

REGULAR WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2023
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: Richard P. Tonetta, Esq., City Solicitor
 Robert E. Dickenson, Jr., Business Administrator
 H. James Neher, Director of Public Works

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 13, 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;
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.

There being no comment from the public, the Clerk reviewed the agenda.

The Clerk noted the request from Economic Development Director Sandy Forosisky for City Council to appoint local attorney Michael Fralinger to the Vineland Industrial Commission, filling the vacant, unexpired term previously held by Charles Gabbage, who is deceased. Councilman Acosta signed the Industrial Commission Nominating Form, and the Clerk was directed to add the resolution appointing Mr. Fralinger to next week's agenda.

There was some discussion about the proposed AED ordinance. The title and the preliminary work on the draft was for municipal buildings/facilities. Councilman Franceschini noted his intention that the scope be broader to include those public facilities and private businesses that are either required to have AEDs or voluntarily install them. The enforcement of the ordinance provisions was of concern. The draft was to have EMTs, under the jurisdiction of the Fire Department, perform the inspections and training.

Administrator Dickenson believes this is not possible, with the work load demand of the EMS division. It was decided that more discussion is needed with the municipal departments to determine where this responsibility is best suited. It was also decided that since the draft of the municipal building/facility component is pretty much complete, it will proceed through the process of adoption, and any broader approach could be either an amendment to the municipal focused ordinance, or a separate ordinance, once all the angles are worked out.

Administrator Dickenson suggested that the proposed "ordinance requiring the reimbursement of expenses incurred by the City of Vineland for training, medical evaluations, uniforms and other equipment and expenses in the event of separation from service with the Vineland Police Department within 3 years of employment and authorizing the Chief of Police to execute an applicant reimbursement agreement" be amended to be city-wide in scope and not limit it to just the police. Solicitor Tonetta will make the necessary changes. This concept is mainly aimed at personnel the City of Vineland trains, outfits, and equips, and then they leave to work for another jurisdiction.

Councilman Franceschini reported that there were 367 Covid-19 cases reported in Vineland so far for the month of January. He noted hospitals are full with flu and RSV patients. He also noted that there were 60,000 deaths in China for the month of December due to the new Covid-19 subvariant.

Councilman Vargas reported that the PAL basketball program is on-going. The Landis Park playground is now complete. The Plum Street swimming pool needs work and quotes are being gathered from companies to do repair work prior to the summer season. There is still interest in a 'splash park' perhaps replacing the pool, since lifeguards aren't required for splash parks.

Administrator Dickenson advised City Council that Vineland is on an internet list as one of the top ten places to live in New Jersey.

Councilman Spinelli stated that the Landis Theater is doing well with its concert schedule attendance. He also noted that the VDID meets tomorrow morning.

Councilman Acosta personally thanked our EMS for their professionalism in handling his recent need for their service.

All Council members thanked Steve Lewis for the chocolate candy bars he brought them from a recent trip to Germany.

Dr. Arthur stated that Johnstone School students are scheduled to lead the Pledge of Allegiance at next Tuesday's meeting.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2023

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