSSION/REPORTS:

Trash and Recycling Collection: Commissioner Busch explained the new trash and recycling contract has two main differences that will affect property owners. First, under the new contract, public works will be doing bulk pickup and it will occur on the last Mondays in April and September. The dates in 2024 will be April 29 and September 30. Second, the borough must transition to metal bar roll out carts so Pinelands can use an automatic tipper to empty the carts. The blue recycling carts issued by the borough are an example of the type of cart required. Ms. Busch showed examples of the carts, which will be required at every property prior to Memorial Day, and can be purchase in any color except blue, which can only be used for recycling. The carts can be purchased at many home improvement/hardware store in sizes from 32 to 96 gallons. In addition, people can purchase 96-gallon trash carts directly from Pinelands, if they wish. Any household that hasn't already received their blue recycling cart can contact Deputy Clerk Kelly Redington to arrange for delivery. Lastly, every property owner will be notified by mail about these changes to collection along with a reminder of the county recycling rules.

Commissioner Busch announced public works has started pruning trees in Pavilion Circle. Maple trees along the paths were trimmed last week and trees around the perimeter and in the beds will be upcoming. She also announced the borough's Community Energy Plan has been approved by the BPU and posted on the website under Borough News. Eventually, a separate page will be created for that and other related information. Ms. Busch is also waiting for confirmation from the NJDEP on a date for a public meeting on the Higbee Beach restoration project to be held at the Cape May Point Firehouse. The information will be posted and sent out via email once a date and time are set. Lastly, she shared photos of the emergency sewer repair work being done on Lighthouse Avenue. The contract is being approved and funded through resolutions on the agenda. The work was extensive and expensive due to the depth of the gravity feed sewer line and the requisite safety measures and dewatering. She thanked everyone for their patience with the project.

Mayor Moffatt thanked the Taxpayers Association for their financial support for the cost to provide EMT training to a lifeguard.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

Ed Grant reported work on the 2024 budget continues. He also reported the energy plan grant is being closed out. The next step will be looking for grants to implement the items identified in the newly adopted plan. The veterans memorial committee is still waiting on the survey for the veterans memorial project. Mr. Grant has contacted the surveyor several times with no response. He has asked another member of the committee to try reaching out so the process can move ahead.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

January 4, 2024 Reorganization Meeting
Motion: vanHeeswyk, Busch
Roll call: all in favor

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION AND PUBLICATION: None

RESOLUTIONS:

29-24 Authorizing an Emergency Temporary Appropriation
Motion: vanHeeswyk, Moffatt
Roll call: all in favor

30-24 Authorizing Award of an Emergency Contract for the Repair of Lighthouse Avenue Sewer Main
Motion: Busch, Moffatt
Roll call: all in favor

31-24 Approval of Bill List
Motion: vanHeeswyk, Moffatt
Roll call: all in favor

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING/ PUBLIC HEARING/ ADOPTION:

01-2024 Bond Ordinance Appropriating \$1,700,000 and Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,624,000 Bonds or Notes of the Borough, for Various Improvements or Purposes Authorized to be Undertaken by the Borough of Cape May Point, in the County of Cape May, New Jersey (Supplemental Debt Statement – 0.474%)

Motion to open public hearing: vanHeeswyk, Moffatt
Roll call: all in favor

Helen Chezem asked if any of the improvements included in the ordinance would be on land contiguous to her property. Commissioner Busch confirmed none of the projects would be on the lots abutting her property.

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

Motion to adopt: vanHeeswyk, Moffatt
Roll call: all in favor

02-2024 Bond Ordinance Appropriating \$75,000 and Authorizing the Issuance of \$75,000 Bonds or Notes of the Borough, for the Purchase of a Vacuum Excavator by the Borough of Cape May Point, in the County of Cape May, New Jersey

(Supplement Debt Statement – 0.474%)

Motion to open public hearing: vanHeeswyk, Moffatt

Roll call: all in favor

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

Motion to adopt: vanHeeswyk, Moffatt

Roll call: all in favor

PUBLIC PORTION:

Helen Chezem reported that on property with the flagpole across the street from her house there is a bench under a tree whose branches fall all throughout the year. She suggested the bench be moved under a different tree. Commissioner Busch thanked her for notifying the borough and stated she'd have it taken care of immediately.

When no one else wished to speak, the meeting was adjourned at 12:21 pm on motion of Commissioner vanHeeswyk, seconded by Mayor Moffatt.

Respectfully submitted,

Accepted:

Elaine L. Wallace, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk

Commissioner Busch

Mayor Moffatt

Commissioner vanHeeswyk