CITY COUNCIL'S MESSAGE *January 14, 2021*

Due to COVID-19, the January 12 City Council meeting was held remotely; however, members of the public were able to participate in the meeting telephonically.

At the start of the January 12 meeting Mayor Desiderio reported that COVID-19 vaccinations are proceeding in Cape May County, and here in Sea Isle City our first responders have received their first dose of the vaccine. The Mayor also commented on the recent unrest in our nation and stated "It's all about sticking together. It doesn't mean we can't disagree...but it does mean we stay true to our core values of respect, integrity, and tolerance."

Following the Mayor's comments, Ordinance 1659 was introduced with first reading. At that time, City Solicitor Paul Baldini explained that Ordinance 1659 was written to address technical requirements in Sea Isle City's Watershed Master Plan and will help our community achieve recertification with FEMA – and, in turn, will help us maintain our good standing in FEMA's CRS Program. Ordinance 1659 will be sent to the City's Planning Board for consistency review before being added to City Council's February 9 Meeting Agenda for second reading and possible adoption.

Each of the Resolutions on the January 12 Consent Agenda was approved, including:

- Resolution 001, which authorized the adoption of the City's 2021 Temporary Budget, thus allowing City Departments to operate until the 2021 Municipal Budget is approved later this year.
- Resolution 003, which designated the Newspapers that will be used for City Publications (The Ocean City Sentinel, The Press of Atlantic City and the Gazette Leader).
- Resolution 004, which established the beaches that will have lifeguards in attendance during the 2021 Summer Season.
- Resolution 008, which authorized a Shared Services Agreement between Sea Isle City and the Borough of Woodbine for Tax Assessor Services.
- Resolution 009, which authorized Mayor Desiderio to execute a contract between the City and Tax Assessor Joseph (Art) Berrodin.
- Resolution 011, which authorized the Sea Isle City Police Department to participate in a program that will allow them to acquire excess Department of Defense equipment (Please Note: Resolution 011 adds more definitive language to a similar Resolution that was approved in 2020).
- Resolution 013, which authorized a contract for EMS Billing with Cape Medical Billing, a third-party billing service.
- Resolution 014, which authorized the advertisement of bids for Project SIC 210 (Utility Reconstruction on Sounds Avenue).

The next City Council meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 26, at 10:00 a.m. Due to the pandemic, the January 26 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 January 26 meeting will be forthcoming.

City Council reminds everyone to please stay safe and sign-up for your COVID-19 vaccinations! For your reference, here is a link to the New Jersey State website with information about the vaccine: https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/vaccine.

Best Regards from the Members of City Council,

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