May 6, 2020

A regular meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Seaside Heights was held via Zoom on May 6, 2020 at 5:05 pm

Mayor Vaz read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement

Administrator, Chris Vaz, read the Serenity Prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Council members present via Zoom for roll call: Penny Graichen, Rich Tompkins, Harry Smith, Mike Carbone, Lou DiGuilio, Agnes Polhemus

Borough Attorney: Jean Cipriani
Administrator: Chris Vaz
Borough Clerk: Diane Stabley

Approval of meeting minutes of April 15, 2020 (Council Woman Polhemus was absent)

Motion to approve: Carbone  Second: Smith
Approve: Graichen, Tompkins, Smith, DiGuilio, Carbone
Abstain: Polhemus

The following were approved by consent agenda;

RESOLUTION NO. 20-116

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF SEASIDE HEIGHTS, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,954,322.60

RESOLUTION NO. 20-117

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF SEASIDE HEIGHTS, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF SEASIDE HEIGHTS AND JOHNSON BARAN CORP.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-118

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF SEASIDE HEIGHTS, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROVING THE 2020 TEMPORARY OPERATING BUDGET
May 6, 2020

RESOLUTION NO. 20-119

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF SEASIDE HEIGHTS, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE MUNICIPAL TAX COLLECTOR TO PREPARE AND MAIL ESTIMATED TAX BILLS IN ACCORDANCE WITH P.L. 1994, c. 72

Motion to approve: Carbone			Second: DiGuilio
Approve: Graichen, Tompkins, Smith, DiGuilio, Carbone, Polhemus

Second Reading and Public Hearing

ORDINANCE 2020-02

ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SEASIDE HEIGHTS, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14

No public comment

Motion to approve: Smith			Second: Carbone
Approve: Graichen, Tompkins, Smith, DiGuilio, Carbone, Polhemus

Budget Hearing: Administrator Vaz requested that Council pass a motion to carry the public hearing to June 17, 2020.

Motion to approve: Graichen		Second: Tompkins
Approve: Graichen, Tompkins, Smith, DiGuilio, Carbone, Polhemus

Coronavirus Update: Administrator Vaz discussed the plan for Borough Hall to reopen to the public. Starting 5/18/20 more staff will be working in the office. The building will be professionally cleaned and disinfected 2 times a week. More masks and sanitizers will be available for employees. Plan to open Borough Hall to the public mid-July. The governor extended the stay-at-home order another 30 days, until 6/6/2020. By next Friday or Monday we will have advisory on how to reopen (Beach & Boardwalk) through guidelines and phases.

Budget Issues: 4 million dollar loss due to the virus (No Class II’s, no events planned, no money and non-essential employees, lifeguards/beach attendants down).

The Mayor opened the meeting to the public;

Ron Bernknopk of the Colony Motel: commented that his only source of income is the hotel and does not know how to proceed. Mayor Vaz had a plan put in motion, but the State had different ideas.
May 6, 2020

Mike Redpath, Business Improvement District, shared good news, with the help of Seaside Heights Fire Department, who sent 100 pizzas and Coca-Cola products to Health Care Workers and first responders. Mike expressed that the BID is looking for solutions for our businesses, alternate ways of doing business online, or curbside.

Genevieve, business owner, 113 Boulevard, proposes a gradual re-open where dining can occur in parking lots and side streets, and with tents for dining and retail.

Mark Pollaro, one of the Business Owners of Polish Ice on the Boardwalk, thanks council for doing a great job during the pandemic. He commented that since NY beaches were closed, there is an influx of people coming to Seaside beaches. He applauds the actions taken, and reopening in phases is a great idea.

Jeff Bowden, requested the status on the parking implementation. Administrator Vaz stated that he was pushing for local businesses/Hotels/Motels.

Vito Ferrone, mentioned that a distance pole for beaches is doing a great job.

Councilman Tompkins stated that everyone was feeling the pain and were all frustrated, promises that he and rest of council will work with everyone once they know how to proceed form the State.

Council thanked everyone for joining the meeting and for everyone to stay safe and healthy.

Mayor Vaz mentioned that he was constantly on the phones with the Governor’s Office with other Beach Mayors and they were all concerned for businesses.

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 5:58 pm.