

MINUTES OF A CAUCUS MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, HELD IN THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 4 MOORE ROAD, CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE, NEW JERSEY ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2021 AT 3:00 P.M.

Deputy Clerk Doyle called the meeting to order. The following members answered roll call:

Commissioners Hayes, Desiderio and Thornton -Present (3)
Commissioners Morey and Pierson - Virtual access (2)

Statement of the Director:

“This is a notice read pursuant to the requirements of the “Open Public Meetings Act.” At least 48 hours advance notice of this meeting has been provided by posting of the same in writing on the bulletin boards in the County Administration Building, and the County Clerk’s Office and mailing a copy of the notice to the Cape May County Herald and the Atlantic City Press and filing the same with the County Clerk, all being done on Wednesday, January 6, 2021.”

Moment of Silence

Flag Salute- Led by Commissioner Pierson.

Agenda Items

Commissioner Morey inquired about a camera in the meeting room and Commissioner Director Thornton requested one be set up for the next meeting.

Discussion:

1. Robert Church-Engineer’s Update

Mr. Church updated the Board of Commissioners on the following:

- a. NJDOT Local Concept Study for the Ocean Drive Bridge Replacements
- b. Draft response for the climate change proposals
- c. Ingrams Thorofare Bridge repair and closures
- d. Breakwater Rd. drainage project
- e. New 2-year maintenance drainage contract

2. Kevin Lare-Purchasing Report

Mr. Lare detailed awards, extensions, or changes to contracts, and competitive contracting of the following resolutions: Res. Nos. 139-21, 141-21 and 157-21.

Res. 139-21 awarding Contract No. C1-33 to McManimon, Scotland, & Baumann, LLC to provide Environmental Counsel and Insurance Recovery Services for County of Cape May.

Res. 141-21 authorizing Change Order No. 2 to Contract No. C9-144 with Burns Construction Consulting, LLC for Project Management at County Commons in the amount of \$185,646.75.

Res. 157-21 authorizing Change Order No. 2 to Contract No. C9-236 with Buell Kratzer Powell, LTD for three phase electrical service to the Lion Ridge Exhibit in the amount of \$7,640.00.

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3. Kevin Lare, Administrator Report

Mr. Lare relinquished the floor to Brittany Smith, CFO so she could explain the relevance of Budget CAP Res. Nos. 134-21, 136-21 and 137-21.

Subsequently, Mr. Lare explained financial considerations of the capital planning policy and projects, currently being considered by himself and Consultant Michael J. Donohue, Esquire. The Zoo Educational Project was cited as one example where the design phase had already been funded however the construction phase had not.

He briefly spoke on COVID-19 vaccination clinics, and the additional site added at the LCMR High School property for distribution purposes.

The Red Cross of South Jersey had requested a proclamation from the Board for the next meeting, designating March as American Red Cross Month in Cape May County, he stated. A flag raising at the Old County Courthouse was also requested for commemoration of the anniversary, and would take place if the Board had no objection.

4. ACIA Wildwood Redevelopment Project Update Virtual Presentation

The general background and purpose for the Municipal Redevelopment Initiative begun in 2019 was described by the County's Planning Director, Leslie Gimeno. The City of Wildwood had been chosen for the pilot program for several reasons which she detailed. Key players were identified as the Atlantic County Improvement Authority (ACIA), Lou Joyce, South Jersey Economic Development District (SJEDD), Jeff Lindsay, Kevin Lare, and herself, GWITDA, Chambers of Commerce, CMC Planning Board and an Advisory Committee made up of Wildwood Mayor Pete Byron, Administrator Carl Groon, and Zoning Officer Steve Booy.

Bob McGuigan, ACIA project manager presented via a PowerPoint. He explained the steps and process he and others would follow. The planning firm of Clarke Caton Hintz had been selected to assist ACIA. Four stakeholder meetings had already been held so a draft concept plan could be developed. The plan would then be presented to the Wildwood Planning & Zoning Board on March 1st. Mr. McGuigan invited everyone to attend the meeting to hear about the key ideas being considered. As the plan continued to be developed, public meetings would continue also. The redevelopment plan would be adopted in June 2021 if everything went as planned, he finished.

Lou Joyce, SJEDD and Wildwood Mayor Byron commented.

5. Commissioner Discussions

Commissioner Morey-None.

Commissioner Hayes- Ms. Hayes commented that many people were complaining that they were unable to get appointments for the vaccine. However, the Avalon Community Center, as a vaccination center was receiving a lot of compliments. She acknowledged Ocean City and Sea Isle City for their effort to assist seniors in getting registered for the vaccine.

Commissioner Pierson-Mr. Pierson reported he did not have any trouble signing up on the NJDOH. Mr. Morey commented the issue did not seem to be with signing up on the state website. The issue was not being able to get an appointment for the vaccination itself.

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Commissioner Desiderio- Mr. Desiderio agreed with Commissioner Hayes' comments and added that more doses of the vaccine were required so everyone could be vaccinated.

Commissioner Thornton-Director Thornton had heard many compliments regarding the Health Department and the Avalon Community Center as a distribution site. He agreed with Mr. Desiderio that more doses were needed.

Moved by Mr. Desiderio seconded by Ms. Hayes to adjourn the caucus. Roll call: Commissioner Desiderio, Hayes, Morey, Pierson and Thornton (AYE-5) (NAYE-None) (ABSTAIN-None) (ABSENT-None). Carried.

Caucus adjourned at 3:51 p.m.

Clerk of the Board