

**WORKSESSION/REGULAR MEETING  
OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CAPE MAY, NJ  
Tuesday, March 4, 2014, 1:00 P.M.**

The worksession/regular meeting of City Council of the City of Cape May was called to order by Mayor Mahaney at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday, March 4, 2014 in the Cape May City Hall Auditorium. The Clerk called the roll and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present:	Councilmember Deanna Fiocca Mayor Edward J. Mahaney, Jr. Councilmember William H. Murray, Esquire Councilmember Terri L. Swain
Also Present:	City Attorney Anthony Monzo City Manager Bruce MacLeod City Clerk Louise Cummiskey Deputy Clerk Patricia Harbora
Absent:	Deputy Mayor Jack Wichterman

Mayor Mahaney announced that under the Open Public Meetings Law, notice of this meeting was sent to the Cape May Star and Wave and The Press and a copy of the agenda was delivered to each Member of Council and was posted on the City Hall Bulletin Board.

**Minutes do not reflect the actual order in which the events occurred.**

**AGENDA ADDITION/DELETION OF LATE AGENDA ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ACTION:**

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Mayor Mahaney announces that the City of Cape May is using Livestream Services for all Council Meetings. This new technology, advises the Mayor, will allow everyone the opportunity to watch City Council meetings on the City's website.

Dan Shustack speaks about Livestream and advises that today's meeting is the first Council Meeting to be put on the website. Mr. Shustack explains the process interested parties will need to follow to view the meetings. Dan advises that if you provide your name and email address, you will be notified of City meetings and events at no charge.

Mayor Mahaney announces that the swearing-in ceremony for the appointment of our new Police Chief, Robert Sheehan, Jr., will take place at 4:00 P.M. in this Auditorium, even though the Resolution approving the appointment will be offered at this meeting. The Mayor welcomes Rob Sheehan as the new Police Chief and feels he will do an excellent job.

Councilmember Fiocca comments that she grew up with Rob and is proud to vote yes to his appointment.

Councilmember Murray comments that he has known Rob Sheehan and his father since he moved to Cape May. Mr. Murray is delighted that Rob will be Cape May's Police Chief.

Councilmember Swain comments that she has also known Mr. Sheehan most of his life and congratulates him and wishes him a successful term as Cape May Police Chief.

69-03-2014 – Resolution Authorizing Employment Agreement for Police Chief Robert Sheehan

Motion:	Mahaney
Second:	Murray
Roll Call:	
Fiocca	Yes
Murray	Yes
Swain	Yes
Wichterman	Absent
Mahaney	Yes

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Nature Center Improvement Updates – Gretchen Whitman**

Mayor Mahaney introduces Gretchen Whitman, Director of the NJ Audubon Nature Center of Cape May.

Ms. Whitman advises that the Nature Center of Cape May was established twenty-two (22) years ago as a result of a Community effort to preserve the Cape May Harbor. Ms. Whitman offers a power point presentation setting forth accomplishments achieved and improvements made to the Nature Center Buildings over the years.

**Change in Speed Limit**

Councilmember Fiocca would like to see speed limits reduced to 15 mph on certain small streets throughout the City of Cape May. Ms. Fiocca is concerned about the safety of pedestrians and children. The streets of concern to Ms. Fiocca are Broad Street, Mansion Street, St. James Place, Page Street, Pearl Street, Schellenger Street, Jackson Street, Carpenters Lane and Lyle Lane.

Police Chief, Rob Sheehan, believes that enforcement will be difficult as the only street the Police Department has complaints about is St James Place.

Bob Smith, Public Works Superintendent, advises that because of the complaints from St. James Place residents, the City has installed "Slow-Children" signs. Mr. Smith suggests putting blinking lights with the slow children sign to capture the attention of drivers.

Bruce MacLeod, City Manager, asks if the streets in question have speed limit signs on them.

Mr. Smith advises there are not many speed limit signs on the streets in question. Mr. Smith reports that twenty signs would be needed which will cost \$2,300.00.

Councilmember Murray asks if the law can be enforced if the speed limit is changed and suggests that it would be faster to walk around the City.

Chief Sheehan comments that 15 mph is really slow but he will investigate the streets in question and advises that some may need to be eliminated. Chief Sheehan believes that it would be difficult to speed on Schellenger Street because you are at the end of the street before you have time to pick up speed.

Councilmember Fiocca is concerned with Carpenters Lane in the shoulder season with children running out into the street from between the cars.

Mayor Mahaney recommends that Chief Sheehan instruct the patrol officers to look at St. James Place, as well as the smaller streets in question. Also, the City can consider lighted solar if need be. Finally, Mayor Mahaney asks Chief Sheehan and Mr. Smith to gather information on new technology with alternative options for Council to review before a decision is made.

Councilmember Fiocca asks that Broad Street, Carpenter Lane, Lyle Lane, St. John and St. James Place be considered on the Chief's report.

### **ENGINEER REPORT**

City Engineer, Ray Roberts presents his report as follows:

Water Tank and Standpipe – Madison Avenue – there are a few punch items to be completed. The Canning House Lane Standpipe is complete but for the installation of the pressure transmitter.

FY2012 NJDCA Small Cities Grant, ADA Improvements –The contract was awarded to Axios, LLC who was the Contractor on Phase 1. RV&W is awaiting the close out documentation from the Contractor.

FY2013 NJDCA Small Cities Grant Application – Carpenter's Lane is ready for the brick paver installation. The Contractor will begin the Village's pedestrian ramps the week of March 17, 2014.

Harbor Lane Bulk Head - RV&W is working on the preparation of the bid documents.

The Gurney Street Storm Drain pipe replacement is complete. The remaining work is the milling and resurfacing of the road.

FY2013 Road and Utility Improvement Program for Cape May Avenue and Delaware Avenue – a few days were lost due to weather but the construction will begin on March 5, 2014.

The Beach Avenue Sewer Project is moving along and the trenching is now past the Montreal Inn. The trench from Madison Avenue to Queen Street will be paved on Friday, March 7, 2014, weather permitting.

Washington Street Mall Planter Box – project will be awarded at today’s meeting.

Mr. MacLeod asks Mr. Roberts to make sure the project begins on the 300 block of the Mall so that those planter boxes will be completed before the Easter Stroll.

FY2012 NJDOT Municipal Aid – Mr. Roberts reports no change.

FY2012 Road and Utility Improvement Program – Phase 1 – Mr. Roberts reports no change.

City Hall Rehabilitation Phase II - The masonry repairs are complete and RV&W is preparing the closeout documents.

Mr. MacLeod reports that he received an estimate of \$50,000.00 for the installation of a new, decorative fence around the water tank at Madison Avenue.

Mayor Mahaney advises that he is not inclined to spend \$50,000 of taxpayer’s money for a new fence but he will look into applying for grant money through Home Land Security to replace the existing fence.

CITY MANAGER ITEMS

Active Military/Veteran Beach Tag Ordinance Review

Mr. MacLeod provides information to Council obtained from neighboring municipalities regarding the number of beach tags issued to the military.

Mayor Mahaney is concerned about the financial impact upon the Beach Utility.

Mr. MacLeod advises that if the Ordinance is adopted, the City will provide a tag specifically for Veterans.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

Jerry Gaffney, 810 Columbia Avenue, Cape May asks if the Veteran beach tags will be issued this year and speaks about the potential loss of income, possibly as much as \$24,000.00.

Mayor Mahaney advises that the tags will be issued this year and that Mr. Gaffney is correct regarding the potential loss of income. The Mayor wants to be sure the Beach Utility Budget is not in the negative at the end of the year.

Mr. MacLeod reports an increase of income from the occupancy tax for November and December over the prior year. Also, Mr. MacLeod advises that the City is installing a new Water/Sewer Utility billing and collection system software upgrade which will allow online payments to be accepted and paperless e-mail billing.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

- 66-03-2014 – Resolution of the City of Cape May Approving Bid for Lease of 702 Beach Avenue, Cape May, New Jersey
- 67-03-2014 – Resolution Authorizing Refund of Overpaid 2014 Utilities
- 68-03-2014 – Resolution Authorizing Utility Bill Adjustment Due to Catastrophic Occurrence
- 69-03-2014 – Resolution Authorizing Employment Agreement for Police Chief Robert Sheehan  
**Removed from Consent Agenda**
- 70-03-2014 – Resolution Awarding Contract – Washington Street Mall Planter Box Masonry Renovations
- 71-03-2014 – Resolution Authorizing Contract with Certain Approved State Contract Vendors
- 72-03-2014 – Payment of Bills

Motion: Mahaney  
Second: Fiocca  
Roll Call:  
Fiocca Yes  
Murray Yes  
Swain Yes  
Wichterman Absent  
Mahaney Yes

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Ms. Cummiskey reads a letter from a Cape May resident thanking the City Water/Sewer Department and Fire Department for their help when her pipes froze this winter.

**MINUTES:**

- City Council Worksession/Regular Meeting Minutes dated February 4, 2014
- City Council Closed Session Meeting Minutes dated February 18, 2014

Motion: Murray  
Second: Fiocca  
Roll Call:  
Fiocca Yes  
Murray Yes  
Swain Yes  
Wichterman Absent  
Mahaney Yes

**REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE CLERK:**

- City of Cape May Occupancy Tax Budget Projection Report dated February 19, 2014
- City of Cape May Monthly Report of Tax Collections for the period December 31, 2013
- City of Cape May Police Department Monthly Reports for January, 2014

Motion: Mahaney  
 Second: Fiocca  
 Roll Call:  
 Fiocca Yes  
 Murray Yes  
 Swain Yes  
 Wichterman Absent  
 Mahaney Yes

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A) City Attorney
- B) City Manager – Mr. MacLeod announces the upcoming Ronan Tynan Concert at Convention Hall on Saturday, March 8, 2014 at 8:00 P.M. and the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual P.A.L. Comedy Night Fundraiser at Convention Hall on Friday, March 14, 2014 at 8:30 P.M. Also, Mr. MacLeod reports on a meeting he attended at the City of Long Beach, New York regarding the effects of “Super Storm Sandy.” Mr. MacLeod comments that there is a lot to be learned from the Cities that suffered the most.
- C) City Clerk
- D) Councilmembers – Councilmember Murray highly recommends the Ronan Tynan Concert. Mr. Murray advises that he received a complaint about the poor condition of the Shelton College building from a homeowner residing near the structure. The homeowner is concerned about safety.

Mr. MacLeod advises that the City is aware of the condition of the building and further advises that there was a partial cave-in of the roof. The area has been fenced off and Mr. MacLeod reports that the City is awaiting a report from a Structural Engineer. Upon receipt of said report, the City will take the proper steps to move forward, comments Mr. MacLeod.

Councilmember Fiocca thanks the Public Works Department for keeping the streets clear of snow throughout this winter season. Ms. Fiocca wishes everyone a Happy St. Patrick’s Day.

Mayor Mahaney announces that the 2014 Cape May City Information Guide and Event Schedule will be available before Easter and each property owner will receive a copy through the mail. The Guide will also be available at locations throughout the City and will be posted on the City website. The Mayor thanks all the businesses in the community for their participation in supporting the guide book.

**PUBLIC PORTION:** Those wishing to publicly comment shall come forward, give their name and address and speak into the microphone. Each speaker will be limited to five (5) minutes.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Mayor Mahaney seconded by Councilmember Fiocca to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 3:25 P.M.

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Edward J. Mahaney, Jr., Mayor

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Jack Wichterman, Councilmember

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Deanna Fiocca, Councilmember

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Terri L. Swain, Councilmember

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William H. Murray, Deputy Mayor

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Louise Cumiskey, City Clerk