CITY COUNCIL'S MESSAGE *May 20, 2021*

Due to COVID-19, the May 11 City Council meeting was held remotely; however, members of the public were able to participate in the meeting telephonically.

At the start of the May 11 meeting, Mayor Desiderio explained that the City will begin the process of reopening municipal buildings starting on May 24, and also that construction was progressing at the new pickleball courts along 42nd Place, which are expected to be completed by Memorial Day.

Following the Mayor's report, City Solicitor Paul Baldini updated Council on a request from Crest Savings Bank for approval of an encroachment agreement on the sidewalk along 45th Street for the construction of an ADA-compliant ramp. Mr. Baldini further explained that the City's Administration recommended granting the encroachment agreement. At that point, City Council voted to authorize the encroachment agreement, which will be finalized when a resolution is passed May 25.

Ordinance 1669 was introduced with first reading on May 11. This ordinance was written to re-zone a very small piece of land in the Townsends Inlet section of Sea Isle City that will help a nearby private property that was negatively impacted by earlier re-zoning. This zoning change is consistent with and promoted by Sea Isle City's Master Plan. Ordinance 1669 will have second reading and possible adoption during the June 22 City Council meeting.

Ordinance 1667 was adopted on May 11. Ordinance 1667 was written to prohibit the sale, manufacturing, cultivation, processing, and/or distribution of marijuana within Sea Isle City's geographical boundaries. It also prohibits dispensing, smoking or ingesting cannabis in public places; and it regulates the delivery of cannabis within the City.

Each of the resolutions on the May 11 Consent Agenda was approved, including…

- Resolution 098, which confirmed Mayor Desiderio's re-appointment of Vince Morrison as Sea Isle City's Municipal Judge.

- Resolution 101, which authorized a contract for $114,000 with "Go Events" for Sea Isle City's 2021 summer concerts.

- Resolution 102, which designated a 2009 Ford F-450 as "surplus" and authorized its sale online.

- Resolution 103, which authorized a contract for the sale of ice cream and bottled water on the beach for a 2-year contract, pursuant to a public bid.

- Resolution 104, which re-authorized the advertisement of bids for a Kayak Rental concession on the beach.

- Resolution 105, which authorized a contract for the installation of a shade system at the JFK Boulevard Playground, pursuant to the results of a local co-op bid.

- Resolution 106, which authorized a contract in the amount of $5000 for a Conflict Solicitor to oversee alcohol beverage licensing matters related to 4000 Landis Avenue.
- Resolution 107, which ratified an agreement between the City and CWA Local 1036 Clerical Bargaining Unit for the term of January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2022, with an option to extend the agreement through December 31, 2023.

- Resolution 108, which authorized fireworks shows on July 4 and December 31, 2021.

- Resolution 109, which extended the existing contract with Pyrotechnico Fireworks Company for fireworks shows through 2023, due to fireworks being cancelled in 2020 because of COVID-19, with pricing to be based upon the original contract.

During the "Pending Business" portion of the May 11 meeting, Councilwoman Tighe asked for an update on the installation of beach access mats, at which time Business Administrator George Savastano explained that the mats would be in place on all ADA beach entrances by Memorial Day weekend and other beach entrances would have mats installed by mid-June.

During the "New Business" portion of the May 11 meeting, Council President Kehner announced that City Council would resume holding in-person meetings on June 8, however face masks and social distancing will be required for all those in attendance.

The next City Council meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 25, at 10:00 a.m. Due to the pandemic, the meeting will be held remotely; however members of the public will be able to participate in the meeting via telephone – and the public can also email questions and comments to the City Clerk's Office prior to the meeting (sromano@seaislecitynj.us). More information about the May 25 meeting will be forthcoming.

Best Regards from the Members of City Council,

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