# City Council approves IT contract, vehicle purchases

By JACK FICHTER Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — City Council approved a contract for information technology (IT) services and the purchase of a recycling truck, street sweeper and beach tractor.

Council approved an \$8,500 IT service contract Council for City Hall with Barber Consulting Services.

The contract calls for complete network maintenance, installation of the latest service packs and fixes, spyware removal and prevention, backup maintenance and installation and configuration of servers. PCs and any other needed

uty Mayor Lorraine Baldwin said the IT contract runs from July 1 to Dec. 31 with the entire payment due at

functions At a July 3 meeting, Dep-

the start of the agreement. Lower HPC

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provide matching funds.

that place what it should be,

Mayor Frank Sippel said he spoke with Police Chief

Kevin Lewis and patrol cars are regularly stopping at the

property. He said the HPC

asked for dumpsters on the property but said he be-

lieved it was too much work for a volunteer commission.

Works will clear a portion

of the lot, according to the

mayor. Sippel said plaques

would be placed on the

Tell said she would assist

Councilman Tom Conrad

'I want this done; I wanted

the township in applying for

said some projects have been

put aside since the township

this done years ago," he said.

The county will be cel-brating its 250th birthday

in three years, Tell said.

Conrad acknowledged the

Foster House was in existence before America was a

According to the New Jersey Historic Trust, the Foster House is significant as a well-preserved, first period, heavy timber frame building that features exposed beams, original flush board

walls and several original

was remodeled around 1830

in the Federal style and re-

tains chair rails, mantels and

door trim that resulted from

the remodeling. It is one of

the few remaining struc-

tures from the first period

in the area originally known

as Fishing Creek in Lower

The house's main block

had a large tax increase.

house

nation.

fireplaces.

Township.

grant funds.

The Department of Public

behind it.

City CFO Kevin Hanie said the payment acts as a sort of bank applied to the time the service provides to the city. He said any of the \$8,500 remaining at the end of the year would roll over

City Manager Mike Voll said the Cape May Police Department has used Barber Consulting services. He said he was pleased with the service they provided to Lower Township when he served as city manager for that municipality.

Hanie said there would be no charges beyond the \$8,500 payment.

Voll said the city is exploring using Comcast as the telephone service provider to City Hall since the current system is failing daily.

He reported all lifeguard stations were staffed on the oceanfront. Voll said the

Cape May Beach Patrol and emergency medical services were very busy over the July Fourth weekend.

Council approved purchase of a new street sweeper for the Department of Public Works at a cost of \$355,380, a recycling collection truck priced at \$206,961 and a beach cleaning tractor for \$194,175.

As part of its agreement to lease vehicles from Enterprise Leasing, the city received five Polaris off-road utility vehicles, Voll said, as well as three new pickup trucks. Six hybrid police vehicles are on the way.

He said the city is still short of summer employees. Pre-recorded messages have begun over the city's expanded beach public address (PA) system. Voll said

held at 6 p.m. daily. During public comment,

a flag ceremony would be

former councilwoman Stacy Sheehan asked about a bill the city received for a \$30,000 application fee from the state Division of Land

Resources. Mayor Zack Mullock said the fee covered permits for beach showers and future expansion of lifeguard headquarters on Beach Avenue.

He said expansion of lifeguard headquarters was far in the future.

"We wanted to add at least the outline of beach headquarters," Mullock said.

The expansion of the building would move it closer to the ocean in depth, he

'We're asking for a few more feet to push out," Mullock said.

Currently, 46 percent of the beach patrol is staffed by women. Lifeguard headquarters lacks a sufficient locker room and showers for

female lifeguards.

Voll said no plans have been created for the build-

ing expansion. 'We plan on having a police station next year and in the future, I guess next would be to do a beach patrol headquarters," he said.

Sheehan said the city becollecting recycling based on the cost of outsourcing the service as being too expensive. She said the city purchased a recycling truck less than three years ago.

Trash pickup leads to the greatest number of worker's compensation claims, Sheehan said. Councilwoman Maureen McDade said the new truck picks up the

"It's becoming more challenging to even get trash pickup here on the island. We've had one vendor in particular go out of business very quickly," she said.
"There are other businesses right now who are even unwilling to take on any more

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Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

The Lower Township Historic Preservation Commission is concerned that restoration work has stalled at the Judge Nathaniel Foster House.

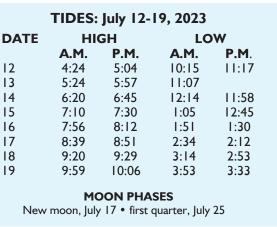
as a justice of the peace for almost 30 years.

Foster was an early justice in the county whose son fought in the American Revolution. He was appointed justice of the peace for Cape May County in 1739. When he died in 1769, he left his

and to his grandson, Reuben, the son of his deceased son, George.

The Foster House remained in ownership of the original family until 2006 when Isabella Foster Sakewicz passed away. The Cape May County Historical and property to his son, Salathiel, Genealogical Society bought

the property and stabilized the house. The county Open Space Program then bought it and leased it to Lower Township, which promised to restore the house over the next decade either as a wellpreserved Colonial period home or township historical





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