

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 27, 2018**

The Work Session of the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of West Cape May was called to order by Mayor Sabo at 7:00pm. The Open Public Meetings Statement was read by Mayor Sabo who then led those present in the flag salute. Mayor Carol Sabo, Deputy Mayor Burke and Commissioner Francis answered roll call. Also in attendance: Municipal Clerk Suzanne Schumann, Deputy Clerk Theresa Enteado and Solicitor Chris Gillin-Schwartz. Police Sgt Bobik was also in attendance.

WORK SESSION

OLD BUSINESS:

NFIP Community Rating System:

Mayor Sabo indicated that CRS Coordinator Lou Belasco has requested a site visit from the NJDEP.

Review of Properties with Municipal Liens:

Resolution approved at last meeting, Solicitor Gillin-Schwartz is beginning the in-rem foreclosure process.

Protection of Borough Owned Property:

Nothing new to report.

Commercial Recycling Pick Up:

Nothing new to report.

NJDOT Grant Opportunity – Safe Routes to School:

The Governing Body agreed that they would like to move forward with this grant application. Deputy Mayor Burke indicated that the grant could also include bicycle routes and could assist with painting of crosswalk that County would normally do. Commissioner Francis reiterated the school's request for a crosswalk.

NEW BUSINESS:

Legislative Alert Updates (S-716, S-477, S-1766):

Solicitor Gillin-Schwartz reviewed the pending Senate bills which would create a financial burden on municipalities and create unnecessary exposure. The MEL is requesting a Resolution to be passed by municipalities to amend these bills. Commissioner Francis asked if there would be any liability if the Borough does not approve such resolution. Solicitor Gillin-Schwartz indicated that there would be no liability and that it is more of a political action. The Governing Body decided not to move forward with approving such resolution.

PUBLIC PORTION:

Doug Dilhomick, 628 West Drive – spoke of speeding concerns on West Drive and the safety hazard of speeding vehicles on this street. Doug asked if it would be possible to reduce the speed on West Drive. He thanked the Governing Body for the new truck sign on West Drive but indicated that there are still charter busses traveling on West Drive. Mayor Sabo indicated that the Borough could reach out to the event coordinators for the commercial properties and advise them of the restrictions of West Drive. Additionally, Doug questioned the Willow Creek Winery sign that directs people towards West Drive. Mayor Sabo questioned the approval of the placement of the sign and indicated that the Borough should reach out to the County for approval.

Tricia Miller, 303 West Drive – indicated that she spoke to Christine at Beach Plum Farm about a sign that they had posted and the sign was quickly removed.

Mayor Sabo indicated that the Borough is in the process of purchasing a portable speed sign which will be utilized on West Drive and other areas in the Borough. The sign will display the driver's speed and calculate data which will be used by the police department.

Tom Halligan, 640 West Drive, questioned the placement of the speeding signs on West Drive and indicated that one is hidden behind an overgrown tree and the other should be placed closer to the intersection of Sunset and West Drive.

Beth Frederick – understands that the Welcome Center suggests busses to go on West Drive and provided additional emails from residents who were not able to attend tonight's meeting. Deputy Mayor Burke indicated that he would reach out to the Welcome Center.

Kristen Ewing, 628 West Drive – asked the police to sit on the corner of West Drive to monitor situation and asked if a speed bump/hump was an option. Ms. Ewing expressed her appreciation of signs and help thus far. Mayor Sabo indicated that a speed bump/hump is not an option, as it is a liability on the Borough and there had been issues in the past.

Jennifer Simon - expressed concerns with large vehicles on West Drive. Ms. Simon has children who are unable to ride their bikes in the street because it is not safe with the speeding, oversized vehicles.

Mike Lanzone, 303 West Drive, spoke of the County database of roads which updates through Google and indicates speeds and restrictions on roadways within the County. Agrees with safety concerns of children and bicycles and suggested a lane restriction. Mayor Sabo spoke of a conversation from the fall with County Engineer Dale Foster who indicated that "traffic dictates the speed limit" and indicated that she will consult with the Borough Engineer regarding the lane restriction option. Mr. Lanzone also indicated ponding water when it rains heavily. Mayor Sabo indicated that drainage will be looked at during the upcoming road reconstruction project.

Tony Simon – indicated that a lane restriction may cause issues with fire trucks and emergency personnel vehicles. Mr. Simon suggested bus/truck route signs on Stevens Street and Bayshore Road to prevent excess traffic on West Drive.

Len Benstead, 306 West Drive – formerly owned 173 Stevens Street and agrees with the safety concerns that had been mentioned and expressed concern with the draining on West Drive with upcoming paving project and asked for tentative schedule. Mayor Sabo stated that the project is still about a year out, as there is a first phase which will be done this fall and includes Learning Avenue and the Borough Hall Parking Lot.

Sgt. Bobik asked for clarification on the obstructed speed sign on West Drive. Sgt. Bobik also indicated that conditions could permit for other offenses to be summonsed for, such as careless driving and mentioned that the Cape May Police Department has recently been utilizing a ghost car and have had success with that tactic.

REGULAR MEETING

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

Minutes:

June 13, 2018 – Work Session and Regular Meeting

June 13, 2018 – Closed Session

Ordinances for Introduction and Publication:

- 543-18 An Ordinance Granting Renewed Consent and Permission to South Jersey Gas Company to Use the Public Streets to Furnish Gas for Light, Heat and Power in the Borough of West Cape May
- 544-18 Amending Section 27 of the Borough Code Regarding Exceptions to Bulk Regulations

Resolutions:

- 119-18 Authorizing the Execution of a Contract Renewing Membership in the Atlantic County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund
- 120-18 Accept the Audit Report for 2017
- 121-18 Authorizing Hardship Condition Road Open Permit – Hunt & Son, LLC – 122 Stevens Street; Block 73, Lot 4
- 122-18 Authorizing Professional Engineering Services for 2018 Capital Improvement Projects
- 123-18 Approving Catering Permit – Chamberlain Hospitality Group, Inc.
- 124-18 Bill Payment

NON-CONSENT AGENDA

Ordinances for Second Reading and Public Hearing:

- 539-18 An Ordinance Amending Section 27 of the Borough Code Regarding Permitted Uses in the Commercial Districts

Mayor Sabo opened the public hearing. When no one wished to speak, the public hearing was closed and Commissioner Francis made a motion, seconded by Deputy Mayor Burke, to adopt Ordinance 539-18. The motion was carried unanimously on roll call vote.

Resolutions:

- 125-18 Closed Session – Contract Negotiations
- Deputy Mayor Burke made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Francis, to adopt Resolution 125-18. The motion was carried unanimously on roll call vote.

The Board of Commissioners moved into Closed Session at 8:16pm. The Board of Commissioners resumed Open Meeting at 8:39pm. No formal action was taken.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Francis attended the West Cape May Elementary School Stepping Up Ceremony and provided words of wisdom and presented proclamations by Mayor Sabo to students. Commissioner Francis indicated that he was happy to attend this ceremony and looks forward to next year's ceremony.

Deputy Mayor Burke indicated that there is a blood drive scheduled for July 26th at Borough Hall.

Mayor Sabo had nothing to report.

PUBLIC PORTION

When no one wished to speak, the meeting was adjourned at 8:42pm on motion by Commissioner Francis, seconded by Deputy Mayor Burke.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne M. Schumann, RMC
Municipal Clerk