

October 5, 2009
Regular Session #19
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, Private Events Coordinator Lisa Mitchell, 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

Pastor Ralph Krum of the Ocean City Seventh Day Adventist Church led the prayer, and Council Member Mary Knight led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT ON UPCOMING WORK SESSION

City Manager Dare advised that the following items will be discussed in the upcoming work session:

1. Bid openings for: (1) Wastewater/Water Chemicals and (2) Paving of Tuna Lane
2. Report on the 2009 OC Air Show – presented by Bryan Lilley
3. Report of experience on pension plan changes – presented by Ed Donohue, former President of the Anne Arundel County Board of Commissioners and Member of the County's Pension Oversight Committee
4. Discussion on Private Event Fees – presented by Special Events Director John Sullivan
5. Grant Acquisition for forensic equipment – presented by OCPD Detective Robert Bokinsky
6. Planning Commission recommendation on the proposed Zoning amendment for outdoor displays of merchandise for shops fronting Atlantic Avenue – presented by Zoning Administrator Blaine Smith
7. Discussion of the upcoming Maryland Department of Transportation Annual Capital Program Tour

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes for Regular Session #18, dated September 21, 2009, and, the Work Session, dated September 15, 2009 were approved as presented.

SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT REQUESTS

Private Events Coordinator Lisa Mitchell presented, for approval, the **Let's Walk for St. Jude's**, on October 17, 2009 (with an October 16, 2010 Date Hold), starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Tram Station near the inlet, and ending on 27th Street. **Council Member Mary Knight moved to approve with the October 16, 2010 Date Hold; seconded by Council Member Jim Hall. The vote was unanimous.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Donna Greenwood of the Ocean City Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Committee, and Louis Twilley, Worcester County Community Health Educator, reported on the 2009 Play it Safe Project (see Attachment A). Mrs. Greenwood emphasized that giving out wristbands are important to the success of the program. She thanked all the Play it Safe Volunteers and sponsors including, Hall's Family Restaurant, the Berlin WalMart, Jolly Rogers, Anne McDermott, Linda Rossi, Mary Ann LeMay, and Marge and John Rozankowski.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Nate Pierson of American Legion Post 166, requested permission to fire volleys (using blank ammunition) for Veteran's Day on November 11, 2009 and Memorial Day on May 1, 2010. **Council Member Joe Hall moved to approve; seconded by Council Member Jim Hall. The vote was unanimous.**

- B. Dave Wilson, Executive Director of Maryland Coastal Bays requested permission to use Town property on Lewis Road to access a launching site for the Ayres Creek Kayak and Canoe Tour. **Council Member Joe Hall moved to approve the Ayres Creek Kayak and Canoe Launch at the Lewis Road site pending a recommendation from Risk Management Director Eric Lagstrom; seconded by Council Member Jim Hall.** City Solicitor Ayres expressed concern about the Town's liability. Council Member Jim Hall withdrew his second. Council President Mitreic declared that the motion failed for lack of a second.

Mayor Meehan suggested that the Worcester County Commissioners should play a role in sponsoring this program. Council President Mitreic advised that this discussion will continue in the next work session.

ITEMS REFERRED TO AND PRESENTATIONS FROM THE CITY SOLICITOR

City Solicitor Ayres presented the following for approval:

- A. Second Reading of Ordinance 2009-22, authorizing the sale of surplus municipal property as amended. **Council Member Mary Knight moved to approve Ordinance 2009-22, as amended, on Second Reading; seconded by Council Member Jim Hall. The vote was unanimous.**

- B. First Reading of Ordinance 2009-23, incorporating "Municipal Growth" and "Water Resource Elements", and, "Planning Visions" segments into the Comprehensive Plan. **Council Member Jim Hall moved to approve Ordinance 2009-23 on First Reading; seconded by Council Secretary Lloyd Martin. The vote was unanimous.**

ITEMS REFERRED TO AND PRESENTATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Dare presented the following for approval:

- A. Permission to solicit bids for: (1) North Surf Playground replacement (funded with an \$80,000.00 Parks and Playground Community Grant); (2) Tuna Lane paving project (3) design of a 48" sewer main repair; and, (4) Coin sorter (90% funded by Maryland Transit Authority); (5) medical supplies for emergency services. **Council Member Jim Hall moved to approve the upcoming bid openings; seconded by Council Secretary Lloyd Martin. The vote was unanimous.**

- B. Recommendation of bid award to **Value Carpet One**, for the amount of \$15,000.00 for the Convention Center Mezzanine Carpet. **Council Member Mary Knight moved to approve; seconded by Council Member Jim Hall. The vote was unanimous.**

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Bob Melvin said he will withdraw his interest in setting up a non-profit program for the ADA pilot program.

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Council Member Margaret Pillas asked why the ad agency proposals were given to the Council Members, and not distributed to all voting members of the Tourism Commission. Mayor Meehan said that, at the last Tourism Meeting, the selection process was clear that the material will be distributed on the day of presentation. Council Member Knight said that the Council Members received the proposals in closed session with the understanding that they not be shared with the public.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Secretary Lloyd Martin moved to adjourn at 7:08 p.m.; seconded by Council Member Jim Hall.
The vote was unanimous.

2009 Play It Safe

Play It Safe 2009 offered free, fun and alcohol-and-drug-free events starting on Sunday, May 31, 2009, and the excitement continued through Friday, June 19, 2009. Some points to note about this year's project are:

- ▶ 12,139 participants
- ▶ 23 States represented, plus the District of Columbia
- ▶ Canada was also represented
- ▶ Poster/T-shirt Design contest was won by a senior, Ethan Ringrose, from Westminster High School in Westminster, MD
- ▶ 75,000 Passports to Fun were printed and distributed in Ocean City, across the State of Maryland and beyond
- ▶ 57 FREE planned events, including karaoke, indoor miniature golf, windsurfing, kayaking, midnight bowling, basketball, outdoor miniature golf, volleyball, Splash Mountain, paintball, tennis, laser tag, rock climbing, pancake and pizza eating contests, weekly access to Health & Racquet Club. The events on the first Friday, June 5th, were canceled due to rain, as was the Splash Mountain event on the last Thursday, June 18th. In addition, the Miniature Golf component of Laser Tag on the final Thursday was not available to participants due to the mini golf course being under water.
- ▶ Worcester County Liquor Control Board's Impaired Driving Simulator was available for trial by Play It Safe participants at each Maui Golf event, and the Maryland State Police Seat Belt Convincer was available for trial at the Splash Mountain event.
- ▶ 300+ businesses, organizations and individuals contributed money and prizes
- ▶ Play It Safe student committee, a sub committee of SADD, at Stephen Decatur High School, had 20+ members during the most recent school year (2008-2009)
- ▶ 81 Volunteers gave 844 hours of service for the implementation of Play It Safe 2009. This does not include the countless hours contributed by members of the Ocean City Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Committee, Inc., as well as, time contributed by all of the agencies, i.e., Worcester County Health Department, Ocean City Public Works, Ocean City Transportation, etc., necessary for the successful implementation of the events.