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

Wednesday, October 11, 2023 Commissioner's Meeting Room

Time: 5:00 p.m.

MEETING CALLED

Meeting called to order by the Deputy Mayor.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL

City Clerk called the roll and the following Commissioners answered to their names: Mikulski – here, Fitzsimons – here

OTHERS ATTENDING

Steve O'Connor, Administrator Susan Plaza, CFO Louis DeLollis, Solicitor Tony Chadwell, Remington & Vernick Engineers Lisa A. Brown, City Clerk Amanda Neill, Aide to the City Clerk

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

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

PRESENTATIONS:

•Overview of Back Bay State Channel Dredging Project by the NJ Department of Transportation; Scott Douglas, who is the Project Manager with Maritime Resources, presented the Board of Commissioners with an overview of the Back Bay State Channel Dredging Project. Mr. Douglas explained \$9.7 million is being funded through NJ Transportation Trust and partial assistance through FEMA with permits and plans on file. The project is currently in Phase 1 and dredging is set to begin on or around November 12, 2023 and is to be completed March 25, 2023. Mr. Douglas explained a Hydraulic Cutterhead will be used to pipeline dredges with two working at a time and pumping different locations. This will be a 24/7 project excluding holidays. Mr. Douglas explained "Geo bags" will be used to dry materials out and pump clean water back into the waterway with the hopes that materials will be dried out by Memorial Day. DPW site is to have 33 geo bags set in various locations to include 27 at W. 26th Avenue in North Wildwood and 12 at the Municipal Boat Ramp in North Wildwood. Mr. Douglas stated that everything has been tested including the geo bags and notes that they were tested at a higher concentration in the lab then what is going out. Mr. Douglas states de watering, dredging, and Tuckahoe Farm all have permits and Wildwood Landfill is currently pending. Members of the public question whether or not this would have any negative effect on marine life to which Mr. Douglas said it would not. Mr. Douglas advised that personal boat slips would not be dredged.

•Update on Municipal Landfill Remediation Project by Appalachia Hydrogeologic & Environmental Consulting, LLC; Dave Stires, Tom, and Jim Llewellyn with Appalachia Hydrogeologic & Environmental Consulting, LLC gave an update on the Municipal Landfill Remediation Project. Mr. Stires explained the City has been attempting to close the landfill since 2000. He states that the City has been receiving notices of violation and needs to be closed. The concern is that they are currently dealing with solid waste, trees, trash, and high concentrations of methane as well as the bulkhead being in serious disrepair. Mr. Stires says there are some project constraints involved stating that the area is part of Atlantic Flyway noting that it is now a sensitive habitat where the concern is endangered species like Bald Eagles and Raptors coming in. The DEP wants significant landscaping due to the endangered species The goal for this protect is to propose a living shoreline and create a park like setting with an internal walkway at Post Creek Basin, a parking lot, site lighting with timers and the potential for ball fields for the public to enjoy such activities like pickle ball. Mr. Stires states materials and grass will be placed to aid the landfill during storms and are working with the DEP to get the final approval for landscaping. There could potentially be a roadway connecting Spicer with Roberts Avenues that will be a one way street and the City has already begun speaking to property owners. Mr. Stires states there will be a cost savings of about \$4-5 million for the City as they are getting the materials directly from the DEP and a grant that will be 75% of the landfill cost. This combined with the sale of DPW will more than cover the cost of the project. This project will run parallel with the dredging project.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

September 27, 2023 Regular Meeting

MOTION: Fitzsimons SECOND: Mikulski ROLL CALL: Mikulski- Yes, Fitzsimons - Yes

ORDINANCES:

Ordinance Amending Chapter 6, Section 14 as to Designated Parking Spaces for Persons with Disabilities (SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING/ADOPTION)

MOTION TO OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

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

There being no comment, Public Hearing was closed.
MOTION: Fitzsimons SECOND: Mikulski
ROLL CALL: Mikulski – Yes, Fitzsimons – Yes

MOTION TO ADOPT

382-10-23 383-10-23

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

The Deputy Mayor announced Ordinance No. 1272-23 has passed Second Reading

Ordinance Vacating a portion of Susquehanna Avenue in the City of Wildwood, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey (INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING)

MOTION: Fitzsimons SECOND: Mikulski

ROLL CALL: Mikulski – Yes, Fitzsimons – Yes

The Deputy Mayor announced Ordinance No. 1273-23 has passed First Reading

EARLY PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

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

372-10-23	Declaring Trick-or-Treat Hours in the City of Wildwood as Tuesday, October 31, 2023 between the hours of 5:00pm- 7:00pm
373-10-23	Authorizing the use of Neighborhood Preservation Program (NPP) Funds for the Winter Wonderland Holiday Festival at Holly Beach Park in an amount not to exceed \$8,000.00
374-10-23	Authorizing Refund of Taxes for over payment 2023 3 rd ¹ / ₄ Taxes due to 100% Exempt Status for B1. 73, L. 5, C227A in the amount of \$1,386.31
375-10-23	Authorizing Refund of Sewer overpayment due to property sold and Title Company paid Special Reading for Acct# 2022802-0, Gerry D'Alesio, 212 E. Magnolia Ave, Unit F in the amount of \$154.00
376-10-23	Authorizing the re- advertisement for the acceptance of bids for the construction of Two (2) New Potable Test Wells and One (1) Observation Well and perform testing as indicated in the specifications located at 3117 Shunpike Road in Middle Township in the October 18, 2023 edition of the Cape May County Herald with bids being accepted on October 27, 2023 at 10:00am (includes Addendum #1 and Addendum #2)
377-10-23	Authorizing a Shared Services Agreement with the Borough of West Wildwood for Emergency Broadcast Notification System for a term of seven (7) years
378-10-23	Authorizing waiver of a portion of the Community Non-Profit Vendor Permit Fee for Fabulous 50's Weekend
379-10-23	Authorizing waiver of a portion of the Community Non-Profit Vendor Permit Fee for the Italian Festival
380-10-23	Authorizing waiver of a portion of the Community Non-Profit Vendor Permit Fee for the Food and Music Festival
381-10-23	Reappointing Karen M. Gallagher as Registrar of Vital Statistics, Lisa A. Brown as Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics, Hope Pinto as Alternate Registrar of Vital Statistics, and Appointing Amanda R. Neill as Alternate Registrar of Vital Statistics for a term of three years, expiring on October 31, 2026

Authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$1,295,118.33 dated October 11, 2023

Authorizing filing of all reports and other data contained in this agenda

Approving Commercial Lease Agreement between the City of Wildwood and 2701 Associates, LLC for the use of two parking lots in connection with the reconstruction of the Wildwood Boardwalk for a term of October 9. 2023 through March 31, 2024 for a total amount of \$100,000.00

385-10-23 Authorizing the return of Government Surplus Equipment to the US Government

MOTION: Mikulski SECOND: Fitzsimons

ROLL CALL: Mikulski – Yes, Fitzsimons – Yes

REPORTS:

•Engineers Report – On file in the City Clerk's Office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

COMMUNICATIONS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

MOTION: Miladala

PUBLIC COMMENT: During regularly scheduled Board of Commissioners Meeting. Remarks will limit to five (5) minutes per person. The 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.

<u>John Kelly, 3701 Susquehanna Avenue:</u> Mr. Kelly inquires about the small portion of Susquehanna Avenue that is being vacated. Commissioner Steve Mikulski states that it is a small property about 300 sq ft up against the bulkhead that the property owners have already been maintaining.

Al Brannen, 217 E. Bennett Avenue: Mr. Brannen states that there are missing streetlights at Ocean and Learning Avenues and others by Youngs and Atlantic Avenues and asks when this will be addressed. Deputy Mayor Fitzsimons states she will bring the issue to Rich Harron's attention. Mr. Brannen also asked about the City leasing two parking lots for the reconstruction of the Boardwalk in regards to the total amount for this. Mr. Brannen was informed that this was correct and necessary in order to complete the project.

Brad Blubaugh, 3010 Ocean Avenue: Mr. Blubaugh expressed he was disturbed by comments made by Administrator, Steve O'Connor after former Mayor, Pete Byron, resigned. Mr. Blubaugh asked Solicitor, Louis DeLollis what authority does Steve O'Connor have and states he has a conflict with Steve O'Connor for publicly endorsing a political candidate for office. Solicitor, Louis DeLollis declined to comment on the issue and stated he will not be making a legal public comment or giving advice as well as having attorney/client privilege.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business to discuss, this meeting was adjourned at 6:48 pm. Remarks as typed highlighted not verbatim as to subject matter.

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ROLL CALL: Mikulski – Y	Yes, Fitzsimons – Yes	

SECOND: Eitzgimong

S	Steve Mikulski, COMMISSIONER
Kı	rista Fitzsimons, DEPUTY MAYOR
ATTEST:_	Lisa A. Brown, City Clerk

DATE MINUTES APPROVED: October 25, 2023