

July 2nd, 1962

A meeting of the Mayor and City Council of Ocean City was held in the Municipal Building on Monday evening, July 2nd, 1962, at 7:30 o'clock.

This meeting was called for this evening due to the eve of the 4th being on Tuesday and each of the members of the Mayor and Council would be busy with their operations.

Mayor Cropper and Councilmen Kelley, McCabe and Showell were present. Harman and Jackson were absent.

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

The minutes of the meeting of June 26th, 1962, were read and approved.

Mr. Maurice Wilkins came to this meeting at the request of Mayor Cropper. At last week's meeting it was brought out that several complaints had been received about the operation of a game that he has on the boardwalk and at that time it was decided that Mayor Cropper and Mr. Kelley would talk with Mr. Wilkins regarding this, however, Mayor Cropper decided to have in come before the council.

Mr. Wilkins described the operation of the game and stated that he had taken it to the State's Attorney's office and he had ruled that it was legal.

Mr. Wilkins was told that if any more complaints were received, they would have the police investigate and see that the complaints are founded and give him a chance to a rebuttal.

Mr. Joseph Harrison, Mrs. Lois Harrison, and their sons, Hale and Joe, came to this meeting with reference to the operation of an umbrella concession on the north side of N. 19th street. Mr. Lynn Engh was also present.

Mr. Harrison stated that Hale Harrison had operated at this location last year and had notified the Mayor and Council by letter last February that they wanted their same locations. In the meantime, Lynn Engh had contacted the property owners and had obtained permission from them to have a concession there. Mr. Engh had notified the office of the Mayor and Council that he had obtained permission and that permission in writing would be forthcoming from the property owners, which was received on June 7th.

Mr. Harrison stated that he did not feel that the method of granting locations at streets as practised by the Mayor and Council was fair and that others should be given consideration.

Mr. Kelley explained to them the purpose of granting locations in this manner.

It was brought out that Mr. Engh had received permission and this had been confirmed to the clerk by Mr. Harry Miller.

Mr. Harrison stated that he had also talked with Mr. Miller and he had stated that Hale had as much right there as Engh and later he called him and he stated that he would rather not become involved in the matter.

It was finally decided that inasmuch as Mr. Engh did have permission from the property owner, he would be allowed to maintain this location, unless he wanted to arbitrarily release it to Hale.

Mr. Roland Murray came to this meeting with reference to the unkempt premises of Josie and Maria's at 17th street and St. Louis Ave. He described the condition and asked that the Mayor and Council urge the property owners to clean up the premises and stress that they must keep them in such good condition.

Mayor Cropper stated that he had been to the site today and had talked with them. He said that they had constructed an addition to the building and that they had their garbage cans enclosed within the new area. He said that they had promised to clean up before the end of the week.

It was suggested that the Police Department warn them and tell them to clean up.

Mayor Cropper stated that Mr. Hugh Wilde had talked with him with reference to having dances on Sunday evenings at the Pier Club for teen agers. He said that he would talk with the pastors of the various churches and get their opinion, and if they thought that it would be for the good of the community, then they would consider letting them have dances on Sunday evenings.

Mayor Cropper stated that Father Stout had talked with him with reference to King Fish Street which abuts the church property north of 17th street. Clerk was asked to have Mr. Legg look into this and see what is required.

Mayor Cropper stated that he had been trying to get more clamming areas in the bay approved by the Health Department and had representatives of the department here recently in connection with this.

Mayor Cropper stated that he had received a letter from an irate mother concerning conditions on the beach. The fact that the life guards are not policing the beach as they should was brought out and it was suggested that Mr. Craig be asked to attend the next meeting of the Mayor and Council so that he can be instructed as to what is required of the guards.

Mr. Showell stated that he had met for three hours today with the Worcester County Sanitary Commission with reference to acquiring land for the site of the new disposal plant. He stated that the meeting was held at the office of Charles Holland. They had plats of an area located near 62nd street located west of Seabay Avenue and consists of marsh land. Another location at 72nd street is also being considered. He stated that this commission wishes to meet with the Mayor and Council on next Tuesday.

Mr. Showell stated that Mrs. Engh had called him with reference to 17th street and wanted the Mayor and Council to do something to correct the erosion, etc. Clerk stated that Mr. Legg was working on this and wished to install a drain so that the water would run through the drain rather than surface drainage which does erode. The fact that this street will be bulkheaded in the fall was brought out.

Mr. Showell also stated that Mrs. Engh had complained about the timing of the traffic light at 17th street and Philadelphia Ave. The time is not long enough to enable pedestrians to cross Philadelphia Ave. after the button has been pushed to change the light. Clerk was asked to see if this can be changed.

A letter had been received by the Mayor and members of the council with reference to a Children's Theatre Association appearing in Ocean City and wanting a sponsor. It was decided that the Mayor and Council would be unable to sponsor this at this time due to lack of funds, and a reply to the letter was urged.

Mr. Kelley stated that during last Sunday's rain, the LaGrande Hotel ground floor had been inundated by the storm water. He stated that the water seemed to come from the alley and run on their property. Clerk was asked to have Mr. Legg look into this to see what can be done.

Mr. Showell stated that he understood that it would be necessary for the City to change its charter in order to participate in the construction of the sewerage facilities with the county.

The meeting adjourned on motion at 9:45 P. M.