The previous three administrations didn’t do it – I don’t know why, and we don’t know why, and the council didn’t as well. It’s a good effort to try to figure out what they’re going to do. Without a lot of time trying to figure out why it’s not going to keep people from coming to Cape May,” Cape May Fire Department Fire Chief Dennis Crowley said.

Cape May Star and Wave

By JACK FICHTER

City elementary adopts a budget with no tax hike

CAPE MAY — The city’s elementary school approved in 2021-22 budget with an increase in the local property tax rate.

The elementary school’s budget is $1.8 million. The 2021-22 tax levy rate is 6.1 cents per $100 of assessed value. That drops to 5.9 cents per $100 of assessed value for the 2022-23 fiscal year.

Business Administrator John Thomas said that the school’s tax levy will increase by 1 percent, or $1,818,000, due to the city’s 2 percent increase for the city’s full budget.

Enrollment in October 2020 was 123 students. Enrollment for October 2021 is projected to be 130 students. Estimated State aid is down by $82,727 with adjustment and falling $15,235. A law passed in 2018 modifies school funding to eliminate a local property tax adjustment and reduces the school’s federal COVID-19 aid from $292,000 to $92,000.

Instruction expenditure, which includes teacher salaries, is 41 percent for instructional services, 17 percent for facilities, and 6 percent for special education.

When the elementary school district averages $24,474, the state’s per-pupil expenditure.

“Obviously, since then we’ve had COVID-19 and maybe the thought would be that we want to open it up more to more outdoor-oriented vehicles,” he said.

Sheehan said the last time the city put out an RFP was 2014. The city received only one bid due to strict requirements. She suggested removing the requirement for zero-emissions, vehicles powered by green technology.

By JACK FICHTER

Bids sought for public transportation

Sheehan argues RFP too restrictive, wants items removed

CAPE MAY — The city is seeking bids to provide summer jitney service in Cape May City.

On May 4, City Council authorized competitive contracting to provide the service with the cost of the contract to be between $20,000 and $25,000.

Rebates for Cape May City Elementary School will be $1,818,000 for transportation services until the end of the fiscal year.

Sheehan said the RFP must be non-profit entities. City solicitor Chris Gil-Schwartz said the RFP is only draft that reduces the previous request for proposals that was given to the city in 2014.

Mayor Zack Mullock said City Council would support repairing the museum building in conjunction with construction of the new fire station.

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