

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2016 – 7:00 PM
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

ATTENDANCE: Ms. Bergman; Mr. DeVlieger; Mr. Guinosso; Mr. Hartzell; and Mr. Wilson. Also present was Mayor Gillian, Mr. Allegretto, Community Services Director; and Ms McCrosson, City Solicitor. Mr. McClellan arrived at 7:04p.m. Mr. Madden was absent.

Council President Hartzell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked everyone to rise for the flag salute. He announced the meeting had been advertised in accordance with P.L. 1975, Chapter 231.

CITIZEN COMMENT:

Bill Hartranft, 728 Battersea Road – asked when a flood remediation meeting would be held. Voiced concern on the scheduled roads and drainage project in the 3rd Ward.

Eric Sauder, 2928 Central Ave. – noted that residents have ongoing property damage due to the repeated flooding and wants to see a resolution addressing repeated problem in this community.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Hartzell asked for a motion to adopt the Regular City Council meeting minutes of Thursday, January 14, 2016 and Closed Executive Session minutes of Thursday, January 14, 2016 (All present). Motion moved by Ms. Bergman, seconded by Mr. DeVlieger, all ayes followed.

REPORTS – MAYOR & ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Allegretto reminded residents trash will be picked up at the curb as normal if there was any damaged articles from storm Jonas. Mr. Allegretto said the Administration is working on the 2016 Budget that will be presented at the February 11, 2016 Council meeting. Mayor Gillian thanked all those people who stepped up to help residents with storm related issues during the past week.

Mayor Gillian said there is a continued effort to improve roads and drainage and there is a lot of money being funded toward the infrastructure of the City. The City has hired a professional firm to assist with a plan for disposing the spoils from dredging, and if they can't do it, they will find someone who can. The City is moving as fast as it can without a tax increase to residents and to live within its means and be fiscally responsible.

REPORTS – CITY COUNCIL

Mr. Hartzell said he noticed in the last storm, bulkheads in certain areas were breaching. He asked who was responsible for the upkeep of those bulkheads that need repair or no bulkhead at all. Ms. McCrosson responded there is a city ordinance in place for property owners to maintain a bulkhead, but the City cannot go in and fix the bulkhead for them, noting that it is a difficult situation. Ms. McCrosson said that Ordinance 22-11 in the Administrative Code addresses the maintenance of bulkheads.

Mayor Gillian clarified the misconception of the pump station issue stating that the operation of the station is to move the water out faster, but not necessarily alleviate all flooding.

Mr. Wilson asked if there was a mechanism in place for residents who don't repair an existing bulkhead. Ms. McCrosson said they can be issued a summons for court and be fined. If they can't afford it, it is difficult to compel them to do so. Mayor Gillian said it is cheaper for the private sector to repair it rather than the City.

Mr. DeVlieger thought maybe a grant could be found to help those who couldn't afford to repair those bulkheads in need of repair or non existing bulkheads to shore up the weakest link. Mayor Gillian responded to Mr. DeVlieger's question that Matthew Von der Hayden has excelled in finding grant money since his coming on as Capital Planning Manager..

RESOLUTIONS – CONSENT AGENDA:

16-52-031 - #2. A Resolution to Authorize the Advertisement of Specifications for City Contract #15-36, Lagoon Outfall Drainage Improvements at Various Locations

16-52-032 - #3. A Resolution Authorizing the Award of City RFQ #Q-15-011, Architectural Services for the Bayside Center

16-52-033 - #4. A Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract Between the City of Ocean City and ADP, LLC for the 2016 Payroll & Human Resource Software Contract for the Department of Financial Management & the Department of Administration, Human Resources Division

16-52-035 - #6. A Resolution Authorizing the City's Participation in the Atlantic County Cooperative Pricing Program for Award of County Bid Furnishing & Delivering of Rock Salt to Participating Members of the Atlantic County Cooperative Program (#41-ACC)

16-52-036 - #7. A Resolution Authorizing the Extension of City Contract #14-05 R-1, Maintenance of City Owned Grounds & Garden Plots for the Calendar Year 2016

16-52- 037 - #8. A Resolution Approving Tax Overpayment Refund 2016-1 to 3

16-52- 038 - #9. A Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Claims

16-52-040 - #11. A Resolution Authorizing a Professional Services Contract between the City of Ocean City & Act Engineering, Inc. for the 2016 Dredging Program Support-CDF 83

16-52-041 - #12. A Resolution Consenting to the Mayor's Appointment of Thomas J. Mullineaux; Lauren Cowden; Beth Ann Schumacher as members to the Healthy Living Advisory Board

16-52-042 - #13. A Resolution Appointing Melissa Bovera City Clerk, City of Ocean City

16-52-043 - #14. A Resolution Appointing Melissa Bovera as Municipal Registrar of Vital Statistics

Mr. Hartzell asked for a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda. Motion moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Guinosso. All ayes followed.

Mr. Hartzell asked the clerk to read the Non Consent Agenda by title.

NON CONSENT AGENDA

16-52-030 - #1. Resolution to Authorize the Advertisement of Specifications for City Contract #16-16, 2016 Road Improvement Program – Phase I

16-52-034 - #5. A Resolution Authorizing a Site Use Agreement with Weatherflow, Inc. for the 59th Street Parking Lot

16-52-039 - #10. A Resolution Authorizing a Professional Services Contract Between the City of Ocean City & Tonio Burgos and Associates of New Jersey, LLC for the 2016 Back Bay and Lagoon Dredging Program

Mr. Guinosso said he has concerns on the 9" elevation of streets in the road improvement project described in Resolution #1. He asked to have residents informed that are impacted by the street elevation in those areas. Mr. Wilson announced he would have a Third Ward meeting to make the residents aware of what they can expect when the project begins. Mr. Hartzell and Mr. Wilson said they would go door to door to put flyers out regarding a third Ward meeting to inform those who would be impacted by the road project. Mayor Gillian said he would have details of the projects placed on the plan.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment on the removed resolutions. Mr. Hartzell asked for a motion to adopted the removed resolutions. Motion moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Bergman. All ayes followed.

PENDING BUSINESS

Ms. Bergman thanked Administration for the dredging meeting that was presented very well and looks forward to more meetings. Mr. Guinosso said he was looking forward to an update on check valves in the Baker report and the next step. Mayor Gillian responded to Mr. Guinosso's remarks and asked that a house on Waterway Road be checked for the operation of a sewer pipe that was reported to be clogged. Mayor Gillian said he would follow up.

Mr. McClellan and Mr. Hartzell thanked the Mayor and the Administration for the Martin Luther King Celebration that was a huge success with the help of all those who participated.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Wilson spoke on the pile driving disturbance that occurs throughout the city and believes there are better ways to improve the method of pile driving. The process of notifying residents with certified and regular mail is inconvenient and costly. Ms. McCrosson explained that the 200' notification is not only for pile driving but also demolition as well and that it is a local ordinance. Ms. McCrosson said the ordinance could be a little excessive relative to the 200' notification and offered an opinion to Council. She believes that a smaller number of people need to be notified when pile driving occurs. When it comes to demolition, the existing 200' notification is probably a good parameter to maintain. Mr. DeVlieger thought that e-mail could be used for notification to residents on other matters as they may exist.

Ms. Bergman welcomed Melissa Bovera as the new City Clerk and wish her luck in her new endeavor.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Marty Mozzo, 3803 Westminster Lane - in speaking with other people has heard that the pump station don't work. Mr. Mozzo wants people to know because the water was so high they couldn't operate, as soon as they were kick on the water went down. He would like people to know it has been a massive improvement to Merion Park and offered his services as a PR man stating it does work, and it does its job.

Dale Braun, 326 West Avenue – suggested that the City offer a loan program to install or repair bulkheads at a low interest rate. Mayor Gillian said they would look into the suggestion.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hartzell asked for a motion to adjourn, Mr. Wilson offered a motion, seconded by Mr. McClellan. The meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm.


Sheila Cottrell, Deputy City Clerk