

**MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE BOROUGH OF STONE HARBOR HELD IN THE
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
April 16, 2024**

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

ROLL CALL

Judith M. Davies-Dunhour, Mayor
Emily Dillon, Borough Clerk
Anthony Bocchi, Solicitor
Manny Parada, Borough Administrator

PRESENT

Councilmembers
Frank Dallahan
Victor Foschini
Bunny Parzych
Robin Casper
Jennifer Gensemer
Tim Carney

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, 2024.

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

Salute the Flag

Reports of Standing Committees:

Public Safety Committee– Councilmember Dallahan

Fire Department

Chief Stanford provides a report for March 2024, the full report is on file in the Clerk's office. Councilmember Gensemer thanks the fire department and emergency services for their dedication to the community.

Police Department

Chief Schutta provides a report for March 2024 the full report is on file in the Clerk's office. Chief Schutta provides an update on his department's current personnel and states he has a few officers attending the academy and will have two Class 1 officers returning in May. Chief Schutta comments that the individual responsible for the recent robberies has been arrested.

Beach Patrol

Mr. Bosacco states a few lifeguards will start working in May to prepare for the summer season and will begin their annual recertification training. Mr. Bosacco mentions the beach patrol office is selling beach tags on the weekends 10am-4pm and the sales at this point are about \$19,000.

Office of Emergency Management

Mr. Vaul provides a report for February and March and states the IPAWS memorandum of agreement was sent to FEMA for review and approval.

Recreation and Tourism- Councilmember Foschini

Recreation – Shannon MacPherson, Recreation Director

Ms. MacPherson comments on the Harbor Hop and states there were over 200 participants and thanks Police, Fire and Public Works for their assistance with the event. Ms. MacPherson announces for the Mayor's Wellness Program the Borough has been awarded the Healthy Town up and coming award for 2023 and thanks the Mayor and all the employees who participated. Ms. MacPherson mentions there is an additional Lunch in Learn on April 25th for a presentation on lung cancer screening. Ms. MacPherson states she is coordinating a schedule to complete CPR training for the Borough employees. Ms. MacPherson states Fun Fridays in Chelsea Park are beginning April 26th and she is also working on creating an after school sports program to begin in May. Ms. MacPherson comments the sports clinic and basketball league registration is approaching and will begin May 1st for residents and May 15th for non residents. Ms. MacPherson mentions the sand bag tournament that the Borough partners with 31 Heroes will be on June 30th and are looking for sponsors for the event. Ms. MacPherson states she is

receiving competitive quotes and designs for the playgrounds and has a meeting with the County Open Space Board in June. Council discusses the process for receiving quotes for the playgrounds and Councilmember Dallahan suggests obtaining feedback from the community.

Tourism Director – Jenny Olson

Ms. Olson details upcoming special events including the Garden Club of Stone Harbor community yard sale on May 18th, the Wetlands Summer Celebration on July 27th, the Turtle Trot on May 28th, the Color Run is on May 25th, the American Legion Memorial Day parade is May 26th and the Farmer’s Market starts on May 26th. Councilmember Foschini suggests the Borough consider hiring a company to have people dress up as characters to walk around the Farmer’s Market.

Natural Resource Committee – Councilmember Carney

Mr. Carney states several migratory birds and seals have been spotted at the Point and reminds everyone to leave the birds alone and not invade their space and the NJDEP has installed fencing to protect them. Mr. Carney mentions the Borough is still awaiting the Back Bay report from Stockton and did request that when the report is available to have one of their team members meet with the Borough to explain the data. Mr. Carney states the Borough has received the CAFRA permit for the work done to the beach access road to the point. Mr. Carney welcomes Lenore Tedesco from the Wetlands to provide an update. Ms. Tedesco reports the levels of water are unusually high this year which is resulting in eroding the marshes. Ms. Tedesco mentions the Wetlands is working with the Army Corps of Engineers to beneficially use dredge material to improve the marshes. Ms. Tedesco states in the fall of 2024 the Wetlands is leading a project to elevate the marshes. Ms. Tedesco provides an update on the Stewardship Program and the schedule for the summer season. Ms. Tedesco comments on the bird sanctuary and states the pump station is finalized and the memorial bricks have been reinstalled and states the tours for the sanctuary are being scheduled through the Wetlands.

Discussion

- NJDEP CAFRA Permit Public Access Request 10511 and 10521 Sunset Drive, Block 202, Lots 81.01 and 81.02

Mayor Davies-Dunhour explains the request was received to provide the Borough with a financial contribution rather than build a public access and it is Council’s decision to approve or deny the request. Mr. DeBlasio explains that a CAFRA general permit is required to complete the project and the State requires public access for projects of this nature. Mr. DeBlasio states the state does offer an alternative to provide a financial contribution in place of constructing the public access that the Borough can apply to any public access project. Mr. Bocchi states he will review and research this with the Engineer and report back to Council on how to proceed.

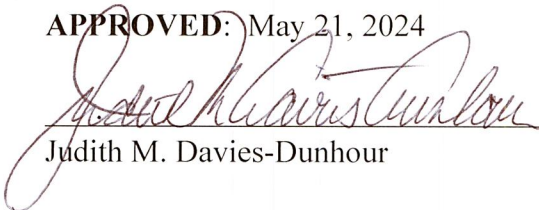
Motion to adjourn.

Motion: Dallahan **Second:** Carney
Dallahan: Yes **Foschini:** Yes **Parzyeh:** Yes **Casper:** Yes **Gensemer:** Yes **Carney:** Yes

The Work Session Meeting of Mayor and Council adjourned at 5:13PM.

Council takes a ten minute recess before beginning the Regular Meeting.

APPROVED: May 21, 2024

 _____, Mayor
Judith M. Davies-Dunhour

 _____, Borough Clerk
Emily Dillon