Cape May creates parking committee in 3-2 vote

By JACK FICHTER

Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — In a 3-2 vote, City Council approved the creation of a Municipal Buildings and Property Advisory Committee with the goal of reviving traffic flow and parking issues in the city.

The enabling resolution states an innovative and assessment of the city’s traffic flow and parking space is needed. It notes three issues: beachfront, residential and business commercial.

The advisory committee consists of people representatives of business interests including dining, lodging and shipping areas joined by interested residents, according to the resolution.

The committee consists of Chairperson Robert Lamon- delli, Vice Chair Brian Furlin, Robert Miller, Mark Asher, Andrew Buyx, Rob- ert Hewill, Mark Kilkenny, James Terzis, Laura Shad- dock, Harley Shuler, Dimo- thy Walsh and Council- woman Patricia Hendrieks (in- clusion to council). During a meeting May 15, Councilman Roger Furlin, who voted against the resolve, said Councilwoman Rea Pessagno, said originally the Buildings and Prop- erty Advisory Committee was targeted with coming parking. He said earlier Mayor Chuck Lawl told him he wanted to form a sepa- rate committee. Furlin said the council would keep the Buildings and Property Advisory Committee in existence and parking. He said the mayor met with the com- mittee and opened a building to the public so that it would be moved to handle the work. It was created and forth with, Furlin said and understood, why although the majority thinks this separate commitee would be more effec- tive,” Furlin said. He selected the members of the commitee. Lawl said he reached out to the people who are new to town.

Pessagno said she and Furlin did not have input on selecting members of the new committee. She said in the past year, they had not been asked to add one per- son to any committee. “When a committee is formed, everyone of us should give names in and give them a shot,” Pessagno said. She said she was satis- fied to the Faulkner Act, which guides Cape May’s form of government. “I’ve been approached by many people who are feeling that those committees are not diverse enough,” she said. “Perhaps the council has two or three committees and they have not been asked to serve on any.” Pessagno and Furlin are subject to re-election this November.

According to the enabling resolution, the commit- tee is tasked with reviewing available traffic and parking issues in the city. It also makes a master plan and related documents. The committee should understand the park- ing concerns of year-round residents, tourists, beachgoers, hotel owners and innkeepers and staff and mall merchants.

“Exploring the availability of the mayor with funding to create additional parking spaces and making improvements to existing surface parking are stated in the committee’s mission as well as reviewing parking meter policies,” the committee will review and make recommenda- tions on parking-related issues in the city. The committee will continue to meet in current update. Public comment will be sought.

Empty lot eyed for parking.

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Moving forward, we know that if we’re going to have free parking in that area, people that work in town, work at City Hall or other places, will be parking in that area.

–Deputy Mayor Shaine Meier

He said there were issues with the former Vance’s Bar section that was purchased with Blue Acres and Green Acres funding, which allowed very little land. Also due to contamination, several feet below the ground’s surface. He said Vance’s would be able to help with ex- cavation for light pole or staff.

Miller suggested going forward for a large surface parking lot at Lafayette Street Park.

Full moon, May 29 • last quarter, June 6

MOON PHASES

TIDES : May 23-30, 2018

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