

REGULAR WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2025
5:00 P.M.

The Regular Work Session of the City Council of the City of Vineland was called to order by the President, Paul F. Spinelli.

The following members were present at roll call:

Councilmember Dr. Elizabeth A. Arthur
Councilmember Scott E. English
Councilmember Cruz Gomez, Jr.
Councilman Albert Vargas
President Paul F. Spinelli

Also present were:

Richard P. Tonetta, Esq., City Solicitor
Robert E. Dickenson, Jr., Business Administrator
Richard G. Franchetta, RMC, EJD, Deputy Municipal Clerk
Edwin Alicea, Director of Public Safety
H. James Neher, Director of Public Works

The President 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 11, 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;
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 raised some questions regarding the harm reduction centers, and stated that all syringes have numbers that could be tracked to their source.

There being no one further to be heard, the Clerk reviewed the agenda. Solicitor Tonetta explained the proposed changes to Ordinance 2025-9. He gave a description of permitted uses and the description of the zones in question. The original ordinance removed drug counseling services from the B-1 and B-2 zones, and permitting such uses in the B-3 and IN-1 zones. After hearing the public comment so far, it is now proposed to permit such uses only in the IN-1 zone, in proximity to other medical uses, including the hospital. Solicitor Tonetta will research the notification requirements for an amended ordinance.

Councilmember English asked about the upcoming ABC hearings and the Cavallo Drive sewer project special assessment hearing. No date has been selected for the ABC hearings. The Cavallo Drive project is scheduled for a hearing at the March 11 meeting.

Councilmember Gomez expressed concern that cameras were not activated for the remote participants. He believes the speakers should also be seen during remote participation.

Councilmember Arthur reviewed Planning Board matters at last week's meeting, including Taco Bell, Divine Mercy Parish, Northeast Precast and the Garden Road Truck Stop.

Councilmember Vargas reported that the PAL board meets tomorrow. He expressed concern that the proposed director's 20 hours per week is not enough to get the job done properly. Public Safety Director Alicea advised that two other officers will be assigned to fill the gap.

President Spinelli advised that meetings are arranged to discuss PAL, a meeting with Cumberland County officials and the VDDID board meets tomorrow.

The President entertained a motion by Councilmember Vargas, and seconded by Councilmember Arthur, to adjourn the meeting. The Clerk called the roll: YEAS:

Councilmember Arthur
Councilmember English
Councilmember Gomez
Councilmember Vargas
President Spinelli

Paul F. Spinelli
President

ATTEST:

Keith Petrosky, RMC
Municipal Clerk