

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2026 – 6:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – CITY HALL
CITY OF OCEAN CITY, NEW JERSEY**

ATTENDANCE: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Crowley, Mr. Hartzell, Mr. Levchuk, Mr. Madden, Mr. Polcini and Mr. Winslow. Present also was Mayor Gillian, Business Administrator, Mr. Savastano and Solicitor, Ms. McCrosson.

Council President, Mr. Crowley called the meeting to order and asked everyone to rise for the flag salute and moment of silence. Mr. Crowley announced that adequate notice of this meeting has been given pursuant to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

REPORTS – MAYOR & ADMINISTRATION:

Mayor Gillian provided full and detailed report that can be found on the city's website.

CITIZEN COMMENT:

No one wished to speak on any agenda items.

REPORTS – CITY COUNCIL:

Mr. Winslow informed everyone that the boardwalk subcommittee is having a public meeting on February 7th at 10:00 a.m. at the Ocean City Library in the lecture hall. The discussion will include an overview of data that has been collected. He emphasized that no recommendations will be made at the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Crowley asked for a motion to adopt the regular city council meeting minutes of Thursday, December 18, 2025. Motion moved by Mr. Winslow, seconded by Mr. Madden. All ayes followed with the exception of Mr. Polcini who abstained.

ORDINANCE – SECOND READING & PUBLIC HEARING:

Mr. Crowley asked for a motion to take up Ordinance No. 25-17 on second reading. Motion moved by Mr. Winslow, seconded by Mr. Barnes. All ayes followed. The clerk read the title of the ordinance aloud. **Ordinance No. 25-17 – An Ordinance Amending Chapter 25, Zoning and Land Development, Article 800 Zoning Board of Adjustment § 25-800.1 Establishment, Membership and Organization of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Ocean City**

Solicitor, Ms. McCrosson provided an explanation on the ordinance. Mr. Crowley opened the meeting up for public comment and no one wished to speak. Mr. Crowley closed the public comment portion of the meeting and asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 25-17 on second reading. Motion moved by Mr. Winslow, seconded by Mr. Levchuk. All ayes followed.

RESOLUTION – NON-CONSENT:

26-01. A Resolution Adopting the 2026 Budget of the Special Improvement District of the City of Ocean City

Mr. Savastano provided an explanation on the resolution. Mr. Crowley opened the meeting up for public comment and no one spoke. Mr. Crowley closed the public comment portion of the meeting and asked for a motion to adopt Resolution No. 26-01. Motion moved by Mr. Polcini, seconded by Mr. Winslow. All ayes followed.

RESOLUTIONS – CONSENT AGENDA:

26-02. A Resolution Opposing the Inclusion of New Offshore Oil and Gas Leasing Off the Coast of New Jersey in the 11th National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program

26-03. A Resolution Authorizing the Advertisement of City Contract #26-03, Emergency Medical Billing Services for the City of Ocean City

26-04. A Resolution Authorizing the Advertisement of City Contract #26-14, Supply & Delivery of Boardwalk Lumber

26-05. A Resolution Authorizing the Advertisement of City Contract #26-15, Demolition of the Public Safety Building Located at Block 805, Lot 6

26-06. A Resolution Authorizing the Award of City Contract #26-12 R-1, Downtown Street Light Improvements from 6th Street to 7th Street to Delta Line Construction Company

26-07. A Resolution Authorizing a Contract between the City of Ocean City & AETNA Health Insurance Company "AETNA" as the Provider of the Medicare Eligible Retiree Group Health Care Program

26-08. A Resolution Authorizing a Contract Between the City of Ocean City & AmeriHealth Insurance Company of New Jersey "AmeriHealth" as the provider of the Employee Health Care Benefit Program

26-09. A Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of McMahon Agency as the City of Ocean City's Risk Management Consultant

26-10. A Resolution Authorizing Change Order #3 to City Contract #24-20, Construction of the Ocean City 8th Street Police Substation with Weatherby Construction & Renovation Corp.

26-11. A Resolution Authorizing Change Order #1 and the Final Acceptance and Final Payment to City Contract #24-39, Haven Avenue Basketball Court & 35th Street Tennis Court Improvement to Landberg Construction, LLC

- 26-12. A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Shared Services Agreement Between the City of Ocean City and the City of Sea Isle, Cape May County, New Jersey for Plumbing Sub-Code and Inspections
- 26-13. A Resolution Authorizing the City of Ocean City to Enter into the New Jersey Purchasing Alliance #CK04 through Bergen County Cooperative Pricing System for the Purchase of Various Goods & Services for the Calendar Year 2026
- 26-14. A Resolution Authorizing the Usage of Contracts with the Camden County Educational Services Commission Cooperative Pricing System #66CCEPS for the Calendar Year 2026
- 26-15. A Resolution Authorizing the Usage of Contracts with Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ) #65-MCESCCPS Cooperative Pricing System for the 2026 Calendar Year
- 26-16. A Resolution Authorizing the City of Ocean City to Enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission Cooperative Pricing System #34HUNCCP
- 26-17. A Resolution Authorizing the Usage of Contracts with Certain Approved State Contract Vendors for Contracting Units Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12(a) & N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.29(c) for the 2026 Calendar Year
- 26-18. A Resolution Consenting to the Mayor's Appointment and Reappointment as Members to the Healthy Living Advisory Council
- 26-19. A Resolution Consenting to City Council's Appointment of Jason Walsh as an Alternate I Member and Anthony Verde as an Alternate II Member to the Environmental Commission
- 26-20. A Resolution Authorizing a Cash Management Plan for the City of Ocean City
- 26-21. A Resolution Authorizing the Tax Assessor to File Tax Appeals on Behalf of the City of Ocean City
- 26-22. A Resolution Establishing Interest Rates for Delinquent Tax Payments and Other Municipal Charges
- 26-23. A Resolution Authorizing Transfers of Appropriations Reserves of the 2025 Local Municipal Budget Per N.J.S.A. 40A:4-59
- 26-24. A Resolution Deferring School Tax to 2026
- 26-25. A Resolution Providing for a Temporary Budget for the City of Ocean City, New Jersey for Fiscal Year 2026
- 26-26. A Resolution Authorizing the Release of Performance Guarantee for a Construction Project at 3117 Central Avenue, Block 3101, Lot(s) 8, Project #23-015PBA
- 26-27. A Resolution Authorizing the Release of a Maintenance Guarantee for a Construction Project at 4061-63 Asbury Avenue Block 4002, Lot 1; Project #22-001ZBA
- 26-28. A Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Claims

Mr. Crowley asked for a motion to adopt the consent agenda. Motion moved by Mr. Winslow, seconded by Mr. Madden. All ayes followed.

PENDING BUSINESS:

No pending business was discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Crowley said that he understands that being on city council can be challenging. He spoke highly of Mr. Polcini and he encouraged him to run again for At-Large in May.

Mr. Polcini said that he takes his faith very seriously. Also, he said that he has made decisions while on city council based on what is right and best for the city. He thanked Mr. Crowley for his kind words and for his encouragement.

CITIZEN COMMENT:

Bill Hartranft – 728 Battersea Road – spoke about the lot at 16th and Haven and also commented on the future of the boardwalk.

Susan Cracovaner – 156 Asbury Ave – read aloud a statement on behalf of Ocean City 2050 regarding 600 Boardwalk.

Dave Hayes – 641 Battersea Road – spoke about the vote that took place at the planning board last night regarding 600 Boardwalk.

Marie Hayes – 641 Battersea Road - spoke about the vote that took place at the planning board last night regarding 600 Boardwalk.

Jim Kelly – 137 Wesley Ave – presented council with signed petitions from Ocean City 2050 regarding the Wonderland Pier property; it is a petition urging city council and the planning board to reject declaring the area 600 Boardwalk in need of rehabilitation and to rely on the subcommittee and master plan process to determine the future of the boardwalk.

Jackie Murphy – 925 Brighton – said she is not in favor of a hotel being built at 600 Boardwalk.

Heather Kneble – Business Owner (Boardwalk and Asbury Ave) – said that she is in favor of a hotel being built at 600 Boardwalk.

Susan Pinkerton – 846 Fourth Street – suggested possible grant opportunities to help enhance the look at 600 Boardwalk while decisions are being made about what should be done with the site long term.

Nancy Notaro – asked for an update on the 3% room tax ordinance.

ADJOURN:

Mr. Crowley asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion moved by Mr. Winslow, seconded by Mr. Madden. All ayes followed. Meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Melissa Rasner

Melissa Rasner, City Clerk