

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING
November 25, 2015**

The Work Session of the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of West Cape May was called to order by Mayor Kaithern at 4:00 PM. The Open Public Meetings Statement was read by Mayor Kaithern who then led those present in the flag salute. Mayor Kaithern, Deputy Mayor Peter Burke and Commissioner Carol Sabo answered roll call. Also in attendance: Clerk Elaine Wallace, Deputy Clerk Theresa Entead, Engineer Ray Roberts, and Acting Solicitor Chris Gillin-Schwartz.

Public Portion:

Because of a large turn-out for one matter, Mayor Kaithern invited those members of the public present who wished to speak about honoring Mayor Jack Vasser, to do so at the beginning of the meeting.

Lynda Anderson-Towns, 450 Green Street, read aloud a letter regarding a request to rename Green Street in honor of late Mayor John A. Vasser. She expounded upon the virtues of Mr. Vasser and his many contributions to the people of West Cape May, not just while in office, but throughout his life. Since Mr. Vasser lived on Green Street, she felt it would be a good way to honor him. She had spoken to most of the residents of the street and will continue to try to speak to those she hasn't already. Mayor Kaithern advised the Borough would look into the options that might exist and will take it from there.

Glenda Unzelman, corner of 4th and Green, had heard the street was named after a homeowner who was from Baltimore. The house he owned was vacant for years and has since been torn down.

Alice Barnes-Vasser, 307 Moore Street, advised Diamond Street was changed to Moore Street to honor the principal of the segregated elementary school in West Cape May. She suggested speaking to elder who can tell exactly what Jack Vasser did for the community.

William Vasser, Sr., 307 Sixth Avenue, now 78 years old advised his father and grandfather were born and raised here and his great-grandfather was raised here. He stated his father did a lot to help the people of West Cape May, especially the senior citizens. He's seen in many cities where the street name is still present but an additional sign is added above it honoring a certain person. Mayor Kaithern acknowledged that is an option the Borough will research.

When no one else wished to speak, the public portion was closed. The Borough will look into its options and will use Lynda Anderson-Towns as a point of contact.

WORK SESSION

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Ray Roberts reviewed the bid results for Myrtle Avenue sewer replacement and recommended the Board award the contract to the apparent low bidder Perna Finnigan in the amount of \$487,634. The engineer will contact Triad Associates to determine how much USDA money will be remaining after this project. At the next meeting, Mr. Roberts will discuss with the Board possible projects to use the remaining funds. The spending deadline is December 31, 2016.

OLD BUSINESS

NFIP Community Rating System: Nothing new to report at this time.

Community Business Task Force Report – Minimum Area and Bulk Requirements: The discussion was postponed until the second meeting in January.

Tree Preservation Ordinance – Survey and Implementation: Deputy Mayor Burke announced the Shade Tree Commission has enlisted Mickey Riggins to do all inspections for tree removal applications. Mr. Burke was unsure of the status of having a tree inventory performed.

NEW BUSINESS

Police Recommendation to Prohibit Parking on One Side of Stevens Street: Police Lieutenant Chuck Lear appeared before the board to discuss his recommendation that parking on Stevens Street be prohibited on one side, an issue that isn't normally a problem, but occurs when there are larger events on the street. He felt the problem exists primarily between Sunset and West, and suggested prohibiting parking on one side that entire length, with no parking at all between Sunset and the curve where Pond Creek is. Engineer Roberts will look at the street and give a report on the suitability of the plan.

Discuss Use of Glyphosate: Commissioner Sabo has contacted some experts and is hoping to get some guidelines. She'd like to get something on the books before the spring.

Request for Reconsideration for Catastrophic Leak Adjustment: The Board discussed the appeal and the circumstances of the leak. The board was not opposed to granting the request and a credit will be authorizing at the next meeting.

Wanaque Borough Council Petition Regarding County Government: The Board discussed correspondence from Wanaque Borough looking for support for their push to have county government eliminated or reduced. After some discussion, the Board decided that such action would not be beneficial to West Cape May or Cape May County and decided not to support Wanaque's proposition.

The work session was adjourned and the regular meeting convened at 4:57 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: October 14, 2015 Work Session and Regular Meeting
October 14, 2015 Closed Session
October 28, 2015 Work Session and Regular Meeting
October 28, 2015 Closed Session
November 10, 2015 Special Meeting
November 10, 2015 Closed Session

Ordinances for Introduction and Publication: None

Resolutions:

- 162-15 Resolution Authorizing the Release of a Lien on Block 54, Lot 10, A/K/A 121 Sixth Avenue in the Borough of West Cape May
- 163-15 Release of Unexpended Escrow Fees – Lazos Investments
- 164-15 Release of Unexpended Escrow Fees – Jeffrey G. Punda
- 165-15 Authorizing Award of Contract for FY2010 USDA Rural Development Sanitary Sewer Extension Program, Myrtle Avenue Sanitary Sewer Replacement
- 166-15 Authorizing Change Order #1 – Final – FY2015 NJDOT Reconstruction of Green Street
- 167-15 Bill Payment
- 168-15 Scheduling of Closed Session: Negotiations – Water Allocation Agreement

NON-CONSENT AGENDA:

Ordinance for Second Reading:

- 504-15 An Ordinance Amending Section 27-27.15 of the West Cape May Borough Code Governing Outdoor Dining Standards

The WCM Planning Board has deemed this ordinance consistent with the Master Plan. Mayor Kaithern opened the public hearing. When no one wished to speak Commissioner Sabo made a motion to adopt Ordinance 504-15. Deputy Mayor Burke seconded the motion which was carried unanimously on roll call vote.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS:

Commissioner Sabo asked that if anyone hears of anyone homeless in West Cape May that they share that information. She feels this is a very real problem that needs to be addressed even if resources are scarce.

Deputy Mayor Burke announced a Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held in Wilbraham Park at 6:00 pm on Saturday, November 28th. He also announced a blood drive has been scheduled for the last Friday in January 2016.

Mayor Kaithern spoke of the upcoming 50th Annual West Cape May Community Christmas Parade stepping off on Saturday, December 5th. Donations are still being accepted, but all the fundraising events are finished.

PUBLIC PORTION: No comments

When no one wished to speak, the meeting was recessed into closed session at 5:10 PM and reconvened at 5:20 PM on motion of Deputy Mayor Burke, seconded by Commissioner Sabo.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 PM on motion of Commissioner Sabo, seconded by Deputy Mayor Burke.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine L. Wallace, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk