

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

January 21, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Carney at 5:18PM.

ROLL CALL

Timothy J. Carney, Mayor
Emily Dillon, Borough Clerk

PRESENT

Councilmembers
Frank Dallahan
Victor Foschini
Bunny Parzych
Robin Casper
Jennifer Gensemer

Mayor Carney 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 15, 2025. For the record this Council Meeting was held via Video/Telephone Conference in a Zoom format.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Swearing in of Councilmember

Mayor Carney introduces and welcomes new councilmember Ken Biddick and gives a brief history detailing his professional experience. Councilmember Gensemer welcomes Mr. Biddick and notes his extensive financial background and commitment to public service. Mrs. Gensemer states regarding Mr. Biddick's experience, his focus on financial management will be a huge asset to the borough.

The Borough Clerk swears in Mr. Biddick and he joins Council on the dais.

COMMUNICATIONS

There are no communications.

Public Comment:

Spencer Smith, 3207 Pacific Avenue- Mr. Smith states as President of the Cape May County Police Lodge number seven he represents the Police Department for the Borough and states the employees have been working tirelessly without a contract for thirteen months. Mr. Smith requests a promise in writing from Council to agree to begin contract negotiations in March. Mr. Bocchi, Borough Solicitor states Mr. Smith is welcome to comment but advises Council to not engage in direct communications on this subject and Labor Counsel is handling this.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION

1675 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 230 of the Municipal Code for the Borough of Stone Harbor- Construction Codes

Motion: Parzych **Second:** Dallahan

Dallahan: Yes **Foschini:** Yes **Parzych:** Yes **Casper:** Yes **Gensemer:** Yes **Biddick:** Yes

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

- Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes dated December 3, 2024
- Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes dated December 17, 2024
- Special Meeting Minutes dated December 30, 2024
- Reorganization Meeting Minutes dated January 7, 2025

Resolutions

2025-S-39 Resolution to Refund Over-Payments for Utility Installments
2025-S-40 Resolution of the Borough Council of the Borough of Stone Harbor
Committing to the Fourth Round Present and Prospective Need- Affordable
Housing Obligations
2025-S-41 Resolution Authorizing Award of Contract for Grant Management Services-
James M. Rutala Associates LLC
2025-S-42 Resolution to Authorize a Grant Application-FY2025 Recreation Grant
2025-S-43 Resolution Authorizing the Release for Surety Maintenance Bonds
2025-S-44 Resolution Authorizing the Transfer of Funds in the 2024 Budget
2025-S-45 Resolution Authorizing Execution of Consent Judgement Quieting Title in
Connection with CPM-000049-24
2025-S-46 Resolution Authorizing Payment of Approved Payrolls and Bills

Motion: Foschini **Second:** Casper

Dallahan: Yes **Foschini:** Yes **Parzych:** Yes **Casper:** Yes **Gensemer:** Yes **Biddick:** Yes

REGULAR AGENDA

Mayor Carney states there is an addition to the agenda to have a re-vote on the Zoning Board members for 2025. Mr. Bocchi, borough solicitor, explains there was a motion and vote on the zoning board members at the reorganization meeting on January 7, 2025. Mr. Bocchi states a councilmember inadvertently voted on the approval when the correct vote would have been to recuse themselves. Mr. Bocchi further explains the Zoning Board has yet to meet this year and the issue and can be solved with a revote.

Mayor Carney reads the 2025 Zoning Board members and requests a motion to approve the members.

Motion: Parzych **Second:** Dallahan

Dallahan: Yes **Foschini:** Yes **Parzych:** Yes **Casper:** Yes **Gensemer:** Abstain **Biddick:** Abstain

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

Council takes a recess at 5:34 PM until 6:30 PM for the scheduled time of the Public Hearing for the Green Acres Program, Jake's Place Playground.

PUBLIC HEARING- Green Acres Program, Jake's Place Playground- 6:30PM

Presentation-Build Jake's Place- Arthur Aston

Mr. Aston presents a detailed history of how Jake's Place began and how it has positively impacted his life. Mr. Aston presents personal experiences of his involvement and employment through Jake's Place as well as showing recently built playgrounds through this program and the positive outcomes for the communities. The full presentation is on file with the Clerk's office.

Presentation- Princeton Strategic Communications- Norris Clark

Mr. Clark explains his company constructed a survey to gather the public's feedback on the playground design. Mr. Clark details the platforms the information is being shared on as well as statistics of information the survey has provided to date. Mr. Clark encourages the public to continue to participate and provide feedback, the full presentation is on file in the Clerk's office.

Presentation- Borough Engineer-DeBlasio & Associates, Marc DeBlasio

Mr. DeBlasio explains the borough is currently working preliminarily with a playground manufacturer to comply with the Green Acres Program requirements. Mr. DeBlasio states with this grant opportunity the Borough is eligible for funds in the amount between \$500,000-\$750,000 with a 25% match and the grant application deadline is February 5, 2025. Mr. DeBlasio states there is a preliminary design on the website for the public's review.

Public Hearing on the Green Acres Program Presentations:

Colleen Begley, 125 Pelican Drive Avalon- Ms. Begley states she collaborated with her daughter's kindergarten class to have them create their idea of their ideal playground. Ms. Begley shares the student's designs with Council and the public. Ms. Begley states the Council has a great opportunity to create a unique tourist destination playground at the proposed location and suggests considering a water feature. Ms. Begley also suggests Council consider an imaginative design when planning for the playground.

Alex Haralampoudis, 268 99th Street- Ms. Haralampoudis states she has two young children that she frequently takes to the playground and feels the survey by Mr. Clark was incredibly done and looks forward to seeing the rest of the data collected. Ms. Haralampoudis states she agrees with Ms. Begley that an imaginative design will attract more people to this playground. Ms. Haralampoudis urges Council to consider bathroom options in this design as the public restrooms are lacking through out Stone Harbor.

Regular Meeting, January 21, 2025

Motion to add resolution 2025-S-47 Resolution Authorizing the Borough of Stone Harbor to Apply for NJDEP Green Acres Program grant to the agenda.

Motion: Gensemer **Second:** Dallahan

Dallahan: Yes **Foschini:** Yes **Parzych:** Yes **Casper:** Yes **Gensemer:** Yes **Biddick:** Yes

Motion to approve resolution 2025-S-47.

Motion: Parzych **Second:** Gensemer

Dallahan: Yes **Foschini:** Yes **Parzych:** Yes **Casper:** Yes **Gensemer:** Yes **Biddick:** Yes

Motion to adjourn.

Motion: Dallahan **Second:** Foschini

Dallahan: Yes **Foschini:** Yes **Parzych:** Yes **Casper:** Yes **Gensemer:** Yes **Biddick:** Yes

The Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council was adjourned at 7:27 PM.

APPROVED: February 4, 2025


_____, Mayor

Timothy J. Carney


_____, Borough Clerk

Emily Dillon

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