

REGULAR WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, JULY 20, 2021
6:00 P.M.

The Regular Work Session of the City Council of the City of Vineland was called to order by the President, Dr. Elizabeth A. Arthur.

The following members were present at roll call:

Councilman David Acosta (*arrived at 6:07 p.m.*)
Councilman Ronald J. Franceschini, Jr.
Councilman Paul F. Spinelli
Councilman Albert Vargas
President Dr. Elizabeth A. Arthur

Also present were: Alan Giebner, Esq., Associate City Solicitor
Robert E. Dickenson, Jr., Business Administrator
Edwin Alicea, Director of Public Safety

President Arthur led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Municipal Clerk stated Public Notice of this meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, has been given on December 8, 2020 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.

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

There being no one to be heard, the Clerk reviewed the agenda. Councilman Franceschini requested a report detailing the recent vehicle purchases for the Vineland Police Department. Business Administrator Dickenson responded that a compilation of that information will be provided to all Council members. The Clerk reminded all members that because of the National Night Out on Tuesday, August 3, the first work session for August will be on Monday, August 2. This schedule was included in the annual meeting notice.

Councilman Franceschini reported that in Vineland there were 60 positive COVID-19 cases and 2 deaths in the month of June. So far in July we have had 35 positive cases and no deaths. The virus variant has not really appeared in Cumberland County yet. However, there are concerns about schools reopening in the fall and the issue of students wearing masks, or not wearing masks.

Councilman Acosta noted that the Planning Board met last week during which time the two motions relating to amendments to the Center City Redevelopment Plan on for next week's agenda were already discussed. The Planning Board also dealt with the Newcomb Hospital redevelopment plan relating to the EMS facility, and minor subdivisions on Ascher Road and for PhilCor.

Councilman Vargas thanked the law enforcement officers for apprehending three suspects in the fatal shooting of the 10-year old girl a few weeks ago. He also gave a brief rundown about youth softball and baseball tournaments.

Councilman Spinelli reminded everyone that the VDID will conduct their 'Christmas in July' event this Saturday, July 24. Santa Claus will be there and a barbershop quartet will be singing Christmas carols. This is to help promote December's 'Old Fashioned Christmas' event.

Director of Public Safety Edwin Alicea echoed the comments voiced by Councilman Vargas. He said all the officers involved did a tremendous job to solve the case. He also reported that to-date there are 74 banners on Landis Avenue honoring veterans, with 6 more expected tomorrow. This project has received positive accolades from the community at-large.

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 Spinelli
Councilman Vargas
President Arthur

Dr. Elizabeth A. Arthur
President of Council

ATTEST:

Keith Petrosky, RMC
Municipal Clerk