CITY OF SEA ISLE CITY, NEW JERSEY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2011 – 10:00 AM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

ATTENDANCE: Mr. Edwardi, Mr. Kehner, Mr. McHale, Ms. Tighe, and Mr. Divney, Also attending was Administrator Mr. Savastano and Solicitor Mr. Baldini.

Council President Divney called the meeting to order and asked everyone to rise for the flag salute and prayer. He then announced that the meeting had been advertised in accordance with P. L. 1975, Chapter 231.

Mr. Divney then asked for a motion to adopt the minutes of the 11-15-11 Regular Meeting. Motion moved by Ms. Tighe and seconded by Mr. Kehner. All ayes followed.

REPORTS-Mayor and Administrator: Mr. Savastano addressed resolution #167 explaining that the health insurance plan will remain the same, however by contracting directly with Horizon BC & BS, the City will realize significant savings. He then introduced Kellie Seib of Marsh/McLennan Agency who, as the City's broker of record, explained the recommended change and responded to Council questions and concerns.

Mr. Savastano announced that the Mayor is absent as he is at a funeral and is hosting the luncheon. He next announced that the beach fill operation will begin in Strathmere around 12/15 putting it in Sea Isle in January and in the downtown around mid-February; the library will have a grand opening on 12/13/11 at 1:00 pm and the tree lighting will be tonight at 6:00 pm rain or shine.

REPORTS-Council: Mr. Divney announced that Mr. Edwardi will be leaving at 10:30 to attend a funeral. He also announced there will be a capital plan workshop at 2:00 pm this afternoon in Council Chambers.

Mr. McHale announced that the Beautification Committee will meet today at 2:00 pm to discuss its next project, the downtown business area.

ORDINANCES - Introduction and First Reading:
Mr. Divney asked for motion to introduce ordinance 1512 on first reading. Motion moved by Mr. McHale and seconded by Ms. Tighe. All ayes followed and the clerk read the ordinance by title: **1512 – An Ordinance Of The City of Sea Isle City, New Jersey Amending Ordinance No. 1217 (1999) Entitled "An Ordinance Establishing and Fixing Wages, Salaries And Compensation Overtime Payments of Officers and Employees of the City of Sea Isle City, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey" and Repealing Ordinance No. 1165, 1176 (1996). 1208 (1998), 1217 (1999). 1240 (2000), 1284 (2001), 1297 (2002), 1307 (2002), 1336 (2003), 1363 (2004), 1385 (2005), 1406 (2006), 1436 (2007), 1458 (2008) and 1481 (2010) as amended.** Mr. Savastano explained that this would provide contractual increases for the Department Heads through 2014.

Mr. Divney then asked for a motion to adopt ordinance 1512 on first reading and publish according to law. Motion moved by Ms. Tighe and seconded by Mr. McHale. All ayes followed and Mr. Divney announced second reading and public hearing will be 12/13/11 at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Divney asked for a motion to introduce ordinance 1513 on first reading. Motion moved by Ms. Tighe and seconded by Mr. Kehner. All ayes followed and the clerk read the ordinance by title: **1513 – An Ordinance to Amend the Revised General Ordinances of the City of Sea Isle City, Chapter 6 "Beverage Control" Amending and Regulating Outdoor Sales of Alcohol.** Mr. Savastano provided an overview of the ordinance.

Mr. Divney then asked for a motion to adopt ordinance 1513 on first reading and publish according to law. Motion moved by Ms. Tighe and seconded by Mr. Edwardi. **VOTE:** Mr. Edwardi, Ms. Tighe and Mr. Divney – aye. Mr. Kehner and Mr. McHale –no. Mr. Divney announced second reading and public hearing for ordinances 1513 will be 12/13/2011 at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Edwardi left the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

CITIZEN COMMENT ~ Resolutions on Consent Agenda:
Ann Organ-209 39th St: Regarding #167 she asked why it is being done at the last minute and Mr. Divney explained that the City must give the State 60 days notice. She then asked for an explanation of the #166 and Mr. Savastano responded with Mr. Divney adding that there is no additional funds and the transfers are less than 1% of the entire budget.

RESOLUTION – Consent Agenda:

164 Authorizing the Approval of Vouchers
165 Authorizing Advertisement of Bids for Lagoon Dredging
166 Authorizing Transfers of Appropriations
167 A Resolution to Terminate Participation Under the State Health Benefits Program

Mr. Divney then asked for a motion to adopt the resolutions on the consent agenda #164 - #167. Motion moved by Mr. Kehner and seconded by Mr. McHale. All ayes followed.

PENDING BUSINESS: Mr. Savastano gave an updated fleet management report. Mr. Divney asked that the Police Chief provide a more in depth explanation on police vehicles at a future meeting and Mr. Kehner asked that the City begin considering "green" vehicles such as hybrids.

Mr. Divney announced that the Planning Board will be taking up council's request to review the commercial zoning ordinance at its 1/9/2012 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Kehner indicated that he has heard from many residents that are complaining about the increase in beach tag fees and suggested an interim rate from January to March at $17.00 and make up the loss revenue by increasing weekly tags from $10 to $15. Mr. Divney indicated that Council can consider at the next meeting as that is the second reading and public hearing and the ordinance has been advertised as introduced.

CITIZEN COMMENT:

Chris Gibson, Esq. Representing Landis 39 Group: Regarding ordinance 1513, he expressed concern with the definition "exposed to the weather" as he feels it will only cause problems as it is not better defined and the language "regardless of the area being fully enclosed". There was much discussion among council members, Mr. Baldini and Mr. Gibson. Mr. Baldini cautioned that this is not the public hearing and suggested Council table the ordinance if it feels the language is too ambiguous. He added that the language is from the land use/zoning ordinance but if the Council would like to revisit the ordinance, he would prefer it be tabled rather than advertise, amend and re-advertise as that is costly.

Mr. McHale agreed the ordinance language is ambiguous and Mr. Kehner agreed adding that he felt the businesses are private property and should be allowed to operate based on the Judge's ruling from last year. More discussion followed and in conclusion, Mr. Divney asked that the ordinance be brought back to the agenda and tabled until a later meeting yet to be determined. Mr. Kehner made the motion and Mr. McHale seconded it. All ayes followed.

Steve Hansberry-5712 Central Ave: Provided a revised capital plan with reductions on items he feels are not necessary or can be pushed out to other years.

Ann Organ-209 39th St: Opposed elimination of the free beach day on Wednesday and announced the landlord tenant hearings for 3820 Central will be 12/7/11 at 6:00 pm.

Lynn Shirk-209 54th St: Opposed elimination of the free beach day on Wednesday; asked why the new police vehicles are unidentified; complained about trash at a construction site 2 doors down from her and that even fully enclosed vinyl structures are not always free from weather.

Annette Lombardo-121 37th St: Supported Mr. Kehner's recommendation on beach tag fees and asked the status of the Welcome Center. Mr. Divney indicated bids will be advertised tomorrow and opened 12/22/11.

Irene Jamison-1500 Landis Ave: Suggested the lighthouse replica at JFK & Landis was supposed to be moved to the north end and opposed the elimination of the free beach day on Wednesday and the addition to the lodge for a welcome center.

Mr. Divney asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion moved by Ms. Tighe and seconded by Mr. Kehner. All ayes followed and the meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

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Cindy L. Griffith, City Clerk