

REGULAR WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2021
6:00 P.M.

The Regular Work Session 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 (*arrived at 6:18 p.m.*)
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, Director of Public Safety

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 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;
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 raised concern about a raised manhole cover at the road work at the intersection of Main Road and Burns Avenue. Solicitor Tonetta explained that there likely will be an over-coat of additional asphalt to smooth the roadway. He also reported that the Gold Star Mother's Garden is moving along, with sod being installed recently.

Director Alicea reported that the ceremony for Veteran's Day is being planned. The Marine Corps 246th Birthday Ball, a formal affair, will be held on November 6 at the Savoy Inn. He also announced that more banners honoring veterans have been installed on Landis Avenue.

The Clerk provided a draft of the 2021 City Council meeting schedule.

There being no one further to be heard, the Clerk reviewed the agenda. Councilman Franceschini asked for any update on the fire hydrant flushing ordinance which is scheduled for a public hearing and adoption. Solicitor Tonetta explained that the public comment last week focused on objection to the hours for flushing and that vendor's perception of safety. Solicitor Tonetta explained that the hours were formulated to avoid pressure drop to residential water users during peak shower times and for commercial food processors during their main work shifts. The proposed schedule also minimizes effects of discolored water as a result of the flushing and dislodging pipe sediment.

The Clerk reviewed matters relating to the upcoming general election, including the early voting at the former Amish Market in Vineland from Saturday, October 23 to Sunday, October 31; the vote-by-mail provisions, including the application deadline of October 26; and a brief explanation of the new voter machines.

Councilman Franceschini suggests the Health Department utilize a PowerPoint presentation for the quarterly Board of Health meetings. He noted that Vineland has 318 positive COVID-19 cases this month, so far. Last October, for the entire month, we had 183 cases. Rabies vaccine clinics for dogs and cats are scheduled for this Saturday.

Councilman Acosta reported that the Planning Board met last week. They approved a subdivision at Maple Road & Brewster Road; Pagnini Farms expansion of their greenhouses on Dante Avenue; and Presidential Heights major subdivision.

Councilman Vargas noted that the PAL board meets tomorrow. He thanked the Recreation and Public Grounds personnel for their assistance with the Gold Star Mother's Garden project. The Vineland Police Department Family Fun Night will be at Gittone Stadium on October 26. Boxing is planned for the Landis Administration building on October 29.

Councilman Franceschini mentioned the dock at South Vineland Park, which is apparently underwater most of the time. Administrator Dickenson will check into it.

Councilman Spinelli advised that the VDDID board meets tomorrow, with plans for the Old Fashioned Christmas well underway. The Taste of Vineland event is coming up. The Landis Theater has a Halloween play coming up using local talent. A Queen singing tribute is scheduled for Saturday. The Neil Diamond tribute has been moved to January. He also congratulated Fire Chief Luigi Tramontana and Councilman Vargas for the honors bestowed on them recently.

Dr. Arthur stated that she is working to once again resume having local school students present at Council's regular meetings to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2021

The President 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 of Council

ATTEST:

Keith Petrosky, RMC
Municipal Clerk