

REGULAR WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 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:
Mayor Ruben Bermudez
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 for a moment of silence for the victims of the bombing incident in Boston.

Mayor Bermudez addressed City Council, explaining that he was notified today by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection that they will not proceed with a permit transfer to Tradebe Environmental Services to locate a new waste recycling facility at the former Pure Earth site in the Vineland Industrial Park. He said we are thrilled that the NJDEP has listened to our concerns and decided to deny the permit transfer. Continuing his announcement, Mayor Bermudez stated that there is more work to do as we still have an unknown level of contamination at the site that needs to be cleaned up. We will continue to stay engaged with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the NJDEP to ensure that all existing contamination is identified and removed. We will not be satisfied until the site has been fully cleaned and we can return it to the city tax rolls. In addition, we will continue to work with the Attorney General's office to make sure that they do all they can to pursue and bring to justice the individuals who are responsible for creating this situation in the first place. He thanked members of City Council, Governor Christie and his staff. President Fanucci thanked Solicitor Tonetta for his efforts and everyone who helped on this issue.

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

Luz Vazquez said she was disappointed Mayor Bermudez decided to close the skate park. Councilman Spinelli noted that there has been an increase in police calls to the park. Originally there were assurances that parents would be there to monitor the activities, but it hasn't been the case lately. Drug trafficking and constant maintenance problems are also of concern. Our new joint insurance fund questioned the lack of oversight or supervision at the facility and noted the increased liability. The possibility of a private entity taking over responsibility is being explored. Solicitor Tonetta added that safety equipment is required to be worn but no one is there to ensure it is being used.

Marlene Asselta was present with her husband Sean, former husband, son and daughter to express their frustrations about her grandson's situation involving his participation in Little League baseball. He wants to play in East Vineland Little League, where he played last year, but was told this year that he lives in the North Vineland Little League territory. Efforts to pursue a waiver have not proven successful. She explained the leagues refuse to sign any waivers. Now, NVLL claims it's too late and all the teams are full. Ms. Asselta said they are aware of an opening on the EVLL Diamond Social team. She is also concerned, as a former Recreation Commissioner, that Williamsport (Little League headquarters) has too much say in the matter. City Council members would like to see the grandson playing. An effort will be made to find out more with hopes of resolving the matter.

The Clerk reviewed the agenda.

Resolution No. 2013-187, authorizing an agreement for professional services with the Gibson Tarquini Group, Inc., Cherry Hill, NJ for engineering consulting services for the upgrade of the police building HVAC system was questioned by Council members because it provided for \$2,000 in reimbursable expenses. It was explained that this was included because of Council's previous concerns with change orders. Business Administrator Monaco explained that this would cover expenses such as multiple plan copies. She also explained that the possibility of an asbestos issue could arise and although this wouldn't cover all the costs, it would help. President Fanucci said the contract language should shift soft costs, such as plan copies, to the bidder. It was agreed that the resolution would be revised to remove the \$2,000 reimbursable expenses.

Municipal Clerk Petrosky distributed and reviewed the boards and commissions appointed by City Council and the Mayor.

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Solicitor Tonetta commented that 43% of commercial property owners did not supply the information related the recent revaluation and concerning Chapter 91 of the Tax Code. He said this information affects the tax appeal status. Since it was not properly explained as being critical in the revaluation process, he recommends that City Council relax the Chapter 91 regulations. There was some discussion that the questionnaire should actually be required every year, to ensure it is routinely provided. President Fanucci suggested that the information should be shared to everyone using the city website and social media sites.

Councilwoman Gonzalez expressed concern about the skate park issue and urged her colleagues to be proactive in pursuing a resolution to the matter.

President Fanucci suggested that Councilwoman Gonzalez include a 5K run in the Fourth Friday Family Fun and Fitness events.

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

Anthony R. Fanucci
President of Council

ATTEST:

Keith Petrosky, RMC
Municipal Clerk