

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

September 20, 2022

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

ROLL CALL

Judith M. Davies-Dunhour, Mayor
Kim Stevenson, Borough Clerk
Marcus Karavan, Solicitor
Robert Smith, Borough Administrator
Lisa Marcolongo, Ass't Administrator
Megan Brown, Deputy Clerk

PRESENT

Councilmembers
Reese Moore
Bunny Parzych
Robin Casper
Jennifer Gensemer
Frank Dallahan
Charles Krafczek

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

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 5, 2022.

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

Public Safety Report – Councilmember Dallahan

Fire Department- Chief Roger Stanford – Not in attendance

No Report Provided

Police Department – Chief Tom Schutta

Report for August 2022

304 Motor vehicle stops; 120 Moving violations; 10 Motor vehicle accidents; 14 Suspicious Vehicle Complaints; 30 Animal Complaints; 4 OPRA requests completed & 4 Adults were Arrested

Personnel Update: Two newest full-time officers continue to attend the Cape May County Police Academy and doing very well by all accounts and are expected to graduate January 2023. Chief Schutta thanked the council for approval of extending two SLEO Officers positions to assist with coverage. One Officer is still away on military leave and expected to return the end of September. SLEO Hiring practice for 2023 has already begun.

Stone Harbor Municipal Court Update: Court is still being held remotely and there are no issues of concern.

Beach Patrol- Captain Sandy Bosacco

Report for 2022 Season: Captain Bosacco is pleased to report another safe summer and commended the guards and lieutenants for a job well done. Every effort is being made to provide coverage through September 30th. Beachgoers can contact the Beach Patrol building to verify which beaches are guarded.

August 2022 Report – 3 rescues, 6 EMS Calls, 2 police calls and 5 lost children were found.

Mayor Davies-Dunhour also praised the Beach Patrol for their exceptional efforts made to ensure everyone's safety along the beachfront. Mayor Davies-Dunhour visits the 95th Street beach every weekend and watches the efforts of this department and applauds them on a job well done. Councilmember Dallahan reported that comments from the public presented the same acclamation.

Engineers Report- Marc DeBlasio

Beach Patrol Headquarters Update: Final Electrical Panel and punch list items are the only requirements left to complete this building. Final change order requests are being reviewed for final closeout of this project. Marc thanked Sandy for his cooperation and feels that this project was a success.

Work Session, September 20, 2022

Office of Emergency Management – Frank Vault

August 2022 Report: On August 31, 2022 the NJ OEM issued Directive #9 establishing a local emergency management council. Frank has received the paperwork regarding this requirement which will be forwarded to the Public Safety Committee for review.

Mr. Vault is scheduled to attend the OEM workshop on October 27th, 2022 and is keeping an eye on the weather in the tropics.

Recreations and Tourism – Councilmember Jennifer Gensemer

Recreation – Shannon MacPherson, Rec Director

Shannon reported that the summer of 2022 was a success with increased revenue recorded. Shannon offered a huge thank you to clinic and league coaches who assisted with the success of the programs. Tennis and Pickleball courts are now open for free play. Halloween sign up link is now available on the website. Stone Harbor and Avalon residents can now register their homes to be included on the Halloween route. Yearlong fitness classes offered Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday are still available and going strong. Shannon is looking on adding additional classes in the shoulder season and will provide updates as they become available.

Councilmember Gensemer reminded Mayor and Council of the need to review the safety concerns surrounding the 97th Street playground and requested recommendations on whether or not the playground should be removed.

Councilmember Dallahan requested the amount of revenue for recreation programs in 2022. Shannon will provide those calculations to council.

Tourism Director – Jenny Olson

Jenny provided a change in the Savor En Blanc Event: due to predicted high winds this event is being moved to 96th Street. The street closure will already be in place due to the Savor September event being held the next day.

Long Board Surf Contest – Date change request: the new date requested is Saturday October 15th (rain date Sunday, October 16th). The Organizer of the event has requested postponement due to difficulty obtaining required insurance.

Special Event Application: Film Shoot, Monday, November 28th – “Magic in the Maze”. Local resident Sam Accardi is requesting permission to use the recreation building at 97th Street & First Avenue from 5pm-8pm with a cast and crew of approximately 10 people. Mr. Accardi is not a non-profit and is requesting that all fees associated with this permit be waved. Jenny explained the theme of the movie.

Review of 2022 Events:

Farmers Market – extended for an additional two weeks

Preparing for upcoming Classis Car show- Scheduled for Saturday, October 8th from 10am-1pm followed by a car parade through town.

Island Holiday Weekend – Scheduled for November 25th and 26th. Will include the carousel, holiday market, and pet parade.

Update of Borough Website: modern design, more user friendly, e-mail directory of Mayor, Council, and employees all in one location and the ability to schedule off season trash pick up online.

Natural Resource Committee – Councilmember Robin Casper

Doug Gaffney- Coastal Engineer

Permitting Update: The Draft Municipal Public Access Plan is under review and once that review is complete it will be forwarded to the NJDEP. Mr. Gaffney also explained that the borough is in the process of updating General Permit # 2 with the State DEP which authorizing beach maintenance activities. Mr. Gaffney is hopeful that the draft MPAP will provide enough documentation for the state to approve the extension to the General Permit #2.

Work Session, September 20, 2022

Mr. Gaffney explained that there is a restart discussion with DEP regarding the construction at the access point to Stone Harbor Point after the Mother's Day Storm. NJDEP is looking for another individual CAFRA permit which seems to be an overstep. If another individual CAFRA permit is required there would be large fee associated with that, based on the acreage of Stone Harbor Point.

Army Corp of Engineers Beach fill: The 95% design plans and specifications were delivered on September 19th. The Army Corp has extended the beach fill further north- starting between 90th and 91st Street to 114th Street and will also include 122nd to the terminal groin.

Feasibility Study & Numerical Modeling: Mr. Gaffney has created the digital elevation model which is the basis on which the numerical model runs. They were successful in getting the hydrodynamics to work – forcing functions of waves and storms. Still need calibration of the sediment transport model. Mr. Gaffney explained that the calibration must be accurate to the results of storms and erosion from the past, which is difficult because Stone Harbor Point is very complex and there is very little data available. Beach scraping that has occurred in Avalon along the beachfront skews modeling for Stone Harbor and must be taken into consideration.

Mr. Gaffney advised that the following alternatives are being evaluated and invited the community for input on additional ideas if available.

The following alternatives would be considered when Army Corp Beach fills are not completed.

Beach Scraping: Scraping material from mean low water line and bring onto the beach

Sand Fences: Temporary harvest windblown material in the off season.

Dredge from Great Channel: Pump onto beach

Altering Jetties: would need to include in numerical model, very porous

Add or remove Jetty(s)

Cape May County Purchasing a Dredge for use of shore communities

Encapsulate fine sand in geo textile tubes

Breakwaters: Parallel to the beach – fairly expensive and act indirectly with keeping the beach in place.

There have been no conversations with the county on the ideas presented.

Prohibition of Invasive Species of Plant and Promoting Native Plants:

The borough is considering an Ordinance. Lisa Marcolongo, Assistant Borough Administrator presented a synopsis of the details within this ordinance. This ordinance will ban the planting of any invasive species as defined in the ordinance and property owners must confine any existing invasive species within their property line.

Suggested plantings have already been included in a Stone Harbor Property Owner educational brochure and the Borough will provide educational postings on the website and social media promoting native plantings.

Local registered landscapers were invited to the recent Natural Resource Committee meeting for discussion and input on this ordinance. There were three landscapers who reached out via e-mail for clarification however no one attended the Natural Resource committee meeting on Thursday, September 15th.

Lenore Tedesco presented a comment on the most invasive species that do exist on the island: purple loose strife and bamboo.

Borough Administrator Smith noted that we are moving towards an approved list and not creating a banned list that is why we wanted to engage the landscapers. Enforcement of this ordinance would be handled by the Code Enforcement office.

Work Session, September 20, 2022

Stone Harbor Museum Gala: Councilmember Casper reported that this event was a huge success. Also Fall hours at the museum are every Saturday from 10am to 1pm. If there is an event in town there would also be hours on Friday from 10am to 1pm.

Councilmember Casper reminded everyone that plastic plates and silverware are not recyclable and asked everyone to be aware of this fact when planning parties/events.

Discussion:

None

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

That the Work Session Meeting of Mayor and Council be adjourned at 5:19p.m.

Vote 6 Councilmembers AYE

APPROVED: October 4, 2022

_____, Mayor

ATTEST _____, Borough Clerk
