**Safety building cost estimates too expensive**

City Council postpones public meeting on plan

By Jack Fichter

Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — City Council’s meeting schedule was altered Monday as a result of new concept plans for a non-public safety building that were postponed after initial estimates for the building were too high.

According to Mayor Chuck Lear, initial estimates for a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project came in at $18 million to $122 million. He said the construction costs to bring the Cape May Maritime Complex into the 21st century would be reduced.

According to Councilman Zack Mullock, he and Councilman Shane Meier voted to hold the meeting despite the estimate being high construction costs.

He stated the meeting was canceled by a 3-2 vote with Lear, Deputy Mayor Patricia Whitney and Councilman Shane Meier voting to cancel the meeting.

“Councilman Sheehan and I believe that it is outrageous to cancel a public meeting due to ‘numbers being higher than expected,’” the public has a right to know.”

–Councilman Zack Mullock

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The numbers received are — work in progress by the committee under the leadership and advice of the city manager, the architectural firm and their choice of professionals.”

–Councilman Shane Meier

**Councilman Sheehan**