

**MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF  
THE BOROUGH OF STONE HARBOR HELD IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

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The meeting was called to order by Mayor Davies-Dunhour at 4:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Judith M. Davies-Dunhour, Mayor  
Megan Brown, Deputy Clerk  
Steve Morris, Solicitor

**PRESENT**

Councilmembers  
Frank Dallahan  
Victor Foschini  
Bunny Parzych  
Robin Casper  
Jennifer Gensemer  
Reese Moore

Mayor Davies-Dunhour announced that the meeting was now open. Adequate notice of the meeting was provided by posting a copy of the time and place on the Municipal Clerk's bulletin board and mailing a copy of same to the Press and the Cape May County Herald on January 4, 2023.

FOR THE RECORD, THIS WORK SESSION WAS HELD VIA VIDEO/TELEPHONE  
CONFERENCE IN A ZOOM FORMAT AS WELL AS IN PERSON

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Mayor: The County presented us with a check for \$400,000 for the ARPA Infrastructure Grant.

**Reports of Standing Committees:**

**PUBLIC SAFETY - Councilmember Dallahan**

**Fire Department Report – Chief Stanford Presented the April 2023 Report**

78 Total Calls- 36 Fire Responses/42 EMS Responses: 2 building fires, 1 cooking fire, 3 medical assists, 1 elevator rescue, 4 natural gas leaks; 2 public assists, 1 cover assignment, 1 smoke scare, 17 fire alarms, 2 carbon monoxide alarms.

**Police Department Report – Chief Tom Schutta Presented the April 2023 Report**

47 Motor Vehicle Stops, 2 motorists assisted, 2 motor vehicle accidents; 5 suspicious vehicles; 10 animal complaints; 3 OPRA requests were responded to; 13 open doors and or windows; 1 adult arrested.

Update on personnel: We have two Class II recruits in the academy, they will graduate June 29<sup>th</sup> and three Class I recruits that will start the academy at the end of the month and will be ready to work after graduation.

Stone Harbor Municipal Court is still being held virtually and there are no issues to report.

Update on Camera project- Ready to move on quote received from Camera equipment and installation- 17 cameras will be installed at various locations around town: Entry and exit points, traffic intersection, parks, playgrounds, parking lots and public works. Cameras will be under the control of the Police Dept, access will be granted to OEM and Public works to monitor flooding and weather events. Camera locations will be: 300 Block of 96<sup>th</sup>, base of the bridge on 96<sup>th</sup> St., 96<sup>th</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Intersection, Chelsea Park, 117<sup>th</sup> & Third, 123 Parking lot, 96<sup>th</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Intersection, 95<sup>th</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Intersection, 97<sup>th</sup> St. playground, 95<sup>th</sup> & 96<sup>th</sup> Beach lot, 82<sup>nd</sup> & 1<sup>st</sup> Ave Playground, 80<sup>th</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave, 81<sup>st</sup> & Third Ave, Marina Lot & Public works yard.

Councilmember Dallahan asked what the major benefit is from installing the cameras, Chief Schutta explained it would be beneficial for investigative work, OEM for flood events and in the public works yard for the transfer area, gas pumps and the actual yard across the street and for safety at the playgrounds.

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Councilmember Moore mentioned the Park Mobile system and causes for concerns, many of the business owners expected there would be a grace period for enforcement of the new parking program, he asked Chief Schutta to clarify how it's being handled, Chief Schutta explained that with the past parking system they did issue a warning notice, give 5-10 minutes, keep patrolling then come back and if the meter was still expired, they would issue a summons, now with the advent of Park Mobile the warning is sent right to their phone, so they are not issuing a warning notice. Councilmember Moore suggested that the Public Safety Committee review and discuss what can be done to improve the transition.

Cape Physicians parking space update- Steve Morris explained that Cape Physicians is not a non-profit, it is a for profit organization, Steve has reached out to League of Municipalities legal team to discuss this further, and to make certain that the Borough doesn't get in any circumstance where they could be considered unfairly supporting or catering to a private for profit business, so this topic is to be continued.

**Lifeguard Captain – Captain Sandy Bosacco:** Starting Saturday May 27<sup>th</sup> 2/3 of the beaches will be protected- about 12 streets. Lifeguard try outs are May 28<sup>th</sup> and the beach tag office will be open daily starting May 20<sup>th</sup>. The elevator in the new building is scheduled to be inspected May 22<sup>nd</sup> and should be finalized after that.

**Office of Emergency Management – Frank Vault, OEM Director:** We had one weather event April 30<sup>th</sup>, some minor localized flooding, Officer Santini made us aware that there was minor flooding in that area, and the high tide siren was activated. Weather works sent a winter summary- they measured snowfall in Atlantic City, we had 7.2 inches this year, November – March, we average 42.7 degrees. 2023 Hurricane outlook predicted below normal number of storms. Working on the integrated public alert warning system, FEMA recently changed their procedure for registering. Part of their registration is to complete an online training, which Frank has registered for.

### **Recreations and Tourism – Councilmember Victor Foschini**

#### **Recreation – Shannon MacPherson, Rec Director**

Ready for summer clinics and basketball league registrations is fully open to the public, been able to expand numbers, still has a wait list, which she keeps monitoring. She advised they are fully staffed for the summer, a lot of returning staff from past summers. Tennis and pickleball fees will start Friday May 26<sup>th</sup>- Pickleball nets & cabana covers were replaced this past week the clay court, maintenance was complete, in the process of rolling 2 times per day. Bocce court maintenance was complete, registration will be open June 1<sup>st</sup> and the league will be Wednesday mornings starting June 28<sup>th</sup>. The next event is the Stone Harbor sandbag challenge; partnering with 31 Heroes, a nonprofit, which will take place on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Beach Fit expo will take place June 17<sup>th</sup>, several vendors are participating.

SHPOA has requested a Special Event for a 5k race on August 20<sup>th</sup>. There was some discussion on the details of whether closure of the streets could be a problem, and if there will be enough police presence to monitor public safety. Councilmember Foschini suggested that the committee have more conversations to decide the best day/time/location for the race. Geoff Woolery spoke about the details of the event and why that date was selected.

#### **Tourism – Jenny Olson, Tourism Director**

#### **Special Event Application for St. Brendan the Navigator procession- June 11<sup>th</sup>**

Jenny Olson explained the route of the event. The council discussed the route and Councilmember Dallahan expressed that he thinks it's a bad idea to go that route on a Sunday morning with the business of the town at that time. Councilmember Parzych will discuss alternate routes and bring it back to be voted on.

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### Upcoming Events:

Saturday May 27<sup>th</sup>- Color run at 10am, followed by beach opening ceremony, location could change depending on the beach fill project. Sunday May 28<sup>th</sup> Turtle Trot on 96<sup>th</sup> & First Avenue. Opening Farmers Market on May 28<sup>th</sup> with a ribbon cutting, we have 8 new vendors. Memorial Day- American Legion parade at noon, followed by a ceremony at the WCC immediately following.

### **Natural Resource Committee – Councilmember Robin Casper**

Manny Parada provided an update on the General Permit #2 is under review by the NJDEP.

Beach fill- Great Lakes has completed Avalon, dredge is being maintained to get ready to start, due back Sunday May 21<sup>st</sup>- we do not have a survey yet, there is an internal quality control review being done by the Army Corps, we've been getting daily updates from the DEP & Army Corps.

Ray Poudrier provided an update on the recycling of appliances when a home is demolished. He reached out to the County solid waste compliance officer to see what the policy is, he provided the DEP policy, since they regulate it- there is program called 'source separated' which makes the demo contractor responsible and is required to separate and recycle. When the materials are brought MUA they have certain areas where the trash can go.

### **Bird Sanctuary Update:**

Fall of 2021 the Borough contracted Princeton Hydro to manage the phragmites, invasive plants have overrun the entire freshwater wetlands, and the tidal wetlands, the treatment was effective, prevention seed banks from germinating- in the spring mulch was removed and resulted in a natural resurgence of native vegetation, mulch is breaking down and more native plants are returning.

### **Stone Harbor Point Update:**

One pair of piping plovers and 6 Oyster catchers on active nests.

### **Stone Harbor Museum:**

Museum will reopen May 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **Discussion:**

Mayor Judy Davies explained the Energy tax receipts letter; she indicated there is a motion on regular meeting for tonight to move forward with the signing this letter to the members of the senate and general assembly, urging full restoration of energy tax receipts prop tax relief fund to municipalities encouraging the state incorporate municipal funding into the 2024 state budget.

Paul Kates explained the Overlay Zone update. The planning board has been working on this overlay zone and planning methods for flood mitigation; low lying areas, which encompass the overlay zone, can have stricter standards incorporated in these zones when building. He presented a draft ordinance which was approved by the planning board, ordinance will be introduced at the next meeting.

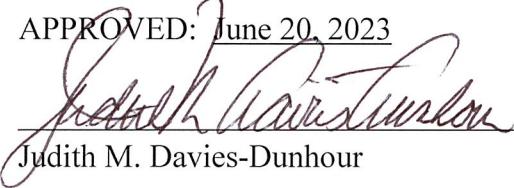
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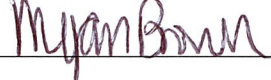
No Further Discussion.

Upon Motion by: Councilmember Frank Dallahan  
Seconded by: Councilmember Bunny Parzych

That the Work Session Meeting of Mayor and Council be adjourned at 6:20p.m.

APPROVED: June 20, 2023

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Mayor  
Judith M. Davies-Dunhour

ATTEST:   
\_\_\_\_\_, Borough Clerk  
(Deputy)