

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

Wednesday, February 9, 2022
Commissioner's Meeting Room
Time: 5 p.m.

MEETING CALLED

Meeting called to order by the Mayor.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Byron leads in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

City Clerk called the roll and the following Commissioners answered to their names:
Fitzsimons – here, Mikulski – here (via speakerphone), Byron - here

OTHERS ATTENDING

Louis DeLollis, Solicitor
Steve O'Connor, Administrator
Jim Oris, R&V
Christopher H. Wood, 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:

January 26, 2022 Regular Meeting

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

ORDINANCES:

1222-22 Renewing a five-year tax exemption program for the City of Wildwood

MOTION: Byron SECOND: Mikulski
ROLL CALL: Fitzsimons – Yes, Mikulski – Yes, Byron – Yes
The Mayor announced Ordinance No. 1222-22 has passed First Reading.

EARLY PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ernest Troiano, 157 W. Leaming Avenue: Mr. Troiano requested an explanation concerning Resolution "N". Mayor Byron deferred to Mr. DeLollis who stated, it is exactly as it is written. The City is looking into the utility department's financials such as rates, the cost to maintain and the upcoming capital improvements that need to be made. Commissioner Fitzsimons said it is smart and strategic to know this information so we have a look as to how this will affect the City five to ten years from now. She said they want to leave the City in better condition than they received it. Mayor Byron said they are following through with what they said they were going to do when they ran for office, look into each and every department.

RESOLUTIONS: City Clerk read the resolutions listed on the agenda and stated Resolutions "E" and "H" have been stricken from the agenda.

- 61-2-22 Authorizing Professional Services contract with RVE for Tax Map Maintenance (\$60,000.00)
- 62-2-22 Appointing Phoenix Advisors as financial advisors to the City of Wildwood
- 63-2-22 Authorizing Change Order No. 1 as recommended by DeBlasio & Associates for Asphalt Paving Systems for the project: Reconstruction of Stanton Road (\$56,690.25 increase to \$306,407.25)
- 64-2-22 Authorizing RFQP for "Iced Coffee on the Beach" concession for a three-year license in the February 16th edition of the Cape May County Herald, with proposals due to the City Clerk by March 2, 2022 at 3:30pm
- 65-2-22 Authorizing appointments to the City of Wildwood Planning Board
- 66-2-22 Appointing CME Associates as the Engineer for Small Cities Public Facilities Grant Funding re: ADA Improvements to Pacific Avenue

- 67-2-22 Authorizing 2022 Supplemental Sewer Rate
- 68-2-22 Authorizing Emergency Temporary Appropriations
- 69-2-22 Rescinding Resolution No. 233-6-21 re: Winner Ford
- 70-2-22 Authorizing Transfers Between Budget Appropriations
- 71-2-22 Authorizing participation in the Buy Board National Purchasing Co-Op
- 72-2-22 Authorizing solicitation of quotes for financial advisor and approving contract with KIVVIT for education outreach services re: water/sanitary municipal authority
- 73-2-22 Appointing Zoning Officer Steve Booy as UEZ & NPP Coordinator
- 74-2-22 Resolution to approve settlement in McNeil v. City of Wildwood
- 75-2-22 Authorizing Professional Services Contract with Appalachia Hydrogeological & Environmental Consulting, LLC
- 76-2-22 Amending contract for purchase of electrical, lighting and data communications and related equipment (\$40,000.00 increase to \$543,837.63)
- 77-2-22 Authorizing contract for purchase of fire alarm system for 400 W. Oak Avenue (\$20,205.00)
- 78-2-22 Authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$4,633,257.49 dated February 9, 2022
- 79-2-22 Authorizing filing of all reports and other data contained in this agenda

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Byron recognized the Police, Fire and Public Works departments for their hard work in keeping the roads clear and passable during our second snowstorm.
 Commissioner Fitzsimons encouraged everyone to check out the J. Byrne Community Center, as they recently upgraded their game room with all new equipment. Programs consisting of chair yoga and Zumba have been created and takes place at the Pine Avenue Fire House. She is also in the process of beginning an air hockey tournament.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Raffle, NJ Elks Association, June 3, 2022, Wildwood’s Convention Center
- Bingo, Greater Wildwood Rotary Club, March 18, 2022, Wildwood’s Convention Center

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 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.

Ernest Troiano, 157 W. Leaming Avenue: Mr. Troiano commended the Board on looking into the utility departments. He said the water utility is a self-liquidating company and he would not mind an increase provided that the utility is owned by the City of Wildwood. He said he was part of an administration that chose to let go of the water utility in the past, and it was the worst mistake they ever made that ended up costing the City a ton of money. He pleaded with the Board to not even consider selling these utilities. Once you sell, you have no control. He said when the City does improvements the utility covers certain funds such as repaving and other necessary jobs in order to complete the project. In addition, the employees of the water and sewer utilities are the best around. They work hard and get the job done. This is their livelihood and are now in jeopardy of losing their jobs. The last time the City chose to let the water utility go, half of the employees were let go with it.

Kathleen McCullough: Ms. McCullough requested additional information in regard to selling the water utility in the past, directing her question to Mr. Troiano. Mr. Troiano asked Mayor Byron if it was ok to speak, which the Mayor granted. Mr. Troiano explained the City was in a financial crunch at the time and decided to make the

deal in order to keep taxes down, explaining the downfall of the Water Utility. The City Clerk requested Ms. McCullough to address the Board of Commissioners directly if she has any further questions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business to discuss, this meeting was adjourned at 5:19 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: _____
Christopher H. Wood, City Clerk

DATE MINUTES APPROVED February 23, 2022