



## **MAYOR'S MESSAGE:**

*February 16, 2017*

During Tuesday's City Council meeting, I handed the proposed 2017 Budget to Council after delivering this year's State of the City Address. I am very happy to report that the current State of Sea Isle City is strong and sound.

As I mentioned in my address, Sea Isle will soon form a paid emergency medical services division, due to the challenges experienced in sustaining an all-volunteer Ambulance Corps. This decision comes after a thorough study was conducted of our ambulance and rescue services. I am certain all of Sea Isle City is very grateful for our volunteer EMT's and medical first responders – many of whom will continue to give aid to those in need of medical assistance moving forward. Because public safety is a top priority for this Administration and the members of City Council, everyone can rest assured that 24/7 ambulance and emergency medical response services will continue to be provided for our entire community.

I also mentioned in my address that City Council has identified several items in the draft master plan that they'd like to see move forward prior to the completion of the Master Plan Re-examination. Included in a list of priorities is the disposition of the former public school property on Park Road, which the Administration anticipates will ultimately be a Community / Recreation facility. We look forward to working with the members of City Council and the public as plans and cost estimates are prepared for various options for that property.

Being a community on a barrier island, it is no surprise that Storm Water Management was also mentioned in my State of the City Address. Maintaining and improving our flood standards is an important focus for all of us. With that in mind, a major initiative to address flood prone areas is currently underway. We will keep you informed as this project evolves.

You can read my entire State of the City Address by clicking the link in the Mayor's Message portion of this E-Newsletter.

In other news, earlier today I had the honor of hosting a Dedication Ceremony at Excursion Park, where we unveiled a bronze plaque honoring Dr. Irene Jameson, our City's long-time Public Relations Director, a beloved community volunteer and Sea Isle's first Polar Bear Queen. Following Dr. Jameson's death in 2015, many people have looked forward to the day when a permanent memorial would be erected in her honor, and now that day has arrived. Please look for Dr. Jameson's plaque the next time you're near Excursion Park (it's located next to the brick compass adjacent to the Promenade).

As you probably are aware, this weekend is Polar Bear Weekend in Sea Isle City. After several years of extremely cold conditions, the weather forecast calls for mild temperatures and sunny skies –

which is obviously great news! This weekend promises to be an exciting one, and I hope you can be here to enjoy all the festivities. For more info about the 2017 Polar Bear Plunge and the other activities that will take place during Polar Bear Weekend, go to the best source for local event information: [www.VISITSICNJ.com](http://www.VISITSICNJ.com).

This week's "Shout Out" goes to Matt Baldini, of Boy Scout Troop 76. Matt advanced to the rank of Eagle Scout on February 11, which put him in a special category that includes senators, astronauts, Olympians, captains of industry and other notable Americans. Sea Isle City is home to many Eagle Scouts – including Matt's Dad, Paul, and his brother, Paul, Jr. – and our community is all the better for them! Congratulations Matt!

REMINDER: Monday, February 20, is a City holiday and there will be no curbside trash and recycling collections that day. All curbside trash & recycling collections will take place one day later than usual during the week of February 20 (Monday's collections will take place on Tuesday, etc.). Please keep in mind that the Trash & Recycling Depot (located next to the Sea Isle Bridge) will be open on Monday, February 20, from 7:15 a.m. to 2:45 p.m., which will allow residents and property owners to personally drop-off their trash and recycling on Monday if they won't be in town later in the week.

Smile...You're in Sea Isle!



Mayor Leonard C. Desiderio

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