

REGULAR WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2022
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
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
H. James Neher, Director of Public Works (*arrived at 6:09 p.m.*)

The President 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;
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.

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

Amit Darji, Darjit Investments LLC. He is the owner of 716 E. Plum Street and his company has been rehabilitating the dwelling there. It is currently a duplex, but they are seeking approval to convert the third floor into a third dwelling unit. He explained that the exterior will be in Victorian historical design. The proposal was approved by the Planning Board and will be coming before City Council.

Jill Lombardo of the Rural Development homeless shelter gave an explanation of the services and facilities provided to the homeless. They have 112 beds. Building 1 is for women and children; building 2 is for men; and when the renovation is complete, building 3 will be for families. The entire facility has undergone a renovation. They are linked to many social services to provide assistance to the clients. She invited Council members to visit.

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

The Clerk noted interest by someone to fill the vacancy at the Vineland Housing Authority. So far only a letter of interest has been submitted. If a resume is provided the Clerk will circulate it and an appointment resolution will be added to the agenda.

Councilman Franceschini stated the first Covid-19 variant vaccine clinic was conducted yesterday, with about 80 people receiving the vaccine. More clinics are planned. He also noted that Hurricane Fiona dumped 20 inches of rain on Puerto Rico and is a Category 3 – 4 storm. He reported that an Inspira medical center administrator commented that they have difficulty attracting physicians here because of quality of life issues.

Councilman Vargas commented that the PAL board meets tomorrow. The Adrian Avena fishing tournament is on September 24; and the police department will be having a youth fishing tournament on October 1.

Councilman Spinelli reported that the VIDID meets tomorrow. The volunteer appreciation night is coming up at Greenview Inn. The Christmas parade and Old Fashioned Christmas event are being planned. VIDID public relations person, Sam Levy, recently passed away. Councilman Spinelli left the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

Councilman Acosta explained the impact of Hurricane Fiona on Puerto Rico, describing first-hand accounts from his relatives who live there. He also gave a brief review of the recent action taken by the Planning Board.

The 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 Arthur

Dr. Elizabeth A. Arthur
President of Council

ATTEST:

Keith Petrosky, RMC
Municipal Clerk