

Richard C. McCarthy Commission Chamber  
Millville City Hall  
Work Session  
May 16, 2023, 6:00 P.M.

The Board of Commissioners met in a **WORK SESSION** with Mayor Orndorf presiding. Members present: Sooy, Romanik and Watson. City Solicitor, Brock Russell was also present.

#### **Salute to the Flag**

The salute to the flag was led by Mayor Orndorf.

#### **Open Public Meeting Statement by Mayor Orndorf**

"This meeting is being conducted in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act of 1975 and was advertised, posted and made available to the public as required by Statute. The Municipal Clerk is directed to include a statement in the minutes of this meeting."

#### **City Clerk To Review Changes To the Agenda**

Mayor Orndorf asked the City Clerk if there were any changes to the agenda with Jeanne Parkinson, City Clerk responding no.

#### **Public Comment on Agenda Items Only**

Mayor Orndorf declared the public comment portion open on agenda items only and asked if any person present wished to be heard.

There being no comments Mayor Orndorf declared the public comment portion closed.

#### **Discussion of Commissioners**

Commissioner Romanik stated there is a lot of buzz around town concerning the demolition of the Wheaton property noting that the residents are excited to see the progress. Commissioner Romanik asked Vice Mayor Sooy if he was able to obtain the drone shot he promised with Vice Mayor responding he has not been able to get to it yet, but will work on having it for the public in the near future, as promised.

Vice Mayor Sooy addressed Item 18.1 on the Regular Meeting agenda concerning 1<sup>st</sup> Reading on the Business Occupancy Permit. He stated he does not support this measure as it is a deterrent to people trying to operate a home business. He explained the difficulty of dealing with the state for having a business in New Jersey and felt this extra permit and fee was not necessary and will only hurt business in the city more. He suggested that the Commission move to table the item in the Regular Meeting. He stated he would have removed it from the agenda, but in light of transparency felt he should explain his reasoning to the public.

Mayor Orndorf stated she absolutely agrees that the city should not be making it harder for businesses to operate here in Millville given the state of the economy right now.

Commissioner Watson and Commissioner Romanik both concurred.

Mayor Orndorf asked how this made it on the agenda this evening with Vice Mayor stating it was placed on the agenda by Zoning.

Vice Mayor Sooy addressed correspondence received from the NJDOT in reference to the Coast Guard looking for public comments on the project at Maurice River mile 23.9 at Millville, Cumberland County. Mayor Orndorf stated she received the notice and saw where the City Clerk posted it on the bulletin boards and Samantha Cruz placed on our website.

Vice Mayor Sooy also addressed the Army Airfield Museum's complaint about stormwater issues. He stated that the DRBA should be handling this issue since they have a stormwater division. He stated we will be going out there to support the effort by making sure it is not a water leak.

Mayor Orndorf stated she just wanted to bring up the introduction of the Land Use Ordinance, Chapter 30 of the City Code noting that this is on first reading and asked Brock to explain the full process.

Mr. Russell explained that the Zoning Ordinance has been revised and is on 1<sup>st</sup> reading for tonight's meeting. He explained that this was a long time coming since the city is required to amend the ordinance to align with the Master Plan, specifically the Land Use Element. He stated that once this is introduced, it will be sent to the Planning Board for their review and then back to the Board of Commissioners for final adoption. He gave the history of the attempt the former Planner made in amending the ordinance, but was not successful in satisfying the Planning Board which caused such a large delay.

Mayor Orndorf thanked Ms. Fegley for getting this done for the City of Millville.

Mayor Orndorf also asked about the resolution on the meeting for SPL and asked Mr. Compari to explain what this new software will do for the city.

Mr. Compari stated that we researched the surrounding municipalities and counties and SPL offered the most robust upgrade to the city's current platform. He stated that he feels this will ensure the city is more up to speed on all levels.

Mayor Orndorf asked if the two police vehicles were budgeted for appropriately with Vice Mayor responding that they were.

#### **Public Comment Portion**

Mayor Orndorf declared the public comment portion open and asked if any person present wished to be heard.

There being no comments, the Public Comment Portion was deemed closed.

#### **Adjournment**

There being no further comments, the meeting was adjourned on a motion made by Commissioner Watson and seconded by Vice Mayor Sooy subject to the call of the chair. All were in favor. None were opposed.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Jeanne M. Parkinson, RMC  
City Clerk