

PRE-MEETING CONFERENCE
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2024
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
Councilman Albert Vargas
President Dr. Elizabeth A. Arthur

Also present were: Richard P. Tonetta, Esq., City Solicitor
Greg Gallo, Business Administration Staff
Edwin Alicea, Director of Public Safety
H. James Neher, Director of Public Works

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 13, 2023 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.

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

Kathy Williamson, CEO, Vineland African American Community Development Corporation. She referenced another incident that occurred on November 14 relating to the hostile environment at the Carl Arthur Center. Police responded to the incident. She also spoke of potential new programs.

Steve Lewis advised Council members that he is leaving soon for a trip to Germany and he wished everyone a Merry Christmas. He also thanked Councilman Acosta and Councilman Franceschini for their service to Vineland and wished both of them good luck.

Albert Porter spoke of two recent incidents at the Carl Arthur Center involving programming by the VAACDC and the Boys & Girls Club. He stated it was a safety issue, citing a parent who made threats against Mr. Porter and then did a drive-by stalking.

Councilman Spinelli responded that the administration is aware of the issues with the Carl Arthur Center and they are working on resolving them.

There being no one further to be heard, the Clerk reviewed the changes to the agenda since last week's work session. The ordinance authorizing the transfer of certain industrial property to the Vineland Industrial Commission was removed from the agenda. The ordinance amending Ordinance 2006-53, as amended, Chapter 29 of the Code of the City of Vineland entitled Vineland Development Corporation to stagger membership of the board of directors, was reassigned the number 2024-72. After a title change by Solicitor Tonetta, Ordinance 2024-77 is now an ordinance amending Ordinance 89-13, as amended, Chapter 425, Article I, Section 425-5 of the Code of the City of Vineland entitled Fees and Ordinance 2009-72, as amended, Chapter 425, Article VI, Section 425-44 of the Code of the City of Vineland entitled submission to County Planning Board in accordance with Resolution 6667 of the Planning Board of the City of Vineland.

Resolution 2024-568 was amended to change an amount in the title and the body and now reads, a resolution authorizing the issuance of an amendatory supplemental change order No. 1 to purchase order 24-06543 to Anixter, Inc., Joppa, MD, in the amount of \$1,218.03. Resolution 2024-584, re-appointing members to the Vineland Downtown Improvement District Management Corporation Board of Directors, was added. Resolution 2024-585, authorizing a contract award to Groupe LaCasse, State Contract Vendor #A81714 for furniture for the fourth floor renovations, was added. Resolution 2024-586, authorizing contract award to Datum Filing Systems, Inc., Emigsville, PA through the regional cooperative agreement with Educational Services Commission of NJ for the purchase of a high density filing system for the Planning Division, was added.

Councilman Franceschini asked several questions relating to the proposed zoning changes, which were answered by Solicitor Tonetta. Councilman Franceschini also announced that the Code Blue is in effect beginning on Thursday, with the forecast of colder weather.

Councilman Acosta again raised some concerns about the proposed amendment to the Redevelopment Plan and relating to the proposal for a 20-seat house of worship on N. East Boulevard.

Councilman Vargas reported that there will be a Vineland wrestling tournament at VHS. He also announced that the Vineland Blitz youth football team is playing in the championship game on December 30. He reviewed some improvements underway at various recreational facilities and reminded everyone of the Sr. Citizen luncheon tomorrow.

Councilman Franceschini asked about the status of Jake's Park. Solicitor Tonetta responded that the State has thrown some obstacles that are being worked out.

Councilman Spinelli stated that the Olde Fashioned Christmas event went well. The committee is exploring some tweaks for next year.

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