

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 9, 2013**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of West Cape May was called to order by Mayor Kaithern at 7:05 PM. The Open Public Meetings Statement was read by Mayor Kaithern 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: Clerk Elaine Wallace, Deputy Clerk Dianne Rutherford, Engineer Ray Roberts, and Solicitor Frank Corrado.

WORK SESSION

Energy Aggregation Presentation by Gary Finger of NJ Board of Public Utilities (BPU): Gary Finger, ombudsman for the Board of Public Utilities, gave a power point presentation on the process of government energy aggregation (GEA) for utility rates. The borough will post the presentation on its website to allow anyone interested to read it. Mayor Kaithern invited the public to ask questions of Mr. Finger.

Judy Smith asked if brown outs would be required. Mr. Finger advised her that can be part of a school district or business program, but cannot be part of the any GEA program in which the borough could participate. Mrs. Smith also asked about CFL bulbs and whether there is a hazmat issue because of mercury. Mr. Finger explained there is only a trace amount in the bulbs and they are governmentally approved.

John Rowley asked if there is an optimum number of customers to get the greatest savings. Mr. Finger explained that in larger cities, such as Newark with a population of 1 million customers, the savings is not as great. He suggested that pooling a few smaller towns with similar goals might gain a larger savings. Voorhees, the town he is from, has approximately 31,000 customers and that seems to be a good size. Mr. Rowley asked what "similar goals" meant. Mr. Finger explained that towns that are looking for no additional services or the same additional services would be better suited to pooling. There are not many variations available under the program. Mr. Rowley asked about hiring a consultant. Mr. Finger stated towns don't have to hire a consultant, but he recommends hiring one that has experience in energy aggregation. Mr. Rowley also asked about the types of auction, which can be sealed bid or online. He also asked about the "lead agency", which is usually the first town to form a pool, but all towns are still individual. Lastly, Mr. Rowley asked if natural gas can be aggregated. Mr. Finger advised it can, but suggested working on electric first before tackling that.

Engineer's Report: Ray Roberts reviewed the report for October 2013. The USDA project is coming along well. The remedial work for Landis/Stewart is expected to begin in 2 ½ - 3 weeks.

OLD BUSINESS

New Fire Truck: Nothing new at that time.

NEW BUSINESS:

Wilbraham Park Events: Deputy Mayor Burke advised the Shade Tree Commission was planning to send a letter to the Volunteer Fire Company to see if they were interested in scheduling an event in September 2014. The board did not wish to hold the resolution setting the dates, but can amend it when the VFC has decided. Mr. Burke also asked about allowing other events at Wilbraham Park. The STC received a request to hold a dog parade in the park and were inclined to allow, but were unsure of whether the ordinance allowed it. After some discussion, the Solicitor agreed to look into the existing ordinance and possible ideas and parameters for other events.

The work session concluded at 7:49 PM and the regular portion convened at 7:49 PM.

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

Minutes: September 11, 2013 Work Session and Regular Meeting
September 25, 2013 Work Session and Regular Meeting
September 25, 2013 Closed Session

Ordinances for Introduction and Publication: None

Resolutions:

- 143-13 Setting Dates of Events for Wilbraham Park 2014
- 144-13 Resolution Regarding Trick or Treat
- 145-13 Authorizing the Mayor to Sign Memorandum of Understanding by and between the State of New Jersey and the Borough of West Cape May
- 146-13 Resolution Authorizing Change Order #1 for FY 2010 USDA Rural Development Sanitary Sewer Extension and Water Main Replacement
- 147-13 Appointment of Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator – Greg Basile
- 148-13 Closed Session – Pending Litigation: Willow Creek; Potential Litigation: water loss

NON-CONSENT AGENDA:

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING:

- 482-13 Authorizing the Borough of West Cape May to Provide for the Payment of Water and Sewer Connection Fees in Installments, with Interest, and a Waiver of Interest for Individuals Demonstrating Need

Commissioner Sabo made a motion, seconded by Deputy Mayor Burke, to open the public hearing on the above referenced ordinance. When no one wished to speak Deputy Mayor Burke made a motion to close the public hearing and adopt ordinance 482-13. Commissioner Sabo seconded the motion which was unanimously approved on roll call vote.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

Commissioner Sabo advised she had an offer from a resident in a neighboring community who is in the insurance business to come to a borough meeting to help clarify the new flood insurance guidelines to residents.

Deputy Mayor Burke announced the Red Cross toured the borough's emergency shelter at the Fire Hall last week along with the OEM Coordinator and newly appointed Deputy OEM Coordinator Greg Basile. The Red Cross made a few suggestions but was very impressed with the setup. Mr. Burke also announced signs clarifying 4-way stops were ordered and will be placed at the proper intersection. Lastly, the new public works supervisor will be attending Shade Tree training that is a benefit to the borough and its Shade Tree Commission.

Mayor Kaithern announced the Lima Bean Festival is scheduled for this coming Saturday. If it has to be postponed due to the forecast Nor'easter the borough will post it.

PUBLIC PORTION:

Robert Gaskill, Willow Avenue, asked what is happening with the roundabout at Park/Sunset/Perry. Mayor Kaithern advised the County is currently working on easement issues, but the processing is moving along. Mr. Gaskill thought the rendering he saw looked nice.

When no one else wished to speak, the meeting was recessed into closed session at 8:17 pm and reconvened at 9:09 pm on motion of Commissioner Sabo, seconded by Deputy Mayor Burke. No action was taken as a result of closed session discussion.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:09 PM on motion of Deputy Mayor Burke, seconded by Mayor Kaithern.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine L. Wallace, RMC
Borough Clerk