

OCEAN CITY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

MINUTES

NOVEMBER 13, 2018

Chairman Burton Wilkins called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm in Council Chambers, City Hall.

MEMBERS ATTENDING: Karen Bergman, Carol Frank, Wesley Kazmarck, William McGinnity, Peter Madden, Patty Talese and Burton Wilkins

ALSO ATTENDING: Michele Gillian, Executive Director of the Ocean City Chamber of Commerce and Michael Allegretto, Director of Community Services

Adequate notice of this meeting has been given pursuant to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

Carol Frank moved to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2018 meeting. Wesley Kazmarck seconded. The motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS: Donna Schmitt distributed the financial reports and answered questions from the members of the Tourism Commission. Collections are down in 2018 which will impact the 2019 Budget.

The Proposed Budget for 2019 was presented and Michele Gillian summarized the reductions.

At two budget workshops in October, it was agreed that the 2019 Budget needed to be reduced by \$130,000 to reflect the drop in mercantile fee collections in 2018. The only way to make these reductions in an equitable way was to decrease the Advertising and Promotions Budget 12% across the board. Many of the owners of duplexes, which make up the majority of the mercantile fee collections, are no longer renting their units and more qualified buyers are using the units themselves. There is also an impact from VRBO (Vacation Rentals By Owner) rentals of the internet.

RESOLUTIONS:

A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 2019 BUDGET

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE RESOLUTION: No one from the public was present.

Carol Frank moved to approve the 2019 Budget Resolution. Karen Bergman seconded. A roll call vote was taken. Karen Bergman, Carol Frank, Wesley Kazmarck, William McGinnity, Peter Madden, Patty Talese and Burton Wilkins voted aye.

NEW BUSINESS: There was a discussion among the members of the Commission on possible ways to increase the revenues in 2019.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.

The next advertised meeting of the Tourism Commission will be held on Thursday, December 13th at 9 am in Council Chambers, City Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally J. Huff
Recording Secretary