

**REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
October 27, 2022**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Johnston with a salute to the flag. Roll call was recorded as follows:

Present: Bruno, Dill, McCarrie, McGuigan, Owen, Johnston

Also Present: Mayor Glasser, City Administrator Frost, City Clerk Samuelson, City Solicitor Thomas Smith, and City Engineer Greg Schneider

Absent: DePamphilis

Open Public Meetings Act:

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided to two local newspapers. The agenda has been posted at City Hall and on the City's website, somerspointgov.org.

Proclamations:

Mayor Glasser stated he is proud of the achievement and wished the girls the best of luck in future endeavors.

Council Member McGuigan mentioned the Somers Point Hockey program has a long history and that these children are shining examples. He mentioned this proves they can do anything.

No. 8-2022

No. 8 of 2022

Recognizing Natalie Keenan and Tatiana Santiago, Local Girls U12 Champions of the 2022 Ball Hockey Future Stars Invitational

WHEREAS, USA Ball Hockey organizes international ball hockey events across the world. It is known as the Olympics for ball hockey; and

WHEREAS, USA Ball hockey introduced a younger feeder program in the USA and created the Future Stars Invitational, of which several states participate including New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS, this began as a boys only event; however, last year they introduced U16 girls and this year added a girls 12U division for the first time; and

WHEREAS, this year, three tryouts were held for the girls' teams and two local athletes from Somers Point made the team, Natalie Keenan and Tatiana Sanitago; and

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WHEREAS, in previous years, New Jersey has had several Championship appearances but has never won; and

WHEREAS, this year, the U12 Girls went undefeated posting five shut outs, including one game that went to a twelve round shoot out; and

WHEREAS, the Girls U12 went on to win the Championship held in Buffalo, NY, on August 26-28 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Somers Point, on behalf of themselves and our community, hereby congratulate Natalie Keenan and Tatiana Santiago, as well as the entire U12 Team for an undefeated season and applaud the team on the Championship win; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council wish these individuals continued success in all of their future endeavors, both athletic and otherwise.

Special Presentations:

Eagle Scout Carson Endicott presented a project request to add benches and a knee wall at the site of the Richard Somers Monument site. Mayor and City Council discussed the project and agreed to move forward.

Communications:

Council President Johnston read several letters received by City Council regarding short term rental properties, some in support and some in opposition.

Council President Johnston also mentioned a letter she received from Mr. Collins regarding paid parking on Bay Ave. This person believes it should stay, and the fee should be raised.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Glasser gave kudos to Chief Somers and his Secretary Kate Mackenzie for their hard work organizing the Trunk or Treat event. Mayor Glasser also mentioned the Horsepower by the Bay Event that had a great turnout. Mayor Glasser announced a Veteran's Day service at Patriots Park on 11/11. He also warned a coastal flood advisory is in effect this evening.

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Administrator's Report:

None

Solicitors Report:

None

Engineers Report:

Engineer Schneider reported the two projects, 2022 Stormwater Repairs Phase II and Exton Road Pump Station that were previously rejected have been designed to reduce costs and are being rebid. The results should be available at the next meeting.

Committee Reports:

Council Member Dill reported there will be a meeting with Administration, City Clerk and Code Enforcement to discuss Short Term Rental licenses, specifically mercantile licenses, fees, inspection and enforcement procedures. The outcome will be reported to the Short-Term Rental Council Committee.

Council Member Owen reported the Historical Society in conjunction with the Patriots for Somers Mansion held a successful haunted tales event at the Mansion. He mentioned the event is growing every year.

Council President Johnston reported the Parking Committee met and recommended that a decision not be made until further research is completed.

Council Member Dill would like suggested the signs be covered during the off season to avoid confusion.

Approval of Minutes:

On the motion of Council Member Dill, seconded of Council Member Bruno and carried to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of 10/13/2022.

Ordinances:

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None

Resolutions:

None

Public Portion Resolutions:

Council President Johnston duly opened the meeting to the public. Hearing nothing from the public, the public portion was duly closed.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Council President Johnston reported health insurance will have a 23% increase for 2023. She mentioned the City is doing everything possible to alleviate the pressure this will put on the 2023 budget.

City Council unanimously approved a Social Affair Permit for All Saints Council Knights of Columbus for an event on 11/10/22 from 6-11 PM.

Discussion of Bills:

Administrator Frost reported a Bill List dated 10/25/2022 in the amount of \$180,303.71.

Public Portion:

The meeting was duly opened to the public.

Ed O'Donnell of the Econo Lodge mentioned an epidemic of rudeness in society. He encouraged everyone to treat each other with kindness and respect.

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Greg Sykora of Horter Avenue thanked Council Member Dill for concentrating on short term rental licenses.

Bill Collins of Bay Avenue would like to keep Somers Point business friendly and would like to keep short term rental licenses.

Dale Premish of Village Drive mentioned his concerns with a property on his street.

Patricia Pierson of Marks Road is concerned about the health insurance increase and its effect on the budget.

Peg Brady of Bucknell Drive had questions about the status of the Exton Road Pump Station project. She recommended more speakers in the Council Chambers.

Hearing nothing further from the public, the public hearing was duly closed.

Payment of Bills:

M/S: McCarrie/Bruno

The Bill List was approved by a unanimous vote of those present. A complete list of bills is on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

Comments from the Governing Body:

Mayor Glasser reported Trick or Treat will be held on 10/31/22 from 6-8 pm. He wished everyone a happy and safe Halloween.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before City Council, Council Member Owen moved, Council Member McCarrie seconded and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy R. Samuelson, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Approved: 11/10/2022