

PRE-MEETING CONFERENCE  
TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2022  
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  
President Dr. Elizabeth A. Arthur

Councilman Albert Vargas was absent.

Also present were: Richard P. Tonetta, Esq., City Solicitor  
Robert E. Dickenson, Jr., Business Administrator  
Edwin Alicea, Director of Public Safety  
H. James Neher, Director of Public Works

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 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 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.

The Deputy Clerk opened the Public Comment portion of the meeting and stated, this provides an opportunity for members of the public to inform the Governing Body about their views. The Governing Body prescribes to City Council's by-laws and the NJ Statutes on Open Public Meetings, when engaging during public comment. As such, each individual shall have a 5 minute limit to comment; they cannot yield time to another individual; they may only approach the podium once during the public comment for any one topic; vulgar/offensive language is prohibited; and City Council will not engage in dialogue with the public during this time. The governing body maintains model courtesy and respect and requires members of the public to do the same.

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

Anthony Peretti lives in North Vineland posed two question for City Council. With the road blocks and establishment of the cannabis warehouse, the residents were forced to challenge a zoning variance in court which costs money. Mr. Peretti feels this is an undue burden and asks who is going to reimburse the residents for their time and money spent to fight this battle? He also asked when his taxes are going to go down. Everyone is building and expanding however my taxes continue to go up every year. He questioned where all the tax money was going.

Steve Lewis referenced Ordinance 2022-36, allowing an alternate method of hiring police officers, without taking the Civil Service examination but providing they successfully complete the police academy. Mr. Lewis pleaded not to deny people who took the civil service test. They took and passed the test and no one should be hired except for those on the test. He commented on the rezoning ordinance 2022-38 by asking council if they would want a warehouse and traffic all day and night in their neighborhood.

There being no one further to be heard, the Deputy Clerk reviewed revisions and additions to the agenda noting Ordinance 2022-44 was added along with a Motion to refer to the Planning Board concerning the re-zoning of Block 7503, Lots 1.01, part of 6.01, lots 47 and 48.01. A revision was made to R2022-174 to correct an error in the body. R2022-186 was revised in the body however no substantial changes were made. R2022-188 was added by City Clerk Keith Petrosky which amends an ABC liquor license approval.

Councilman Franceschini reported 121 positive COVID-19 cases as of today for the City. Vineland has had over 14,305 positive cases and 263 deaths since the start of the pandemic. City is still holding weekly clinics at the Amish Market and are planning a mobile unit to go to St. Padre Pio Parrish next week.

Councilman Spinelli that VDID are working on the Cruise night for June and also booking now for an Ol' fashion Christmas. August is the Food Truck festival on Landis Avenue and they had a ribbon cutting for the Mural on the 500 block with the Mexican theme. They are doing the ribbon cuttings by grant money. Also, Landis Theatre is pumping out concerts and food and drink upstairs at Kaycee Rays. They are still working to get the downstairs open and hope to see it open in a month or so.

President Arthur entertained a motion by Councilman Spinelli, and seconded by Councilman Franceschini, to adjourn the meeting. The Clerk called the roll: YEAS: Councilman Acosta  
Councilman Franceschini  
Councilman Spinelli  
President Dr. Arthur

Meeting adjourned at 6:21 P.M.

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Dr. Elizabeth A. Arthur  
President

ATTEST:

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Richard G. Franchetta, RMC, EJD  
Deputy Municipal Clerk