

PRE-MEETING CONFERENCE
TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 2021
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
Edwin Alicea, Public Safety Director

President Arthur led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Deputy Municipal Clerk stated Public Notice of this meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, has been given on December 8, 2020 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.

President Arthur asked if anyone from the public would like to comment.

Steve Lewis, Vineland resident, spoke stating that last week Councilman Franceschini had a conversation about Recreational Marijuana. Mr. Lewis wanted to follow up tonight to make it clear that he encourages a round table discussion by the governing body and administration about the far reaching consequences of deciding either way on the legalization issue.

There being no one further to be heard, the Deputy Clerk reviewed revisions and additions to the agenda noting Resolutions 2021-197 and 2021-204 had certifying funds paragraphs removed by Chief Financial Officer, Sue Baldosaro. Councilman Acosta questioned the removal. Solicitor provided guidance on likely why the CFO removed such wording. The Deputy Clerk noted Resolution 2021-201 was removed and replaced with a new resolution authorizing a contract award to a state contract vendor, R.F. Designs & Integration from Bensalem, PA for infrastructure for the Citywide non-emergency UHF radio system project.

Councilman Franceschini reported having 314 positive cases and 6 deaths currently for the month of April. Nationally, the vaccine need is down. FEMA has vaccinated approximately 4,000 Vineland residents. The City is at 18% fully vaccinated. The CDC just put out that fully vaccinated people in small groups, while outside do not have to wear masks. The City and Schools are planning for graduation.

Councilman Acosta replied that he greatly thanked Mr. Lewis for speaking on the issues attached to the legalization of recreational marijuana. He encouraged the community to come to these meetings and express their sentiments concerning this issue. He mentioned this is going to be very important complexed issue for this community.

Councilman Spinelli remarked about the Landis Theatre and its upcoming shows. They continue to do very well and continue to have COVID-sell outs. The upstairs restaurant is set to open in approximately 2 weeks with the downstairs to follow approximately 3 months later. The VDID met and are planning for summer and fall events.

President Arthur entertained a motion by Councilman Acosta, and seconded by Councilman Franceschini, to adjourn the meeting.

The Deputy Clerk called the roll: YEAS: Councilman Acosta
Councilman Franceschini
Councilman Spinelli
Councilman Vargas
President Dr. Arthur

Meeting adjourned: 6:29 P.M.

ATTEST:

Dr. Elizabeth A. Arthur
President of Council

Richard G. Franchetta, EJD
Deputy Municipal Clerk