

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING
May 25, 2022**

The Work Session of the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of West Cape May was called to order by Mayor Sabo at 7:00 p.m. The Open Public Meetings Statement was read by Mayor Sabo who then led those present in the flag salute. Mayor Sabo and Deputy Mayor Burke answered roll call; Commissioner Kurkowski was absent. Also in attendance: Acting Municipal Clerk Theresa Entead, Deputy Municipal Clerk Erin Seer, Solicitor Frank Corrado and associates Erika Lezama-Simonson and Oliver Barry, and Engineer Anthony Chadwell and associate Lia Domico.

OLD BUSINESS

Covid-19:

Mayor Sabo noted that there was a rise in Covid-19 cases in the County and encouraged all to get vaccinated and to continue to wash hands and maintain social distance. She noted that with the summer season approaching she wants to make sure everyone can continue to do what they enjoy.

Sunset Beach Sportsmen's Club

Mayor Sabo advised that the attorney representing the club was not in attendance at the meeting and that the Commissioners will be removing the item of business from the agenda until the Club's attorney is available.

NEW BUSINESS

Borough Engineer Proposals

Anthony Chadwell, Borough Engineer, explained each of the proposals. Solicitor Corrado advised that those items were listed on the Non-Consent agenda as Resolutions 90-22 through 93-22.

Budget Cap Relief – Resolution of Support

Mayor Sabo explained that the MEL asked the Borough to increase the Budget cap from 2% to 2.5% in order to address any increase liabilities. Solicitor Corrado explained that the resolution would express the Borough's support for a legislative increase in the budget cap. He added that the MEL had distributed this proposal to all municipalities in NJ.

Deputy Mayor Burke explained to those present what the MEL represented.

PUBLIC PORTION

Mayor Sabo opened the meeting for Public Portion.

Suzie Janssens, 822 Broadway, asked for more clarity on the 2.5% potential cap through MEL and what those funds could potentially be used for. Solicitor Corrado responded.

When no one else expressed a desire to speak, the Work Session was concluded at 7:14pm.

REGULAR MEETING

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion of Deputy Mayor Burke, seconded by Mayor Sabo, Resolution Nos. 86-22 and 88-22 were removed from the Consent Agenda and the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved on roll call vote by the Commissioners present.

Proclamation

Wilbraham Park – 100 Year Anniversary

Mayor Sabo read the proclamation in full and advised that she will also be reading the proclamation on June 18th at the celebration.

Minutes:

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Ordinances for Introduction and Publication:

NONE

Resolutions:

84-22 Annual Renewal of Liquor License for 2022-2023 Year – West Cape Liquors LLC

85-22 Annual Renewal of Liquor License for 2022-2023 Year – 106 Sunset LLC

87-22 Refund of Water/Sewer Utility Overpayment – 111 Columbia Avenue, Block 42, Lot 7

89-22 Approving Bill Payment

NON-CONSENT AGENDA

Resolutions:

90-22 Approving Contract for Engineering and Construction-Related Activities for Bayshore Road Stormwater Drainage

Mayor Sabo made a motion, seconded by Deputy Mayor Burke, to adopt Resolution No. 90-22. The motion was carried unanimously on roll call vote by the Commissioners present.

91-22 Approving Contract for Engineering and Construction-Related Activities for the Reconstruction of Second Avenue

Mayor Sabo made a motion, seconded by Deputy Mayor Burke, to adopt Resolution No. 91-22. The motion was carried unanimously on roll call vote by the Commissioners present.

92-22 Approving Contract for Engineering and Construction-Related Activities for Stimpson Lane Lead Remediation

Mayor Sabo made a motion, seconded by Deputy Mayor Burke, to adopt Resolution No. 92-22. The motion was carried unanimously on roll call vote by the Commissioners present.

93-22 Approving Contract for Preparation and Submission of Application to New Jersey Department of Transportation for FY2023 State Aid Grant

Mayor Sabo made a motion, seconded by Deputy Mayor Burke, to adopt Resolution No. 93-22. The motion was carried unanimously on roll call vote by the Commissioners present.

Ordinances:

613-22 An Ordinance Amending Section 27-19 of the West Cape May Code Pertaining to Historic Preservation

Mayor Sabo opened the public hearing.

Tom Douglass, 706 Broadway, had questions concerning the reason his property was included in the extension and what deemed his property a historic structure.

Suzie Janssens, 822 Broadway, expressed her concerns regarding her property and her neighboring property being included in the extension and what that would entail for the homeowners if they wished to make any changes to the property in the future.

West Cape May Historic Preservation Commission Chairman Jim Barnes and member Elan Zingman-Leith addressed the concerns of Mr. Douglass and Ms. Janssens. Mr. Barnes additionally explained why the Commission wanted to extend the district north on Broadway.

Linda Barr, 322 Fourth Avenue, was pleased that the Commission is moving forward with the extension and expressed her desire to have the district be extended even farther throughout the Borough.

When no one further expressed a desire to speak, the public hearing was closed and Deputy Mayor Burke made a motion, seconded by Mayor Sabo, to adopt Ordinance No. 613-22. The motion was carried unanimously on roll call vote of the Commissioners present.

Resolution:

94-22 Setting Forth Reasons for Designating Certain Historic Sites in the Borough of West Cape May
Mayor Sabo made a motion, seconded by Deputy Mayor Burke, to adopt Resolution No. 94-22. The motion was carried unanimously on roll call vote by the Commissioners present.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Deputy Mayor Burke noted that the Wilbraham Park 100-year anniversary will be on June 18th. He further noted that the Shade Tree Commission just completed their spring tree planting on the properties of those residents who had requested them.

Lastly, he announced that on Thursday, July 7th from 12pm to 5pm, the Borough of West Cape May will be hosting the American Red Cross Blood Drive at Borough Hall.

Mayor Sabo announced that the Strawberry festival is on June 4th in the Borough's Backyard Park. She went on to announce the Memorial Day event hosted by the City of Cape May was to be held at the Soldiers and Sailors Park at on Monday at 11:00am.

PUBLIC PORTION

Mayor Sabo opened the meeting for public portion.

Tom Halligan, 640 West Drive, expressed his concern regarding tour buses coming down his street and requested that the corresponding signage be moved to a more visible location for the drivers.

Police Captain John Bobick addressed the residents' concerns regarding the buses on West Drive.

Patrick McCann, 427 Second Avenue, spoke on behalf of the residents of Second Avenue and requested sewer be added to Second Avenue.

Judy Smith, 408 Third Avenue, and Jane Robinson, 438 Third Avenue, expressed their environmental concerns involving the use of pesticides and other chemicals being used on properties in the Borough.

Janet Payne, 202 Atlantic Avenue, asked about the water rates and if there have been any changes.

Pam Kaithern, 207 Stevens Street, expressed her desire to have zoning laws re-evaluated. She further expressed her concern with speeding on West Drive and Stevens Street.

When no one further expressed a desire to speak, Mayor Sabo closed the public portion.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:19 p.m., on motion of Deputy Mayor Burke, seconded by Mayor Sabo.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Seer
Deputy Municipal Clerk