

REGULAR WORK SESSION  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2024  
6:03 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  
Edwin Alicea, Director of Public Safety

The President led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Deputy City 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;
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 one to be heard, the Deputy Clerk reviewed the agenda.

Councilman Vargas stated that the PAL Christmas party was a success and the children had fun. He mentioned the PAL is in need of some help. He mentioned changes must be made or he will walk away from it.

Councilman Spinelli also commented about the PAL stating they need to look at the By-Laws as to how the board can and should handle their official business. Councilman Vargas mentioned the Board should be able to recommend and have opinions on who is hired as a PAL Director; essentially they are hiring an individual without input from the Board. A short discussion took place. Vargas stated he spoke with the Chief of Police and will also have a meeting to bring him up to date as to what is happening. Councilman Spinelli mentioned VDID will meet tomorrow for end of year for some house cleaning items and then begin to prepare for the new year.

Councilman Franceschini asked if and when the City or School Board would be arming guards at schools in light of another school incident yesterday in Madison Wisconsin. Business Administrator Bob Dickenson advised Council the City would be hiring Class III officers specifically for the schools and will likely occur for September 2025. Dickenson stated they just completed a walk-through of Sabater/Delago School with security consultants who had major concerns. A short discussion by Council ensued.

President Arthur advised there would be no students for the Pledge of Allegiance on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. She asked if all council members could arrive at 5:30 P.M. to take a photograph in Council chambers.

The President entertained a motion by Councilman Acosta, and seconded by Councilman Franceschini, to adjourn the meeting. The Deputy Clerk called the roll: YEAS:

Councilman Acosta  
Councilman Franceschini  
Councilman Spinelli  
Councilman Vargas  
President Dr. Arthur

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Dr. Elizabeth A. Arthur  
President

ATTEST:

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Richard G. Franchetta, RMC, EJD  
Deputy City Clerk