

REGULAR WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 2022
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
Councilman Ronald J. Franceschini, Jr.
Councilman Albert Vargas
President Dr. Elizabeth A. Arthur

Councilman Paul F. Spinelli was absent.

Also present were: Richard P. Tonetta, Esq., City Solicitor
Greg Gallo, Business Administration Staff
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 15, 2021 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.

There being no one to be heard, the President invited Environmental Commissioner/Tree Committee member, John Pedersen, to address City Council. Mr. Pedersen reviewed the previously distributed City Tree Plan, highlighting various points, including their annual tree give-away, which will continue this year; new trees for Landis Park; participation in the National Night Out event; increasing public awareness; evaluating aging trees; etc. He said the group would like to perform a city-wide tree inventory.

Greg Gallo suggested the possibility of obtaining an intern through the Sustainable New Jersey program. An Eco Fair will be conducted at Vineland High School on June 4. Council members are invited and welcome to attend Environmental Commission and Tree Committee meetings. There was some discussion about more strict compliance of preserving trees and replacing them through land use board decisions and enforcement. Council members joined in thanking Mr. Pedersen for his presentation and his numerous volunteer capacities.

There being no one further to be heard, the Clerk reviewed the agenda.

Council members would like additional information concerning Resolution 2022-109, awarding a contract to Charles Marandino, LLC, Milmay, NJ for the 2022 citywide sidewalk program, in the amount of \$158,861.00. Questions concerned the schedule and whether this was for new sidewalks or repairing existing sidewalks. Mr. Gallo will provide the information to the Council members.

Councilman Franceschini reported that for March, so far, Vineland has had 46 positive Covid-19 cases. While this number is decreased from previous monthly totals, the Health Department expects another surge of cases after Easter. He referenced the present surge in the United Kingdom, and predicted that the sub-variant will find its way here shortly. He further urged continued caution in taking the steps to prevent the spread...wearing masks, keeping a safe distance from others, proper ventilation, etc.

Councilman Acosta stated there is a P.A.L. meeting tomorrow. In Recreation new equipment has been ordered for Gonzalez Park, and a re-dedication of that park is being planned. New playground equipment has also been ordered for Landis Park. The Puerto Rican Festival is planned for July and another Unity Day is planned.

Councilman Vargas commented that the Planning Board met last week. Topics included the cannabis businesses, a few minor subdivisions and the expansion of KDC. The Chick-fil-A project and F & S Produce major site plan were postponed to the April meeting. He also noted a neighbor who expressed concern about the greenhouses at Letizia Farms on Dante Avenue. The neighbor asked for screening trees to be planted.

Dr. Arthur stated that Cunningham School students are attending next week to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. She also mentioned the upcoming Memorial Day parade in May.

Solicitor Tonetta will be adding two ordinances for introduction. The first, to replace the ordinance authorizing the acquisition of certain land and improvements located in the City of Vineland commonly known as 208 North Sixth Street to be developed to meet the City's COAH obligations, and be assigned Ordinance 2022-28, will be an ordinance to reduce the number of members for the Police Athletic League board of directors to coincide with a change in their by-laws.

He will also be adding an ordinance to assign an engineer to work specifically with the Planning Board, because the current Engineering Division

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The 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