

Dollar

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Councilman Bill Murray was concerned about voting for a resolution that was not yet drafted. "Could we have a resolution made available and vote on Jan. 4," Murray said, referring to the first meeting date of the new year. "We want to do it now because it is negatively

affecting shore towns," Wichterman said. "I don't see why you wouldn't vote for it." Murray said he would abstain, not because he didn't support the resolution, but because he did not want to vote for something he heard about only three minutes earlier. Murray said he wanted to see the resolution before he voted on it. Councilwoman Terri Swain

also abstained from the vote citing a possible conflict of interest. Meanwhile, city could introduced Ordinance 223-12-2010 to raise the price of a weekly (8-day) beach tag from \$13 to \$15. City officials said the cost of a weekly tag, which is good Saturday through Saturday is only \$3 more than a weekend tag, which is good for only three days. The

increase should raise an additional \$45,000 in revenue for the beach utility. Pre-season sales of seasonal beach tags have been ongoing since Dec. 1. The pre-season price is \$15. Two options are available: a limited edition 100th Anniversary of the Cape May Beach Patrol tag, or the one designed by Angelica Yeager, 8th Grade student at the Teitelman

School. The weekly tag design winner was Sean Jacoby, also in 8th Grade at Teitelman. City council also introduced Ordinance 224-12-2010 to create a mileage charge for the city's ambulance service. The ordinance would add an \$8 per mile fee to the \$500 base fee for an ambulance ride. Mahaney said concerns about this discouraging people from using the service

were allayed after reviewing the records for ambulance service over the past year. He said insurance companies would pay most if not all of the extra charge. He said any out of pocket expense would be a maximum of about \$17. A public hearing on the above ordinances will be on Jan. 12 at 10 a.m.

Angered

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publication in the Star and Wave, The Herald, on the League of Municipalities website and the township website. Beck said the contents of the ad and the requirements of applicants should have been discussed in a work session. "Why did (the advertisement) say the applicant needed 10 years experience and not five?" Beck said as an example. "Things like that should be decided as a group and not through email." The ad says a "New Jersey Certified Public Manager preferred with a minimum of 10 years experience in New Jersey government." "I made a commitment to open government, and I plan to stick with that commit-

ment," Beck said. "I fail to see the rush in doing this," Beck said, "it should have been discussed tonight as a body." Lare referred to the Dec. 1, 2008 closed session meeting, when Township Manager Kathy McPherson was re-appointed to the position. He said Beck had discussed McPherson's status as a township manager before that closed session meeting with other council members, so there shouldn't be a problem with him discussing an advertisement with other council members outside meetings. Beck said the situation Lare referred to was entirely different because every council member at the time was on board with keeping McPherson in the township manager position. "We were not advertising at

that time for a manager because we already had Kathy," Beck said. "This still needs to be discussed in closed or open session, not on the Internet." Council discussed whether the email correspondence between council members was a violation of the Open Public Meetings Act. Township Solicitor Tony Monzo said it must be a personal conversation between two members. He said when township business is discussed between more than two council members outside of a closed or work session meeting, it becomes a violation. The emails sent regarding the advertisement were forwarded to Lare, Beck, Douglass, Conrad, and Simonsen. Lare, Douglass, Conrad and Kammer were

the individuals who responded to the emails. During the public portion, Lower resident Janet Pitts told council that too many items on the agenda are taken into closed session on a regular basis and she did not agree with how council is going about finding a new township manager. "There is so much going on in the background," she said. Resident Fred Long said it was unethical to discuss municipal matters through email and not in public. He felt they violate the Faulkner Act and the Open Public Meetings Act. Lare said the ad ran first on Dec. 15 and the deadline for accepting resumes was set for Dec. 23, just eight days after publication. He said there were enough responses already and there was no

need to accept anymore. "We've been receiving four or five (resumes) a day during that time," he said. "Emails are a convenient way to get a job done," Mazurek said, "but there is a fine line between good emails and bad emails." Mazurek said he agreed with Beck in that government business such as this should be done in public or as a governing body. "The issue is there was no public vote or meeting on the matter," he said. "That ad cost the public money." Several residents thanked Mazurek during the public portion for his service to Ward 2, that meeting being his last before he officially retires. All the council members wished him well in his retirement and greatly appreciated the honor and privilege

of serving with him. They awarded Mazurek with a plaque at the beginning of the meeting. "We have a great township here," Mazurek said, "and it will always be my home." Mazurek recently complained about being left out of the loop as a lame duck councilman. Two weeks ago Mazurek said he was not informed prior to a closed session meeting that McPherson was being asked to sign an agreement to stop work on March 4, 2011. McPherson's contract with the municipality ends Dec. 31, 2011, but with accrued leave time she planned to stop working June 30, 2011. At the Dec. 13 meeting she signed an agreement with the earlier stop work date.

Angered

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Sorantino said the inspectors asked if the CMPD could continue to run the program needed to maintain accreditation. "My first thought was yes. We had received accreditation and went through re-accreditation. We had to

prove we were doing the work for three years," she said. Sorantino said she also told the inspectors she had the support of the governing body, which helped them maintain their accredited status. Sorantino had personal praise for Police Sgt. John Bobik, who served as the accreditation manager for the CMPD. Bobik, she said, became sergeant in 2006 and has since tested for lieutenant. She said his test

scores placed him number one in the department and county, and number two or three in the state. "He represents the future of this department," Sorantino said, also naming other officers present - Detective Sgt. Tony Marino, Patrolman Nick Gallaccio, and Patrolman Scott Krissinger. Sorantino said she thought with the re-accreditation it would be fitting to give Bobik an award for his work. Bobik received the Exceptional Duty Award, which Sorantino

pinned on him at Tuesday's city council meeting. Bobik expressed his appreciation saying, "I couldn't have done this alone. If I didn't have good people working for me my job would be so much harder. But these officers live up to professional standards - everyone pulls their weight." Bobik described the accreditation process as brutal. "They look into every aspect," he said.



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