County vows to fight offshore wind project
‘We cannot quietly sit by as hundreds of windmills are installed off our beaches’

By DAVID NAHAN
Cape Play Star and Wave

CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE – The Cape May County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously Tuesday to formally oppose the Ocean Wind 1 offshore wind farm and the Danish company’s adjacent proposed wind farm, Wind 2, and threatening legal action.

The board unanimously rejected a proposal to approve the project to that end Tuesday. May 23, implying the wind farms will harm the marine environment, tourism and, potentially, real estate values.

The resolution, No. 34-23, is available at http://www.co.cape-may.nj.us. For pages with reasons why the county is taking this action.

“At first, the County of Cape May was interested in trying to work with Ocean to find a way to mitigate the potential for modifications to the project to any visual, environmental and economic impacts,” Commission Director Len Dudi- erio said in a release issued by the county. “We would like Ocean to meet with local officials and stakeholders in-stead, since that would create good opportunities for trade work and others. But we cannot sit quietly by as hun-dreds of windmills are installed off our beaches and the state and federal government agencies ignore their legitimate and ser-vice concerns.

“As time went by, it became clear that Ocean was not in-tending to find any com-promise and their partners in the state and federal govern-ments is to build these things as fast as they can, so they can then focus on devastating environ-mental and economic impacts. On behalf of the people of Cape May, we will not let that happen without a fight.”

The resolution said county and municipal officials first had to work with Ocean to address two issues two months ago on May 24, 2021, but the company did not change the viability of the proj-ect, which could mean the lat-est wind turbines visible from every beach in the county.

The situation occurred in meeting in January 2022, according to the resolution.

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West Cape May nixes sewer expansion plan

Borough Commission: Most owners don’t want it, say septic working fine

By JACK FICTCHER
Cape Play Star and Wave

WEST CAPE MAY – Borough Commission has declined not to expose sanitary sewer service to homes on Second Avenue and parts of Sunset Bou-levard and Third Avenue as those homes are comprised of 68 preven-ces with an assessment costs of $41 million.

During a meeting Monday May 23, Borough Commis-sioner George Dick said he read letters from resi-dents concerning the pro-posed expansion “four of dear.”

At the end of the day, what I think we are not most of the people have been working septic as a whole and everybody has access to septic,” he said.

Dick said the borough is not prepared to fund the expansion on its own and it is clear from the letters that homeowners are not willing to share the cost.

During a Borough Com-mission meeting Jan 26, author Leon Costello said an estimate for the sewer expansion totaled about $1.6 million. He said the borough could pass a local improvement ordinance to raise enough money from a general or tax, allowing it to as- sass the affected proper- ties for a portion or all of the costs.

Costello said the borough could take a bond anticipation note for the cost of the project, it’s over eight to 10 years and owe the money that was assessed to each of the homeowners to help pay for the note. Depending on how

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City signs 25-year lease with ELTC for church

By JACK FICTCHER
Cape Play Star and Wave

Cape May – City Council finalized a 25-year lease with East Lighthouse Torres (ELTC) for use of the Al- lied AME Church.

At a May 16 council meeting, councilman Toddler, president of ELTC’s board, said the lease will be used to fund the group’s projects.

The state Senate, Saturday night to allow Sunday worship services and allows the theater company more programs in the shoulder season and more freedom in design and set choice.

She said ELTC would like to see “the church’s doors open to the public” and “will fully look into the possibility of making changes.”

Every step, every change, every lightbulb will be in place only be- cause it has been part of an ongoing conversation, she said.

With our new partner, the city of Cape May, she said “To that end, East Lymen has hired Robin Conley as our architect on the project.”

The outcome of the church’s new home in the Allied AME Church also allows us to do the job of preserving and honoring the legacy of a Black church, a Black community and a special historical sup-port of Cape May’s history,” ELTC’s New Artist’s Director, Craig Field said it was made clear the the-a-ter company would be working in partnership with the city and sharing

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Should city use surplus or save for a rainy day?

Chairman: Account tripled to $12.4 million since 2016

By JACK FICTCHER
Cape Play Star and Wave

Cape May — With $12.4 million in surplus and $1.4 million saved this year’s budget, is Cape May saving too much that may not be used for other purposes?

This topic was discussed May 15 during a meeting of the Taxation and Revenue Advisory Committee.

MTTRAC Chairman Don-legger said that the city’s revenue has changed in three years.

The city’s property tax is the city’s revenue comes from property taxes, 17 percent from the sur- plus fund and 27 percent from local revenue such as license fees and rent tax.

“The really what we have been looking at for the last two years,” he said “Why is it that we do our dollars, absolutely, are generated in local rev- enues.”

Crawley said most of the city’s revenue changed in 25 years.

The resolution said county and municipal officials first had to work with Ocean to address two issues two months ago on May 24, 2021, but the company did not change the viability of the proj-ect, which could mean the lat-est wind turbines visible from every beach in the county.

The situation occurred in meeting in January 2022, according to the resolution.

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County marks Memorial Day

The Cape May County Board of Commissioners held a Memorial Day ceremony on Monday. Speakers included County Com-missioner Donald L. Decker, Ralph Leverone, LSPC (warren), F42HH (warren), and Warren D. Judge, captain, Commanding Officer, USCG MS366, Cape May County Commiss-ioner Jeffrey L. Persson, BGA USA (ret), above, was the emcee.