

June 5th, 1962

A meeting of the Mayor and City Council of Ocean City was held in the Municipal Building on Tuesday evening, June 5th, 1962, at 8:15 o'clock.

This meeting was delayed until 8:15 due to a film showing the reconstruction of Ocean City after the storm on Channels 2 and 16.

The members presents were Mayor Cropper and Councilmen Harman, Jackson, Kelley, McCabe and Showell.

The meeting was called to order by the President of the Council, Harry W. Kelley.

A representative group of property owners from the area of 34th, 35th, 36th and 37th streets came to this meeting with reference to the demolition of the storm damaged Jamaican Motel.

Some of those present were Mr. and Mrs. Alger Abbott, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. William F. Waller, Mr. Charles Holland, Mr. Richard Bell, Mr. Richard Bernard Taylor, Mr. Jerne Ebbess, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore McKeldin, Jr., and others.

Mr. Abbott was the spokesman for this group and stated that they wondered if they were considered a part of Ocean City - publicity goes out to the effect that Ocean City is reconstructing after the storm damage and that accomodations, etc. are better than ever, but that nothing has been done to remove the storm damaged motel that is an eyesore, a hazard and a detriment to their properties.

They all spoke with reference to their difficulty to rent their properties due to this building. They spoke of its danger and the possibility of a small child going into the ruined building and being the victim of a falling wall or building member.

These people were told that the Mayor and Council were very much interested in their problem and felt that it was the town's problem as well. It was stated that the building had been declared a liability rather than an asset by the owners, the Taylor Brothers, and that they had given the Mayor and Council permission to destroy, raze, or any other thing they deemed necessary with the building.

Mr. Williams had advised that it would be necessary to obtain releases from each of the creditors so that the Mayor and Council could have a priority lien against the property to cover the costs of demolition.

Each of the creditors had been sent a letter and a release and some of them have not returned them to date. One of the reasons for not having returned them was because they wanted to know the costs for demolition

A meeting with the creditors is scheduled for Thursday, June 14th, in order to obtain these releases so that the demolition of the building can be accomplished.

The fact that this building is a hazard and a danger to lives was brought out and the fact that it seemed that it would be legal to proceed with the razing of the building without having to go through the red tape of getting releases, etc. was imposed.

Mr. Williams stated that he had gone into the matter and he felt that the way that was being pursued was the only way to go about it to protect the town. He welcomed advice from other attorneys that may come up with a better plan.

A method of expediting this was discussed and it was suggested that the creditors be called by Mr. Kelley and Mr. Williams tomorrow morning to see if they can obtain from them a verbal release by explaining to them the urgency and if all of them agree, work can commence immediately.

Mr. Harman suggested that a surety bond be obtained to cover the town in the event any of the creditors felt that their interest in the building had been destroyed. Mr. Williams called Mr. Nichols of the Ocean City Real Estate & Insurance Agency with reference to such a bond and he stated that he would contact his home office to find out from them and he would meet with Mr. Williams in the morning.

Those persons present in interest of the removal of this building were told that definite steps would be taken the first thing Wednesday morning to expedite this so that the building can be removed as soon as possible.

A beer, wine and liquor license for the property of Gabriel Farone, under the name of Bill's Peppermint Lounge, was approved.

Mr. William J. Ahtes, a Mr. Bailey who is the proposed operator of a heliport on Mr. Ahtes' property, and their attorney, Mr. Smethurst, attended this meeting with reference to the proposed heliport on the property of Mr. Ahtes.

It was brought out that there had been a public hearing conducted last night in the Municipal Building by the State Aviation Commission on Mr. Ahtes' application

for a heliport and that there had been no one there to protest.

The fact that the town has an ordinance in effect that prohibits the landing and taking off of any aircraft within the corporate limits of Ocean City and also that the zoning ordinance would also have to be amended had been brought out at this hearing by the clerk.

Mr. Smethurst stated that he would like for the Mayor and Council to repeal Ordinance No. P-53, which prohibits the landing and taking off of aircraft within the corporate limits, and to also amend the zoning ordinance to permit a heliport at the proposed location.

He further stated that the State Aviation Commission had asked them to get these matters straightened out with the town and submit evidence of this and they would then make their decision on their application.

Mr. Bailey talked at length about his previous operations, his proposed operations, the establishment of a residence within this area and conducting a sight seeing attraction here that he thought would be beneficial to the town. He also cited uses of his craft in rescue purposes and stated that he would want to help out whenever such an emergency arose.

Mr. Bailey stated that he planned to run a certain flight pattern at a certain height and that he felt that this would not be objectionable to anyone and that the pattern would allow for safety in landing in the event of forced landing.

Mr. Bailey stated that he planned to operate during the daylight hours only. He would operate in strict accordance with the rules of the State Aviation Commission and Federal Aviation Administration. He stated that he would also plan to do agricultural work with the craft.

Mr. McCabe asked Mr. Bailey if he planned to have charter service as well as sightseeing operations. He replied that he would not do any charter work other than perhaps from Ocean City to the Ocean City airport.

Mr. Ahtes stated that he had approximately ten acres of land that he was not using and was having to pay taxes on it and he wanted to have the heliport in order to realize an income from the unused property.

Mayor Cropper stated that he didn't realize that they were planning to operate a sightseeing operation but thought that they intended to use the heliport for transportation of passengers from Baltimore, Washington and other points. He stated that he would like to think over the matter before passing his opinion as he felt that the property owners should be advised of the proposal.

Mr. McCabe stated that he felt that they should be given a chance to operate the heliport.

Mr. Harman stated that he could see nothing wrong with such an operation.

Mr. Jackson asked Mr. Bailey if he had connections with any other airport and Mr. Bailey stated that he is operating at an airport in Pennsylvania and is giving instructions in flight and has sightseeing trips on weekends.

Mr. Kelley stated that Mr. John P. Whaley had called him protesting the operation of the proposed heliport due to the noise and that other property owners residing on Mallard Island had also contacted him making their protest.

It was finally suggested that an advertisement be published in the Eastern Shore Times amending the zoning ordinance to allow a heliport at this proposed location and that a public hearing be conducted two weeks from this evening to hear those who were interested in the proposed amendment, both pro and con. In the meantime Mr. Bailey is to bring his helicopter here and make a number of flights over the proposed flight pattern to let the residents know the extent of the noise that will be caused and give them an opportunity to determine whether or not they will object.

Mr. Williams was asked to proceed with the publication of this proposed amendment.

Miss Elizabeth Laws and Mrs. Naomi Bell came to this meeting at the request of the Mayor and Council to explain the Information Center's affiliation with Cann-Miller, an advertising agency. At last week's meeting it had been brought up that the agency was trying to collect their commission for the advertising placed by the Mayor and Council for the tabloid section of May 20th. It had been supposed at that time that the commission would be paid by the Information Center or the Mayor and Council.

Miss Laws explained that all advertising placed at certain rates was through Cann-Miller and that each of the newspapers paid their commission directly to them.

It was brought out that the rate charged for the tabloid section was higher than that being paid by the Information Center and it was thought that the rate should have been the same.

Miss Laws stated that she would welcome the audit of the Information Center accounts and felt that an audit should be made each year.

Other matters pertaining to the Information Center were discussed. Expenditures of advertising through the Mayor and Council's office other than newspaper, etc. Advertising expenses incurred for bill boards, band concerts, and other community promotion projects brings up the total advertising costs to approximately \$50,000. of which the Information Center spends around \$20,000.

It was suggested that all newspaper advertising be handled by the Information Center in the future.

It was suggested that all advertising be handled through that office rather than split up between the tow offices as is now being done.

Mrs. Bell stated that a great deal of the expense that the Information Center was absorbing was for stationery, stencils, and other supplies that were being used by other departments.

Mr. Russell Cullen came to this meeting with reference to the replacement of a sidewalk on the south side of Fourth street abutting the Shoreham hotel. He stated that the Clerk had called him and had told him that he felt that the replacement should be at his expense inasmuch as it had been removed by him. He explained that he had only removed a small portion of the ramp and that equipment removing sand from the streets after the storm had demolished the balance of it.

The Clerk explained that he had thought that it had all been removed by Mr. Cullen inasmuch as he had wanted to change the grade of the ramp so that he could have an entrance into his building. He stated that he had removed the portion to provide for this entrance and that the state had replaced the ramp at a grade suitable to him.

The clerk stated that he felt that it should be fixed correctly which would necessitate the removal of an existing concrete walk that is too high and the replacement of concrete up to the new ramp.

It was thought that this costs would be too much at this time and it was suggested that the area be replaced with used boardwalk lumber for the time being.

Mr. Cullen stated that many members of the Chamber of Commerce had complained about people coming into Ocean City, sleeping in their cars, using the town's facilities and dressing and undressing in their cars, etc. He stated that they had suggested that a toll be imposed on all that enter Ocean City over the bridge and that when they stopped at a hotel or motel the toll would be paid back to them. It was thought that this could not be done.

An ordinance prohibiting the dressing and undressing in cars was suggested.

Mr. R. A. Drennan of the State Aviation Commission came to this meeting. He read a petition from an airline company to the State Aviation Commission asking permission to conduct within the state of Maryland at certain airports a new classification of air service.

Mr. Drennan had talked with Mr. Blackwell on this date with reference to his financial problems. He stated that Mr. Blackwell had stated that he would be unable to go through another winter like the one that he has just gone through. He stated that he is planning to stay on an operate the airport through this summer and he hoped to recoup and pay up some of the debts that he has incurred.

He had stated that he would operate the airport at a salary of \$85.00 per week and the Mayor and Council would collect for the sale of gasoline and for tie-down charges.

It was also brought out that if Mr. Blackwell was to give up his lease, a person could be hired on a temporary basis to handle the sale of gas, oil, etc.

The Mayor and Council decided that this matter would deserve some consideration and they would go into it at a later date.

Clerk presented a statement from the American Shore & Beach Preservation Association covering corporate membership dues for the period May 1 to April 30. Renewal of this membership was approved.

A letter from Mr. and Mrs. George F. Dudick was read by the clerk. This letter was with reference to the razing of the Jamaican Motel and that they are unable to rent their apartments due to its condition.

A license application for George H. Davis to have a camera on the beach and streets was approved.

On motion by Harman, seconded by Jackson, the following vouchers were approved for payment:

The meeting adjourned on motion at 12:00 midnight.

Vouchers written since last council meeting and signed by Treasurer or Mayor:

#31943	- Texaco, Inc. - Gasoline	123.10
#31944	- Bank of Ocean City - Income Taxes withheld from wages for month of May and deposited	1,397.78
#31945	- Employees' Retirement System - Social security deductions and employer's contribution for May	958.93
#31946	- Arthur Pitts - Carpentry - partition in Police Barraks	13.20
#31947	- Leroy Cropper - " " " n "	22.00
#31948	- Charles Clark - " " " "	24.75
#31949	- Pay roll week ending 5/31/62	4,343.23
#31950	- Bank of Ocean City - Coupon Interest - General Improvement Bonds of 1957	1,387.50
#31951	- W. Scott Wallace - Postage for meter	99.00
#31952	- The Tingle Printing Co. - Printing forms for maintenance reports of vehicles and equip.	60.00
#31953	- George Bert. Cropper - Statement for month of May	49.40
#31954	- Hastings Esso & Body Shop - Repairs to fire truck fender	15.00
#31955	- Void	
#31956	- Earl E. Conley - Building bench on piling at 12th street and 50% cost of sidewalk abutting his property	172.23
#31957	- William D. Rayne - Clay fill hauled from 4/30 to 5/28/62	4,544.00
#31958	- Erma Hudson - Rental of truck - May 21 thru June 1	275.40
#31959	- The Adkins Co. of Ocean City - Statement for period 4/30 to 5/22	101.90
#31960	- Roland F. Scott, Inc. - Police Uniform pants	210.00
#31961	- S & S Hardware - Statement for May	395.63
#31962	- Elliott's Hardware - Statement for May	72.45
#31963	- M. P. Davis - Statement for May	52.87
#31964	- The Adkins Co. - Statement for May	30.50
#31965	- Gordon, Florist - Spray for Goss funeral	15.45
#31966	- Raymond Wilson - Statement for May	5.50
#31967	- J. J. Rayne & Son - Plugs and batteries	4.00
#31968	- Eastern Shore Times - Publication - Resolution 117 - May 10	
#31969	- Jim's Bridge Amoco Service... and 17 ..... May statement	28.75 22.31
#31970	- Victor Adding Machine Co. - Rental of machine	17.50
#31971	- J. T. Roberts & Bro., Inc. - Speakman piston unit	2.89
#31972	- Acme Stores - Wipe off cloths for fire trucks	4.27
#31973	- The Eastern Shore Public Service Co. - Current - bulleting on Rte. 50	11.51
#31974	- Reese Layton - Expenses in New York at Outdoor show	120.00
#31975	- George R. Clark & Son - Rental of front-end loader	40.00
#31976	- McCabe's Sinclair Service - May statement	11.40
#31977	- Salisbury Office Supply Co. - Service on Underwood typewriter	8.25
#31978	- Charles Hammond - Bulkhead across 23rd street	1,000.00
#31979	- Southern Oxygen Co. - Demurrage on cylinders	1.20
#31980	- Cropper & Brittingham - May statement	202.09
#31981	- Ocean City Machine Works - May statement	143.60
#31982	- Mrs. Dorothy Taylor - 50% cost of repairing sidewalk	35.25
#31983	- Dixie Sign Co., Inc. - Misc. signs painted	61.80

Pay Roll W/E 5/31/62

Less Social Security  
Less Federal W/H  
Less State W/H  
Less Police Fund

5057.11  
158.17  
500.70  
47.01  
8.00  
4343.23

Wages on Weekly Basis  
Wages on Hourly Basis

3658.39  
1398.72

5057.11

DISTRIBUTION OF WAGES ON WEEKLY BASIS:

10.141	Clerks	273.47
10.811	Municipal Bldgs.	50.00
10.911	Advertising	128.99
11.111	Police	2049.99
11.212	Fire Depts.	31.35
12.201	Streets	301.95
12.901	Boardwalk	43.75
13.201	Sewers	150.63
13.301	Clean Beach	41.59
13.401	Waste Collection	17.73
19.201	Life Guards	79.86
20.201	Water	140.45
20.901	Trailer Park	75.00
20.911	Comfort Station	182.86
20.941	Beach Parking Lot	20.77
	Clean Up	<u>70.00</u>

3658.39

DISTRIBUTION OF WAGES ON HOURLY BASIS:

10.811	Municipal Bldgs.	48.00
11.111	Police Dept.	4.05
11.212	Fire Dept.	65.25
12.201	Streets	280.21
12.901	Boardwalk	127.63
13.201	Sewers	71.25
13.301	Cleaning Beach	66.03
13.401	Waste Collection	613.18
19.201	Life Guards	13.13
20.201	Water	40.15
20.901	Trailer Park	5.20
20.931	Airport	49.39
20.941	Beach Parking Lot	<u>15.25</u>

1398.72

5057.11

Mayor Cropper announced that he understood that the County Commissioners had denied an application made by James Cropper for a beer, wine and liquor license. It was thought that inasmuch as his business does cater the negroes, it would be well to request the county commissioners to reconsider.

Mr. Showell stated that Mr. Leo Santos had contacted him with reference to replacing a section of sidewalk in front of his property on Talbot Street. Mr. Legg was asked to look into this to determine if the replacement was advisable.

Clerk was asked to have fill hauled and placed beneath bridge to allow for parking.

Mr. Kelley asked that the large concrete slab on the property of Eric Dott be removed.

It was suggested that two members of the council be appointed to look after the needs and requirements of the life guards and the maintenance of the beach. It was decided that Mr. Kelley would have the area from ninth street north and Mr. McCabe the area from north ninth street south.

It was announced that the County Commissioners were going to have a talk with Dr. Waesche and Mr. Meadows regarding their demands of the property owners in requiring certain type sinks, etc.