

REGULAR WORK SESSION  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2013  
6:00 P.M.

The Regular Work Session of the City Council of the City of Vineland was called to order by the President, Anthony R. Fanucci.

The following members were present at roll call:

Councilwoman Angela Calakos  
Councilwoman Maritza Gonzalez  
Councilman John A. Procopio  
Councilman Paul F. Spinelli  
President Anthony R. Fanucci

Also present were: Denise Monaco, Business Administrator  
Richard P. Tonetta, Solicitor

President Fanucci led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Municipal Clerk stated Public Notice of this meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, has been given on January 15, 2013 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.

President Fanucci asked if anyone from the public wished to comment.

Steve Lewis suggested that City Council include their names and telephone numbers on the regular meeting agenda, as was done by the previous administration, to aid citizens who wish to contact them about any item on the agenda. Mr. Lewis also thanked Council for acknowledging his service on the Landis Sewerage Authority and suggested that Council members meet with expiring members serving on the various boards, commissions and authorities to ascertain if they are doing a good job and if they should be considered for reappointment.

Neil Lewis thanked City Council for help with the Sherman Avenue and Boulevard intersection. He also suggested that a logo be painted on the opposite side of the East Avenue water tank facing Mennies School.

Robert Larrieu explained his concerns about the new property revaluation, citing examples of his own properties that have increased to unrealistic levels. He claimed property taxes will also increase and make Vineland into another Camden. President Fanucci responded that he also has concerns, but we have to be patient and follow the process, which includes meeting with the firm conducting the revaluation, waiting for the tax rate to be struck and finally appealing the assessment.

Carmen Cortez reported that the company conducting the revaluation told her that her case was too complicated to address. Mrs. Cortez asked why local people weren't used to conduct the revaluation, as Vineland cannot be compared to places like Cherry Hill.

Frankie Acosta also spoke about the arrogant attitude of the revaluation company representative. Councilman Spinelli explained that there can be no answer tonight, but Council will work on the issues.

Shemais Larrieu produced articles retrieved from her internet search to reveal that Princeton is suing the company Vineland employed to conduct the revaluation. She questioned why similar due diligence was not conducted before Vineland hired them.

Jacqueline Carter also is displeased with the revaluation.

President Fanucci thanked all who shared their comments tonight.

Solicitor Tonetta described the still unresolved issue of the alcoholic beverage distribution license for B & B Properties of Vineland, aka Bottino's ShopRite. He described the layout and the spacial relationship of the proposed liquor store, the grocery store and other retail units. Since the redevelopment agreement specifies that the City make a liquor license available, Council must consider the issue.

Councilman Procopio commented that even though businesses like Town Liquors recently invested a lot of money to renovate and enlarge their business, we should still move ahead with it. Councilwoman Calakos added that the project is good for the city and competition is good. Councilman Spinelli observed that the developers are investing a lot of money in this project.

Joseph Isabella, Director of Municipal Utilities, used a PowerPoint presentation to give Council members an orientation about the utilities. He discussed the organizational overview, with an organizational chart to delineate responsibilities. He also discussed the vision statement, core values, the electric utility

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strategy, the goals, progress and next steps. Council members exchanged questions and answers to get a better idea about the utilities.

The Clerk reviewed the agenda.

Assistant City Engineer David Maillet explained a change order resolution. Councilman Spinelli cautioned staff members about change orders, as he will not be receptive to them in the future. Mr. Maillet entertained comments, questions and discussion with Council members regarding the change order.

Business Administrator Monaco advised that a resolution will likely be added regarding a grant for the police, and another opposing legislation regarding workers' compensation.

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

Councilwoman Calakos  
Councilwoman Gonzalez  
Councilman Procopio  
Councilman Spinelli  
President Fanucci

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Anthony R. Fanucci  
President of Council

ATTEST:

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Keith Petrosky, RMC  
Municipal Clerk