CITY COUNCIL'S MESSAGE *April 6, 2023*

During the March 28 City Council meeting, four ordinances were adopted following Second Reading and Public Hearing....

- Ordinances 1693 and 1694, which created new regulations regarding the carrying of backpacks on the Promenade and a new curfew for youths (respectively). The carrying of backpacks will now be prohibited between the hours of 10:00 PM and 1:00 AM, from May 15 to September 15 (with certain exceptions); and the new curfew will prohibit anyone under the age of 18 from being in public areas from 10:00 PM to 6:00 AM (unless when accompanied by a parent or guardian or when traveling home from a job or sanctioned community event). Ordinances 1693 and 1694 were written at the request of the Administration in response to an outcry from the community following young adults misbehaving in public areas during the past two summers (which is an issue that many other communities along the Jersey shore are also facing). Prior to these two ordinances being written, Mayor Desiderio spoke at length with representatives from other municipalities, law enforcement agencies, and our state government in an effort to remedy this challenging topic; and the Mayor and City Council also received a great deal of feedback from the public. While City Council wants everyone to enjoy their time in Sea Isle City, we remind people of all ages of the importance of following the rules and not interfering with the peaceful enjoyment of others.
- Ordinance 1695, which is a routine annual ordinance that was written in conjunction with our Municipal Budget to allow the city to roll-over unused money for potential use in future years (thus creating a Cap Bank).
- Ordinance 1696, which was written to lower the speed limit along Park Road to 15 miles per hour.

Also during the March 28 meeting, City Council approved Resolution 035A (a stand-alone resolution) that approved the adoption of Sea Isle City's 2023 Local Municipal Budget. Council was pleased to adopt a budget with a zero percent tax-rate increase, as well as no increase to water and sewer rates.

Following the adoption of the 2023 Budget, each of the resolutions on the March 28 Consent Agenda was approved, including...

- Resolution 053, which authorized a Self-Examination and Certification of Sea Isle City's 2023 Municipal Budget, to ensure the budget is compliant with all state regulations.

- Resolution 056, which authorized a Purchase Order for online advertisements, funded by the Sea Isle City Tourism Commission (including the use of banner ads, our Tourism Video, and other digital promotional efforts). The Tourism Commission's main function is to promote Sea Isle City as a tourism destination. To do so, the Commission receives a percentage of the funds the City collects when selling annual Mercantile and Rental Permits.

- Resolution 057, which authorized an amendment to the City's contract with Park Mobile (the Parking App used to pay local parking fees), regarding user fees and processing costs.

- Resolution 058, which authorized a contract with Marsh and McLennan Agency for Health Reimbursement Account Administration for Sea Isle's Municipal Employee Health Benefits Plan.

Due to the adoption of Ordinance 1696 on March 28, a public discussion took place regarding vehicles traveling too quickly throughout town. City Council is committed to ensuring public safety, and we encourage all motorists to drive slowly and follow all traffic laws.

The next City Council meeting will take place at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, April 11, on the third floor of City Hall – and we hope to see you there!

Best regards from the members of City Council,

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