

Richard C. McCarthy Commission Chamber
 Millville City Hall
 January 3, 2023, 5:30 p.m.

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

Invocation and Salute to the Flag

Reverend Merki delivered the invocation, followed by the salute to the flag.

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 reported on the following changes:

Additions

1. Resolution authorizing transfer of funds for various 2022 budget appropriations.
2. Resolution awarding a Professional Services Contract appointing DeMichele and DeMichele as Prosecutor
3. Resolution appointing Bob Conner as Risk Management Consultant and awarding a Professional Services Contract appointing Mints Insurance Agency as Insurance Broker of Record
4. Resolution awarding a Professional Services Contract appointing W.E. Johnson Engineering as City Engineer
5. Resolution awarding a Professional Services Contract appointing Blaney, Donohue & Weinberg, PC as Labor Counsel
6. Resolution awarding a Professional Services Contract appointing Kavanagh & Kavanagh, LLC as Public Defender
7. Resolution awarding a Professional Services Contract appointing Bowman and Company LLP as Auditor

Transfer Resolution

Resolution No. 1-2023 authorizing transfer of funds for various 2022 budget appropriations. Vice-Mayor Sooy moved for the adoption of this resolution. Commissioner Hewitt seconded the motion which was carried by the following vote: Yeas: Hewitt, Sooy, Romanik, Watson and Orndorf.

Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

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

There being no response Mayor Orndorf declared the public comment portion closed on agenda items only.

Public Hearing

Jeanne Parkinson, City Clerk, stated that the public hearing is for the Issuance of Plenary Retail Consumption License under the Hotel Exception for Millville AG LLC T/A Fairfield Inn and Suites.

City Clerk Parkinson explained that the public hearing is a requirement by the State of New Jersey in order for a municipality to issue this type of ABC License.

Mayor Orndorf declared the public hearing open and asked if any person present wished to be heard. There being no response Mayor Orndorf declared the public hearing closed.

REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Romanik

Commissioner Romanik announced the City of Millville's current and upcoming events and contests.

Commissioner Hewitt

Commissioner Hewitt announced that there will be a swearing-in ceremony at the next meeting to welcome three new officers.

Commissioner Watson

Commissioner Watson expressed his appreciation to Commissioner Hewitt and the Millville Fire Department for providing him and his daughter a tour of the fire department this week.

Vice-Mayor Sooy

Vice-Mayor Sooy announced that the DRBA will be providing a presentation on the Millville Airport at a future commission meeting and urged the governing body to read the lease agreement and prepare any questions they may have for the DRBA at that time.

Mayor Orndorf

Mayor Orndorf announced the upcoming Zoning and Planning Board meetings and encouraged everyone to attend.

Mayor Orndorf provided a recap of the past year and extended her sincere appreciation to her fellow commissioners and city employees for all their hard work and dedication. Mayor Orndorf stated that their emphasis has been and will continue to be focused on economic development and advised that the city is very fortunate to have Raymond Compari as the City Administrator, he is very knowledgeable and has taken the lead on economic development and has created a streamlined process when vetting businesses.

Mayor Orndorf provided the following bullet points of the past year:

- Resolution of Wheaton Property- Demolition, Asbestos Abatement and taxes are now being collected
- Demolition of Former Rescue Squad Building
- New basketball courts at the City Park
- Hurley Industrial Park- Received several letters of intent and signed PSA's on upcoming projects

Mayor Orndorf provided the following bullet points of ongoing, current and upcoming projects for 2023:

- UEZ funds slated for High Street and funding for various projects that are currently pending from the State of NJ
- Working in conjunction with Rutgers University to assist with small business loans
- Plan to apply vacant property ordinance to commercial properties that are vacant on High Street
- Hurley Industrial Park- On target to close land sales in excess of \$13 million dollars
- Job estimates is close to 400 people as a result of the projects
- Levoni- Breaking ground for construction
- Working with NJ Treasury to resize the Sports and Entertainment Zone for future development
- DRBA- Explore a mutual beneficial relationship at the Millville Airport
- Maurice River Walkway- Completion by spring
- In discussion with Rowan College and Millville Public Schools to explore creating, training and education programs to grow skilled workforce in our area

- Water and Sewer Utility Upgrades in order to foster further economic development for the benefit of both incoming businesses and citizens of Millville, including providing water to Laurel Lake (Most upgrades are being done with NJ Infrastructure Trust Fund monies)
- Completion of demolitions that are in progress
- Continue to focus on economic development
- Upcoming construction on cannabis facilities that will begin as soon as licenses are granted by the State of New Jersey
- Upcoming paving of streets after four years of not paving; Wade Boulevard, Columbia Avenue, Riverside Drive
- Improvements to Sharp Street that will increase safety for pedestrians

Mayor Orndorf further advised that her Zoning and Construction departments have been restructured with extremely capable people and thanked all of them for all of their hard work.

Mayor Orndorf also announced that the rental and construction inspections are now up-to-date after a two year Covid hiatus and advised that with the increased traffic in the construction department the city is collecting funds that will impact the department as a positive source of revenue.

Ordinances 1st Reading:

The City Clerk read the following ordinances on first reading:

Ordinance accepting donation of property to the City of Millville located at 418 Smith Street also known as Block 469 Lot 10.

Commissioner Romanik moved for the adoption of the proposed ordinance on first reading with final consideration to be given on January 17, 2023 after due publication as provided by law, which was seconded by Commissioner Watson. The motion was carried, by the following vote. Yeas: Hewitt, Sooy, Watson, Romanik and Orndorf.

An Ordinance of the City of Millville creating a new chapter in the city code to impose a transfer tax on the sale of Cannabis by licensed businesses operating in the city and a user tax on concurrent license holders operating more than one cannabis establishment.

Vice-Mayor Sooy moved for the adoption of the proposed ordinance on first reading with final consideration to be given on January 17, 2023, after due publication as provided by law, which was seconded by Commissioner Hewitt.

Vice-Mayor Sooy explained the ordinance will enable the city to collect taxes in the amount of 2 percent and could potentially amount to millions of dollars in revenue annually.

The motion was carried, by the following vote. Yeas: Hewitt, Sooy, Romanik and Orndorf. Nays: Watson.

Consent Agenda

Jeanne Parkinson noted that there was one minor change to the consent agenda, which was the times for the work sessions for 2023 that was changed from 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Board of Commissioners and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a governing body member so requests, in which case the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

Resolution No. 2-2023 designating signatures for the disbursement of funds for the City of Millville.

Resolution No. 3-2023 designating Ocean First Bank depository of municipal funds.

Resolution No. 4-2023 authorizing the adoption of the Cash Management Plan in accordance with N.J.S.A 40A:5-14.

Resolution No. 5-2023 approving the designated meeting dates and times of the Board of Commissioners for the Calendar Year 2023.

Resolution No. 6-2023 designating the following as Official Newspapers for the City of Millville:

1. Daily Journal
2. Atlantic City Press
3. South Jersey Times

Resolution No. 7-2023 authorizing Special Assessment of Municipal Liens for certain properties due to expenses incurred by the City of Millville relating to Cut and Clean plus administrative fees in accordance with Chapter 11, Article VI of the Municipal Code.

Resolution No. 8-2023 authorizing Special Assessment of Municipal Liens for certain properties due to expenses incurred by the City of Millville relating to Board and Secure plus administrative fees in accordance with Chapter 11, Article VI of the Municipal Code.

Resolution No. 9-2023 authorizing adjustment to the Tax and Utility Records.

Commissioner Romanik made a motion to approve all items on the Consent Agenda, which was seconded by Commissioner Watson. The motion was carried by the following vote: Yeas: Hewitt, Sooy, Watson, Romanik and Orndorf.

Resolutions

Resolution No. 10-2023 appointing Brock D. Russell, Esquire, as Municipal Attorney. Commissioner Watson moved for the adoption of this resolution. Commissioner Hewitt seconded the motion.

Vice-Mayor Sooy, Mayor Orndorf, Commissioner Romanik and Commissioner Hewitt all stated Mr. Russell is doing an excellent job as Municipal Attorney.

The motion was carried by the following vote: Yeas: Hewitt, Sooy, Romanik, Watson and Orndorf.

Resolution No. 11-2023 authorizing the adoption of the Calendar Year 2023 Temporary Budget. Vice-Mayor Sooy moved for the adoption of this resolution. Commissioner Hewitt seconded the motion which was carried by the following vote: Yeas: Hewitt, Sooy, Romanik, Watson and Orndorf.

Resolution No. 12-2023 re-appointing Tracey Gregoire for the following positions and terms:

- a) Official Tax Search Officer- One Year Term- Expires 12/31/2023
- b) Water & Sewer Utilities Collector- One Year Term- Expires 12/31/2023
- c) Tax Collector- Tenure

Vice-Mayor Sooy moved for the adoption of this resolution. Commissioner Hewitt seconded the motion which was carried by the following vote: Yeas: Hewitt, Sooy, Romanik, Watson and Orndorf.

Resolution No. 13-2023 re-appointing Jeanne M. Parkinson for the following position and term:

- a) Official Municipal Assessment Search Officer- One Year Term- Expires 12/31/2023

Vice-Mayor Sooy moved for the adoption of this resolution. Commissioner Hewitt seconded the motion which was carried by the following vote: Yeas: Hewitt, Sooy, Romanik, Watson and Orndorf.

The City Clerk read resolution by title to amend Resolution No. 7-2022 adopted on January 6, 2022, determining the Powers and Duties of each commissioner for the purpose of transferring the following from Revenue and Finance Department to the Public Works Department:

- Sewer Utility Commercial
- Sewer Utility Distribution
- Water Utility Commercial
- Water Utility Distribution

Resolution amending Resolution No. 7-2022 was motioned by Commissioner Watson, but did not receive a second motion, therefore failed to be approved by the governing body.

Resolution No. 14-2023 awarding a Contract for the Project entitled "Sharp Street Safe Streets to Transit Project" to Lexa Concrete, LLC of Hammonton, NJ, in the amount of \$159,713.52. Commissioner Hewitt moved for the adoption of this resolution and stated he is in receipt of the

certification of funds. Commissioner Romanik seconded the motion which was carried by the following vote: Yeas: Hewitt, Sooy, Romanik, Watson and Orndorf.

Resolution No. 15-2023 awarding a Professional Services Contract appointing DeMichele and DeMichele as Prosecutor through a fair and open process in an amount not to exceed \$65,000.00 for a term commencing on February 15, 2023 through December 31, 2023. Vice-Mayor Sooy moved for the adoption of this resolution and stated he is in receipt of the certification of funds. Commissioner Hewitt seconded the motion which was carried by the following vote: Yeas: Hewitt, Sooy, Romanik, Watson and Orndorf.

Resolution No. 16-2023 appointing Bob Conner as Risk Management Consultant and awarding a Professional Services Contract appointing Mints Insurance Agency as Insurance Broker of Record through a fair and open process in an amount not to exceed \$42,900.00 for a one-year term. Vice-Mayor Sooy moved for the adoption of this resolution. Commissioner Hewitt seconded the motion which was carried by the following vote: Yeas: Hewitt, Sooy, Romanik, Watson and Orndorf.

Resolution No. 17-2023 awarding a Professional Services Contract appointing W.E. Johnson Engineering as City Engineer through a fair and open process in an amount of \$125.00 per hour not to exceed \$180,000.00 for a one-year term. Vice-Mayor Sooy moved for the adoption of this resolution and stated he is in receipt of the certification of funds. Commissioner Hewitt seconded the motion.

Vice-Mayor Sooy stated that Mr. Johnson does a great job and is instrumental in the upgrades to our water and sewer utility and in addition he will be taking over part of engineering for the planning and zoning board during the absence of one of our engineers with Mayor Orndorf seconding Vice-Mayor Sooy's sentiments and stated that she is very grateful in having him as part of the team with all the projects moving forward.

The motion was carried by the following vote: Yeas: Hewitt, Sooy, Romanik, Watson and Orndorf.

Resolution No. 18-2023 awarding a Professional Services Contract appointing Blaney, Donohue & Weinberg, PC as Labor Counsel through a fair and open process in an amount of \$155.00 per hour not to exceed \$100,000.00 for a term commencing on January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. Vice-Mayor Sooy moved for the adoption of this resolution and stated he is in receipt of the certification of funds. Commissioner Hewitt seconded the motion which was carried by the following vote: Yeas: Hewitt, Sooy, Romanik, Watson and Orndorf.

Resolution No. 19-2023 awarding a Professional Services Contract appointing Kavanagh & Kavanagh, LLC as Public Defender through a fair and open process in an amount of \$400.00 per session not to exceed \$45,000.00 for a term commencing on January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. Commissioner Hewitt moved for the adoption of this resolution and stated he is in receipt of the certification of funds. Commissioner Romanik seconded the motion which was carried by the following vote: Yeas: Hewitt, Sooy, Romanik, Watson and Orndorf.

Resolution No. 20-2023 awarding a Professional Services Contract appointing Bowman and Company LLP as Auditor through a fair and open process in an amount not to exceed \$95,750.00 for a term commencing on January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. Vice-Mayor Sooy moved for the adoption of this resolution and stated he is in receipt of the certification of funds. Commissioner Hewitt seconded the motion which was carried by the following vote: Yeas: Hewitt, Sooy, Romanik, Watson and Orndorf.

Public Comment Portion

There being no further business, Mayor Orndorf stated we have now reached the public comment portion of our meeting. Anyone who would like to address the commission, please go to the podium, state your name, and address your concerns. Please limit your comments to approximately 5 minutes.

There being no response Mayor Orndorf declared the public comment portion closed and asked if the commissioners had any closing comments.

Vice-Mayor Sooy extended his appreciation to County Commissioner's Romero and Sileo for attending the meeting this evening and looks forward to working with them on future projects.

Vice-Mayor Sooy stated that the governing body appointed the former chairman of the democratic party of Millville to the public defender position this evening noting that previously the

governing body has been accused of acting in a partisan manner when they appointed the former chairman of the republican party of Millville to a position.

Commissioner Hewitt stated that he had an opportunity to visit the Wheaton property the other day and advised that there is a lot of work going on out there.

Mayor Orndorf thanked everyone for their support noting that it is nice to hear keep up the good work and stated that it has been a pleasure working with her fellow commissioners and she looks forward in working with Commissioner Watson as well.

Adjournment

There being no further comments the meeting was adjourned subject to the call of the chair. All were in favor. None were opposed.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeanne M. Parkinson, RMC
City Clerk