

OCEAN CITY UTILITY ADVISORY COMMISSION

**City of Ocean City
Henry S. Knight Building
Room #219
115 E. 12th Street
Ocean City, NJ 08226**

Meeting Minutes of Wednesday, February 19, 2014

NAME	TITLE	PRESENT/ABSENT	NAME	TITLE	PRESENT/ABSENT
John Quinn	Chairman	Present	Vacancy	Commissioner	
Francis Walicki	Vice-Chairman	Present	Vacancy	Commissioner	
Linda DeLanzo	Commissioner	Absent	Vacancy	Commissioner	
Denise Frehr	Commissioner	Present	Joe Clark	Purchasing Mgr.	Present
Ed McConnell	Commissioner	Present	Mike DeVlieger	Council Rep.	Absent
Martin Mozzo	Secretary	Present			

Call to Order & Roll Call

- **Quorum:** 5 (Yes)

Open Public Meetings Act Announcement

- Adequate notice of this meeting has been given pursuant to Public Law 1975; Chapter 231.
- Meeting was opened @ 9:00 AM

Approval of the Minutes

- Wednesday, January 15th, 2014 Meeting Motion to Approve Francis Walicki 1st, Denise Frehr seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Public Comment

- Two (2) members of the public were present and made comments regarding the water/sewer charges. The two individuals were Phyllis Gerdorf & Bill Hartranft.
- A member of the press, Doug Bergan, was also present.
- Phyllis spoke first and questioned the water and sewer rates. Joe Clark explained the rate making process in New Jersey as it applies to Ocean City. He also explained how New Jersey American Water rates are set and approved by the State. Joe also provided a handout which is on the City's website, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's). The major concern continues to revolve around the higher sewer charges, which are a result of the major capital investment and operating costs of the City's sewerage treatment plant, whose full capacity is only required for two to three months of the year. The remainder of the year, the plant operates on a much reduced capacity rate.
- Bill Hartranft stated that he heard what we trying to say; however, he does not like it. He believes that the sewer charges for the City residents are quite high.
- Doug Bergan published the handout FAQ in his publication.

Reports

- **Atlantic City Electric** – Nothing reported
- **South Jersey Gas** – Joe Clark provided three (3) notices of possible rate increases: (1) An increase to the cost recovery charge associated with Energy Efficiency Programs "EET Charge"; (2) Change the level of its societal benefits clause "SBC"; and (3) Approval of a Storm Hardening and Reliability Program "SHARP" and associated recovery mechanism.
- **Comcast** – Joe Clark handed out notices for Comcast of change in services, Plus Price changes for programming. Joe also provided a handout regarding compensation for outages lasting longer than six (6) hours. Joe also stated that Comcast will continue to have a presence in the City until an unspecified date. Further the City's Channel OCTV 2 has been moved to Channel 97.

Reports (Continued)

- **New Jersey American Water** – Joe Clark handed out his FAQ sheet which should help answer some of the questions on how sewer charges are calculated and why they appear to be excessive. He also handed out a copy of NJAWC’s Petition to change the levels of its purchased water adjustment clause and purchased wastewater (Sewerage) treatment adjustment clause. Marty Mozzo explained that the charges in this petition is a direct pass on of incurred costs by NJAWC, that is NJAWC does not realize a profit or markup from these pass through charge.
- **City Representative** – Other than previously discussed, no comment from Joe Clark.
- **Council Representative** – Mike DeVlieger was not present, no report given.

Old Business

- None reported

New Business

- Marty Mozzo brought up the issue of the South Jersey Gas pipeline for BL England. There have been several articles in the local papers discussing the fact that it appears Cape May County has only one pipeline serving the entire County. The pipeline for BL England was to be a redundancy line for the County. Marty expressed concern to the Commission that we may be at risk without a backup line. Joe Clark stated that he will try to set up a meeting with the UAC and South Jersey Gas to discuss infrastructure concerns and their ongoing capital improvements within the City.
- Joe Clark noted that one of our longstanding commission members, Gene Hille recently passed away.

Adjournment of the Meeting

- The meeting was closed @ 10:30 AM

The next meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 16th, 2014 at the Knight Building @ 9:00 AM.

Secretary, Marty Mozzo

Minutes: 2/19/14