

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

Wednesday, November 25, 2020
Commissioner's Meeting Room
Time: 10:30 a.m.

MEETING CALLED

Meeting called to order by the Mayor.

NOTE: This meeting was conducted under the restrictions of the COVID-19 virus, as dictated by the Governor's Office. The meeting room was open to the first 14 members of the public, and members of the public were also invited to participate by utilizing the internet application ZOOM. There were 5 members present via Zoom.

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:

Fitzsimons – here, Mikulski – here, Byron - here

OTHERS ATTENDING

Louis DeLollis, Solicitor

Carl Groon, Administrator

Steve O'Connor – Administrative Assistant

Christopher D'Amico, Superintendent of Public Works

Christopher 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:

November 12, 2020 Regular Minutes

MOTION: Fitzsimons SECOND: Mikulski

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

ORDINANCES:

1178-20 Establishing Titles and Salary Ranges for Officers and Employees of the City of Wildwood
(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, the 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. 1178-20 has passed Second Reading.

1179-20 An Ordinance Repealing Ordinance No.,'s 581-03, 608-04, 676-06, 679-06, 864-11 and 1067-17
and Chapter 7, Section 7-1.7 entitled "Mercantile License Fees" **(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, the Public Hearing was closed.

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

1180-20 An Ordinance Repealing and Restating Chapter 4-1.6 and 7-1.7, Establishing a Municipal Beach Parking Lot and Implementing Fees (**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, the 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. 1180-20 has passed Second Reading.

1181-20 Ordinance Repealing Taxi Cab Ordinance (**SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING/ADOPTION**)

MOTION TO OPEN PUBLIC HEARING
MOTION: Byron SECOND: Mikulski
ROLL CALL: Fitzsimons – Yes, Mikulski – Yes, Byron – Yes

Tim Robins, 107 W. Poplar Avenue: A driver for Yellow Cab. He said we're all in trying times, and suffering from lack of business. The company's business is down 60% and the cost of the licenses is a burden. With that said, he believes doing away with the licenses is not the proper thing to do and recommended decreasing the licensing fees. Mr. Robins explained issues the cab companies have been having with Lyft/Uber as their competition.

Charles Caruso, 321 W. Cresse Ave: Manager of Checker Cab. He's also concerned about doing away with cab licensing because without it, the police won't know who's legal to drive a cab. Mayor Byron said the City is not in the business to regulate this industry, and suggested the cab company join Uber or Lyft

It was brought to the Board's attention that not one cab company (island-wide) has purchased a 2020 taxi license.

There being no further comment, the 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. 1181-20 has passed Second Reading.

1182-20 An Ordinance Repealing Ordinance No.'s 1154-19, 1127-18, 1001-14 & 989-13 and Amending Chapter 4 as to change existing fees for Special Event Permits and Establish new fees for the use of City Property for Special Events (**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, the 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. 1182-20 has passed Second Reading.

1183-20 Bond Ordinance Authorizing the completion of Various Capital Improvements and the Acquisition of Various Capital Equipment (**INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING**)

MOTION: Byron SECOND: Mikulski
ROLL CALL: Fitzsimons – Yes, Mikulski – Yes, Byron – Yes
The Mayor announced Ordinance No. 1183-20 has passed First Reading.

1184-20 An Ordinance Adopting Redevelopment Plan for the Property Identified on the City’s Official Tax Map (Various Blocks and Lots) (**INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING**)

MOTION: Byron SECOND: Mikulski
ROLL CALL: Fitzsimons – Yes, Mikulski – Yes, Byron – Yes
The Mayor announced Ordinance No. 1184-20 has passed First Reading.

The City Clerk announced that this Ordinance will go to the Planning Board for review. It also will be distributed to adjoining municipalities. If the Planning Board approves, this ordinance can be placed on the Dec. 23 Board meeting for second reading, public hearing and possible adoption.

EARLY PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

RESOLUTIONS: City Clerk read the resolutions listed on the agenda. Resolution “F” has been pulled from the consent agenda, to be read separately. Resolution “H” is tabled and will be discussed during a Special Meeting scheduled for December 2nd. By doing this will save the City thousands of dollars in rental fees. Addendum “II” has also been tabled.

- 437-11-20 Authorizing refund of taxes for 2020 4th ¼, due to overpayment – Lereta, LLC, 5303 Arctic Avenue #A (\$1,245.53)
- 438-11-20 Authorizing refund of taxes for 2020 4th ¼, due to overpayment (Various)
- 439-11-20 Authorizing refund of taxes for 2020 4th ¼ 2020, due to overpayment – Group 21 Title Agency, 204 E. Garfield Avenue (\$1,486.49)
- 440-11-20 Authorizing refund of taxes for 2021 1st ¼, due to paid on acct in error – Jacqueline Pinto McAndrew, 301 E. Leaming Avenue, #C (\$881.58)
- 441-11-20 Appointing Nick Fluharty as Alternate #3 on the City of Wildwood Planning and Zoning Board
- 442-11-20 Authorizing Capital Budget Amendment
- 443-11-20 Authorizing Cancellation of Capital Improvement Appropriations
- 444-11-20 Authorizing a contract with CME Associates for services in connection with Redevelopment Planning Wildwood Bayside Area in the amount not to exceed \$7,750.00
- 445-11-20 Authorizing the cancellation of a Professional Service Contract for legal services for Tax Appeals and Tax Litigation with Grace Marmero & Associates, LLC
- 446-11-20 Authorizing the cancellation of a Professional Services Contract for legal services for Redevelopment Purposes with Grace Marmero & Associates, LLC
- 447-11-20 Authorizing the execution of a Professional Services Contract, Non-Fair and Open with Marmero Law, LLC for Legal Services for Tax Appeals and Tax Litigation
- 448-11-20 Authorizing to amend the agreement for Professional Services with James M. Rutala Associates, LLC for Grant Writing Services in the amount not to exceed \$20,000.00
- 449-11-20 Authorizing an Extension of Street Opening Permit #1615 which was issued to South Jersey Gas on December 18, 2019
- 450-11-20 Authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$1,973,347.23 dated November 25, 2020
- 451-11-20 Authorizing filing of all reports and other data contained in this agenda
- 452-11-20 Authorizing 2020 Accelerated Tax Sale

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

453-11-20 Authorizing the release of a Performance Surety Bond to Sciarra Properties which was issued by First Indemnity of America Insurance Company for 133, 135 & 137 W. Taylor Avenue

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

REPORTS:

•Engineer’s Report

John Hess, CME, sent the Engineer’s Report to Carl Groon, Administrator, and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Jim Oris, Remington & Vernick Engineers, was not present at this meeting so Christopher D’Amico, Superintendent of Public Works, provided the Board with an update on projects going on throughout the City.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Commissioner Fitzsimons announced that the City is providing a healthy, safe activity for the community during the holiday season. It will consist of people registering their homes for a decorating contest where people can drive around to view the lights with their families, and vote for their favorites. Then they go to Holly Beach Park to view the new spectacle of lights show, which will run every hour on the hour, on December 10-11, and 18-19. She said everyone is welcome walk around the park and enjoy the light show while heeding social distance regulations. Commissioner Fitzsimons wished everyone a happy, healthy Thanksgiving.

Commissioner Mikulski said that with the unofficial start of the holiday season, he encouraged everyone to visit Byrne Plaza on November 28th, where there will be about 90 vendors set up around the area. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, reminding people to stay safe, healthy and strong.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

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.

NOTE: There were 5 people in attendance via the internet application ZOOM.

Karen Burk, 115 W. Spicer Ave, 2nd Floor: Ms. Burk said as a taxpayer, she found this meeting today to be frustrating and hard to hear. Muting her was inappropriate. She appreciates everyone’s hard work and wished everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving. Mayor Byron said they are all a little frustrated however; some things are out of their control.

Mayor Byron wished everyone a happy, healthy Thanksgiving.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business to discuss, this meeting was adjourned at 11:28 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: December 9, 2020