

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2020 – 7:00PM
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Mr. Madden stated the following: The meeting will be muted to the public except during the citizen comment portion. At that time we will ask for names alphabetically and once we have the list of names we will individually call upon you to give your full name, address and comment. Due to the unique nature of this meeting under today's circumstances there will be one opportunity for citizen comment at the end of the meeting.

ATTENDANCE: Mr. Barr, Ms. Bergman, Mr. DeVlieger, Mr. Hartzell, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Madden. Present also was Mayor Gillian, Business Administrator, Mr. Savastano and Solicitor, Ms. McCrosson.

Council President Mr. Madden called the meeting to order and asked everyone to rise for the flag salute and prayer. Mr. Madden announced that adequate notice of this meeting has been given pursuant to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Madden asked for a motion to adopt the Regular City Council meeting minutes of Thursday, May 14, 2020. Motion moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Hartzell. All ayes followed.

REPORTS – MAYOR & ADMINISTRATION:

Mayor Gillian reported that the local municipal budget for year 2020 is being introduced tonight and includes a zero (0) tax increase. Also, the city is going to acquire the car dealership on 16th Street and plans to preserve that location as open space. Mayor Gillian also commented that he is confident that the city is doing everything possible to keep the health of its citizens and visitors safe regarding Covid-19; he has spoken with health officials and the number of cases reported has gone down. He encourages everyone to continue to educate themselves and be responsible for their safety. The city will continue to provide services that is acceptable for everyone.

REPORTS – CITY COUNCIL:

Mr. DeVlieger said that he was thankful that the high school seniors had a red carpet event. He said thank you to everyone involved for putting that event together.

Ms. Bergman also said how nice the red carpet event was for the high school seniors and that the Flanders missed them for prom this year. Ms. Bergman also commented on Memorial Day weekend; the boardwalk was full and it was nice to see everyone following the guidelines. Also, she said the bathrooms at 10th and 11th Street look really nice and she suggested some signage to let people know they are there.

ORDINANCE: FIRST READING & INTRODUCTION:

Mr. Madden asked for a motion to take up Ordinance No. 20-10 on first reading and introduction. Motion moved by Ms. Bergman, seconded by Mr. Wilson. All ayes followed. The clerk read the ordinance by title. **Ordinance No. 20-10 - An Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank per (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14) for Calendar Year 2020**

CFO, Mr. Donato provided an explanation on the ordinance. There was some discussion between the governing body members. Mr. Donato pointed out that there was a typographical error in the body of the ordinance and asked the clerk to amend the ordinance. Mr. Madden asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 20-10 on first reading and introduction as amended. Motion moved by Mr. Hartzell, seconded by Ms. Bergman. All ayes followed.

Mr. Madden announced that second reading and public hearing on Ordinance No. 20-10 will be held on Thursday, June 25, 2020 and will be published according to law.

RESOLUTION: NON-CONSENT:

20-56-333 - #1 - A Resolution Introducing the 2020 Local Municipal Budget

CFO, Mr. Donato provided an explanation and spoke in detail about the 2020 Local Municipal Budget. There was discussion between the governing body members and Mr. Donato. Mr. Madden opened the meeting up for public comment.

Suzanne Hornick – 2962 West Avenue – asked if the budget presentation would be available online.

Mr. Madden closed the public comment portion of the meeting on Resolution No. 1. Mr. Madden asked for a motion to approve Resolution No. 1. Motion moved by Mr. Hartzell, seconded by Mr. Wilson. All ayes followed.

RESOLUTIONS – CONSENT AGENDA:

20-56-334 - #2 - A Resolution to Authorize the Advertisement of Specifications for City Contract #20-26, Supply & Delivery of Stainless Steel Boardwalk Screws

20-56-335 - #3 - A Resolution Authorizing the Rejection of Bids for City Contract #20-09, Towing & Lockout Services for the City of Ocean City

Tabled by Administration: #4 - A Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract between the City of Ocean City & Cross Country Cowboy, Inc. for Supply & Installation of Barrier Netting for Various Locations throughout the City of Ocean City

Mr. Madden asked for a motion to table Resolution No. 4. Motion moved by Mr. Hartzell, seconded by Mr. DeVlieger. All eyes followed.

20-56-336 - #5 - A Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract between the City of Ocean City & Cody's Power Equipment for the Acquisition, Supply and Repair of Lawn & Grounds Equipment for the Department of Operations & Engineering

20-56-337 - #6 - A Resolution Authorizing the Extension of City Contract #18-06, Digital Recording Production Services for the City of Ocean City & the Ocean City Cooperative Pricing System (251COCCPS)

20-56-338 - #7 - A Resolution Authorizing Change Order #6 to City Contract #19-33, 2019 Road Improvement at Various Locations - Midtown Road Improvements

20-56-339 - #8 - A Resolution Authorizing Change Orders #1 & #2 to City Contract #20-04, Maintenance of City Owned Grounds & Garden Plots

20-56-340 - #9 - A Resolution Authorizing Change Order #1, Final Acceptance & Final Payment of City Contract #20-17, Improvements to Various Boardwalk Street End Ramps - Central

20-56-341 - #10 - A Resolution Authorizing the Tax Collector to Process Third Quarter "Estimated" Tax Bills, Due August 1, 2020

20-56-342 - #11 - A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the American Federation of Musicians, Local 16-248

20-56-343 - #12 - A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the IAEP Local R3/347

20-56-344 - #13 - A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor or His Designee to Make Application for a New Jersey State Library Construction Bond Act Grant for the Ocean City Free Public Library

20-56-345 - #14 - A Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Claims

Mr. Madden asked for a motion to adopt the consent agenda. Motion moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Bergman. All eyes followed.

PENDING BUSINESS:

Mr. Hartzell spoke about the consideration of closing Asbury Avenue. He spoke to people who are both in favor and against the idea. The concept is to make Asbury Avenue from 6th to 11th Street a pedestrian walkway; no bikes, no cars and no parking. He said the Mayor is forming a committee consisting of two people from each block and they will discuss the pros and cons. Also, Mr. Hartzell plans to hand out flyers and hopes to receive feedback.

Mr. Barr spoke about thinking outside of the box and to have a discussion about the city's downtown area so that we can help those businesses survive during the pandemic.

Mr. DeVlieger said we need to explore all options in an effort to help the local businesses bounce back.

Ms. Bergman spoke about how the business on Asbury Avenue are suffering due to the pandemic; she said she will be happy to help with the committee to get opinions. She would like to be a part of assisting the business recoup what they have lost. She also mentioned that on Saturday hotels are now allowed to rent rooms.

NEW BUSINESS:

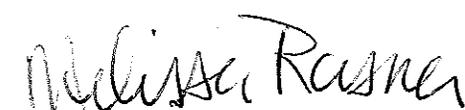
Mr. Barr encouraged local officials to put pressure in the Governor for opening small businesses back up along with following the necessary guidelines like social distancing.

CITIZEN COMMENT:

Suzanne Hornick - 2962 West Avenue - suggested doing a blood drive every two months because the Red Cross is very low right now. Also, she commented that council voted on allowing a partnership with the city and the Gill family to develop between 9th and 10th street on the bay; the city put in \$2 million and Gill family put in \$1 million but she said she hasn't seen or heard anything more. She expressed her opinions about in ground pools; in ground pools are not impervious and that needs to be taken out of the ordinance stating so. Lastly, she thanked the mayor for everything he's doing right now regarding the pandemic.

ADJOURN:

Mr. Madden asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. DeVlieger. All eyes followed. 7:45 p.m.



Melissa Rasner, City Clerk