

September 14, 2023
Work Session
7:00 PM

The Work Session of Mayor and Council was called to order by Mayor Grova with a flag salute. This meeting was duly advertised in accordance with the Open Public meetings law, PL 1975, Chapter 231.

Members Present: Mayor Grova, Mr. Carrow, Mr. Miller, Mr. Linton, Mrs. Marandino and Miss Renzi. Absent: Mr. Corwonski. Also present was Solicitor, John Moustakas and Engineer, Wayne Johnson.

Mayor Grova began the meeting with the review of the agenda:

- Mayor Grova advised that ordinances 2023-10 and 2023-11 are on the agenda this evening for a public hearing and will be considered for final adoption. Solicitor Moustakas advised that he was contacted by the NJDEP for amendments to the flood ordinance that will be done after final adoption.
- Municipal Alliance grant application
- A marriage license reimbursement resolution is on the agenda. Clerk VanCamp explained that the Governor suspended license fees for the period of July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. The Borough did not collect fees last year, but as of January 1, the office began to collect fees again. Recently, the Borough was notified of the marriage license reimbursement program, which was applied to and awarded the reimbursement monies on August 30, 2023. The applicants that applied between January 1, 2023 and June 30, 2023 will be reimbursed their fees.
- Fire department coin drop application is on the agenda.
- Set date for Halloween Saturday, October 28, from 2-4. The Newfield Swim Club will have a Jack o lantern contest and a movie at their facility.

Solicitor Moustakas advised that he spoke with Mr. Baumgart and he agreed to an easement on Franklin Street in exchange for a water service and an entrance onto his property. Mr. Johnson advised that we can construct a driveway off of the cull de sac and the water service from the closest connection. Mr. Johnson advised that NJDOT granted our extension for Franklin Street until April 2024.

Mr. Moustakas advised that he received a letter from Asset Partners wanting to acquire a lease agreement and purchase our wireless lease for the property located on Gorgo Lane. It will be discussed further in closed session.

Solicitor Moustakas discussed the vacant property program that was formerly administered by ProChamps. Mr. Moustakas advised that we need someone to administer the program. Mayor Grova suggested that we consider a shared service with another municipality for this function. Solicitor Moustakas agreed to look into the matter further.

Chief DeCesari reported that his department arrested the person that was responsible for the thefts at the new construction site off of Weymouth Road. A warrant was issued and over \$10,000. in materials and supplies were recovered.

Chief DeCesari reported that there was a large-scale wanted fugitive hunt in the woods off of Weymouth Road out of Atlantic County. There were over two hundred officers on the scene. Chief DeCesari advised that he provided as much information as he could to the residents with the limited information that his department was given.

Mr. Johnson reported that there are still issues with WRT and that in talking with some of his professionals, and in an effort to alleviate the sediment, they suggested changing the size of the filter to a 5 micron. This may be a costly adjustment, but it may help with the running of the well and unclogging the head space. The state will not allow us to backwash the system and the sequestering agent is not helping. It was suggested that discussions be considered with contracting with the City of Vineland for a shared service.

A motion was made by Mr. Carrow and seconded by Mrs. Marandino to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:29 PM.

Toni L. Van Camp, Clerk