

November 17, 2008
REGULAR SESSION #22
MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL
TOWN OF OCEAN CITY

Present:

Mayor Richard W. Meehan
Council President Joseph Mitrećic

Council Member James S. Hall
Council Member Margaret L. Pillas
Council Member Mary P. Knight
Council Member Douglas S. Cymek
Council Member Joseph T. Hall, II

Absent:

Council Secretary Lloyd Martin

ATTENDANCE

City Manager Dennis Dare, City Solicitor Guy Ayres, Assistant to City Manager Kathy Mathias, Finance Administrator Martha Lucey, City Engineer Terry McGean, Tourism/Convention Center Director Mike Noah, Tourism/Convention Center Assistant Director Debbie Travers, City Clerk Carol Jacobs, Members of the Press and Interested Parties.

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Joe Mitrećic called this Regular Session to order at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 301 Baltimore Avenue, Ocean City, Maryland 21842.

PRAYER & PLEDGE

Pastor James Davis of Saint Peter's Lutheran Church led the Prayer, and Council Member Jim Hall led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of Regular Session #21, dated November 3, 2008, were approved as presented.

ITEMS PRESENTED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Meehan issued a proclamation designating December as *Toys for Tots Month*. Present to accept this Proclamation were Members of the United States Marine Corp League and Fred Wise from the Convention Center.

NEW BUSINESS

Michael Franklin, President/CEO of Atlantic General Hospital ("AGH") presented the Hospital's Community Annual Report (See Attachment A). < *Citizens' questions and comments, from the audience, were inaudible.* >

Citizen Ellie Diegelmann commented on AGH Medical Centers.

Citizen Jim McGinnis thanked AGH for the care he received during his hospital stay.

ITEMS REFERRED TO AND PRESENTATIONS FROM THE CITY SOLICITOR

City Solicitor Ayres presented the following for approval:

First Reading of Ordinance 2008-21, amending Chapter 39, entitled *Franchises*, increasing an operator's allowed maximum Beach Equipment Parcel holdings from 33^{1/3} % to 50%. **Council Member Jim Hall moved to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 2008-21; seconded by Council Member Mary Knight. The vote was 6-0 with Council Secretary Lloyd Martin absent.**

ITEMS REFERRED TO AND PRESENTATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- A. City Manager Dare recommended a bid award to **Lynch Publishing**, in the amount of \$9,680.00, for the graphic design of 2009 Sea for Yourself Visitor's Guide; and, **Fry Communications, Inc.**, in the amount of \$83,283.00, for the printing. Council President Mitrecic asked Mr. Dare about the possibility of integrating Splash Magazine and the Sea for Yourself Guide. Mr. Dare advised that, the 2009 Issue has already been prepared, but he is working with Todd Ferrante, President of the Ocean City Chamber of Commerce, for the 2010 Issue. **Council Member Jim Hall moved to accept the recommendation; seconded by Council Member Mary Knight. The vote was 4-2 with Council Members Joe Hall and Margaret Pillas opposed and Council Secretary Lloyd Martin absent.**
- B. City Manager Dare requested permission to solicit bids for the Jamestown Road Milling and Paving Project. **Council Member Jim Hall moved to approve; seconded by Council Member Mary Knight. The vote was 6-0 with Council Secretary Lloyd Martin absent.**
- C. City Manager Dare presented City Engineer McGean's recommendation to reject the Caroline Street Comfort Station bids. **Council Member Mary Knight moved to reject the bids; seconded by Council Member Jim Hall. The vote was 6-0 with Council Secretary Lloyd Martin absent.**

REPORT FROM CITY MANAGER ON UPCOMING WORK SESSION

City Manager Dare advised that the following items will be discussed in the upcoming Work Session:

1. Bid openings for medical supplies
2. Request to bid auditing services – presented by Finance Administrator Martha Lucey
3. Recommendation of bid award for the Police Department's Tough Books – Information Technology Director Nancy Bloxom
4. Recommendation of bid award for the South Ocean Drive Revetment – presented by City Engineer Terry McGean
5. Discussion of the website Request for Proposal – Tourism/Convention Center Director Mike Noah
6. Report on the Homebuilders Guaranty Fund – presented by Chief Building Official Kevin Brown
7. Report on Ayres Creek Water Trail Project – presented by Jim Rapp, DLITE
8. Review of Ordinance creating Post-Employee Benefits Trust - presented by City Solicitor Guy Ayres
9. A Discussion on Cost Reduction Measures – presented by City Manager Dennis Dare

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Citizen Herb Pawlukewicz commented on the State Highway Administration projects, funds for the Ocean City Development Corporation, zoning ordinances, and, suggested metered parking on the Ocean Block.

Citizen Jim McGinnis said he is opposed to the Town advertising for the business community.

Citizen Ellie Diegelmann said she appreciates the Town's effort to cut costs.

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

She asked City Staff to explore efforts made by Atlantic City New Jersey to extend the life of their boardwalk lumber by laying black paper underneath.

Council Member Joe Hall asked City Manager Dare for advanced notice and information on the website design discussion.

Council President Joe Mitrecic said he was almost run off the road by a city vehicle. He said the driver was using their cell phone and their computer, while driving. He asked City Manager Dare to firmly address this issue.

Mayor Meehan encouraged everyone to attend opening night Winterfest of Lights, on November 20, 2008 at 5:30 p.m., and, the Winterfest Gala on Friday evening, November 21, 2008.

Council Member Margaret Pillas mentioned that, last year, citizens complained that the Winterfest music was too loud. City Manager Dare said City Staff will address this concern.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Jim Hall moved to adjourn at 7:10 p.m.; seconded by Council Member Mary Knight. The vote was 6-0 with Council Secretary Lloyd Martin absent.

Minutes prepared by Deputy City Clerk Kelly Allmond _____

Minutes certified by City Clerk Carol Jacobs

Minutes approved on:

