

REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CAPE MAY, NJ Tuesday, April 15, 2025 at 5:00 P.M.

The Meeting of City Council of the City of Cape May was called to order by Mayor Mullock at 5:00 P.M. on Tuesday, April 15, 2025 in the Cape May City Hall Auditorium and streamed live on the City's website (capemaycity.com). The City Clerk called the roll and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Erin C. Burke, City Clerk announced that under the Open Public Meetings Law, notice of this Special Meeting was sent to the Cape May County Herald and The Press of Atlantic City and a copy of the agenda was delivered to each Member of Council and was posted on the City Hall Bulletin Board.

Present:

Councilmember Lorraine M. Baldwin

Councilmember Steve Bodnar

Councilmember Maureen K. McDade Councilmember Shaine P. Meier

Mayor Zachary Mullock

Also Present:

City Solicitor Chris Gillin-Schwartz

City Manager Paul Dietrich

Deputy City Manager Justin Riggs

City Clerk Erin C. Burke Deputy City Clerk Brian Turner

CFO Kevin Hanie

City Auditor Leon Costello

Minutes do not reflect the actual order in which the events occurred.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS - None.

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Mullock recognizes Dennis Crowly for his contributions as Chair of the Municipal Taxation and Revenue Advisory Committee.

PRESENTATION

HPC Chair John Boecker and Mr. Myles Martel present the proposed plans for honoring the USS Jacob Jones as the first US warship to be attacked by a German U-Boat following Germany's declaration of war against the United States, sinking just miles off Cape May's shoreline. A recommendation is made to locate the memorial at the intersection of Howard Street and Beach Avenue next to the promenade.

UPDATES:

 City Manager – City Manager Dietrich provides an update on the ADA Beach mats, the City Hall parking lot, and various projects throughout the City. • City Solicitor - None.

BUDGET DISCUSSION –City Auditor Leon Costello outlines the 2025 budget for Council, stating that the City will once again see a 0% local tax increase.

ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION

558-2025 Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish

a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40a: 4-45.14) - Calendar Year 2025

Motion: McDade Second: Meier

Mejer: Yes McDade: Yes Bodnar: Yes Baldwin: Yes Mullock: Yes

BUDGET RESOLUTIONS

156-04-2025 Resolution for the Approval by Council of the Local Municipal Budget

Motion: Baldwin Second: Bodnar

Mejer: Yes McDade: Yes Bodnar: Yes Baldwin: Yes Mullock: Yes

157-04-2025 Resolution for Governing Body Certification of Compliance with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's "Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

Motion: McDade Second: Baldwin

Mejer: Yes McDade: Yes Bodnar: Yes Baldwin: Yes Mullock: Yes

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING AND CONSIDERATION FOR ADOPTION:

An Ordinance Amending Section 434 of the City of Cape May Code to Establish

Limits on City Recycling Collection and Require Private Collection for Amounts

Exceeding Those Limits

Motion: Meier Second: McDade

Meier: Yes McDade: Yes Bodnar: Yes Baldwin: Yes Mullock: Yes

PUBLIC HEARING

Peter Cole, 1070 Michigan Avenue – Mr. Cole speaks on behalf of the Tax Payer Association, opposing ordinance 555-2025.

Leslie Bear, 1107 Beach Avenue – Mr. Bear commends Council on what they have done thus far in regards to recycling, and would like to encourage them to expand their work group to include other members of the community, and table the ordinance.

Charity Clark, Greater Cape May County Chamber of Commerce – Ms. Clark speaks on behalf of the businesses of Cape May, stating that it would be fair for businesses to receive the same collection as residents.

Steve Smaro, Business Improvement District – Mr. Smaro informs Council of additional expenses that businesses, particularly the Washington Street Mall, take on during the year, specifically holiday decorations.

Pastor Jeff Elliott, Cape May Lutheran Church – Pastor Elliott states that plastic recycling does not always work as intended.

Bill Seeger, 1361B Vermont Avenue – Mr. Seeger does not believe that resident tax payers should not pay for recycling for businesses.

Jules Rauch, 1010 New York Avenue – Mr. Rauch reiterates the TPA's stance on the proposed ordinance, stating that recycling is a business' expense.

Stacy Sheehan, 928 Columbia Avenue – Ms. Sheehan states that business and residents should be limited to one 96-gallon container.

Kelly Currier, 398 Congress Street – Ms. Currier believes that businesses should be limited to one container, with extra recycling being taken to the recycling center.

PUBLIC PORTION ON RESOLUTIONS ONLY

Stacy Sheehan, 928 Columbia Avenue – Ms. Sheehan states that there are multiple change orders grouped together for different projects for resolution 165-04-2025.

Roz Johnson, 826 Lafayette Street – Ms. Johnson would like to know the potential locations for the USS Jacob Jones Memorial. Ms. Johnson would like an explanation of how a memorial like this would be approved.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Reports:

Fire Incident Report for the month of March 2025

Police Incident Report for the month of March 2025

Minutes:

Cape May City Council Special Meeting Minutes dated March 19, 2024

Cape May City Council Closed Session Meeting Minutes dated April 16, 2024

Cape May City Council Closed Session Meeting Minutes dated January 7, 2025

Cape May City Council Special/Regular/ Partial Reorganization Meeting Minutes dated January 7, 2025

Cape May City Council Special Meeting Minutes dated January 22, 2025

Cape May City Council Closed Session Meeting Minutes dated January 22, 2025

Cape May City Council Reorganization Meeting Minutes dated January 22, 2025

Cape May City Council Regular Meeting Minutes dated January 22, 2025

Cape May City Council Special Meeting Minutes dated February 4, 2025

Cape May City Council Closed Session Meeting Minutes dated February 4, 2025

Cape May City Council Regular Meeting Minutes dated February 4, 2025

Cape May City Council Regular Meeting Minutes dated February 19, 2025

Cape May City Council Special Meeting Minutes dated March 4, 2025

Cape May City Council Closed Session Meeting Minutes dated March 4, 2025

Resolutions:

158-04-2025 Resolution Authorizing the City Clerk to Issue Bingo and Raffle Licenses Throughout the Year to Qualified Organizations

159-04-2025 Resolution Authorizing Voluntary Recognition of PBA Local 59 as the Bargaining Agent for City of Cape May Police Department Lieutenants and Captain

- 160-04-2025 Resolution Authorizing invitation for Bid for Tree Trimming, Maintenance and Stump Grinding Services in the City of Cape May
- 161-04-2025 Resolution Authorizing Approval of a Required Disclosure Award to Complete Control Services for VFD Upgrade at Well 7
- 162-04-2025 Resolution Authorizing Contract for Professional Booking and Production Services for Cape May Convention Hall Summer Concert Series for the Year 2025 With Rose Relations
- 163-04-2025 Resolution Authorizing Contract for Professional Booking and Production Services for Cape May Convention Hall Summer Concert Series for the Year 2025 With Spy Boy Productions
- 164-04-2025 Resolution of City of Cape May Authorizing Change Order to Contract for Franklin Street Reconstruction with Charles Marandino LLC
- 165-04-2025 Resolution of City of Cape May Authorizing Change Order to Contract for Reconstruction of Beach Avenue (Broadway to The Cove) with Charles Marandino LLC
- 166-04-2025 Resolution Approving Emergency Temporary Budget Appropriations Current Fund
- 167-04-2025 Resolution Approving Parking Lot Use Agreement with Cape Island Baptist Church
- 168-04-2025 Resolution for the Payment of Bills

Councilmember Meier states that he is abstaining from the February 19 minutes.

Motion to adopt consent agenda: Meier Second: McDade

Meier: Yes McDade: Yes Bodnar: Yes Baldwin: Yes Mullock: Yes

NEW BUSINESS:

- City Solicitor None.
- City Manager None.
- City Clerk City Clerk Erin Burke states that on May 7 at 4PM the City will be hosting a job fair at Convention Hall. Ms. Burke announces that the Kiwanis Easter Egg hunt will be held on April 19 at 11AM on the beach in front of Convention Hall, and the Easter Fashion Stroll will take place in Rotary Park on April 20th, at 11AM. The City Clerk announces that City Hall will be closed Friday, April 18th in observance of Good Friday. Ms. Burke reminds business owners that Mercantile License renewals are due no later than April 30th.
- Councilmembers:
 - Councilmember Baldwin None.
 - Deputy Mayor McDade Deputy Mayor McDade announces that the Community Center Open house is scheduled for Saturday, May 3
 - Mayor Mullock None.
 - Councilmember Bodnar Councilmember Bodnar congratulates Dennis Crowley on his retirement, and thanks him for his service to the City.
 - Councilmember Meier Councilmember Meier congratulates Dennis Crowley for his service to the City. Mr. Meier informs residents on a shade tree initiative to help remove the Tree of Heaven from properties within the City.

PUBLIC PORTION

Irene Reamer, North Cape May – Ms. Reamer addresses the replacing of benches on the promenade.

Ed Dixon, 3507 Asbury Avenue, Ocean City, NJ – Mr. Dixon requests that Council designate August as Military Appreciation Month.

Stacy Sheehan, 928 Columbia Avenue – Ms. Sheehan would like to know if the new promenade benches will be similar or different to the ones currently in place. Ms. Sheehan ask whether the meters along the Beach Ave wall are going to be removed or not, and suggests it may be a good idea to keep them for convenience.

Peter Cole, 1075 Michigan Avenue – On behalf of the TPA and himself, Mr. Cole would like to congratulate Dennis Crowley on his retirement, and thank him for his service to the City.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion is made to adjourn by Councilmember Meier with all in favor. The Regular Meeting adjourns at 7:21PM.

Zachary Mullock, Mayor

Maureen K. McDade, Deputy Mayor

Lorraine M. Baldwin, Councilmember

Steve Bodnar, Councilmember

Shaine P. Meier, Councilmember

Erin C. Burke, City Clerk