

REGULAR WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 01, 2019
5:30 P.M.

The Regular Work Session of the City Council of the City of Vineland was called to order by the President, Paul F. Spinelli.

The following members were present at roll call:

Councilman Ronald J. Franceschini, Jr.
Councilman Albert Vargas
President Paul F. Spinelli

Absent: Councilman David Acosta
Councilwoman Dr. Elizabeth Arthur

Also present were: Richard P. Tonetta, Esq., City Solicitor
Robert E. Dickenson, Jr., Business Administrator
Edwin Alicea, Public Safety Director
McCleod Carre, Health Director
Robert Dickinson, Senior Health Officer

President Spinelli led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Deputy Municipal Clerk stated Public Notice of this meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, has been given on September 23, 2019 by the City Clerk in the following manner:

1. Posting written notice on the official bulletin board in the lobby of the City Hall;
2. Providing written notice to the offices of The Daily Journal and The Press of Atlantic City;
3. Filing written notice in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Vineland.

City of Vineland Board of Health conducted their Quarterly Meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting dated July 02, 2019 were reviewed. President Spinelli entertained a motion by Councilman Franceschini, and Seconded by Councilman Vargas to approve the minutes of the July 02, 2019 meeting as submitted.

The Deputy Clerk called the roll: YEAS: Councilman Franceschini
Councilman Vargas
President Spinelli

Director Carre reported on the Health Department's status of the new EMS station Headquarters and that it is now occupied and operational. He spoke in depth of the homeless camps near Walmart and the USPS Almond Road facility and the proper courses of action. Councilmen Franceschini and Vargas questioned how homeless are processed and how they are guided once processed. The 2020 Health Department budget was submitted and Director Carre was reviewing starting salary for EMT's as there is a problem retaining employees because they leave for other more paying positions. He discussed the state mandated health educational position that is currently funded by a grant which will soon be exhausted. Director Carre asked Council to consider this position to be fully funded in the budget as the cost is minimal due to recent retirements. The Transportation issue was talked about and Councilman Franceschini will speak with Carol Musso and get back to Director Carre.

Health Officer Bob Dickinson spoke of the recent satisfactory rating from the NJ Department of Health on their standards of performance. There is a Hepatitis A outbreak. Also the CDC notices a growing problem with vaping and severe lung injuries and the common denominator is THC or THC combined with Nicotine. Councilmen Franceschini expressed that Walmart stopped selling vapes and asked WaWa to follow their lead but has not received a response. The City's vending machines will have healthy options per City Policy. President Spinelli questioned if our Schools follow the same guidelines and expressed The Board of Ed. should consider the same to start with the children on healthy eating options.

President Spinelli entertained a motion by Councilman Franceschini, and seconded by Councilman Vargas, to adjourn the quarterly Board of Health meeting.

The Deputy Clerk called the roll: YEAS: Councilman Franceschini
Councilman Vargas
President Spinelli

President Spinelli asked if anyone from the public would like to comment.

Vineland resident Steve Lewis responded to hearing the homeless problem by asking Council to deal with the drug problem and if the City cut down on the drug dealers there would be less of a problem. President Spinelli asked Director Alicea to comment to which Alicea conveyed the Police Department is making great strides curbing the City's drug problem.

Tony Centeno from Spirit & Truth Ministries expressed his concern over the homeless problem. He believed the Police is not there to serve and help the community. He would like to see Police in the soup kitchens interacting with these individuals which would help forge good relationships.

There being no one else to be heard, the Deputy Municipal Clerk reviewed the agenda. Business Administrator Bob Dickenson noted a typographical error in the title of Ordinance No. 2019-65 to which Solicitor Tonetta said he would revise and re-issue to the Clerk.

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Solicitor Tonetta asked, with the permission of President Spinelli and Council, if he could add a Resolution to the current Agenda concerning a shared services agreement with the Cumberland County Improvement Authority. President Spinelli allowed the addition.

Councilman Vargas spoke of the resurfacing of Pagliughi Park and mentioned Parks/Recreation stated money to fix would be taken out of the Trust Fund. BA Dickenson is to advise. The midget wrestling facility received a facelift with new windows in the rear and new wrestling mats. The fields have been reseeded and October 15th will be the close date. Approximately 450 feet of fence was needed for Clemente Park. Cunningham Park resurface will cost approximately \$45,000 but comes with a lifetime warranty.

Councilman Franceschini argued and questioned there is no place to go to the bathroom at Campanella Park because the bathrooms are locked. Council President and BA Dickenson stated there are Porta-Pots present unless the Park is rented to which, the renter than receives the key to the bathrooms.

President Spinelli stated the Taste of Vineland is on October 23, 2019 and VDID is prepping for the coming Christmas Parade. They VDID is also trying to honor volunteers as they always do. There will also be a George Perez mural dedication ceremony on November 11th 2019 at 9:30am.

The President entertained a motion by Councilman Acosta, and seconded by Councilman Franceschini, to adjourn the meeting. The Clerk called the roll: YEAS: Councilman Acosta
Councilman Franceschini
Councilman Vargas
President Spinelli

Meeting adjourned at 6:53 P.M.

Paul F. Spinelli
President of Council

ATTEST:

Richard G. Franchetta, EJD
Deputy Municipal Clerk

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