

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 10, 2014**

The Work Session of the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of West Cape May was called to order by Mayor Kaithern at 7:00 PM. The Open Public Meetings Statement was read by the Mayor who then led those present in the flag salute. Mayor Pamela Kaithern, Deputy Mayor Peter Burke and Commissioner Carol Sabo answered roll call. Also in attendance: Borough Clerk Elaine Wallace, Deputy Clerk Dianne Rutherford, Engineer Ray Roberts, and Solicitor Frank Corrado.

WORK SESSION

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Ray Roberts reviewed his report (attached) for September.

OLD BUSINESS:

NFIP Community Rating System: Clerk Wallace is waiting for word from FEMA/NJDEP as to when the next meeting will be.

Foreclosure on COAH Accessory Apartment Property: Solicitor Corrado filed an answer to the complaint, which he had Jeffrey Surenian's office review as the Borough's special COAH counsel.

VFC Fire Truck: The specifications are complete and one of the parts they want is not available through the state contract. A resolution is on the consent agenda to approve joining the H-GAC in order to get the truck the VFC wants. Solicitor Corrado reviewed the HGAC documents.

NEW BUSINESS: None

Mayor Kaithern reviewed the consent agenda items. The work session concluded at 7:20 PM and regular portion convened at 7:22 PM.

CONSENT AGENDA: On motion of Deputy Mayor Burke, seconded by Commissioner Sabo, the following Consent Agenda was unanimously approved on roll call.

Minutes: August 27, 2014 Work Session and Regular Meeting
August 27, 2014 Closed Session

Ordinances for Introduction and Publication: None

Resolutions:

138-14 Approval to Submit a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the West Cape May Bike Path Phase 4 Project BIKE-2015 West Cape May Borough – 00012

- 139-14 Approval to Submit a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Green Street Reconstruction Project MA-2015 Reconstruction of Green Street – 00059
- 140-14 Authorizing Award of Contract for FY 2014 NJDOT Reconstruction of State Street
- 141-14 Authorizing Participation in the National Cooperative with the Houston Galveston Area Council “H-GAC” Vendors
- 142-14 Bill Payment
- 143-14 Scheduling Closed Session: Potential Litigation - Water Loss; Pending Litigation - LCMR referendum

NON-CONSENT AGENDA:

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING:

- 488-14 An Ordinance Releasing, Extinguishing and Vacating the Rights of the Public in the Remaining Portion of Fern Place in the Borough of West Cape May, County of Cape May and State of New Jersey

Mayor Kaithern opened the public hearing on the above ordinance. When no one from the public wished to speak, Commissioner Sabo made a motion to close the public hearing and adopt Ordinance 488-14. Deputy Mayor Burke seconded the motion which was carried unanimously on roll call vote.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS:

Commissioner Sabo announced it was World Suicide Prevention Day. If anyone knows of anyone suffering from depression, hopelessness, helplessness or suicidal thoughts, they can call 1 (800) 273-TALK at any time. Ms. Sabo is also available if someone needs to talk.

Deputy Mayor Burke announced the next phase of the brick project will be completed by the next meeting. There will be a blood drive at the VFW within the next two weeks or so if anyone is interested in donating blood.

Mayor Kaithern reminded everyone that tomorrow there will be several commemoration ceremonies for the anniversary of 9/11 tragedy. The West Cape May VFC is participating in one at 6 PM at Sunset Beach. Lastly, she announced preparations for this year’s Christmas parade are underway.

PUBLIC PORTION:

Tom Douglas, 706 Broadway, expressed his concerns over bicyclists riding on sidewalks without any regard for pedestrians. He understood why families with children ride on the sidewalk because they feel it is safer than on some of the busier streets, but it’s still a hazard for pedestrians. Bicyclists are required to follow motor vehicle regulations and, unless there is improved enforcement, Mr. Douglas fears someone is going to get hurt. He was also concerned about some bushes that encroach over the sidewalk on Mechanic Street that create an obstacle to bikes and pedestrians alike. Mayor Kaithern thought the police chief should be contacted

about enforcement and possible some type of island-wide bike campaign. Commissioner Sabo will speak with the Police Chief about the matter. Mr. Douglas also asked why the regional school taxes increase 28%, but he was advised he'd have to ask the school board about that. Lastly, he asked about the drainage on Landis Avenue, which Ray Roberts reported has been completed.

Wayne Hoffman, 410 Fourth Avenue, offered to help with the biking campaign. He and his wife bike around town a lot. He also has 4 granddaughters whom have been taught all the proper rules and hand signals etc. He felt the problem can only be solved through an educational process. He suggested flyers or some type of handout. Mr. Hoffman happily accepted his offer to participate.

When no one else wished to speak, the meeting was recessed into closed session at 7:52 PM and reconvened at 8:11 PM on motion of Deputy Mayor Burke, seconded by Commissioner Sabo. Solicitor Corrado announced a report on Willow Creek litigation was added to the closed session topics. No formal action will be taken as a result of closed session.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 PM on motion of Commissioner Sabo, seconded by Deputy Mayor Burke.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine L. Wallace
Borough Clerk