



May 10, 2011  
Work Session  
Mayor and Council  
Town of Ocean City

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In attendance: Mayor Rick Meehan, Council President James S. Hall, Council Secretary Lloyd Martin, Council Members Margaret Pillas, Mary Knight, Doug Cymek, Joe Hall and Brent Ashley, City Manager Dennis Dare, City Solicitor Guy Ayres, Finance Administrator Martha Lucey, Public Works Director Hal Adkins, Deputy City Clerk Kelly Allmond, Members of the Press and Interested Parties.

1. Council President Jim Hall called this Work Session to order at 12: 00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 301 Baltimore Avenue, Ocean City, Maryland 21842; then, **Council Member Cymek moved to convene into closed session to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice; seconded by Council Member Ashley. The vote was unanimous.**
2. Council President Hall re-opened the work session at 1:11 p.m. and reported that legal matters were discussed in the closed session. Persons present were: Mayor Rick Meehan, Council President James S. Hall, Council Secretary Lloyd Martin, Council Members Margaret Pillas, Mary Knight, Doug Cymek, Joe Hall and Brent Ashley, City Manager Dennis Dare, City Solicitor Guy Ayres and Executive Office Associate Diana Chavis. He advised that the vote to end the closed meeting was unanimous.
3. **Maryland State Highway Administration – Spring Meeting**  
District Engineer Donnie Drewer, accompanied by Assistant District Engineer for Traffic Ken Cimino, reported the following.
  - (1.) Mr. Drewer advised that the following projects will be completed by Memorial Day:
    - a.) ADA upgrades and sidewalk improvements from 131<sup>st</sup> Street to 136<sup>th</sup> Street
    - b.) Paving from 9<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> Street
  - (2.) Mr. Cimino advised that signal upgrades to 30<sup>th</sup> Street (and Coastal Highway) and Pacific Avenue (and Coastal Highway) are scheduled for Fall 2011.
  - (3.) Mr. Cimino advised that the requested Emergency Radio Station signs will soon be installed. He said the flashing component is pending approval.
  - (4.) Mr. Drewer advised that the concrete nosing repair (on the left turn bay at 65<sup>th</sup> Street and Coastal Highway) should be completed by Memorial Day.
  - (5.) Mr. Drewer advised that the re-marking of crosswalks along Philadelphia Avenue - 9<sup>th</sup> Street to the Inlet, and Baltimore Avenue - 15<sup>th</sup> Street to the Inlet should be done by Memorial Day
  - (6.) Mr. Drewer advised that a wiring malfunction caused outages to the Route 90 Bridge lights and repair is underway.
  - (7.) Mr. Drewer advised that repairs to the right turn lanes on Philadelphia Avenue, from 1<sup>st</sup> Street to the bridge, were completed yesterday.

Council President Hall asked about painting the Route 50 Bridge to which Mr. Drewer advised there is no funding.

Council Member Knight asked about obtaining permission to install a web-cam on the Route 50 Bridge. Mr. Drewer said this request is under the Office of Traffic and Safety's advisement.

Council Secretary Lloyd Martin expressed concern about the number of traffic signals between Walmart and the Route 50 Bridge. Mr. Drewer said turn lanes into and out of Walmart will facilitate traffic flow.

**4. Discussion of Scoot Coupes – presented by Reese Cropper**

Mr. Cropper expressed his concern about House Bill 1167 *“authorizing the use of a “motorized passenger scooter” on specified highways in the municipal boundaries of Ocean City under specified conditions; authorizing the State Highway Administration to prohibit the operation of a motorized passenger scooter on a bicycle way on specified highways under specified circumstances; defining terms; and making the Act as an emergency measure.”*<sup>1</sup> Council Member Cymek explained that the Mayor and Council have no jurisdiction over state-owned roadways. Mayor Meehan suggested imposing time limitations on renting scoop coupes.

**5. Request Approval of Engineering Services Proposal for Electrical Upgrades Design at the Wastewater Treatment Plant – presented by Public Works Director Hal Adkins. Council Member Joe Hall moved to approve; seconded by Council Member Pillas. The vote was unanimous.**

**6. Discussion of the Sponsorship Policy – presented by Parks and Recreation Director Tom Shuster [In the December 20, 2010 Regular Session, the Council postponed discussions regarding the Sponsorship Solicitation Contract.] Director Shuster re-stated his recommendation to hire Dean Langrall, who bid the lowest commission rate, to solicit sponsorships for Sunfest, Springfest and Winterfest events. Council Member Knight moved to accept the recommendation with the following changes: (1) the contract will be non-exclusive; (2) the language charging the Town \$100.00 hourly fee for out-of-scope services will be removed and instead, the commission will be increased to 20%; (3) contract term will be for two years; (4) all sponsorships will be presented to the Mayor and Council for approval; seconded by Council Secretary Martin. The vote was unanimous.**

**7. Council Member Joe Hall moved to ratify Ordinance 2011-16 amending Compensation or Benefits Paid or Provided to Certain Municipal Employees providing employees hired on or after the effective date of this ordinance, upon retirement from Ocean City, after twenty five years of service, until age 65, retirees may participate in any of the municipal retiree health plans including the high deductible health plan; seconded by Council Member Ashley. The vote was unanimous.**

**Council Member Joe Hall moved to ratify Ordinance 2011-16 as an emergency ordinance; seconded by Council Member Ashley. The vote was unanimous.** The Mayor concurred with the vote.

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<sup>1</sup> [State of Maryland] House Bill 1167 Synopsis, Vehicle Laws-“Motorized Passenger Scooter-use in Ocean City”

8. **Council Member Joe Hall moved to ratify Ordinance 2011-17 amending Compensation or Benefits Paid or Provided to Certain Municipal Employees adopting the retirement plan available to employees hired after the effective date hereof shall be an Internal Revenue Service qualified defined contribution plan with contribution levels and vesting plan; seconded by Council Member Ashley. The vote was unanimous.**

**Council Member Pillas moved to ratify Ordinance 2011-17 as an emergency ordinance; seconded by Council Member Ashley. The vote was unanimous.** The Mayor concurred with the vote.

#### Unscheduled Items

Council Member Pillas asked City Staff to contact the Department of Natural Resources about a number of traps and buoys in the bay. City Manager Dennis Dare advised that he will look into the matter.

Mayor Rick Meehan asked for a work session discussion on assisting local tackle shops with processing salt-water fishing licenses. Council President Hall asked Ms. Allmond to convey this agenda request to City Clerk Kathleen Mathias.

**Council Secretary Martin moved to adjourn at 2:37p.m.; seconded by Council Member Pillas. The vote was unanimous.**