

May 20, 2020
Brigantine, New Jersey

A Council meeting was held this date via Zoom at 1:00 P.M. with Deputy Mayor Sera presiding.

Present: Bew, Lettieri, Haney, DeLucry, Riordan, Sera.

Absent: Simpson

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Deputy Mayor Sera led the flag salute and offered a prayer.

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City Clerk, Lynn Sweeney read the statement pertaining to the Open Public Meetings Act.

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Councilwoman Bew moved, seconded by Councilman Haney to approve the 5/6/2020 Meeting minutes.

Roll Call: Bew, Lettieri, Haney, DeLucry, Riordan, Sera: "Yes".

Motion Carried.

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Councilman Riordan moved, seconded by Councilwoman Bew to approve the Payroll, Requisition List and Operating Expenses.

Roll Call: Bew, Lettieri, Haney, DeLucry, Riordan, Sera: "Yes".

Motion Carried.

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Public Comment on Agenda Items Only.

Joe Musumeci of 4241 Atl.-Brigantine Boulevard commented on the Seawall closure.

Close of Public Comment.

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Councilman Riordan moved, seconded by Councilman Lettieri to adopt the following resolution.

CITY OF BRIGANTINE
RESOLUTION 2020-93

PUBLIC HEARING ON LIFTING OF WALKER DEED RESTRICTION

Councilman Haney asked for more information regarding this restriction. Deputy Mayor Sera explained the process behind deed restrictions, stating that it was enacted when Brigantine was first being developed in order to prevent subdivisions of properties for profit. Deputy Mayor further explained that this Resolution references two conforming lots that fit into the City's Master Plan, stating that this matter has been initially approved by Planning Board. Councilman DeLucry commented that he disagrees with the process, stating that council is supposed to be presented with evidence explaining what the purpose is for the restriction. Councilwoman Bew commented that this was the procedure council has been using for year. City Solicitor Fred Scerni stated that this is how the City has done it in the past, saying that the City was in a reasonable legal position to move forward with it

Public Comments.

No public comments were made.

Close of Public Comment.

Roll Call: Bew, Lettieri, Haney, DeLucry, Riordan, Sera: “Yes”.

Motion Carried.

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Councilwoman Bew moved, seconded by Councilman Lettieri to adopt the following resolution.

CITY OF BRIGANTINE
RESOLUTION 2020-94

SAFE AND SECURE GRANT – POLICE DEPARTMENT

City Manager, James Bennett explained the details of the grant.

Roll Call: Bew, Lettieri, Haney, DeLucry, Riordan, Sera: “Yes”.

Motion Carried.

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Councilman Riordan moved, seconded by Councilwoman Bew to adopt the following resolution.

CITY OF BRIGANTINE
RESOLUTION 2020-95

PROVIDING FUNDING TO BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR A
SCHOOL CIVILIAN SECURITY AGENT

Councilwoman Bew commented that this was a great benefit to the teachers and families of the school. Deputy Mayor Sera stated that this was a great program that was spearheaded by Mayor Simpson.

Roll Call: Bew, Lettieri, Haney, DeLucry, Riordan, Sera: “Yes”.

Motion Carried.

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Councilwoman Bew moved, seconded by Councilman Lettieri to adopt the following resolution.

CITY OF BRIGANTINE
RESOLUTION 2020-96

AUTHORIZING PREPARATION AND MAILING OF ESTIMATED TAX BILLS

Chief Financial Officer, Roxanne Tosto stated that this is the first time the City has proposed an estimated tax rate, saying that it is undetermined when the City will know the certified rate from the County and State, so this resolution is needed to continue to bill taxes on a quarterly basis.

Roll Call: Bew, Lettieri, Haney, DeLucry, Riordan, Sera: “Yes”.

Motion Carried.

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Councilwoman Bew moved, seconded by Councilman Haney to adopt the following resolution.

CITY OF BRIGANTINE
RESOLUTION 2020-97

SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT REFUND

Roll Call: Bew, Lettieri, Haney, DeLucry, Riordan, Sera: “Yes”.

Motion Carried.

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Councilman Haney moved, seconded by Councilman Lettieri to adopt the following resolution.

CITY OF BRIGANTINE
RESOLUTION 2020-98

REAL ESTATE TAX REFUND

Roll Call: Bew, Lettieri, Haney, DeLucry, Riordan, Sera: “Yes”.

Motion Carried.

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Councilman Lettieri moved, seconded by Councilwoman Bew to adopt the following resolution.

CITY OF BRIGANTINE
RESOLUTION 2020-99

RENTAL INSPECTION FEE REFUND

Roll Call: Bew, Lettieri, Haney, DeLucry, Riordan, Sera: “Yes”.

Motion Carried.

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Councilwoman Bew moved, seconded to Councilman Haney to adopt the following resolution.

CITY OF BRIGANTINE
RESOLUTION 2020-100

FARMER’S MARKET FEE REFUND

Roll Call: Bew, Lettieri, Haney, DeLucry, Riordan, Sera: “Yes”.

Motion Carried.

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Council Manager/Committee Discussion: Councilwoman Bew stated that the Links is now taking reservations for foursomes and the Cove at the 19th Hole will be offering breakfast, lunch and take out beverages and commented on the status of the Farmers Market, saying the committee is working on having the vendors offer their goods online for a drive through market. Councilman Lettieri reminded all that the Seawall closed, but the beach is open. Councilman Haney commented on the Memorial Day Ceremony, spoke about that Flags in the City flying at half-staff and commented on the closing of the Seawall stating he feels it should be open. Councilman DeLucry spoke about the various closures around town, saying he felt they were necessary for the health and welfare of the residents. Councilman Riordan commented on the COVID numbers that come in from the County saying that Brigantine is doing good with all the restrictions and closures and commented about possible easing up the restrictions on outdoor

seating at restaurants. Mr. Bennett commented on the outdoor seating topic, saying that the Atlantic County Joint Insurance Fund sent correspondence regarding and it is being worked on. Chamber of Commerce President, Angela Reynolds spoke about the requirements from the ABC regarding outdoor seating at restaurants that have a liquor license and commented on the Farmers Market. Deputy Mayor Vince Sera thanked the City employees for all their efforts during these unprecedented times, spoke about the importance of having a reopening plan for the businesses and beaches in town and gave a Beach Committee update. Mr. Bennett spoke about beach tags going on sale this weekend. Deputy Mayor Sera thanked all the veterans while speaking about the importance of Memorial Day.

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Public Comments

Andrew Whitehead of 3319 Ocean Avenue commented on the short-term rental ban.

Teddy Davis of 2499 Ocean Avenue asked for an update on current beach restrictions.

Linda Costello of 108 Hudson Drive asked for an update on the condo pools opening dates.

Bill Black of 4213 Atl.-Brigantine Boulevard spoke about short-term rental ban.

Robin Taylor of the Aquatic Center spoke about her establishment not being able to be open due to COVID restrictions.

Amanda McNally of 331 41st Street and 323 44th Street spoke about the short-term rental ban.

Irene Rankin of 100 13th Street North asked about an update on the old Rod and Reel property.

Maria Handle of 1300 Vardon Circle asked if the recreational fields could be opened.

Andrew Whitehead of 3319 Ocean Avenue spoke about the short-term rental ban.

Angela Reynolds, Chamber of Commerce President spoke on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce spoke about the reopening of the businesses.

Susan Scattergood of 305 W. Beach Avenue asked about the locations of the beach taggers.

Frank Suchasrki of 64 Sailfish Drive spoke about the Aquatic Center being closed and commented on the Memorial Day ceremony.

James Mackey of spoke about the Memorial Day ceremony.

Dennis Mooney of 20 Heald Road spoke about the short-term rental ban.

Close of Public Comment

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By Voice Resolution, Councilman Haney moved, seconded by Councilwoman Bew to extend the reduced rate for 4x4 permits and beach tags until June 5, 2020.

Roll Call: Bew, Lettieri, Haney, DeLucry, Riordan, Sera.

Motion Carried:

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Councilman Riordan moved, seconded by Councilman Haney to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: All "Yes".

Motion Carried.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 3:24 P.M.

Deputy Mayor Vince Sera

Lynn Sweeney, City Clerk