

SPECIAL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2022
6:00 P.M.

A Special Meeting 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
Councilman Ronald J. Franceschini, Jr.
Councilman Paul F. Spinelli
Councilman Albert Vargas
President Dr. Elizabeth A. Arthur

Also present were: Robert E. Dickenson, Jr., Business Administrator
Richard P. Tonetta, Esq., City Solicitor
Edwin Alicea, Director of Public Safety

The President led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk stated Public Notice of this meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, has been given on February 10, 2022 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; and;
3. Filing written notice in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Vineland.

The President asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to be heard.

Steve Lewis referenced Associate Solicitor Michael Benson's statement recently that in 2009 City Council relinquished their involvement with appeals of Zoning Board of Adjustment decisions. He suggests that now is the time to return the appeal option to City Council. He is particularly concerned about the cannabis issue, and the fact that the Zoning Board ignored City Council's preference that cannabis facilities be located only in Industrial zones. The location granted a use variance by the Zoning Board of Adjustment lacks public sewer. In his opinion cannabis growers should be permitted only in the industrial park. He also believes cannabis facilities should be subject to strict inspections. He further suggested that City Council meet with the Planning Board and Zoning Board. And advised that citizens should know where industrial zones are located on a map available to them.

There being no one further to be heard, the Clerk presented RESOLUTION NO. 2022-55, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF VINELAND AND THE SOUTH JERSEY REGIONAL ANIMAL SHELTER, VINELAND, NEW JERSEY, FOR ANIMAL SHELTER SERVICES.

The President entertained a motion by Councilman Acosta, and seconded by Councilman Franceschini, that RESOLUTION NO. 2022-55 be adopted according to law.

The President asked if there was any discussion by Council members on this motion.

Councilman Spinelli asked if we are any further along in resolving this. Solicitor Tonetta sent a letter and all municipalities are on board. It is the intention of Solicitor Tonetta to present the letter to the Commissioners at a future meeting, after all municipalities have signed on.

There being no further discussion to be heard the Clerk called the roll: YEAS: Councilman Acosta
Councilman Franceschini
Councilman Spinelli
Councilman Vargas
President Arthur

The President asked if any Council Members wished to be heard.

Councilman Spinelli stated that everyone knows how we feel about the SPCA facility and that we can't continue to afford higher and higher fees. Solicitor Tonetta responded that while we intended to build our own facility, Mayor Fanucci believed it to be in everyone's best interests to involve all county municipalities and the County Commissioners. It's the right thing to do.

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

ATTEST:

Dr. Elizabeth A. Arthur
President

Keith Petrosky, RMC
Municipal Clerk