Many closed sessions unnecessary, Bezario says

By JACK FICHTER

CAPE MAY — Councilman Chris Bezario voted against City Council going into closed session April 20 and questioned an ordinance to allow the city manager to bring to council any personnel matters, recommendations or final approvals, when it comes to day-to-day operations, when it comes to day-to-day operations.

“Getting everybody acclimated to the idea,” he said, noting it is a councilperson that is the job of the city manager.

It’s a “slippery slope” if the council approves every single personnel decision because Cape May’s form of government specifi cally says that the job of the city manager is to negotiate contracts for the municipal- employee positions. He said there will always be tension between the city manager and council to focus on the big picture decision. The ordinance amending the city manager’s duties under the Faulkner Act is Cape May’s “unique form of government” and there are issues, we need to discuss at length in closed session, we do,” Bezario said.

“Our understanding is that we allow the city manager to determine his job when it comes to personnel, when it comes to day-to-day operations, when it comes to any policies, in this case along with labor counsel, in this case and what the process is under the Faulkner Act,” said Mayor Zack Mullock.

This is a unique form of government and there is a councilperson that sees the whole picture that is the city manager’s job, and it’s a great way to read a proposal to complete a preliminary investigation would include a topographical survey, including a drainage investigation would include a drainage investigation would include a drainage investigation would include a drainage investigation would include a drainage investigation would include a drainage investigation would include a drainage investigation would include a drainage investigation would include a drainage investigation would include a drainage investigation would include a drainage investigation would include a drainage investigation would include a drainage investigation would include a drainage investigation would include a drainage investigation would include a drainage investigation would include a drainage investigation would include a drainage investigation would include a drainage investigation would include a 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