

JANUARY 15, 2025
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The Regular Meeting 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. This meeting was held electronically via ZOOM under local operation guidance from the NJDCA pursuant to P.L. 2020, c.11.

STATEMENT OF ELECTION: Clerk Elaine Wallace read aloud the Statement of Determination for the municipal election held November 5, 2024. Anita vanHeeswyk, Suzanne Yunghans, and Elise Geiger were duly elected commissioners of the Borough of Cape May Point.

OATHS OF OFFICE: Solicitor John Amenhauser administered the oaths of office.

ROLL CALL OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS: Elise Geiger, Anita vanHeeswyk, and Suzanne Yunghans answered roll call. Also in attendance: Administrator Ed Grant, Clerk Elaine Wallace, and Solicitor John Amenhauser.

NOMINATIONS:

Mayor and Department – Anita vanHeeswyk, Department of Revenue and Finance

Motions: Geiger, Yunghans

Roll call: all in favor

Deputy Mayor and Department – Elise Geiger, Department of Public Safety and Public Affairs

Motions: Yunghans, vanHeeswyk

Roll call: all in favor

Commissioner and Department – Suzanne Yunghans, Department of Public Works, Parks and Public Property

Motions: vanHeeswyk, Geiger

Roll call: all in favor

Class III Member of Planning Board – Elise Geiger

Motions: vanHeeswyk, Yunghans

Roll call: all in favor

RESOLUTIONS:

12-25 Appointing Mayor and Deputy Mayor and Assigning Commissioners to Departments

Motions: vanHeeswyk, Geiger

Roll call: all in favor

13-25 Appointing Class I and Class III Members of the Planning Board

Motions: vanHeeswyk, Yunghans

Roll call: all in favor

14-25 Designation of Official Depositories and Authorized Signatories

Motions: vanHeeswyk, Geiger

Roll call: all in favor

- 15-25 Award of Professional Services Contract for Borough Auditor – Michael Garcia of Ford, Scott and Associates, LLC
Motions: vanHeeswyk, Yunghans
Roll call: all in favor
- 16-25 Award of Professional Services Contract for Borough Solicitor – The DeWeese Law Firm, P.C., John Amenhauser, Esq.
Motions: vanHeeswyk, Yunghans
Roll call: all in favor
- 17-25 Authorizing Award of a Non-Fair and Open Contract with GRR Consulting Services, LLC for Operational and Administrative Services
Motions: vanHeeswyk, Geiger
Roll call: all in favor
- 18-25 Award of Professional Services Contract for Borough Engineer – Dale Foster of Greenman-Pederson, Inc.
Motions: vanHeeswyk, Yunghans
Roll call: all in favor
- 19-25 Award of Professional Service Contract for Labor Counsel –The DeWeese Law Firm, P.C., John Amenhauser
Motions: vanHeeswyk, Geiger
Roll call: all in favor
- 20-25 Award of Contract for MIS Services
Motions: vanHeeswyk, Yunghans
Roll call: all in favor
- 21-25 Award of Contract for Animal Control Services
Motions: vanHeeswyk, Geiger
Roll call: all in favor
- 22-25 Award of Professional Services Contract for Borough Planner – Michael Sullivan
Motions: vanHeeswyk, Yunghans
Roll call: all in favor
- 23-25 Award of Contract for 2024 Annual Beach Profile Survey
Motions: vanHeeswyk, Geiger
Roll call: all in favor
- 24-25 Appointing Risk Management Consultant
Motions: vanHeeswyk, Yunghans
Roll call: all in favor
- 25-25 Award of Contract for Affordable Housing Administrative Agent – Triad Associates
Motions: vanHeeswyk, Geiger
Roll call: all in favor
- 26-25 Award of Contract for Grant Consultant – Triad Associates
Motions: vanHeeswyk, Yunghans
Roll call: all in favor

27-25 Designating Public Agency Compliance Officer for 2025

Motions: vanHeeswyk, Geiger

Roll call: all in favor

28-25 Approval of Bill List

Motions: vanHeeswyk, Yunghans

Roll call: all in favor

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Deputy Mayor Geiger thanked the voters for putting their trust in all three of the elected officials. She promised to strive as best she can for the community. She gave many thanks to the outgoing officers and commended them on the amount of effort they put in during their tenure.

Mayor vanHeeswyk announced the January Planning Board meeting has been cancelled. The next meeting is February 18th at 7 pm at the fire house and via Zoom. She then announced municipalities have until Jan. 31st to commit to the state's most recent affording housing figures, which are based on multiple factors, or come up with their own obligation figures. Mrs. vanHeeswyk has been working with affordable housing since the 1980s. The borough will be adopting a resolution at the next meeting accepting the states figure of 0 need for Cape May Point. Solicitor Amenhauser will prepare the necessary documents to meet the state's deadlines.

Suzanne Yunghans said she was honored to be elected by and have the opportunity to serve the community. She welcomed input from the community and will always listen. She believed the community has an incredible brain trust and welcomed expertise. She committed to giving her very best effort to balance individual wants with what is best for the entire community. She was grateful to be able to work with great public works team led by Bill Gibson. Mrs. Yunghans also expressed appreciation to outgoing Commissioner Busch for her selfless and professional service to the community and her careful preparation of files and the helpful charts and contacts she shared to make the handoff go as smoothly as possible. Lastly, she looked forward to successful collaboration with her fellow commissioners. She expected healthy discourse and was confident they would all hold what's best for Cape May Point as their primary focus.

PUBLIC PORTION:

Sandy Allison congratulated the commissioners. She also commended the public works department on how great the roads were after the recent storm, especially compared to the rest of the island. Ms. Allison asked Mayor vanHeeswyk if there would be any discussion on the upcoming affordable housing resolution. Mrs. vanHeeswyk explained there wasn't anything to discuss as the state provided the resolution template. The borough will be accepting the state's figures of 0 current needs and 5 prospective needs in 10 years. Solicitor Amenhauser explained once the resolution is approved, the borough must file for declaratory judgement within 48 hours and then must file with the state by February 3. The only other option is to reject the figures and file suit to argue a different number.

Cape May Mayor Zach Mullock congratulated the elected officials and thanked them for their willingness to serve. He was looking forward to working together.

When no one else wished to speak, the meeting was adjourned at 12:28 pm on motion of Mayor vanHeeswyk, seconded by Commissioner Yunghans.

Respectfully submitted,

Accepted:

Elaine L. Wallace, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk

Commissioner Geiger

Mayor vanHeeswyk

Commissioner Yunghans