

**REGULAR COMMISSION MINUTES OF THE WILDWOOD
COMMISSIONERS IN THE COUNTY OF CAPE MAY, NEW JERSEY**

Wednesday, June 22, 2022
Commissioner's Meeting Room
Time: 5:00 p.m.

MEETING CALLED

Meeting called to order by the Mayor.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Mikulski leads in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Deputy City Clerk called the roll and the following Commissioners answered to their names:

Fitzsimons – here, Mikulski – here, Byron - here

OTHERS ATTENDING

Louis DeLollis, Solicitor
Steve O'Connor, Administrator
Jim Oris, Remington & Vernick Engineers
Karen M. Gallagher, Deputy City Clerk
Lisa Brown, Aide to the City Clerk

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

As per N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, the Mayor read the Open Public Meetings Act Announcement.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

June 8, 2022 Regular Meeting

MOTION: Fitzsimons SECOND: Mikulski

ROLL CALL: Fitzsimons – Yes, Mikulski – Yes, Byron – Yes

ORDINANCES:

1233-22 Refund Bond Ordinance providing for all of the City of Wildwood's outstanding callable
(General Improvement Bonds; Water Utility Bonds and Sewer Utility Bonds) (**SECOND
READING/PUBLIC HEARING/ADOPTION**)

MOTION TO OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION: Byron SECOND: Mikulski

ROLL CALL: Fitzsimons – Yes, Mikulski – Yes, Byron – Yes

There being no comment, Public Hearing was closed.

MOTION: Byron SECOND: Mikulski

ROLL CALL: Fitzsimons – Yes, Mikulski – Yes, Byron – Yes

MOTION TO ADOPT

MOTION: Byron SECOND: Mikulski

ROLL CALL: Fitzsimons – Yes, Mikulski – Yes, Byron – Yes

The Mayor announced Ordinance No. 1233-22 has passed Second Reading

1234-22 Bond Ordinance Authorizing Various Improvements to Water Utility System for Taylor Avenue
Project (**INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING**)

MOTION: Byron SECOND: Mikulski

ROLL CALL: Fitzsimons – Yes, Mikulski – Yes, Byron – Yes

The Mayor announced Ordinance No. 1234-22 has passed First Reading

1235-22 Bond Ordinance Authorizing Various Improvements to Sewer Utility System for Taylor Avenue
Project (**INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING**)

MOTION: Byron SECOND: Mikulski
ROLL CALL: Fitzsimons – Yes, Mikulski – Yes, Byron – Yes
The Mayor announced Ordinance No. 1235-22 has passed First Reading

EARLY PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

RESOLUTIONS: Deputy City Clerk read the resolutions listed on the agenda.

- 259-6-22 Authorizing the issuance and sale of up to \$33,572,000.00 of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2022; Making certain covenants to maintain the exemption of the interest on said bonds from Federal Income Taxation; and Authorizing such further actions and making such determinations as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate the issuance and sale of the bonds
- 260-6-22 Appointing Williams Cripps as Fire Official for the City of Wildwood
- 261-6-22 Authorizing return of escrow balance deposits re: Wawa, Inc., 3200 New Jersey Avenue (\$1,483.38)
- 262-6-22 Authorizing online auction with GovDeals for Abandoned/Unclaimed Auto Auction beginning July 14, 2022
- 263-6-22 Supporting an Appropriations and Levy Cap Exemption for a three year (3) period for increase in Liability, Worker’s Compensation, Cyber Liability and Property Insurance
- 264-6-22 Authorizing increasing contract with Remington & Vernick Engineers for the City and Transportation Bank Funded portion of the 2019 Capital Improvement Program Phase 1A and 2A (\$1,051,200.00 increase to a new total of \$1,208,910.00)
- 265-6-22 Authorizing increasing contract with Remington & Vernick Engineers for the Clean Water Funded portion of the 2019 Capital Improvement Program Phase 1A and 2A (\$151,400.00 increase to a new total of \$160,400.00)
- 266-6-22 Authorizing increasing contract with Remington & Vernick Engineers for the Drinking Water Funded portion of the 2019 Capital Improvement Program (\$20,850.00 increase to a new total of \$248,550.00)
- 267-6-22 Authorizing a Shared Services Agreement between the County of Cape May and the City of Wildwood for the Barefoot Country Music Festival from June 16 through 19 to provide additional resources, personnel and/or equipment
- 268-6-22 Authorizing the cancellation of a service contract for Ambulance Claim Billing Services with Cape Professional Billing, Inc. and Authorizing the remaining balance of \$29,345.39 to be awarded to Administrative Advantage, LLC for Ambulance Billing Claim Services effective May 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022
- 269-6-22 Appointing Chris Hines as Alternate #4 to the Wildwood Planning and Zoning Board (Term Expires 12/31/24)
- 270-6-22 Authorizing return of Escrow Balance Deposits (Various)
- 271-6-22 Requesting Approval of Item of Revenue and Appropriation under the caption of NJDOT Local Aid Infrastructure Fund Program for the Reconstruction of Pacific Avenue (\$800,000.00)
- 272-6-22 Authorizing Remington & Vernick Engineers to proceed with professional engineering services in connection with “2023 NJDOT State Aid Application of Hildreth Avenue” (\$2,500.00)
- 273-6-22 Authorizing a construction contract with Perna Finnigan, Inc. in connection with the Emergency Sewer Repair on Rio Grande Avenue (\$13,708.05)
- 274-6-22 Approving Capital Budget Amendment
- 275-6-22 Authorizing a refund to Beacon and Beer Classic LLC for Special Event Application Fee to hold Seltzerland on August 13, 2022 due to scheduling conflicts (\$500.00)
- 276-6-22 Authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$2,181,090.24 dated June 22, 2022
- 277-6-22 Authorizing filing of all report and other data contained in this agenda
- 278-6-22 Authorizing Change Order No. 1 as submitted by Remington & Vernick Engineers on behalf of Vortex Services, LLC for Cleaning and Television Boardwalk Storm Sewer System (\$2,145.45 decrease to a new total of \$41,247.05)
- 279-6-22 Requesting Approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriation under the caption of NJDOT Municipal Aid Program for the Reconstruction of Taylor Avenue Phase 2 (\$160,000.00)

MOTION: Fitzsimons SECOND: Mikulski
ROLL CALL: Fitzsimons – Yes, Mikulski – Yes, Byron – Yes

REPORTS:

•Engineers Report – Jim Oris – Remington & Vernick: Report on file in the City Clerk’s Office.
Mayor Byron asked when the Pacific Avenue Project was scheduled to begin. Mr. Oris said the first week in October when all the weekend events have concluded. Mayor Byron asked if the streets would be shut down.
Mr.

Oris said they are going to try to keep at least one lane open at all times. A notice will be sent to all business owners to inform them of the work. Commissioner Mikulski asked if both Pacific and Taylor Avenues would be shut down at the same time. Mr. Oris said they will stage the work so there will always be access to the businesses. Commissioner Mikulski asked if the water and sewer improvement project would include new sidewalks. Mr. Oris said yes, almost all curbs and sidewalks will be replaced. He added the streetlights would be replaced as well which is included in the contract with the DCO.

Mr. Oris said he is reviewing the information he received relative to the requested stop signs on Susquehanna Avenue so he can begin his report. Although stop signs do not control speeding, he is hoping with the unique configurations of the area such as the ball fields, he can craft into the report and receive approvals.

Commissioner Mikulski asked if the City could place solar powered speed signs and add collapsible pedestrian signs in the area. Mr. Oris said it is an option. Commissioner Fitzsimons asked when speed humps become an option. Mr. Oris said it is now. They should tell drivers to slow down but they speed up between them.

Commissioner Fitzsimons asked what the timeframe is before something happens. Mr. Oris said approximately 30 days. Commissioner Fitzsimons asked what could be done in the meantime. Solar speed radars and pedestrian signs are not a solution but at least it's something until this is finalized. This could take up to 60 days for the Ordinance to be approved. She asked if the recommendation of this Board could help move things along. Mr. Oris said a report must be done but he is sure with the configurations, it would move forward.

Commissioner Mikulski said he would talk to the Chief of Police to show a presence, enforce, and issue tickets in the area.

Commissioner Fitzsimons asked for an update concerning the Burk Avenue bulkhead. Mr. Oris said the property owner has been working on it but has not completed the project. Commissioner Fitzsimons asked about the bulkhead at Burk and Niagara. Mr. Oris said the City added this project to Phase 2A and it has been completed. The owner of the Wharf is required to compensate the City for the work.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

•Authorizing 50/50 Cash Raffle Application as submitted by the Greater Wildwood Chamber of Commerce Foundation to be held on November 26, 2022, Byrne Plaza, 3400 Pacific Avenue

MOTION: Fitzsimons SECOND: Mikulski

ROLL CALL: Fitzsimons – Yes, Mikulski – Yes, Byron – Yes

OLD BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: During regularly scheduled Board of Commissioners Meeting. Remarks will limit to five (5) minutes per person. The Deputy City Clerk will be keeper of time and advise speaker when time has expired. Each member of the public will be permitted to speak only once per meeting. Criticism of public employees will be directed to the Human Resources Department during work hours only.

Keith VanMeter, 3900 Susquehanna Avenue: Mr. VanMeter addressed the Solicitor and Engineer when asking for the state statute that requires a study to be done to install a stop sign. Mr. Oris gave Mr. VanMeter the paperwork showing the requirements. Mr. VanMeter suggested introducing an Ordinance for the stop sign in the name of time while waiting for the report to be completed. Lou DeLollis said a report is required prior to taking any action. Mr. VanMeter is concerned about the dogs, bikes and the smell of marijuana on the Boardwalk and said he will not be back to the Boardwalk until these issues are taken care of. Commissioner Mikulski said he had a meeting with the Chief and Deputy Chief of Police on the 16th. They spoke with their officers about the issues. There are also signs placed throughout the Boardwalk as well as announcements made regarding the prohibition of dogs on the Boardwalk and the time bicycles are to be removed from the Boardwalk. Commissioner Mikulski has looked into hiring a security firm for the Boardwalk but was advised that they do not have the authority to enforce the laws of the City or issue citations. They will have additional police presence on the Boardwalk as new Class II Officers are graduating from the academy. He assured Mr. VanMeter the City is not taking these issues lightly. Commissioner Mikulski said situations such as these are happening all over. These issues have always been here, it is just being recognized more frequently due to social media. Commissioner Fitzsimons assured Mr. VanMeter that they are so competent of every issue he mentioned and are diligently working on it. Mr. VanMeter stated the Morey's only pay \$300,000.00 in property taxes due to their rides being removable structures. Mayor Byron said this has been challenged by the City years ago and the City lost. Mr. VanMeter suggested the City then require the Morey's to take their rides down every season or pay more money to hire more officers. Lou DeLollis said the issue isn't paying for more officers, the issue is acquiring officers. No one is applying to be a police officer. The new state laws have caused many

issues. Mr. VanMeter suggested then to increase the salaries of these officers to acquire them from other municipalities. Commissioner Mikulski said their salaries have already been increased.

Dave Benson, 3910 Susquehanna Avenue: Mr. Benson said he understands the City is doing all they can with what they have in regard to the happenings on the Boardwalk but if something isn't done soon, Wildwood will lose its family atmosphere. Mr. Benson asked about the loading zone sign on west Garfield Avenue by the church. He asked why they have a loading zone when they only get deliveries once a month. There is nowhere to park on the street. Commissioner Mikulski said there was a loading zone sign at that location for 40 years and it was actually taken down illegally. Mayor Bryon said he is not defending the church however; the church has been there for 75 years. Commissioner Mikulski said the Board is working on a resolution that will hopefully make everyone happy.

Mary Millisky, 3902 Susquehanna Avenue: Ms. Millisky stated thousands of children go to the recreation center stop signs are necessary for their safety.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business to discuss, this meeting was adjourned at 5:47 pm. Remarks as typed highlighted not verbatim as to subject matter.

MOTION: Fitzsimons SECOND: Mikulski
ROLL CALL: Fitzsimons – Yes, Mikulski – Yes, Byron – Yes

Krista Fitzsimons, COMMISSIONER

Steve Mikulski, COMMISSIONER

Peter Byron, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
Karen M. Gallagher, Deputy Clerk

DATE MINUTES APPROVED July 13, 2022