

August 3, 2009
Regular Session #15
Mayor and City Council
Town of Ocean City, Maryland

Present:

Mayor Richard W. Meehan
Council President Joseph M. Mitrecic
Council Secretary Lloyd E. Martin

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

ATTENDANCE

Mayor Rick Meehan, Council President Joe Mitrecic, Council Secretary Lloyd Martin, Council Members Jim Hall, Margaret Pillas, Mary Knight, Doug Cymek and Joe Hall, City Manager Dennis Dare, City Solicitor Guy Ayres, Assistant to City Manager Kathy Mathias, Finance Administrator Martha Lucey, Special Events Director John Sullivan, Captain Robert Bokinsky, City Clerk Carol Jacobs, Members of the Press and Interested Parties.

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Joe Mitrecic 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

Reverend Davis from the St. Peter's Lutheran Church led the Prayer and Mayor Rick Meehan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT ON UPCOMING WORK SESSION

City Manager Dennis Dare advised that the following is scheduled for discussion in the upcoming work session:

1. Bid openings for the annual generator maintenance contract and the annual sidewalk maintenance contract;
2. Discussion on proposed Hangar J – presented by Public Works Director Hal Adkins

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes for Regular Session #14, dated, July 20, 2009, and, Work Session, dated July 14, 2009, were approved as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

Monica Freese and Linda Zwirlein requested permission to hold their 4th Annual Bayshore Bash Block Party in the cul-de-sac of Bayshore Court, on Saturday, September 5, 2009. They also requested permission to serve alcohol and stage a disc jockey. **Council Member Mary Knight moved to approve the event, including serving alcohol; seconded by Council Member Jim Hall. The vote was 6-0 with Council Member Doug Cymek absent.**

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND OTHER CITY ORGANIZATIONS

Mayor Rick Meehan asked the Council to support the formation of the Ocean City Cultural Arts Advisory Board, which will be composed of members of the business community, in anticipation of the Maryland Stadium Authority's approval for the Convention Center Expansion and Performing Arts Center. Patti Miller and Leighton Moore presented the Board's mission statement (see Attachment A) **Council Member Mary Knight moved to approve the formation of the Ocean City Cultural Arts Advisory Board; seconded by Council Member Jim Hall. The vote was 6-1 with Council Member Joe Hall in opposition.**

ITEMS REFERRED TO AND PRESENTATIONS FROM THE CITY SOLICITOR

City Solicitor Ayres presented the following for approval:

- A. Second Reading of Ordinance 2009-17, authorizing the Mayor and Council to purchase certain real property located between 64th and 65th Streets adjacent to the Wastewater Treatment Plant to allow for condemnation. Current Property Owner Rick Laws asked the Council not to support this ordinance because site plans are underway for a 5-story hotel. **Council Member Jim Hall moved to approve Ordinance 2009-17 on Second Reading; seconded by Council Member Doug Cymek. The vote was 6-1 with Council Member Margaret Pillas in opposition.**
- B. Second Reading of Ordinance 2009-18, amending Chapter 1, entitled *General Provisions*, and enacting Article V-A of Chapter 90, entitled *Vehicles and Traffic*, to require that helmets be worn when renting scooters and mopeds. **Council Member Mary Knight moved to approve Ordinance 2009-18 as amended on Second Reading; seconded by Council Secretary Lloyd Martin. The vote was unanimous.**
- C. First Reading of Ordinance 2009-19, amending Chapter 58, entitled *Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions* of the Code of the Town of Ocean City, prohibiting the sale, possession, manufacture and distribution of salvia.

Captain Robert Bokinsky gave a presentation on the hallucinogenic dangers of salvia. Council Member Doug Cymek read excerpts of a letter from Kathleen Childester, the mother of Brett Childester who committed suicide while under the influence of salvia. Worcester County Commissioner Linda Busick said she strongly supports this legislation and will push for the same in Worcester County.

Council Secretary Lloyd Martin moved to approve Ordinance 2009-19 on First Reading; seconded by Council Member Jim Hall. The vote was 6-1 with Council Member Joe Hall in opposition.

Council Member Jim Hall moved to effect Ordinance 2009-19 as an Emergency Ordinance; seconded by Council Secretary Lloyd Martin. The vote was 6-1 with Council Member Joe Hall in opposition. The Mayor concurred with the passage of Emergency Ordinance 2009-19.

ITEMS REFERRED TO AND PRESENTATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Dare requested approval to solicit bids for Public Safety Uniforms, the annual stand-by generator maintenance contract and the annual sidewalk maintenance concrete repairs and replacement contract. **Council Member Jim Hall moved to approve; seconded by Council Member Doug Cymek. The vote was unanimous.**

Inserted item → City Manager Dare advised that the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention has appropriated funds for all State of Maryland law enforcement agencies to hire crime analysts. He requested permission to accept this grant of \$63,894.00 for a one-year contracted position.

Council Member Jim Hall moved to approve the contracted position with a June 30, 2010 termination date; seconded by Council Secretary Lloyd Martin. The vote was 6-1 with Council President Joe Mitrecic in opposition.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Bob Melvin asked the Council when they will file the appeal to Worcester County for ADA Paratransit funding. Mayor Meehan advised that he will contact Commissioner Gulyas.

Jim McGinnis commented on the good care he received while in the hospital.

Herb Pawlukewicz commented on the traffic lights, banner airplanes flying over the City, impact fees and the take-home vehicle policy.

Kristy Freeman commented on her son's recent experience with a police officer.

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Meehan encouraged the forum to attend the White Marlin Open this week in Harbor Island.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Jim Hall moved to adjourn at 7:56 p.m.; seconded by Council Member Doug Cymek. The vote was unanimous.

The minutes of this meeting were prepared by: Kelly L. Allmond, CMC

Certified by: City Clerk Carol Jacobs, MMC

Approved by the Mayor and Council on:



Mission:

The mission of the Ocean City Cultural Arts Advisory Board is based on the belief that a community's wealth is directly related to its cultural assets. We will help guide and direct the development of Ocean City's beautiful fine arts facility, which will improve the quality of life for the residents of Worcester County, providing a home to showcase local musical, theatrical, cultural and educational groups. Seeking to positively impact the local economy; regional and national entertainment featured in this facility, with quality sound and seating, will provide a brand new revenue source for businesses to package meals, accommodations and other services.

Goals:

- * Assist in developing the vision and design of the Performing Arts facility for the Roland E. Powell Convention Center.
- * Assist in providing a balance of a broad spectrum of national, regional performing arts events while providing a home for local musical, theatrical and educational groups.
- * Help to develop a Contract Management plan for facility bookings, management & oversight.
- * Provide administrative leadership to the Performing Arts Center, Inc. 501(c)3 Foundation and Fundraising Campaign.
- * Establish a working Partnership between elected officials and private citizens, which will provide a stronger, more unified and coordinated effort in developing a first class venue and performing arts program.