

# City proposes raising parking lot fees

By JACK FICHTER  
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — City Council introduced an ordinance that would double the annual parking permit fees at the city-owned Jackson Street lot and more than double the fees for the Bank Street lot.

At Jackson Street, which is limited to 50 permits, the fee would increase from \$350 to \$700. At Bank Street, which is being increased from 225 to 300 permits, the fee would rise from \$150 to \$350.

During a council meeting Sept. 7, City Clerk Erin Burke said parking meter rates were raised a few years ago but the annual

parking permit fees were not increased. She said the city was potentially losing money on the parking permits compared to collections from parking meters.

Councilman Chris Bezaire said the meter rates doubled for the Jackson Street parking lot but the parking permit fees remained the same. He said Jackson Street lot is specific to a particular license plate for permit parking and not to be used for transient rental or employee parking.

"It's meant to try to help any residents in the center of town that don't have parking," Bezaire said.

The Bank Street lot is not tied to one license plate, so it is able to be used for

rental tenants or employees, he said.

Councilwoman Lorraine Baldwin said she believed increasing the parking permit fee for the Jackson Street lot from \$350 to \$700 was excessive, especially since the lot is used by employees working at the Washington Street Mall and renters who have no parking spaces.

Bezaire said his business rents parking spaces next to Dellas' at \$1,500 per space and there is a waiting list of 10 to 12 businesses. Burke said the city has a long waiting list for annual permits for both the Jackson Street and Bank Street parking lots.

"I think this is a micro-

cosm of a much larger problem," Bezaire said. "There's permits and fees as MTRAC (Municipal Taxation and Revenue Advisory Committee) has pointed out that have been on the books for 15, 20 years that haven't changed."

He said fees needed to be addressed by council after being overlooked for years.

Deputy Mayor Stacy Sheehan said there always seems to be empty parking spaces in the Bank Street lot.

The ordinance states parking permits are to be hung from the rear-view mirror of vehicles rather than being placed on the dashboard. The number of parking permits for a city owned lot will be limited to 10 for any individual or corporation or other entity.

## Murphy to speak at Gaming Conference in A.C.

ATLANTIC CITY — Gov. Phil Murphy will return as a keynote speaker for the 24th annual East Coast Gaming Congress & NexGen Gaming Forum, scheduled for Oct. 25-26 at Harrah's Waterfront Conference Center.

Murphy will be the luncheon keynote speaker Oct. 26, when he will address New Jersey's policy on a variety of critical issues facing the gaming industry.

Murphy continues a long-standing tradition that commenced in 1996 of governors of New Jersey addressing the East Coast's leading industry conference in Atlantic City, the capital of East Coast gaming.

"This is the third keynote address by Gov. Murphy at the East Coast Gaming Congress. He is a longstanding champion of gaming as an effective public-policy tool, and his policies will affect the industry around the world," said Lloyd D. Levenson, CEO of the Cooper Levenson law firm and a founder of the conference. "New Jersey has long been a leader in gaming policy, and Gov. Murphy is determined to maintain that leadership role."

The first governor to address the conference was the late Brendan Byrne, who championed gaming in Atlantic City at a time when Nevada was the only state in the nation to offer legal casinos. Subsequent

governors have included James Florio, Jon Corzine and James McGreevey.

Gaming operators, equipment manufacturers, regulators, attorneys, architects, analysts, public officials, investors and other gaming-related professionals are expected to attend the ECGC.

The full two-day conference schedule and registration are available at ecgc.us. Early-bird registration savings are now available.

For more information, email [dvecere@cooperlevenson.com](mailto:dvecere@cooperlevenson.com).

### TIDES: Sept. 15-22, 2021

DATE	HIGH		LOW	
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
15	3:39	4:14	9:25	10:33
16	4:52	5:19	10:34	11:34
17	5:55	6:17	11:37	
18	6:49	7:08	12:27	12:33
19	7:36	7:53	1:15	1:24
20	8:19	8:35	1:58	2:10
21	8:59	9:15	2:38	2:54
22	9:37	9:53	3:15	4:18

### MOON PHASES

Full moon, Sept. 20 • last quarter, Sept. 29

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