MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS MEETING CITY OF REHOBOTH BEACH

June 6, 2011

The Workshop Meeting of the Mayor and Commissioners of the City of Rehoboth Beach, was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Mayor Samuel R. Cooper on Monday, June 6, 2011 in the Commissioners Room in City Hall, 229 Rehoboth Avenue, Rehoboth Beach, DE.

City Solicitor Glenn Mandalas gave the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioner Bill Sargent

Commissioner Pat Coluzzi
Mayor Samuel R. Cooper
Commissioner Dennis Barbour
Commissioner Stan Mills
Commissioner Lorraine Zellers

Absent: Commissioner Kathy McGuiness

Also in attendance was: City Manager Gregory Ferrese

City Solicitor Glenn Mandalas

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence will be read when that particular order of business is taken up.

Mayor Cooper noted that three years ago, the City joined eleven other communities in Delaware through the Delaware League of Local Governments to start a pool for workman's compensation. The City has engaged in this joint policy with other municipalities and has been a member since its inception. As part of the joint policy, a safety committee was formed, and Mr. Bill Woods of the Wastewater Department has been the representative for the City on that committee which meets monthly. At the last DLLG meeting, Mr. Woods was given an award for outstanding participation on that committee specifically for bringing back some of the ideas and implementing them. Mayor Cooper thanked Mr. Woods for all he does for the City.

OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Cooper called to discuss a Tree Initiative for the City of Rehoboth Beach with the goal of maintaining and increasing the tree canopy on a neighborhood and city-wide basis.

Commissioner Bill Sargent gave his presentation. A photograph was shown of the massive tree canopy along Columbia Avenue. He thought it is incredible that the City has so much greenery. What is being looked at is not just trees, but something that is greater than trees; it is the culmination of all the trees, and it creates a concept of canopy. There is not near as much canopy on the south side of the City, but there are a number of spots with beautiful canopy. A photograph was shown of the tree canopy along Norfolk Street. An aerial photograph was shown from Google Earth in July 2010 which shows the various tree canopies in the City. The purpose of his presentation was to get a dialogue going about increasing the tree canopy density throughout the City. The current citywide canopy coverage is 32%. American Forests, previously known as the American Forest Association, is one of the nation's oldest conservation organizations and is one of the leading conservation organizations in the United States. Goals set by American Forests east of the Mississippi are for every town to have 40% canopy, suburban residential zones to have 50%, urban residential zones to have 25% and central business districts to have 15%. Commissioner Sargent presented copies of historical photographs of the City from 1925, 1931, 1936 and mid-1950's. These photographs are part of a collection at the Hagley Museum. The tree canopy was dense in 1925. The canopy the City once had can never be replaced; but Commissioner Sargent's dream is to have more tree canopy all through the area of the City. The initiative is to make an extended effort: 1. Extend the tree inventory to all trees on both public and private lands. 2. Set neighborhood goals for tree canopy density and for the number of trees. 3. Develop a plan for purchasing and planting trees. Arborists are needed to implement the plan. 4. Develop a plan for maintaining the health of existing and new trees. The Commissioner need to have a strong program and find ways of communicating and

convincing all the groups in the City that this what they want to do. Major considerations would be: 1. State involvement. 2. Incentives to homeowners to participate. 3. Substantial private funding. 4. Effective communications. 5. Strong community support from all levels such as the Mayor and Commissioners, Park and Shade Tree Commission, Planning Commission and CDP, groups of interested residents [e.g. Scarborough Avenue Extended, Save Our City (SOC), Save Our Lakes Association (SOLA3), homeowners' associations (e.g. Rehoboth and Country Club Estates), and other groups (e.g. Main Street, Rehoboth Beach/Dewey Beach Chamber of Commerce, VIA)]. This will make the program more sustainable and will leave a legacy. The first part of the initiative is for the tree inventory to cover the entire City. The 2010 public tree inventory done by Davey Tree resulted in 1,523 trees being inventoried. One hundred twenty new trees were planted in Spring 2011, and 42 new trees will be planted in Fall 2011. The information which has been gathered for the current inventory is: 1. Exact location of the trees [GPS coordinates]. 2. Genus of the trees. 3. Common name of the trees. 4. Size of the trees [diameter at breast height (dbh) and s/m/l (small/medium/large tree)]. 5. Health of the trees. The estimated additional trees for parks and public properties are 1,200 and 18,000 for private properties. The approximate total of all the trees would be 21,000, and the estimated cost of extending the inventory is \$45,000.00 to \$60,000.00. The City might be able to receive funding by next fall. Commissioner Sargent would like to see the inventory of the trees in preparation for building a plan that leads to an extended canopy.

Mr. Bryan Hall of Office of State Planning Coordination, Mr. Kyle Hoyd, Urban Forestry Program with the Delaware Forest Service and Ms. Marcia Fox, Urban Forestry Educational Outreach Coordinator with the Delaware Forest Service were in attendance at the meeting.

Mr. Bryan Hall said that this is an ongoing effort. As discussed in the past, the City is looking at the control of invasive species. There will be additional rounds of funding to be utilized for the inventories. The next step would be to begin discussing policies and setting the actual goals. This is an ideal time to talk about the next steps in regard to what should be done with public vs. private, additional housekeeping measures needed to be taken as far as education and outreach as well as a code which may need to be discussed as part of the policy and development of the next steps. Mitigation monies will be available, and this program qualifies for those monies. Controlling invasive species would directly tie to the ongoing 2011 federal budgetary process. Some of the departments within the State are beginning to receive some of the federal narratives, and those narratives describe the monies which will be made available to them and how they can utilize them.

Mr. Kyle Hoyd said that from the Delaware Forest Service's standpoint, it will try to provide additional funding for the City to help continue this program. Commissioner Coluzzi noted that the Comprehensive Development Plan talks about preparing a community forest program, and there are very specific things in the CDP which the Commissioners would like to address in moving forward. She thought that this might fit in as well as the pilot program. Mr. Hoyd said that the City is one of four communities that the Delaware Forest Service is working with on this pilot program. The only other community in Sussex County to work on this pilot program is South Bethany of which it is doing a small scale project.

Mr. Hall acknowledged that the City was the first municipality in the State of Delaware to have a tree ordinance which preserves trees on private property and a permitting process.

Mayor Cooper asked if the City is applying for a grant with regard to getting control of invasive species in Central and Deer Parks. Ms. Marcia Fox has applied for a grant through the US Forest Service in development of cooperative regions and combating invasive species as it relates to the forest and fuels as well as some other grants. She would like to talk to the Commissioners regarding the FY11 grant, as soon as she receives information with regard to it.

Mr. Hall said that if the City was given the opportunity to receive funding for this project, some of the actions to be taken would require some outreach; and there would also be some activities which would not be occurring during the peak of the season. Professionals have met with Mr. Hall, Ms. Fox and Mr. Hoyd to give evaluations and recommendations on what the plan might be and look like, and give timelines and costs associated with it.

Mr. Tim Spies, 53 Columbia Avenue, said that the Commissioners need to make sure that the initiative is not intended to take away or diminish the current tree ordinance. Commissioner Sargent said that the tree ordinance is vital to maintaining the health of existing and new trees. Mr. Hall said that the Delaware Forest Service reviews all policies, regulations and ordinances which are essential at any given level to help sustain the different initiatives along with public outreach.

Mr. Richard Kirchhoff, 34 Sixth Street thought that a private property tree inventory was done in the late 1990's prior to the tree ordinance. Mayor Cooper said that the University of Delaware students were looking at

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setbacks, types of structures, etc.

Mayor Cooper called to discuss recent enforcement of the sign/flag ordinances.

Commissioner Barbour provided a list of businesses that have been visited regarding flag/sign violations. The concerns he has are: 1. Who was involved in the policy determination that this is the direction to move ahead in. 2. Clarification for the Commissioners of what the chain of command is within the City. The Commissioners need to know how they are supposed to proceed in the event that something comes up and what the logical chain of command is.

Mayor Cooper thought that there was never a decision to not enforce these things. The City did not have the people who were committed to enforcing these things. Building & Licensing personnel responded to complaints and very often enforced these very same issues. Mayor Cooper has seen it as increasing problem throughout the City. It was going from a casual thing to a rather constant thing with the flags, signs, banners, etc. Mayor Cooper had spoken with the City Manager and other Commissioners, but mostly the City Manager to say that he thought it was time to have someone whose responsibility is for the enforcement of these things and who has the time to commit to it and is in the City in the evenings. One of the huge things is to be out there when the issues are occurring. Building & Licensing personnel does not work at night. Mayor Cooper did not think the police, as good a job as they do, ever saw these types of things as its issues. It was discussed at the budget meetings, was put in the budget and was carried through.

Commissioner Barbour recalled that hiring a Code Enforcement Officer grew out of the discussion about the noise ordinance. It was his understanding that one of the pieces to resolving the noise issue was to hire someone who would be working at night to monitor noise and be trained in that. That person's principal role was to do that. Commissioner Barbour said he had asked that the individual be introduced to the businesses in the City before the summer season started as a gesture of goodwill. The first time Commissioner Barbour had heard of the Code Enforcement Officer being out in the City was when all of the sudden visits occurred. It was the fact that the stepped up enforcement was sudden in nature, and the community was not informed. The discussion between the City Manager and other Commissioners should have been a discussion with all the Commissioners. Mayor Cooper said that he was not going to apologize for enforcing the ordinances of the City. The Code Enforcement Officer was present at a meeting, was introduced by the City Manager and was told what he would be doing. Mayor Cooper acknowledged that when the commissioners hired the Code Enforcement Officer, they had contemplated that this person would go out and do things such as measuring the heights of flags, etc. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Sargent said that all of this had been discussed at budget meetings.

Commissioner Coluzzi thought that anything policy-wise should be discussed among all of the Commissioners.

Commissioner Barbour said that the City cannot enforce every ordinance on the books, so the Commissioners have to establish priorities as to what is enforced. When something like this happens, it is out of the norm of regular enforcement because all of a sudden it was decided to enforce the flag/sign ordinances.

Commissioner Zellers said that the commissioners are talking about doing a complete streets policy, a bicycle plan, etc.; and all of these things involve accessible routes. Protruding objects from the side of the street into a walkway, hanging objects, etc. are things the city will get cited on if they are not ADA compliant. It is time that the City starts to enforce these things. Enforcing the flag/sign ordinances is one of the most non-controversial things to do. It is a safety issue. A Code Enforcement Officer in every city is to be proactive and look at things not to be onerous, but to come to a business owner politely to inform them of a violation.

Commissioner Barbour said that stepped up enforcement of the flag/sign ordinances was sudden. As a policy maker, Commissioner Barbour felt he had the right to know how the policy came about and who made the decision to step it up. Mayor Cooper said that the Commissioners made the decision by putting money in the budget for a Code Enforcement Officer. Commissioner Barbour said that this particular matter is not within the boundary of administration, it is within the boundary of policy because stepped up enforcement is a matter of policy.

Building Inspector Terri Sullivan noted that she had taken Mr. Bobby Edmonds around to the businesses to introduce him. Mr. Edmonds started on April 6, 2011 and was trained with the noise meter for the first two days. In regard to the enforcement issues, nothing was written until April 18, 2011. Mr. Edmonds worked the dayshift for approximately two to three weeks before going to the night shift. Ms. Sullivan, Mr. Walter Onizuk and Mr. Stephen Kordek had taken Mr. Edmonds to introduce him to the businesses and showed him some of

the issues which were being seen. The people on the list which was presented to the Commissioners had not been cited for violations. Ms. Sullivan did not know if all the businesses had been previously visited by the Code Enforcement Officer for him solely to introduce himself.

Commissioner Zellers noted that the Commissioners have received a letter from Mr. Edmonds that he goes to the businesses, introduces himself and tells them why he is there. The letter was attached to information which was sent from Mr. Ferrese which all the Commissioners had received. Commissioner Zellers read from the minutes of the Mayor and Commissioners Workshop Meeting that was held on February 7, 2011. In those minutes, it was stated that a part-time employee would be hired to make every attempt possible to educate everyone on the ordinances such as patios and signs and putting merchandise out on the sidewalks and streets, etc. The job description for this position reflected this as well.

Commissioner Barbour said that is far more effective to try to work with the community and mutually agree on how to resolve issues, then to go out immediately and start suddenly enforcing things of this magnitude. The concerns Commissioner Barbour had, was that he was not informed about any of this before it happened.

Commissioner Coluzzi thought that part of what has happened is that Mr. Edmonds had gone and talked to some of the businesses and obviously could not get to all of them due to some of them being closed. There have been some unfortunate things that have happened in this situation where it appeared Mr. Edmonds had come into the businesses at a time to cite them when perhaps it would have been better had he come in the day before to chat with someone from the business. She understood what Commissioner Barbour was saying about the noise ordinance was a particularly difficult time when the Commissioners were trying to decide how they were going to move forward. The Commissioners came up with an idea that they would hire someone. What needs to happen now in moving forward is to have a group of residents, businesses and perhaps a Commissioner to work with Mr. Edmonds to address the issue of measuring noise in different neighborhoods. The Commissioners will be much better off to move forward as a team. She thought it might have been a bad judgment call with a few businesses, and there were unfortunate repercussions from it.

Commissioner Sargent believed that the City did everything to tell the community and to tell the Commissioners what was going to happen.

City Manager Gregory Ferrese said that Mayor Cooper did not make the decision. The minutes of the May 7, 2010 Mayor and Commissioners Workshop Meeting reflect that Mr. Ferrese noted that in regard to enforcement on public property, one warning should be given and then the business should be cited. After that, the sign should be taken away. Mr. Ferrese was referring to sandwich boards which are all coming out at 5:00 p.m. as soon and is Ms. Sullivan leaves. All the other ordinances are being violated at 5:00 p.m. the minutes of the February 7, 2011 Mayor and Commissioners Workshop Meeting reflect that a part-time employee will be hired to make every attempt possible to educate everyone on the ordinances such as the patio and sign ordinances, and putting merchandise out on City sidewalks after 5:00 p.m. or on Saturdays and Sundays. It is proposed to pay this person \$17.00 per hour. This person would work from 6:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. Thursday through Friday. The minutes of the February 18, 2011 Mayor and Commissioners Regular Meeting reflect that the City budgeted a part-time employee to work 40 hours per week from May 1st through September 30th during the late night shift in regard to enforcing the sign ordinance, noise ordinance, merchandise on the sidewalks after 5:00 p.m., construction after hours, etc. Mr. Ferrese advertised the position after that meeting. The advertisement clearly states that the City of Rehoboth Beach will accept resumes for the position of Evening Code Enforcement Officer. The Evening Code Enforcement Officer will report to the Chief of Police and work in cooperation with other departments. The position is from May through September, and that working hours are from 6:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m., five days per week including weekends. Duties include enforcing various City codes including noise, signs, sidewalk cleanliness, etc. Mr. Edmonds was interviewed by Mr. Ferrese, Mayor Cooper, Commissioner Coluzzi, Ms. Sullivan and the Police Chief, and was hired. At all of the interviews, the applicants were told what their duties would be which did not only include noise and patio violations. Everything had been discussed so that that person would know what they were getting themselves into. All along not one Commissioner came to Mr. Ferrese and said that this was not what Mr. Edmonds was hired for. Mr. Ferrese said that Mr. Edmonds has gone out to as many businesses as possible. Currently, Mr. Edmonds' instructions regarding noise and any possible violations with the patios, is to observe, take documentation and meet with the Mayor and Commissioners at the end of June or early July 2011 to discuss the Mr. Edmonds' instructions regarding flags, sandwich boards signs, PA systems, entire observation. obstructions of sidewalks, cleanliness of sidewalks and contractors working after-hours, flags, etc. are: 1. Issue a verbal warning with a follow-up letter. 2. After seven days, issue a second verbal warning with a follow-up letter. 3. After seven days, a final warning letter sent by Mr. Ferrese. All total, this is a 21-day cycle which is

more than fair. The restaurants are adhering and working with Mr. Edmonds in regard to the noise and patio ordinances. Mr. Edmonds has been receiving fantastic cooperation. Windows are being closed and doors are being shut at 11:00 p.m. If they are not, Mr. Edmonds talks with the restaurants, and then they comply. The majority of businesses, in regard to flags, have raised them. Mr. Ferrese said that he needs full cooperation from the Mayor and Commissioners to proceed. To date, no businesses have been cited. Every Thursday at 3:00 p.m., Mr. Ferrese meets with Ms. Sullivan, the Police Chief and Mr. Edmonds to receive an update on what has happened during the week; and then a plan is developed for the weekend following the meeting. In regard to chain of command, Mr. Ferrese said if the Mayor and Commissioners feel it is necessary, they are to call the Police Chief. The Police Chief is to call Mr. Ferrese if he feels that it is necessary for the Mr. Ferrese to get involved. The businesses are fully cooperating with Mr. Edmonds and the City. Mr. Ferrese has tried to keep the Mayor and Commissioners abreast of everything that is going on.

Commissioner Mills believed the course of action to step up enforcement was made by the Commissioners at the time of the budget when they approved money for the Code Enforcement Officer. By putting those monies in the budget, it sent a direct message to the City Manager to step up enforcement or renew enforcement as he saw fit. Commissioner Mills believed the City Manager took that message and acted on it. He supported the City Manager.

Mayor Cooper thought that the City Manager outlined a very fair and very proactive pro-city program which he had just discussed. This Commission should commend the City Manager, Chief of Police, Ms. Sullivan and Mr. Edmonds for the work they are doing on behalf of the City.

Commissioner Zellers said that in the CDP, it says that the ordinance on controlling non-conforming signs and portable and off-site signs should be reviewed for their effectiveness and updated as needed to allow the City to respond more quickly to violations. The City will develop policies, procedures and an action plan for enforcement of all phases of the municipal code, and share those policies and procedures with the public. ADA compliance is an issue that the City has to be wary of. The City is protecting the businesses enforcing these things. In moving forward, the City should send a thank you letter to every business every season. Commissioner Zellers would like to notify businesses of things that are happening in the City.

Commissioner Mills said that many of the constituents will be welcoming the Code Enforcement Officer into the residential neighborhood and at some point because there are a lot of people who want enforcement of the low hanging trees, sidewalks, etc.

Ms. Bitsy Cochran, 27 Baltimore Avenue, said that she would welcome the Code Enforcement Officer coming in and telling her that something is wrong. There are ordinances on the books that need to be enforced. She has heard from business people in the community that Mr. Edmonds is doing a fabulous job.

Ms. Libby Stiff, 1007 Scarborough Avenue Extended, said that there is a growth of dance bars, music, etc.; and she believes that if the City is going to protect and preserve what it is, it needs to proceed with keeping some of this under control.

Commissioner Sargent believed that the City Manager has properly interpreted the guidance the Commissioners have given through the budget and through their comments. The City Manager has done an outstanding job and has been very responsive to the Commission. Commissioners Mills, Zellers and Barbour concurred.

Mayor Cooper called to discuss a timeline for consideration and approval of the recommendations contained in the recently approved Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP).

Commissioner Barbour said that Save Our City has provided a review of the Executive Summary in the CDP and the issues that have been or are being addressed and those that are still in the Plan which are priority items. He would like for the Commissioners to set up a schedule to start discussing those items. Commissioner Barbour recommended that there should be a sub-committee of the Board of Commissioners to start looking at the priority areas and have this subject on every agenda to start moving forward to implementation. He suggested that as a group, the appropriate next step is to have a standing discussion about this subject.

Correspondence:

 Letter dated June 2, 2011 from Save Our City, listing priority action items from the 2010 CDP Executive Summary.

Commissioner Coluzzi has developed a list of action items, and she would be happy to forward it to all the Commissioners. She would like to prioritize items and move forward. Commissioner Coluzzi said that she

would be happy to extract from the CDP the actions which she has a list of and put it on the agenda for the next meeting.

Commissioner Sargent said that the highest priority should be by definition. Commissioner Sargent sensed that the Commissioners are in agreement with prioritizing items, and he was comfortable with keeping the focus on the top priorities.

Commissioner Mills said that in the April 30, 2010 Minutes, he had mentioned that during the approval of the CDP process that he had the expectation the CDP would include a five-year action plan commensurate with a timeline, list of priorities and financial component to better insure financial capacity to be able to enter things into the Plan, but he did not get any support on that. In regard to the Executive Summary, there are things the Commissioners can individually look at beyond what is noted in it such as: 1. Focus: Stewardship of natural resources. Install uniform wayfinding signage for the oceanfront, etc. Commissioner Mills said that he would commit to is to talk with the City Manager on how to proceed with this item. 2. Focus: City's resource and service capacities. Establish a canal park. Commissioner Mills has been participating with the Lewes-Rehoboth Canal Improvement Association. Planting and maintaining curb-side trees is in progress.

Commissioner Zellers wanted to add the Emergency Operations Plan as an action item. The appendices are needed. The Commissioners have received an email regarding Presidential Policy Directives for National Preparedness, which should be done. The City of Lewes has a great model. She would be willing to work on this item with whoever else is interested for the employees to get an action plan in an emergency situation.

Commissioner Coluzzi took the lead on forwarding the list of action items to all the Commissioners. The Commissioners will then forward their priorities to her, and she will present a report at the Regular Meeting on June 17, 2011.

Mr. Walter Brittingham, 123 Henlopen Avenue, said that too often Commissioners are doing things on their own. These things should be funneled through the City Manager's office.

Mayor Cooper called to discuss the process to insure that a committee is in place by June 15 to establish draft recommendations for acceptable noise levels within various areas of the City, based on a review of actual noise for the months of June, July, August and September 2011.

Commissioner Mills recused himself from this discussion.

Commissioner Barbour said that on October 26, 2010, he and Commissioner Coluzzi had presented the results of their meetings with the residents and businesses on the noise issue to the Commissioners. One of the suggestions that was made at those meetings was to try to establish neighborhood standards for a baseline and a determination as to what would be acceptable levels. A group would be working with some businesses and residents, etc. to come up with those standards. One piece of that was to hire a noise enforcement officer to have the capability during measurement to do this. Commissioner Barbour suggested that the Commissioners do the rest of this so that at the end of the summer, they will have the data and community buy-in to proceed with something. Commissioner Barbour said that the spirit of this proposal is community involvement. He was trying to follow-up on a recommendation that was made from the residents and businesses because they want to work together with the City in addressing this problem.

Commissioner Sargent said that there is a City standard, and the approach the current noise ordinance takes to protect the residents is probably pretty good. He did not understand why an additional step is needed and where it is gotten from.

Commissioner Coluzzi agreed with businesses and residents that this is the approach the Commissioners would take. Mayor Cooper said that what he agreed to in January 2011 was professional training for the City employees, making sure the noise ordinance is capable of these things, enforcing the noise ordinance the City had and see about dealing with the issues as they presented themselves, evaluate and make changes if needed.

Commissioner Zellers thought that this was a good idea because ultimately the Commissioners will have to make a decision on what they are going to do with the patios, etc. She thought the Commissioners were going to look at some of the issues as they come up over the season with the idea of ultimately the Commissioners may have to do something with the noise ordinance.

Mayor Cooper said that committee meetings would have to start at 11:00 p.m. and go to late hours to appreciate the problem.

Commissioner Sargent did not see any wrong in taking a baseline, but he did not see the relevance. The

current Code says that someone cannot make noise which improperly penetrates where a residence is. The noise ordinance is meant to enforce that. He does not have a problem with working with the businesses to try to establish a fair standard.

Commissioner Barbour acknowledged that he is proposing to head this up to find residents and business people who want to be involved, meet with them and come up with the idea of going to each neighborhood to come up with the idea of how this will be approached. This would then be present to the Commissioners. Commissioner Zellers thought this was a good idea.

Mayor Cooper said that he would be willing to go through the summer with the existing noise ordinance and see how effective it is and what issues there are at the end. Involving the community is fine, but he did not know where to get a broad enough cross-section of this community. He thought 20 people would be needed. The proposal did not have any great appeal to him.

Commissioner Coluzzi suggested that Commissioner Barbour talk with Commissioner McGuiness about coming up with a way to move forward and present it at the next meeting. Commissioner Barbour agreed.

Mayor Cooper called to discuss amending Section 83-4 of the City Code, which prohibits the consumption or the possession of an open container of alcohol in public, to make the penalty a civil offense.

Commissioner Coluzzi said that the Commissioners received a memo from Judge Catterton who is the Alderman for the City requesting that the penalty for consumption or possession of an open container of alcohol in public be made a civil offense. Commissioner Coluzzi thought that this should be something to be discussed since it was a memo sent by the Alderman. Mayor Cooper did not have a problem with it because he thought that it is a relatively minor offense. Commissioner Zellers agreed.

Commissioner Sargent asked if there is a process that the Commissioners can go through which will allow them to make clear categories and how they are to be treated, and then to go through and amend the Code. He wondered if the Commissioners could establish a process in the Code to go from criminal to civil, and then within civil there would be a way to implement multiply levels for repeated violations. Commissioner Sargent would like something that is tightly codified.

Police Chief Keith Banks said that currently the civil citations will need to be revamped. e suggested using a book similar to the parking ticket books where there is an envelope to mail in the fine.

City Solicitor Mandalas will draft an ordinance to make the penalty a civil offense.

Mayor Cooper called to discuss City provided DART bus passes for employers within City limits.

Commissioner Coluzzi said the issue is that a lot of foreign kids work late hours in the evening, and they ride a bicycle out of the City. Several of them have been robbed in West Rehoboth before getting out to Highway One and have been taught not to trust the police. The idea would be for the foreign kids to ride their bicycles to the Park-N-Ride area, leave their bicycles there, and ride a bus into the City and take the last bus out of the City. Currently, bus passes are provided to any employee who works for an employer in the City and parks their car at Park-N-Ride and rides the bus into the City free of charge. The solution would be to provide bus passes for the foreign kids who ride their bicycles. She felt responsible for their safety since they work in the City. Commissioner Barbour agreed and said that there is a problem here with safety that can be addressed by the City, and there is appropriateness in doing that. He also suggested that they could be educated in regard to bicycle light ordinance.

Commissioner Zellers said that they would be able to bring their bikes with them on the bus.

Mayor Cooper did not think that it would be a proper use of City money to provide people with transportation. He said the State Police may need to step up their efforts in that area. Mayor Cooper thought that the employers could pay \$2.10 per foreign kid to ride the buses.

Mr. Ferrese said that the City has 25 Park-N-Ride permits for each business location. Anything over that, the merchants pay the State directly. He agreed that it would be a nightmare in regard to enforcement. It cost the City approximately \$45,000 to \$50,000 per year. Mr. Ferrese has not received requests from merchants asking to park bicycles out at the Park-N-Ride area. Mr. Ferrese said that he would check with the Police Chief and the State Police to confirm what is going on in West Rehoboth area. He thought that the City could possibly pay 50% of the bus fee for the foreign kids to ride the bus.

Ms. Jenny Barger of Rehoboth Beach Main Street said that there are many instances where the

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Commissioners may benefit from getting information from the businesses in the City. She suggested that an email could be sent out to ask the businesses' opinions on how this may be an issue and provide them the resource of where to purchase the bus permit if they feel it is worthwhile for their customers. Ms. Barger would be happy to provide the City with a list of contact information.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Gregory Ferrese reported that the City has distributed 371 yard waste containers as of June 3, 2011. The Baltimore Avenue restroom and Beach Patrol upgrades are complete along with the decking at the Delaware Avenue restroom. The Stormceptor in Country Club Estates has been installed. The Mobi mats have been installed on Maryland Avenue and Laurel Street. The City is waiting for final approval from the State in regard to the bump out at Sussex Street and Columbia Avenue. This project is anticipated to be completed by June 30, 2011. Mr. Ferrese intends to schedule a meeting in the near future for the City's architect to review the bids received for the Convention Center Roof Project. Mr. Ferrese will advise the Commissioners of the date and time. On July 12, 2011, the State Energy Department will be visiting to review the status of the Energy Grant and to look at the solar panels installed at 306 Rehoboth Avenue. The City had a great Memorial Day Weekend. Mr. Ferrese thanked all the City workers for the fantastic job they had done.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Zellers, Animal Issues Committee, reported that a request by the SPCA to host a fund raising walk on the Boardwalk on September 24, 2011, but the consensus was to change the date since the Commissioners had relaxed the ordinance for dogs on the beach and Boardwalk. The Committee's recommendation was to change the date to October 1, 2011. Mayor Cooper said that if this does not violate the ordinance, the City Manager can deal with it. Commissioner Zellers said that she would have SPCA call Mr. Ferrese. Two cat issues had come up since the Committee's last meeting and have been resolved in working with the community. One turned out to be a non-cat issue, and the other the neighbors are working together to resolve it.

CITY SOLICITOR'S REPORT

There was nothing to report.

COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS

There were no announcements/comments.

Discuss items to include on future agendas.

There were none.

The Mayor and Commissioners Regular Meeting will be held on Friday, June 17, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. The Mayor and Commissioners Workshop Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 5, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.

There being no further business, Mayor Cooper adjourned the meeting at 11:41 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

(Ann M. Womack, Assistant Secretary)