

PRE-MEETING CONFERENCE
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2023
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
Councilman Ronald J. Franceschini, Jr.
Councilman Paul F. Spinelli
President Dr. Elizabeth A. Arthur

Councilman Albert Vargas was absent.

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

President Arthur led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Deputy 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 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 Dr. Arthur asked if anyone from the public would like to comment.

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

The title and body of Ordinance 2023-09 was revised by the City Solicitor. Ordinance 2023-15 "Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 2022-36, Authorizing The Hiring of Police Officers Without Civil Service Examination for Entry Level Law Enforcement Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 11A:4-1.3" was added on February 13th by the City Solicitor noting State Law requires one to pass a police academy within nine months so the ordinance is amended to mirror the State Law. Resolution No. 2023-76 "A Resolution Authorizing The Submission Of A Grant Application From The Vineland Fire Department To The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Assistance To Firefighters Grant For Grant Funding For Various Training" was added on 2/14 by Fire Director noting the application period closed and the grant was submitted on Friday and it should've been on the previous Agenda however it was missed. Councilman Spinelli inquired as to why does Council consistently get notified late of resolutions and it indicates the perception as if the City is attempting something unethical. Franchetta assured that was not the case and better care would be taken to postpone last minute changes outside of emergent circumstances to the following Agenda. The Deputy Clerk noted in the monthly reports the Environmental Commission report was added to the online portion however a hard-copy was placed in each Councilperson's mail folder.

Councilperson Acosta asked the City Solicitor to clarify R2023-75. Solicitor Tonetta also went on to say the City will be issuing upcoming licenses and should have together an RFP process to vet possible Cannabis applicants. He mentioned to discuss what Council would like in the packet and let him know so it can be created and handed out.

The Deputy Clerk mentioned there were two new volunteer fire officers that were to be sworn in this evening but one fell ill so we will postpone the oath ceremony until the next regular meeting of February 28th.

Administrator Dickenson reported that a principal of a school is to let President Dr. Arthur know of any child reciting the Pledge of Allegiance that does not have permission to have their photograph taken and/or name illustrated.

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
President Arthur

Meeting adjourned at 6:27PM

ATTEST:

Dr. Elizabeth A. Arthur
President

Richard G. Franchetta, RMC, EJD
Deputy Municipal Clerk