

BOROUGH OF OCEAN GATE

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

May 8, 2024

Minutes of a Council Meeting of the Borough of Ocean Gate held on the above date at the Municipal Building, 801 Ocean Gate Avenue, Ocean Gate, N.J.

The Mayor Curtin called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm and announced that in compliance with the "OPEN PUBLIC MEETING LAW" P.L. 1975 C231 notice of this meeting had been advertised in the Star Ledger issue of September 20, 2023 posted in the Municipal Office Building, Adrian Hall and the Ocean Gate Post Office.

Following a salute to the flag roll call was taken with the following members present; Curtin, McGrath, Nicastro, Cox, Zieser. Absent: Haug, Fry

The Governing Body welcomes the Ocean Gate School 3rd and 4th Grade students to our 2024 Government Day!

Briel, Ocean Gate 3rd Grade student asked if the borough could start a fishing league for the children in town.

Savana, 4th Grade student asked if swings and slides could be placed at the 2 piers.

Maribella, 4th Grade student asked if the hours for bikes on the beach could be extended.

Gabriel, 3rd Grade student asked why dogs are not allowed on the beach and why doesn't Ocean Gate have any sports teams for kids.

Grace, 3rd Grade student asked if we could start renting umbrellas at the beach. And could we plant more trees and have more benches along the beach.

ORDINANCE 693-24 CALENDAR YEAR 2024 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

A motion was made by Councilman Cox to approve ord. 693-24. Second to the motion made by Councilman Zieser. Roll Call Vote Ayes: McGrath, Nicastro, Cox, Zieser. Absent: Haug, Fry Motion Approved.

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S.A. 40A: 445.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget to 1% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Ocean Gate in the County of Ocean finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2024 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's

final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Council hereby determines that a 3.5% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$78,274.75 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS the Borough Council hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated, as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Ocean Gate, in the County of Ocean, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2024 budget year, the final appropriations of the Borough of Ocean Gate shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 1 .0%, amounting to \$31,309.90 and that the CY 2024 municipal budget for the Borough of Ocean Gate be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the foregoing ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading of the Borough Council of Ocean Gate, in the County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, held on May 8, 2024 and will come on for a second reading, public hearing and final passage at a regular meeting of said Borough Council to be held on June 12, 2024, at Borough Council Chambers, 801 Ocean Gate Avenue, Ocean Gate, New Jersey, at 7:00 P.M., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached, at which last mentioned date, hour and place any person desiring to be heard either for or against the adoption of the within ordinance will be given an opportunity to be so heard.

RESOLUTION 2024-131 2024 Municipal Budget

A motion was made by Councilman Cox to approve resolution 2024-131. Second to the motion made by Council President McGrath. Roll Call Vote Ayes: McGrath, Nicastro, Cox, Zieser. Absent: Haug, Fry Motion Approved.

MUNICIPAL BUDGET NOTICE

Section 1.

Municipal Budget of the Borough of Ocean Gate, County of Ocean for the Fiscal Year

2024

Be it Resolved, that the following statements of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the Municipal Budget for the year 2024.

Be it Further Resolved, that said Budget be published in the Star Ledger Issue of May 15, 2024 ,

The Governing Body of The Borough of Ocean Gate does hereby approve the following Budget for the year 2024:

((McGrath	(Abstained
((Nicastro	(
Recorded Vote	Ayes	(Cox	Nays
((Zieser	(
((Absent	(Haug (Fry

Notice is hereby given that the Budget and Tax Resolution was approved by the Governing Body of the Borough of Ocean Gate, County of Ocean on May 8, 2024.

A hearing on the Budget and Tax Resolution will be held on June 26, 2024 at 7:00pm at which time and place objections to said Budget and Tax Resolution for 2024 may be presented by taxpayers or other interested persons.

CONSENT AGENDA

The items listed below are considered to be routine by the Borough of Ocean Gate and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no formal discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, this item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

A motion was made by Councilman Cox to approve the Consent Agenda. Second to the motion made by Councilman Zieser. Roll Call Vote Ayes: McGrath, Nicastro, Cox, Zieser. Absent: Haug, Fry Motion Approved.

RESOLUTION 2024-132 AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION TO THE NJ CLEAN ENERGY PROGRAM COMMUNITY ENERGY PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, a sustainable community seeks to ensure that its environmental, economic, and social objectives are balanced and mutually supportive; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Ocean Gate strives to assure clean land, air, and water for current and future generations; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey’s Energy Master Plan: Pathway to 2050 (“EMP”) established that community-level action is necessary to achieve the state’s goal of 100% clean energy by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities has created a Community Energy Plan Grant program for municipalities to develop a community energy plan to meet the goals of the state’s Energy Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Ocean Gate is invested in developing a community energy plan to help the state achieve the goal of 100% clean energy by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the Community Energy Plan Grant program will help the Borough of Ocean Gate to plan for and invest in renewable energy and to work towards a better environment for all residents by using the state’s Energy Master Plan (EMP) as a guide to develop sustainable strategies that increase clean energy production, reduce energy use, and cut emissions.

THEREFORE, the Council of the Borough of Ocean Gate has determined that the Borough of Ocean Gate should apply for the aforementioned Community Energy Planning Grant program; and

THEREFORE, the Borough of Ocean Gate will commit to providing staff support for the duration of the Community Energy Planning process, including for gathering of relevant data and for convening at least one public meeting.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the Borough of Ocean Gate, State of New Jersey, authorizes the submission of the aforementioned application to the NJBPU Community Energy Planning Grant program.

RESOLUTION 2024-133 HIRING SEASONAL EMPLOYEES – LIFEGUARD/BADGE CHECKERS

WHEREAS, the following persons have completed employment applications for the positions of Lifeguard/Badge Checkers in the Borough of Ocean Gate; and

BE IT NOW RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Ocean Gate that the hiring of the following seasonal employees is hereby approved effective June 15, 2024. All Lifeguard applicants are certified as lifeguards as well as First Aid and CPR.

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>HOURLY RATE OF PAY</u>
Badge Checkers	Aimee Veltri	\$14.50
Lifeguards	Julia Johns	\$17.50

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the foregoing seasonal employees are not entitled to benefits, sick time or vacation time.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk shall forward a certified copy of this resolution to the following:

- 1. Kristen Hudnut, Acting Chief Financial Officer
- 2. Personnel file
- 3. All applicants listed above

RESOLUTION 2024-134 AUTHORIZATION FOR PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Councilman Cox to approve resolution 2024-134. Second to the motion made by Council President McGrath. Roll Call Vote Ayes: McGrath, Nicastro, Cox, Zieser. Absent: Haug, Fry Motion Approved.

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has carefully examined all vouchers presented to the Borough for payment of claims; and

WHEREAS, after due consideration of said vouchers, the Borough Council has approved the payment of same; and

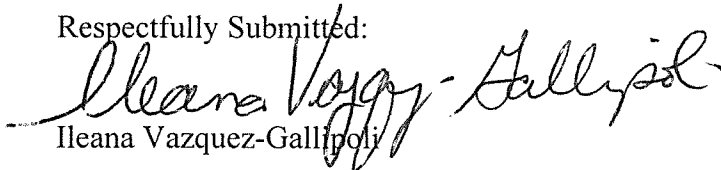
WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that the bill list has been audited and is in order for payment and funds totaling \$436,966.35 available in the respective accounts as set forth below;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Ocean Gate, County of Ocean, as follows:

1. The said approved 2024 vouchers amounting to the sum of \$436,966.35 the same are hereby authorized to be paid on May 8, 2024.

Seeing no one else wishing to be heard the Mayor asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Councilman Cox. Second to the motion made by Council President McGrath. All in Favor. Absent: Haug, Fry. Motion Approved.

Respectfully Submitted:


Ileana Vazquez-Gallipoli