March 5, 2025 Brigantine, New Jersey

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A Council meeting was held this date in Council Chambers at 5:00 P.M. with Mayor Sera presiding.

Present: Bew, Lettieri, Haney, Riordan, Virgilio, Sera. Absent: Kane

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Mayor Sera led the flag salute. Councilwoman Bew offered a prayer. Councilwoman Bew asked for a moment of silence for Antionette Virgilio

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Christine Murray, Acting City Clerk read the statement pertaining to the Open Public Meetings Act

Councilman Lettieri moved, seconded by Councilman Haney to approve the 2/19/25 Council Meeting Minutes.

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

Motion Carried.

Councilman Haney moved, seconded by Councilman Virgilio to approve the Payroll, Requisition List and Operating Expenses.

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

Motion Carried.

Public Comment on Agenda Items Only.

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Close of Public Comment.

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

CITY OF BRIGANTINE RESOLUTION 2025-62

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUPPORT OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS APPLICATION RELATED TO MUNICIPALLY SPONSORED AFFORDABLE HOUSING AGREEMENT WITH VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA- DELAWARE VALLEY TO PROVIDE AFFORDABLE UNITS PURSUANT TO SETTLEMENT OF THIRD ROUND MOUNT LAUREL LITIGATION

WHEREAS, the City of Brigantine (the "City") is the owner of the property known as Block 2901, Lot 5 on the Tax Maps of the City of Brigantine ("Property"); and which is more commonly known as the Civic Center property located at 100 31st Street South; and

WHEREAS, Volunteers of America Delaware Valley Property, Inc. ("VOADV") is purchasing the property for use as part of the City's Third Round affordable housing obligation; and

WHEREAS, on February 15, 2023, the Parties entered into a Municipally Sponsored Affordable Housing Agreement (the "Purchase Agreement"), under which VOADV agreed to purchase the Property from the City to construct five (5) units for veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, the Purchase Agreement has been subsequently amended to account for extensions of the Approval Contingency Period, particularly in regard to obtaining funds from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, New Jersey Affordable Housing Trust Fund Program ("DCA"); and

WHEREAS, the VOADV has applied for funds from DCA for an amount not to exceed the maximum amount allowed in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:43-1.1 et seq. for the purpose of developing the Property; and

WHEREAS, DCA has requested a resolution from the City in support of VOADV's application for the funds from DCA; and

WHEREAS, DCA has requested a Letter of Support from the Mayor of Brigantine in support of VOADV's application for the funds from the DCA; and

WHEREAS, DCA has requested a letter from the Chief Financial Officer of the City of Brigantine confirming the amount the City of Brigantine has in its Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund; and

WHEREAS, the City has determined that the housing project referenced above, will meet all or part of the City's low and moderate housing obligation in its Housing Element and Fair Share Plan; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Brigantine that the City does hereby support this application for such funds to DCA and acknowledge that the Property is located in an eligible municipality in accordance with N.J.A.C 5:43-1.3(a). The City also asks that VOADV, as permitted under N.J.A.C 5:43-1.3 (a), to contract only for this project, directly with DCA.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Brigantine that the City hereby authorizes the Mayor of Brigantine to execute a Letter of Municipal Support of VOADV's application for the funds from the DCA.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Brigantine that the City hereby authorizes the Chief Financial Officer of Brigantine to execute a letter confirming the amount the City of Brigantine has in its Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Brigantine, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey that the City does hereby ratify and approve any and all acts of the City performed in connection with the Purchase Agreement prior to the date hereto.

Roll Call: Bew, Haney, Lettieri, Virgilio, 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 2025-63

AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASING OF VEHICLES FOR VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS THROUGH ENTERPRISE FLEET MANAGEMENT AND THE SOURCEWELL COOPERATIVE

WHEREAS, the City of Brigantine is in need of new vehicles for Public Works, Construction and Fire Prevention Departments and;

WHEREAS, the City of Brigantine is procuring the vehicles with Enterprise Fleet Management through the Sourcewell Cooperative of which the City of Brigantine is a member;

WHEREAS, the following list of vehicles is attached and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Brigantine, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey on this 5th day of March 2025 a lease agreement with Enterprise Fleet Management in the amount of \$190,607.25

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Albert Stanley, Chief Financial Officer of the City of Brigantine, does hereby certify that there are adequate funds available Account # C-04-24-012-850 \$94,725.25 for Chevy Equinox and \$95,882 for Ford F-250s

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

Motion Carried.

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

CITY OF BRIGANTINE RESOLUTION 2025-64

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AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH HYDRO DESIGNS INCORPORATED FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT PHASE 1 OF THE GOLF COURSE IRRIGATION SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the City of Brigantine awarded contract to Middletown Irrigation Systems for construction of an irrigation system for holes one through nine and;

WHEREAS, design of the system was bid of the system by Atlantic County Improvement Authority and awarded to Hydro Designs Inc. and;

WHEREAS, Construction management of installation system is needed and;

WHEREAS, Hydro Designs Inc. proposed Construction Management of the project in the amount of \$26,000.00 and;

WHEREAS, Hydro Designs Inc. made the design is the best proprietary vendor for the management of the installation to meet the design and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Brigantine, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey on this 5th day of March 2025 award a contract to Hydro Design P.O. Box 1862 Frederick, MD 21702 for construction management of phase one of the irrigation system at the Brigantine Golf Links in an amount not to exceed \$26,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Albert Stanley, Chief Financial Officer of the City of Brigantine, does hereby certify that there are adequate funds available Account # C-04-24-012-702

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

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Motion Carried.

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

CITY OF BRIGANTINE RESOLUTION 2025-65

AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR REPLACEMENT OF TWO CONDENSING UNITS AT THE BRIGANTINE BOAT HOUSE

WHEREAS, the City of Brigantine is need to replace two condensing units at the Brigantine Boat House and;

WHEREAS, The City is purchasing under the Camden County Educational Service Commission Cooperative which the City is a member from CM3 Building Solutions in an amount not to exceed \$10,826.00

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Brigantine, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey the City of Brigantine is to award CM3 Building Solutions 185 Commerce Drive Fort Washington, PA 19034 a contract for replacement of two condensing units at the Brigantine Boat House not to exceed \$10,826.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Albert Stanley, Chief Financial Officer of the City of Brigantine, does hereby certify that there are adequate funds available in Account C-04-17-015-104

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

Motion Carried.

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

CITY OF BRIGANTINE RESOLUTION 2025-66

SUPPORTING LEGISLATURE PROPOSING A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF THE PROPERTY TAX DEDUCTION FOR ALL HONORABLY DISCHARGED VETERANS

WHEREAS, The New Jersey State Constitution grants a property tax deduction to honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances veterans; and

WHEREAS, the voters of the State last approved an increase in the amount of the deduction in 1999 from \$50 to \$250; and

WHEREAS, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 81 and Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 58 were introduced in the 221st Legislature proposing a constitutional amendment to increase the amount of the property tax deduction from \$250 to \$2,500 over four years; and

WHEREAS, local governments will realize annual net revenue gains from statutorily-mandated reimbursements from the State equal to 102 percent of the amount of the veterans' property tax deduction; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) carries the voice of New Jersey's veterans and has played a vital role in virtually every significant piece of veterans' legislation passed in the 20th and 21st centuries to include the 2019 amendment to New Jersey's Constitution granting the \$250.00 property tax deduction to include all honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances veterans, not just wartime veterans; and

WHEREAS, the VFW considers this legislation a priority to allow our lower income veterans and veterans transitioning from military service back into civilian lite a chance at the American dream of home ownership; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Brigantine, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey, on this 5th day of March 2025, the City does hereby stand with the VFW to ensure veterans are respected for their service, always receive their earned entitlements, and are recognized for the sacrifices they and their loved ones have made on behalf of this great country; AND do hereby support the passage of Concurrent Resolutions 58 and 81to be placed on the ballet for approval by the voters of the State of New Jersey.

Roll Call: Bew, Haney, Virgilio, Riordan, Sera: "Yes" Abstain Letteri

Motion Carried.

Mayor Sera requests that a copy be sent to Mario Parrucci, informing him that council supports the veterans.

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Councilman Lettieri moved, seconded by Councilman Kane to adopt the following requests.

A. Spring Riptide Derby

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- B. Stockton Regatta Rowing Request
- C. Chamber of Commerce St. Patty's Day Parade

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

Motion Carried.

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Public Comment. No public comments were made

Close of Public Comment.

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Chief of the Fire Department thanks council and reminds the listeners about the proposal of Fire Officers Saturday, March 8th at 10 am at the Brigantine Community School.

Council Comment:

Councilwoman Bew spoke about reading to Mr. Booth's second-grade class in celebration of Dr. Seuss's birthday week. She expressed gratitude to Jim Mogan, Kristen Sullivan, and the CER staff for their efforts in setting up the room and sound system, which worked seamlessly. A special thanks was extended to Linda Nace for her ongoing support of seniors, including her help in distributing pizza. Additional appreciation was given to Paul and Tiger for their assistance with the pizza service.

The event drew 100 residents, who engaged in discussions on property fraud, voting by mail, passport and notary services, living wills, and the Anchor Program. Many questions arose, particularly regarding the Anchor Program, and officials also addressed concerns about current scams.

A sincere thank you was extended to Jimmy McHugh of McHugh's Pizza for delivering the pizzas promptly, which were thoroughly enjoyed by all. It was a fantastic event.

Councilman Virgilio expressed his appreciation to the Council for remembering his mother with a moment of silence.

Councilman Riordan thanked everyone for attending and shared details of the upcoming St. Patrick's Parade, scheduled for March 15 at 1 PM. The parade will begin at St. Thomas and proceed down Veterans Triangle. He also extended his appreciation to those involved, particularly the grand marshals: Jack Chittarelli, Kathe Murray, and Ryan Hurst.

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

Roll Call: All "Yes".

Motion Carried.

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There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 5:16 P.M.

Mayor Vince Sera

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Acting City Clerk, Christine Murray