

WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2024
6:00 P.M.

The 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. (*Participated remotely.*)
Councilman Paul F. Spinelli
Councilman Albert Vargas
President Dr. Elizabeth A. Arthur

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

The President led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The 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; and;
3. Filing written notice in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Vineland.

The President asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to be heard.

Karen Ferrari-Bonjean and Timothy Bonjean referenced their previous appearance before City Council requesting that the speed limit be reduced on Panther Road. They inquired about the current status. Administrator Dickenson responded that he recently spoke to City Engineer D.J. Maillet who advised that the report is not yet complete. Solicitor Tonetta added that the report is more than a vehicle count. He also stated the concerns raised by the Bonjeans are more of an enforcement issue. At this point we will await the completed report, then address the areas of need.

Steve Lewis suggested the installation of rumble strips.

The President welcomed Joe Henry, Risk Manager for the Joint Insurance Fund. Mr. Henry distributed copies of a handout, "Accident Investigations : Work Shouldn't Hurt," prepared by Hardenbergh Insurance Group. The presentation reviewed the objectives and process of conducting an accident investigation involving employees.

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

The Clerk advised that the NJ League of Municipalities requested a resolution endorsing the modernization of the OPRA law, which scheduled for a committee hearing on Thursday. The Clerk will prepare the resolution and have it reviewed by Solicitor Tonetta, for addition to the agenda.

The President asked if any Council members wished to be heard.

Councilman Spinelli asked where we stand with the Sabater School pool issue. Solicitor Tonetta suggested that the School Board provide a draft of an agreement for Council's consideration.

Councilman Spinelli advised that Landis Theater is open and continues a concert schedule. The VDIG car cruise is in June and preparations are underway for the food truck festival and the Old Fashioned Christmas events. He also suggested that we discuss with the Mayor the situation at the Carl Arthur Center. Regardless of who is utilizing the facility, it needs much work. He also mentioned that Diane Fischer-Castiano has earned induction into New Jersey's boxing hall of fame, as a promoter.

Councilman Vargas reported on various Recreation Commission park improvements currently in progress, and that additional mats have arrived for the mini-wrestling program.

President Arthur raised the issue of port-a-potties at Sam Clark Park.

Councilman Acosta reported that the African American Community Development Corporation has requested exclusive use of the Carl Arthur Center. It was noted that the Boys & Girls Club, who uses the facility as a day care center, provides needed services.

President Arthur noted receiving a letter from a veteran who is concerned about rent increases at the Regency apartments. That letter was followed by another letter signed by multiple residents complaining about rent increases. Solicitor Tonetta advised that there are free legal services available for tenant issues, or with so many of them complaining, they may wish to employ their own legal counsel.

Public Safety Director Alicea confirmed that the Police Officer Memorial Day service is planned for Monday at VPD headquarters.

Administrator Dickenson reported that Mayor Fanucci approved the concept of a study for animal shelter services.

Solicitor Tonetta advised that the Cavallo Drive Sewer Project will require re-noticing. A possible closed session may be scheduled for this issue.

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There being no further comments to be heard, the President entertained a motion by Councilman Acosta, and seconded by Councilman Spinelli, 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