

Cape May considers suspending pile-driving prohibition

By **JACK FICHTER**
Cape May Star and Wave

due to the disturbance it creates, but a current state ban on nonessential construction could delay piles from being driven here until after Labor Day for new

construction.

Gov. Phil Murphy's executive order on nonessential construction limits essential projects to hospitals, schools, any federal, state, municipal or county project, any single-family home construction that is under way, where a contractual date exists for someone to occupy the dwelling, and building infrastructure for road improvements, according to City Manager Jerry Inderwies.

New guidance from the state Department of Community Affairs states that for any project that is deemed essential, either the owner or general contractor must contact the city Con-

struction Office and prove why the project is essential to continue, he said. The regulations continue until further notice.

At an April 21 City Council meeting, Inderwies said the regulations could prevent pilings from being driven for a new home. He reminded council Cape May has a moratorium on pile driving and demolition of structures from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

He suggested council look at the issue with the COVID-19 pandemic in mind. Some property owners have been delayed in their start date to construct a home.

"It could be a financial burden for them or a con-

tractual issue with a contractor," Inderwies said.

Deputy Mayor Patricia Hendricks suggested a grace period with regards to pile driving. Inderwies said if a property owner wanted to begin building a home, if the executive order was lifted, the regulation would prevent pile driving until after Labor Day.

He suggested council consider temporarily suspending the pile driving clause in the city ordinance.

Hendricks said property owners could lose their in line process with their builder due to the pile driving prohibition. She noted neighbors within 200 feet of pile driving must be given

notice by letter.

Helical pilings may be driven for a home in the historic district or a home contributing to the historical district throughout the summer, she said.

City Solicitor Frank Corrado said council could pass a resolution extending the date for driving pilings. He said as long as the governor's executive order is in place, pilings could not be driven for a new house.

Hendricks suggested council monitor the issue and address it at its May 5 meeting.

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Special to the CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE
The Cape May-Lewes Ferry food and retail department donated this truckload of food to the Gleaning Center Food Pantry in Lower Township. The pantry serves Lower Township and coordinates with other pantries in Cape May County.

Ferry donates truckload of food to food pantry

NORTH CAPE MAY – The Cape May-Lewes Ferry's (CMLF) food and retail department team recently donated a truckload of food supplies to the Gleaning Center Food Pantry at Seashore Community Church of the Nazarene in Erma.

The provisions included a variety of items such as frozen foods, canned goods, bottled beverages, as well as individually wrapped packaged items such as soup, cereal, oatmeal, crackers, and cakes.

"Our ferry family feels it's important to give back to our neighbors and local communities when we have an opportunity to do

so," Heath Gehrke, director of ferry operations, said. "I want to thank Shaun O'Brien and his food and retail team for developing and coordinating this effort. We'll get through these trying times together!"

"What a blessing," Pastor Tim West of the Seashore Community Church of the Nazarene said. "The ferry's donation is an example of the community working in unity and allowing us all to better serve the needs of Lower Township together."

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the CMLF food service operations – both on the vessels and inside the terminal – have been

shuttered since March 18. The ferry's food operation had many products in stock that wouldn't be used for the foreseeable future. Instead of returning the items for credit, the ferry's food and retail team coordinated with its suppliers to donate the food provisions locally.

Prior to the COVID-19 outbreak, the pantry was serving approximately 10 to 15 families each day. The past few weeks, the demand has increased nearly three-fold, with 30 families served on April 15 alone. A list of items needed at the pantry will be posted on their web site, www.sccnaz.com. For those interested in donating

food items to the pantry, please contact the church office in advance by calling (609) 886-6196.

Established in 2001, the Gleaning Center Food Pantry, which is located at 446 Seashore Road – serves the residents of Lower Township and coordinates with regional pantries for needs throughout Cape May County. It is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m. to noon.

Cape May meters are off until further notice

By **JACK FICHTER**
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CAPE MAY – City Council approved a resolution temporarily suspending parking meter fees throughout the city.

An initial resolution suspended meter operation around the Washington Street Mall until further notice on Carpenter's Lane, Lyle Lane and Mansion Avenue. Council amended the ordinance to include all of Cape May.

At an April 21 council meeting, Mayor Chuck Lear said meter kiosks on the mall continued to be covered by bags. He said the initial resolution did not address meters in the rest of the city.

Councilman Zack Mullock suggested meters remain off citywide until council's May 5 meeting. Hotel/motel accommodations and short term rentals are prohibited in Cape May until May 22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Inactive parking meters could change if Gov. Phil Murphy makes modifications to the current stay-at-home order on May 15, City Manager Jerry Inderwies said. He said he would adjust the parking meter suspension accordingly.

City Solicitor Frank Corrado asked if the city was currently receiving any meter revenue. Inderwies said some meters had their components installed which may cause some drivers to inadvertently feed the meter.

Corrado said suggested amending the resolution to cover all of the city.



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Masks donated

A resident anonymously donated 250 surgical masks to the City of Cape May April 23. Mayor Chuck Lear, left, and City Manager Jerry Inderwies maintained social distancing while receiving the masks.

TIDES: April 30-May 6, 2020

DATE	HIGH		LOW	
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
29	12:32	1:15	7:09	6:54
30	1:30	2:22	8:09	8:02
1	2:37	3:33	9:12	9:14
2	3:47	4:39	10:12	10:24
3	4:53	5:37	11:08	11:28
4	5:54	6:31	12:00	
5	6:49	7:22	12:28	12:50
6	7:43	8:11	1:24	1:39

MOON PHASES
First quarter: April 30, full moon: May 7

CITY OF CAPE MAY RECYCLE COLLECTION NEW SCHEDULE

Due to the COVID virus, the City of Cape May Public Works Department has changes to the recycle collection schedule.

RESIDENTIAL AND BUSINESS RECYCLE COLLECTION WILL BE COLLECTED EVERY OTHER WEEK.

THE RECYCLE DROP-OFF CENTER IS OPEN: Monday thru Friday – 8:00 am to Noon Closed Saturday and Sunday

Curbside Leaf & Grass pickup starts April 15th, 2020

CITY OF CAPE MAY PUBLIC WORKS
830 Canning House Lane, Cape May, NJ 08204 609-884-9570