

PRE-MEETING CONFERENCE
TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2022
6:00 P.M.

The Pre-Meeting Conference 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 6:02 p.m.*)
Councilman Ronald J. Franceschini, Jr.
Councilman Paul F. Spinelli
Councilman Albert Vargas
President Dr. Elizabeth A. Arthur

Also present were: Michael Benson, 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 15, 2021 by the City Clerk in the following manner:

1. Posting written notice on the official bulletin board in the lobby of the City Hall on;
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.

Steve Lewis commented that recreational cannabis facilities were required by City Council to located only in Industrial zones, but the Zoning Board granted a use variance to permit it in a zone that includes residences and agriculture, not far from the former Shield Alloy superfund site. He cited odors from the medical cannabis facility, and the proximity of the proposed facility to a school. He thanked Zoning Board member Jeffrey Torchio for his “no” vote. He also believes these facilities need to have size restrictions.

There being no one further to be heard, the Clerk reviewed revisions and additions to the agenda.

A corrected attachment page for Resolution 2022-28, awarding a contract to Arawak Paving Co., Inc., Hammonton, NJ for resurfacing of Landis Park & safety improvements, in the amount of \$265,900.00, was added. Resolution 2022-34, making temporary emergency appropriations for the Calendar Year 2022 pending final adoption of the Calendar Year 2022 budget, was added. Resolution 2022-35, appointing members to the Vineland Downtown Improvement District Management Corporation Board of Directors, was added.

Councilman Franceschini questioned the Public Safety Director matter on the agenda, inquiring if a personnel change was happening. He was assured there is no change planned for the Director of Public Safety. He reported a decline in positive Covid-19 cases. So far in January Vineland has had 3,326 positive cases. Health officials are expecting surge in younger people, then a sharp decline. Right now the Omicron variant accounts for 70% of cases, and 30% are the Delta variant.

President Arthur 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

ATTEST:

Keith Petrosky, RMC
Municipal Clerk