

April 17, 2024
Brigantine, New Jersey

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

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

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Mayor Sera led the flag salute and Councilwoman Bew offered a prayer. Councilwoman Bew asked for a moment of silence for Sally Sooy.

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

CITY OF BRIGANTINE

RESOLUTION 2024-67
EXECUTIVE SESSION

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRIGANTINE RESOLVES THAT:

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meeting Act of the State of New Jersey permits the discussion of certain matters within an Executive Session, as an exception to certain provisions of said laws; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Brigantine wishes to discuss certain matters which qualify as exceptions in Executive Session.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRIGANTINE THAT:

1. There is hereby authorized an Executive Session of the City Council of the City of Brigantine, for the purpose of discussing certain matters which qualify under said Open Public Meetings Act. No action binding upon the City Council will be disclosed to the public when legally permitted and when the public interest will no longer be served by keeping such matters confidential.
2. This resolution shall take place immediately.

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

Motion Carried.

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City Clerk, Lynn Sweeney, RMC read the statement pertaining to the Open Public Meeting Act, P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, excluding the public from a meeting in certain circumstances.

Council retired to executive session at 5:03 P.M.

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Council returned from executive session at 5:42 P.M.

Municipal Solicitor George Morris reported that Council discussed the following topics in executive session: two matters of litigation and one matter of personnel.

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Councilman Lettieri moved, seconded by Councilman Haney to approve the 04/03/2024 Council Meeting Minutes.

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

Motion Carried.

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Councilwoman Bew moved, seconded by Councilman Lettieri to approve the requisition list, operating expenses and payroll.

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

Motion Carried.

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Public Comment on Agenda Items Only.

Anne Phillips of 308 27th Street asked about surplus totals, asking how they occur. Leon Costello, Municipal Auditor explained how the fund balance is created.

Close of Public Comment.

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Councilman Haney moved, seconded by Councilman Kane to adopt the following ordinance.

Ordinance 7 of 2024

To Amend Various Sections of the Code of the City of Brigantine Concerning the Possession or Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages

Mayor Sera called for the public hearing of Ordinance 7 of 2024. The Ordinance was read by title by the Mayor.

No public comment.

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

Motion Carried.

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Councilman Haney moved, seconded by Councilman Lettieri to introduce the following ordinance.

ORDINANCE 8 OF 2024

AMENDING CHAPTER 241 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF BRIGANTINE AS IT RELATES TO THE SKATEBOARD PARK

No public comments were made.

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

Motion Carried.

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

CITY OF BRIGANTINE
RESOLUTION 2024-68

CONCURRING WITH THE BOARD OF SCHOOL ESTIMATES

Mayor Sera commented that this is the 11th year in a row with no tax increase for the district.

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

Motion Carried.

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

CITY OF BRIGANTINE
RESOLUTION 2024-69

AMENDING THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Leon Costell, Municipal Auditor spoke about the budget stating that the City is State examined this year. Councilman Riordan thanked the Chief Financial Officer, Albert Stanley, City Manager, Tige Platt and the Department Heads for their work on the budget. Councilman Haney thanked all who were involved in the budget. Councilwoman Bew commented that this is a very conservative budget and thanked everyone for working on it. Mayor Sera stated that inflation is making an issue for a lot of municipalities budgets, but stated that the City was able to keep expenses down and thanked the departments for working on it.

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

Motion Carried.

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

CITY OF BRIGANTINE
RESOLUTION 2024-70

ADOPTION OF MUNICIPAL BUDGET

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

Motion Carried.

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

CITY OF BRIGANTINE
RESOLUTION 2024-71

REJECTION OF BIDS FOR THE
RECONSTRUCTION OF BEACHFRONT PARKING LOTS

Mayor Sera stated that bids came in much higher then expected, so this will be re-bided.

Roll Call: Bew, Lettieri, Haney, Kane, 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 2024-72

AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF CITY CAMERA SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM FOR THE
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS UNDER STATE CONTRACT 17-FOOD-00244 FROM
BLUUM USA, INC.

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

Motion Carried.

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

CITY OF BRIGANTINE
RESOLUTION 2024-73

AUTHORIZING ENTRY INTO A CONTRACT WITH GREEN WHALES, INC. FOR RACE
DIRECTING SERVICES ASSOCIATED WITH A SPECIAL EVENT KNOWN AS THE
BRIGANTINE TRIATHLON TO BE HELD IN AUGUST OF 2024

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

Motion Carried.

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

CITY OF BRIGANTINE
RESOLUTION 2024-74

AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF
BRIGANTINE AND WEST BAY CONSTRUCTION FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF
VARIOUS STORM SANITARY SYSTEMS

Roll Call: Bew, Lettieri, Haney, Kane, 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 2024-75

ADDING ADDITIONAL CHANGE FUND FOR
THE BRIGANTINE MUNICIPAL COURT

Roll Call: Bew, Lettieri, Haney, Kane, 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 2024-76

AUTHORIZING LENDING OF BEACH BADGES TO
COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Mayor Sera explained that this is done every year for the missionaries, they use the badges and then return them.

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

Motion Carried.

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

CITY OF BRIGANTINE
RESOLUTION 2024-77

AUCTION

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

Motion Carried.

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Councilman Lettieri moved, seconded by Councilman Kane to approve the following requests:

- A. Brigantine Beach Volleyball Association Tournaments, Camps and League Request
- B. Brigantine Elks Lodge “Walk Out On Drugs” Request

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

Motion Carried.

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Council/Manager Discussion: Councilwoman Bew reminded all of the Cherry Blossom Festival this weekend & announced that the Farms Market needs volunteers. Councilman Haney spoke about the success of the Annual Baseball and Softball Opening Day Parade Event and commented on all the new businesses opening in town. Councilman Kane thanked all who worked on the budget, complimented the Garden Club volunteers for all they do, congratulated the new Pet Supply store that opened, commented on the success of the Baseball/Softball Opening Day and offered prayers for the Sooy family. Councilman Riordan commented on the many things that the Economic Development Committee are doing in town such as the new businesses opening and announced a Cultural Arts Commission Opra Event at the Cove on Sunday. Mayor Sera thanked and praised Tom Repici who runs the Baseball/Softball Program for all his efforts with the Opening Day Event, reappointed the following to the School Board, Frank Cook. Dave Barone and Lee Ann Guenther and gave a Cove Beach erosion update stating that the City is working with the DEP, The Army Corp of Engineers, representatives from Atlantic County Office of Emergency Management, Congressman VanDrew, Senator Vince Polistina and County Executive Dennis Levinson to find a resolution and gave an update on the Ocean Wind Litigation saying that disappointedly, the judge dismissed the case.

Anne Phillips of 308 27th Street asked if the City received the report that was completed regarding the effects of the proposed wind turbines and Mayor Sera stated that he had received a copy of the report. Ms. Phillips commented on the report stating that it is devastating and

commented how disappointed she was with the County Board of Commissioners in regards to their lack of empathy toward the report.

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Public Comment.

John Johson of 36 Coquille Beach Drive praised everyone who worked on the budget and asked if there was an update on Santucci Pizza that is under construction and Mayor Sera stated there were some issues with the project, but stated that they are moving forward.

Andrea Sullivan of 2000 Ocean Avenue commented on the Santucci's construction site, saying there is construction debris that needs to be addressed and asked if the Code Enforcement Officer was hired that will deal with short-term rentals. Mayor Sera stated that the position was not filled as of yet and asked Ms. Sullivan if there have been any issues regarding STR's since the new Ordinance was passed, asking further that if there was an issue, was it reported. Mayor Sera stated further that the City is doing their job by taking care of issues that are being reported.

Close of Public Comment.

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Councilman Lettieri moved, seconded by Councilwoman Bew 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 6:40 P.M.

Mayor Vince Sera

City Clerk, Lynn Sweeney, RMC