

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

Present: Bew, Lettieri, Haney, DeLucry, Kane, Riordan, Sera.
Absent: None.

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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 Joseph Guglielmo.

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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 Kane to adopt the following resolution.

CITY OF BRIGANTINE

RESOLUTION 2024-159
EXECUTIVE SESSION

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRIGANTINE RESOLVES THAT:

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings 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, DeLucry, 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.

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Council returned from executive session at 5:10 P.M.

Municipal Solicitor George Morris reported that Council discussed the following topics in executive session: one matter of contract negotiations.

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Councilwoman Bew moved, seconded by Councilman Lettieri to approve the 9/4/2024 Council Meeting Minutes.

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

DeLucry: “Abstain”.

Motion Carried.

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

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

Motion Carried.

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Public Comment on Agenda Items Only.

No public comments were made

Close of Public Comment.

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Councilman Kane moved, seconded by Councilman Lettieri to introduce the following resolution

CITY OF BRIGANTINE
RESOLUTION 2024-160

AUTHORIZING RENEWAL AGREEMENT FOR ATLANTIC COUNTY MUNICIPAL JOINT
INSURANCE FUND

Roll Call: Bew, Lettieri, Haney, DeLucry, 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 2024-161

GRANTING A REVOCABLE LICENSE AT 1404 EAST BEACH AVE. FOR AN
ENCROACHMENT ON A CITY EASEMENT

Roll Call: Bew, Lettieri, Haney, DeLucry, Kane, 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 2024-162

AWARD OF CONTRACT WITH S. HUGHES ELECTRIC COMPANY LLC FOR EMERGENCY
GENERATORS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS

Roll Call: Bew, Lettieri, Haney, DeLucry, 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 2024-163

AMENDING THE 2024 YEAR MUNICIPAL BUDGET BY THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION FROM THE STATE OF NJ DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER LABOR DAY GRANT

Roll Call: Bew, Lettieri, Haney, DeLucry, Kane, 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 2024-164

AUTHORIZING AN EMERGENCY CONTRACT WITH NORTHEAST ELECTRICAL SERVICES FOR METER AND ELECTRICAL WORK AT BRIGANTINE ROWING CLUB

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

Motion Carried.

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

- A. Stockton Raffle License #1082
- B. Hearts of Surfing Adaptive Skateboarding Request
- C. Republican Club Halloween Parade Request

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

Motion Carried.

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Council Manager Discussion: City Manager, Tige Platt wished Assistant City Manager, Ryan Hurst good luck in the Ironman Event. Superintendent of Public Works, John Doring reminded all of the Shredding Event/Beach Clean Up on Saturday, September 21 at the 16th Street Beach. Mayor Sera commented on the new trash cans at City Hall and various locations stating how great they look and thanked Mr. Doring for his help in getting them. Councilman Lettieri wished Mrs. Hurst good luck in the Ironman Event. Councilman Haney wished Mrs. Hurst good luck in the Ironman Event. Councilman DeLucry wished good luck to Mrs. Hurst in the Ironman Event and asked about the progress of the work on the Public Works Building and Mr. Doring stated that the work is moving along. Councilman Haney then spoke of the 9/11 ceremony praising the Fire Department, Police Department and Public Works for all they did for the event. Councilman Kane stated that the Water Tower Project was about to begin and commented that the Country Club project was also set to begin soon. Councilman Riordan stated that the Cultural Arts Commission Arts Festival will end Friday and thanked all who participated in the 9/11 ceremony. Mayor Sera thanked the Fire Department for the 9/11 Ceremony, asked for a start date on the Water Tower Project and Mr. Doring stated that the work should begin within the next two weeks. Mayor Sera then spoke about the mulch that is located at the Community School, stating that there was Public Comment on the topic at the last council meeting; further stating that the School Board has been working on this issue and that testing has been performed and the results stated that there is no health concerns associated with the mulch, so the mulch will not be replaced at this time, but they are researching alternative options for the future.

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Public Comment:

Kevin Delaney of 16 Ocean Drive West spoke about the erosion issues at the beach that is located behind his home, asking what are the dates for fiscal budget planning and Mayor Sera responded that it is January to January and that the City does a temporary budget due to the fact that budget is not passed until March. Mr. Delaney asked when the residents will know when the Baycourt Bulkhead is approved for permitting and construction in 2025 and Mayor Sera stated that the City would send an email to

affected residents. Mr. Delany then asked if this permit was part of a larger project or is it still in the planning stages and Mayor Sera stated it is not part of a larger project and that it is in the planning stages. Mr. Delany then asked for a timeline for the Baycourt Bulkhead project so that it will coordinate with the individual bulkheads at the homes on West Shore Drive and Mayor Sera stated that Mr. Delany should contact City Engineer Ed Stinson for a timeline.

Jody Boyle of 20 Ocean Drive West spoke about the bulkhead project for the homes on West Shore Drive asking if there is anything else the homeowners can do to expedite the project and asked for details on the Baycourt Bulkhead project and Mayor Sera stated the City is doing everything they can to move the project along according to the steps that the City needs to take.

Kim Delaney of 16 Ocean Drive West spoke about the bulkhead replacement project and asked if she can pay for the construction and then get reimbursed by the City and Mayor Sera did not think that was legally possible. City Solicitor, George Morris commented that this process would not be one the City would take.

Anne H. Phillips of 308 27th Street asked Mayor Sera for a comment regarding the Long Beach Island lawsuit and Mayor Sera stated that he has not seen the lawsuit, but he did see the headline regarding it, Mrs. Phillips then read the heading of the lawsuit. Mrs. Phillips then asked about the REAL program that was printed in the Press and read the article. Mrs. Phillips asked why council does not approve a 7-night minimum stay for short-term rentals and Mayor Sera stated that he has discussed this topic in length, multiple times at many short-term rental meetings that have been held and stated that it is not the length of stay that is the issue, it is the behavior; further saying that 95% of the issues have been corrected. Mrs. Phillips commented on mini limos that were pulling in and out of the neighborhoods of the short-term rentals and stated that she feels it is a commercial enterprise being held in a residential zone.

End of Public Comment.

Mayor Sera commented that by State law short-term rentals are not classified as commercial businesses, they are designated residential, further stating that the City cannot violate peoples' rights; saying if the State says it is residential then they are allowed to operate in residential neighborhoods. Mayor Sera continued to state that the issues regarding short-term rentals that have been brought before council have been addressed and will continue to be addressed, further stating that the Code Enforcement Department will be handling any issues into the Fall season as well. Mayor Sera commented on the mini limos, saying that short-term homeowners have hired these vehicles to shuttle guests instead of taking up parking in the area. Mayor Sera stated that he feels the property owners are taking the responsibility of making their properties better.

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Councilwoman Bew moved, seconded by Councilman Haney 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 5:47 P.M.

Mayor Vince Sera

City Clerk, Lynn Sweeney, RMC