

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 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 28, 2020. Motion moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Barr. All ayes followed.

REPORTS – CITY COUNCIL:

Mr. Hartzell provided a report regarding street closures for downtown shopping and outdoor dining purposes. He spoke to several municipalities and discussed how downtown street closures are being handled in the towns that are similar to Ocean City.

Mr. Madden provided a report on the Tourism Commission's meeting.

ORDINANCE: FIRST READING & INTRODUCTION:

Mr. Madden asked for a motion to take up Ordinance No. 20-11 on first reading and introduction. Motion moved by Mr. Hartzell, seconded by Mr. Barr. All ayes followed. The clerk read the ordinance by title. **Ordinance No. 20-11 – A Bond Ordinance Appropriating \$15,959,000.00 and Authorizing the Issuance of \$15,161,050.00 In Bonds and Notes of the City of Ocean City for the Various Improvements or Purposes Authorized to be Undertaken by the City of Ocean City, New Jersey**

CFO, Mr. Donato provided an explanation and spoke in detail about section three of the ordinance. There was some discussion between the governing body and Mr. Donato. Mr. Madden asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 20-11 on first reading and introduction. Motion moved by Mr. Barr, seconded by Mr. Wilson. All ayes followed. Mr. Madden announced that second reading and public hearing is scheduled for Thursday, June 25, 2020 and will be published according to law.

ORDINANCE: SECOND READING & PUBLIC HEARING:

Mr. Madden asked for a motion to take up Ordinance No. 20-08 on second reading and public hearing. Motion moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Hartzell. All ayes followed. The clerk read the ordinance by title. **Ordinance No. 20-08 – An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter XXV, Zoning and Land Development of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Ocean City (Driveways, Parking, Grass Block Pavers)**

Solicitor, Ms. McCrosson provided an explanation. Mr. Madden opened the meeting up for public comment on Ordinance No. 20-08.

Chuck Deal – 2837 Central Ave – in favor of the ordinance. Had questions and concerns about the standard identifying the percentage that will be allowed.

Donna Moore – 21 Ocean Ave – said that standards need to be set regarding the percentage for grass block pavers.

Mr. Madden closed the public comment portion of the meeting on Ordinance No. 20-08. Mr. Madden asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 20-08 on second reading and public hearing. Motion made by Mr. Hartzell, seconded by Ms. Bergman. All ayes followed.

Mr. Madden asked for a motion to take up Ordinance No. 20-09 on second reading and public hearing. Motion moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Hartzell. All ayes followed. The clerk read the ordinance by title. **Ordinance No. 20-09 – An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter XXV, Zoning and Land Development of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Ocean City (Elevating Nonconforming Buildings)**

Solicitor, Ms. McCrosson provided an explanation. Mr. Madden opened the meeting up for public comment on Ordinance No. 20-09. No one from the public wished to speak. Mr. Madden closed the public comment portion of the meeting. Mr. Madden asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 20-09 on second reading and public hearing. Motion moved by Mr. Barr, seconded by Mr. Hartzell. All ayes followed.

RESOLUTIONS – CONSENT AGENDA:

20-56-346 - #1 - A Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract Between the City of Ocean City & Center Stage Entertainment, Inc. for 2021 1st Night Activities

20-56-347 - #2 - A Resolution Authorizing a Professional Services Contract between the City of Ocean City and McCrosson & Stanton, P.C. for General Legal Services

20-56-348 - #3 - A Resolution Authorizing Change Order #1 to City Contract #19-27, Back Bay Mechanical Dredging-Central

20-56-349 - #4 - A Resolution Authorizing Change Order #7 to City Contract #19-33, 2019 Road Improvement at Various Locations - Midtown Road Improvements

20-56-350 - #5 - A Resolution Authorizing Change Order #1 to City Contract #20-21, Falconry Based Bird Abatement (FBBA) Services on the Ocean City Boardwalk & the Beachfront Areas

20-56-351 - #6 - A Resolution Approving the Submission of a 2021 NJDOT Municipal Aid Grant Application for West Avenue from 18th Street to 26th Street Project

20-56-352 - #7 - A Resolution Declaring that an Emergent Condition Exists and Authorizing an Award of a Contract to Atlantic Regional Thermography for Supply & Delivery of Surgical Masks for the City of Ocean City

20-56-353 - #8 - A Resolution Approving Tax Overpayment Refund 2020-12

20-56-354 - #9 - A Resolution Authorizing the Release of a Maintenance Guarantee for a Construction Project at 924 Ocean Avenue, Block 902, Lot 12; Project #16-017PMS

20-56-355 - #10 - A Resolution Authorizing the Release of a Maintenance Guarantee for a Construction Project at 2237-39 Asbury Avenue, Block 2202, Lot 7; Project #17-008ZBA

20-56-356 - #11 - A Resolution Authorizing the Release of a Maintenance Guarantee for a Construction Project at 800 Wesley Avenue, Block 805, Lot 12; Project #17-016PBA

20-56-357 - #12 - A Resolution Authorizing the Release of a Performance Guarantee for a Construction Project at 817 Bay Avenue, Block 810, Lot 1; Project #19-012ZBA

20-56-358 - #13 - A Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of the Wheel Loader Grant

20-56-359 - #14 - A Resolution Amending Resolution 20-56-331 Establishing Rules and Regulations for Proper Control and Regulation of the Beachfront

20-56-360 - #15 - A Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Claims

20-56-361 - #16 - A Resolution Approving a Special Event Permit for the 2020 4th of July Fireworks Display

20-56-362 - #17 - A Resolution Approving a Special Event Permit for a Fireworks Display for Night in Venice

20-56-363 - #18 - A Resolution Approving a Special Event Permit for a Fireworks Display for Indian Summer Weekend

20-56-364 - #19 - A Resolution Approving a Special Event Permit for a Fireworks Display for the First Night Event on January 1, 2021

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

PENDING BUSINESS:

Mr. Hartzell spoke about Ordinance No. 20-05 and the increase in the fee to \$250.00. He also said that 50 years ago on June 18th the 7th Street beach was made a surf beach and has become a huge attraction over time. He thanked Mayor Sharp and also said that it led to the making of the skate board park. He would like to have a celebration in the near future.

Mr. Barr spoke about the Black Lives Matter protest that was held in town a few ago and wanted to thank the Mayor, administration and police department for handling it so well.

Mr. DeVlieger spoke about the Black Lives Matter protest that as held in town and said that respect was the key element. He said that the officers were respectful and the protest was genuine. Mr. DeVlieger suggested that the city designate some more beaches as surf beaches in addition to 7th Street.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Bergman reminded everyone that on June 15th you can go out shopping on the boardwalk and Asbury Avenue. Mr. Hartzell spoke about the Black Lives Matter protest that as held in town and said that police department and public works department handled the protest well and the level of professionalism, preparation and respect was outstanding. The protestors were safe and it was a job well done by all.

Mr. Wilson thanked the administration for holding the MUA's feet to the fire on the Bay Avenue project. He thanked everyone for working together to smooth the road out and make it safe to drive.

Mr. Barr encouraged everyone to shop local and support the local businesses.

REPORTS – MAYOR & ADMINISTRATION:

Mayor Gillian spoke about Ordinance No. 20-05 and said that another ordinance will be brought forward to adjust the price of the beach vehicle fee. Mayor Gillian said that he has spoken with local doctors and hospitals and the number of COVID-19 cases is under 20%. The medical professionals are confident that there will not be any spikes and he encourages people to remain responsible in keeping themselves safe and healthy. On June 15th retail stores and restaurants will be back open for business. Also, on June 22nd pools will be able to open and the stay at home order has been lifted by the Governor. Ocean City High School graduation will be held on July 9th. The Mayor thanked the police department, Chief Prettyman and the public works department for the job well done during the Black Lives Matter protest that took place in Ocean City. He also commented on the MUA project regarding Bay Avenue and said that everyone has been working together to get the job accomplished. Beach replenishment is scheduled for June 27th. Finally, Mayor Gillian thanked city council, his senior staff and CFO, Mr. Donato for the cooperation and work that was put into the local budget.

CITIZEN COMMENT:

Chuck Deal – 2837 Central Ave – said that the surfing beaches are a great asset and suggested that 31st Street be designated a surf beach because it would spread the surfers out and the younger children on foam boards would be safer.

Bill Hartranft – 728 Battersea Road – said that Councilman Hartzell did a good job gathering information regarding the closure of downtown's and he said tonight's council meeting was very informative; it was a good meeting.

Robert Foreman – 2300 West Ave – spoke about construction dumpsters being in violation of the ordinance and asked that it be looked in to.

Donna Moore – 21 Ocean Ave – had questions about Resolution No. 3 on the consent agenda and expressed her concerns about a barrier wall. She also spoke about the harmful effects of pesticides on city land as well as on the youth athletic fields.

ADJOURN:

Mr. Madden asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion moved by Mr. Hartzell, seconded by Mr. Wilson. All eyes followed. 8:10 p.m.



Melissa Rasner, City Clerk