

PRE-MEETING CONFERENCE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 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
Robert E. Dickenson, Jr., Business Administrator
H. James Neher, Director of Public Works
Sheena Santiago, Special Events Coordinator (*arrived at 6:12 p.m.*)

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 and June 18, 2024 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.

Steve Lewis believes the confiscation and auction of motorcycles and four-wheelers is not sufficient penalty for those charged. He predicted that they would just submit a low bid to regain their vehicle. Solicitor Tonetta explained that the statutes dictate how contraband is sold. Mr. Lewis also stated that presenters at City Council meetings should remain at the meeting to hear public comment. It was noted that there are no regulations setting when people may leave meetings.

There was some discussion among Council members about how to address the growing drug and homelessness problem.

There being no one further to be heard, the Clerk reviewed the agenda changes and additions. Resolution 2024-426, authorizing filing an application with the US Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance for funding under the FY 2024 Local Justice Assistance Grant Program and authorizing a shared services agreement between the City of Vineland, City of Millville, City of Bridgeton and County of Cumberland for such funding, was added.

Councilman Spinelli reported that the karaoke event was a big success, with 18 contestants. The food truck festival was last Sunday and had 26 vendors participating. Many of the vendors sold out. He said Special Events Coordinator Sheena Santiago did a good job, as did Director Neher's public works crew. Coming up this Saturday is the Taylor Swift tribute concert. The VDID meets next week and the Old Fashioned Christmas event and next month's Taste of Vineland and volunteer recognition will be at the Greenview Inn. There is a ribbon cutting planned soon at the former Newcomb Hospital senior citizen housing facility.

President Arthur reminded everyone that the Patriot Day ceremony is tomorrow at 5 p.m. in City Council Chambers.

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