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**Council Room Borough of Neptune City  
September 23, 2019**

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The Workshop Meeting of the Mayor and Council was called to order by Mayor Brown at 7:00 p.m.

Acting Borough Clerk Russell took roll call.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Zajack, Renee, Wardell, Kocsis, Lewis, Calhoun and Mayor Brown.

Mayor Brown announced that the Notice Requirements of Chapter 231 P.L. 1975 have been satisfied by the publication of said notice in the Asbury Park Press, and the Coaster and by filing a copy with the Acting Municipal Clerk.

Mayor Brown invited all to stand for the Flag Salute.

**COMMUNICATIONS-**

Mayor Brown asked for a motion to approve minutes of 8/26/2019.

Motion by C/Wardell to receive and file; seconded by C/Renee.

Voice Vote - AYES: Councilmembers Zajack, Renee, Wardell, Kocsis, Lewis and Calhoun

**PRESENTATIONS-**

Chief Ross Lacitra, Monmouth County SPCA Trap Neuter Release Program

Chief Lacitra first wanted to applaud the Mayor and Council for accepting such a great program and being proactive to address the feral cat/community cat problem in the County. A brief history of the feral cat problem that exists throughout not just the United States, but the world, was not created but it was inherited over the years. In the beginning of my career, there were stray dogs running around. Now, about 95% of the dogs found are returned to their owners rather quickly. Unfortunately the same 95% of cats that are turned into the shelter are never returned to their owners. This problem has been overlooked for so many years, possibly because people are not as threatened of a stray cat running around as they are with a stray dog. Over the years with the cats being able to breed out-of-control, it now presents issues not only to neighbors but also on a public health standpoint. Wild cats interact with rabies factors like possums and raccoons competing for the same food source. Rabies as you know is something that we are very concerned about especially on a public health spectrum. The Trap, Neuter and Release (TNR) program is designed to help bring the community cat problem under control. Now please understand, Mayor and Council, this is no silver bullet. There is no silver bullet out there, but this is the program that has worked over the years. This is the program that has been proven, with years and years of studies. The University of Miami did a very comprehensive study years ago that a TNR Program actively being in acted will reduce the feral cat population by 60-70% over a 5 year period. It will never eliminate the feral cat problem but it will drastically reduce the colony. Once a feral cat is neutered, a male cat, will no longer roam to breed, he will protect his pride and protect the area he is so that area will not allow other cats to enter into it. Of course a female cat, which is fixed, will no longer be able to breed therefor will no longer be able to produce kittens which puts an end to the cycle. But again, the end up living a lifespan between 5-7 years in a healthy vaccinated lifestyle and will eventually fade out and the colonies will reduce over time. Our program is designed to help coordinate that and help take control of it. The cost to neuter a cat at the Monmouth County SPCA (MCSPCA) is about \$75 per cat, which includes the neutering, vaccinations, and also a microchip and an ear tip, which helps us know that the cat has been neutered by this program. The MCSPCA in conjunction with the Municipality have agreed to split that cost of \$37.50 a piece with a maximum limit of 100 cats per year, unless the Mayor & Council, approve to go beyond that. In the City of Long Branch they started with 100 cats per year but did increase it this year to 400 cats. With this is an allocate program, we only pay for what we do. The program is completely controlled by the MCSPCA. How it works is the Borough will appoint a liaison to work in unison with the MCSPCA, that liaison will work with the TNR coordinator to get colony caregivers approved. Colony caregiver is a person we know that is the cat feeder in town. If we find that there is an area in town that is saturated with cats, we will go in, remove and relocate some of those cats to different parts of the County. This will only be done if we have to. The caregiver will be

approved by the municipality and the MCSPCA to work as a liaison working for the municipality and the SPCA on trying to keep the feral cat population under control. This is a very important step to the program, as these people have their eyes and ears on the ground and able to see what is happening. A good example is Atlantic Highlands was the first town to start this TNR program and they had a rabies outbreak in the area. We found out because the caregiver noticed and called MCSPCA. The MCSPCA then went back up there and recaptured every cat in the area to revaccinate them to make certain they were protected. Once the caregiver is approved, the MCSPCA takes over at that point. Every cat that comes through the MCSPCA gets documented, records are kept by us, and they are microchipped so we know where they belong and all those medical records get maintained by MCSPCA. We share those records with the Municipality as well so there is a backup and so that the town knows who the caregivers are and where the colonies are. The MCSPCA is the leader in the county on this program, we initiated this program 3 years ago and we did not have a single municipality involved and financially helping us, but as of today we have 15 municipalities, including Neptune City, that are actively involved in this program. We can already see statistically a reduction in the shelter of unneutered cats coming in, so we know we are making a difference. This program is helping to bring control to community with the feral cats. Chief Lacitra asked for any questions. First question was if I trap them, can I call. Chief Lacitra responded absolutely and explained that part of the program also involves the MCSPCA reserves the right with any cat that is brought in, if they are deemed adoptable, that they can keep the cat and adopt it out. Cats are deemed unadoptable we put back out in the colony. Kittens are kept to be adopted. The MCSPCA in this year along had 1,300 kittens. There are 10 spots reserved in the surgical schedule just for feral cats. It is really important, if you are going to trap on your own, to reach out to Corrine or call 732-542-0040 option 8 is for TNR Program. When we first took over animal control for Neptune City about 2 years ago, there was a feral cat problem at the Public Works yard which was absolutely an area that we could not return those cats. We were able to find homes for all of those cats. They went into a Backyard Buddy program, which is a program that gives cats out to farmers or factories to help control the mice population. They are fed but still able to be in the wild. At the shelter, we take in over 5,000 animals and we maintain a 95.9% release rate. The reasons we would euthanize are for aggression and illness. Another question was asked in regards to a mother cat and her three kittens. Should the kittens be taken into the shelter and the mother trapped and released; or should they just all stay together. Chief Lacitra stated that first; you need to get them neutered because those three kittens will be fifteen more next year. Next thing to be done once they are trapped will be to determine if any or all of them, including the mother, can be adopted out. If they cannot be, they will then just be release after they can be neutered. The question was asked if there are any tips on how to catch these cats. Chief Lacitra answered that the first option is to have a hard trap and don't feed them, to lure them into the trap when they are hungry. The MCSPCA Animal Control Officers are there to also help you, if needed to catch the cats. Another person stated that with the weather you can't keep them in there long especially if it is too warm or too cold. Chief Lacitra thanked them for that statement, when the MCSPCA Animal Control Officers set the traps, they put them down in the morning and periodically check them throughout the day and retrieve the trap at the end of the day whether or not there is a cat in them. The question was asked on what records were "OPRA-able" Chief Lacitra commented that all records are to some degree, we don't hand out personal information, but if someone OPRA's who is a colony cat caregiver, that is an "OPRA-able" record. A follow up question was asked of who is the Custodian of the records. Chief Lacitra stated that Lindsay Santor. Another question was if that would be the prosecutor or the shelter? Chief Lacitra stated that if it involved the Law Enforcement Officers, that would be prosecutor, but this would be under Animal Control which would be at the shelter. C/Lewis asked if the MCSPCA scan to see if they are microchipped. Chief Lacitra responded that every cat gets scanned, not at the scene, since that would require them to be taken out of the trap and they don't want to take the chance if it is a feral cat. They all go back to the shelter and get scanned there, and if they have an owner, they will be contacted. It was asked if there was a brochure. Chief Lacitra stated that yes as well as applications to become a colony caregiver. A resident that lives in Coastal Village stated that there are several cats, that look to be well groomed, back in the woods behind the towns house, is that something you would come out an investigate. Chief Lacitra stated that yes they would come out to check it out. Chief Lacitra continued that they could be a domestic cat, they have had it before where they brought a cat in that did not have a collar or a microchip in that was already neutered, but the shelter ear-clipped it, the owner came in upset because it was their cat, not a feral cat. Another thing that the MCSPCA likes to see, to make it easier for them to know, is having the towns pass an ordinance to require cats to be licensed. In closing, Chief Lacitra thanked the Mayor and Council for bringing this program to Neptune City to help control this issue. The Mayor thanked Chief Lacitra for coming and commented that this is a great program for Neptune City. All of this information will be downstairs in the Municipal Office.

None.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION LIASION –**

Bruce Wescott, Board Member, stated that there is a Board of Education meeting on Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.

**OLD BUSINESS-**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS-**

**Resolution 19-164** Payment of Bills

**Resolution 2019-164  
AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF THE BILLS**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the bills as presented, all have been certified and approved as complete as to form, goods having been delivered, and/or services performed and sufficient funds being available for payment for said bills, be paid in the amount of \$772,165.55

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify the above to be a true and exact copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Neptune City at a meeting held on September 23, 2019.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bryan A. Russell, Acting Municipal Clerk

Motion for adoption was made by C/Lewis, seconded by C/Zajack. There was no discussion and the resolution was approved unanimously by roll call.

**Resolution 19-165** Appoving Setting Forth the Process and Parameters of the Borough’s 2019 Participatory Budget Program

**Resolution 2019-165**

**RESOLUTION SETTING FORTH THE PROCESS AND PARAMETERS OF THE BOROUGH’S  
2019 PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Neptune City seeks to encourage its residents to play a more active role in their local government; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough’s 2019 Municipal Budget set aside \$20,000 for the purpose of creating a Participatory Budgeting Program within the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, Participatory Budgeting is an opportunity for the public to vote on “capital projects” they would like to see in their hometown; and

**WHEREAS**, “capital project” is defined as a long-term investment made to build upon, add, or improve public facilities or infrastructure, including, but not limited to, repairs to public buildings, park improvements, bike racks, improvements to public grounds, and traffic safety; and

**WHEREAS**, Participatory Budgeting offers residents a direct say in how the Mayor and Council allocate resources within the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council believes that Participatory Budgeting builds stronger communities, engages residents, and promotes the democratic process; and

**WHEREAS**, after meetings with residents and potential participants, the Borough Council is now prepared to implement the Borough’s 2019 Participatory Budgeting Program;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Neptune City, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, that:

1. The Borough Council hereby commences the Neptune City 2019 Participatory Budgeting Program, and appoints the following Borough residents as Members of the 2019 Participatory Budgeting Committee:
  - (a) Rich Oppegaard;
  - (b) Joanne Jodry;
  - (c) John Pietrunti;
  - (d) Tamara Tallman;
  - (e) Melissa Whalen;
  - (f) Don Dorsett; and
  - (g) Stu Josberger.
2. The Borough Council hereby appoints Councilman David Calhoun as Governing Body Liaison and Chairman of the 2019 Participatory Budgeting Committee, which Committee is hereby charged with carrying out the implementation and objectives of the 2019 Participatory Budgeting Program.
3. The Borough Council hereby authorizes the Borough Administrator, and such staff as may be necessary in the Borough Administrator’s discretion, to carry out the implementation and objectives of the 2019 Participatory Budgeting Program.
4. The 2019 Participatory Budgeting Program shall operate as follows:
  - (a) Beginning October 1, 2019, the 2019 Participatory Budgeting Committee shall solicit Proposals from any Borough resident fourteen (14) years of age or older for “capital projects” he or she would like to see completed within the Borough.
  - (b) All Proposals shall be submitted upon a standard form created by the 2019 Participatory Budgeting Committee for that purpose, and shall be collected from October 1, 2019 through October 31, 2019.
  - (c) All Proposals shall be collected by the Borough Administrator at a determined location within Borough Hall, and only those Proposals received by 5:00PM on October 31, 2019 shall be considered.
  - (d) Between October 1, 2019 and October 31, 2019, the Borough Administrator and 2019 Participatory Budgeting Committee shall establish criteria upon which the Proposals will be evaluated, which criteria shall include the requirement that the Proposal’s estimated cost fit within the amount budgeted for said purpose within the 2019 Municipal Budget.

(e) The Borough Administrator and 2019 Participatory Budgeting Committee shall choose five (5) Proposals for Public Voting based upon the criteria referenced in paragraph (d) hereinabove.

(f) Public Voting on the five (5) selected Proposals shall take place from November 6, 2019 through December 6, 2019, and shall be conducted utilizing Ballots created by the 2019 Participatory Budgeting Committee for that purpose.

(g) All Ballots shall collected by the Borough Administrator at a determined location within Borough Hall, and only those Ballots received by 5:00PM on December 6, 2019 shall be counted.

(h) The Winning Proposal shall be announced at the December 9, 2019 Council Meeting and the submitter of the Winning Proposal shall be recognized by the Mayor and Council at said meeting.

(i) Thereafter, the Borough Administrator shall take the procedural and administrative steps to carry out the Winning Proposal within the constraints of the 2019 Municipal Budget.

5. A certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Mayor, Borough Administrator, Borough CFO, and 2019 Participatory Budgeting Committee.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify the above to be a true and exact copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Neptune City at a meeting held on September 23, 2019.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bryan A. Russell, Acting Municipal Clerk

Motion for adoption was made by C/Calhoun, seconded by C/Renee. There was no discussion.

Voice Vote - AYES: Councilmembers Renee, Kocsis, Lewis and Calhoun  
ABSTAIN: Councilmembers Zajack, Wardell

**Resolution 19-166** Appointing Members to the Participatory Budgeting Committee

C/Calhoun made a motion to remove the resolution due to the members were covered in the previous resolution, 19-165; seconded by C/Renee. The Mayor stated that the Resolution 19-165 should be amended to remove the members and have them in their own Resolution. The Attorney stated that Resolution 19-165 could not be amended since it was already pass, he states that Resolution 19-166 just reiterates the members. The Mayor asked for a vote since there was a motion to remove and a second. C/Calhoun withdrew his motion; C/Renee withdrew her second. The motion to withdrawal was approved unanimously by roll call.

**Resolution 19-166** Appointing Members to the Participatory Budgeting Committee

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 2019-166**

**CONFIRMING APPOINTMENTS TO THE PARTICIPATORY BUDGET COMMITTEE**

**WHEREAS**, Certain Volunteer positions are required to be appointed by Borough Ordinance or State Statute, and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the following appointment of volunteers to the position Neptune City Participatory Budget Committee for one-year term of appointment or until 12/31/19, unless otherwise, are hereby confirmed.

David Calhoun: Council Liaison

Don Dorsett  
Joann Jodry  
John Pietrunti  
Melissa Whalen  
Rich Oppegaard  
Tamara Tallman  
Stu Josberger  
Bryan Russell, Borough Administrator

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify the above to be a true and exact copy of  
a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the  
Borough of Neptune City at a meeting held on September 23, 2019

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bryan A Russell, Acting Municipal Clerk

Motion for adoption was made by C/Calhoun, seconded by C/Renee. There was no discussion.

Voice Vote -           AYES:           Councilmembers Renee, Kocsis, Lewis and Calhoun  
                          ABSTAIN:       Councilmembers Zajack, Wardell

**Resolution 19-167** Approving Borough Purchasing Manual

**Resolution 2019-167**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING A PURCHASING MANUAL FOR THE BOROUGH OF NEPTUNE CITY**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Neptune City has determined a Purchasing Manual is necessary for the Borough for compliance with the state of New Jersey Best Practices guidelines, and the Borough has prepared same which is attached as Exhibit A; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest in the Borough to approve same.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL BY THE BOROUGH OF NEPTUNE CITY:**

1. The Purchasing Manual attached hereto as Exhibit A is hereby adopted by the Borough of Neptune City.
2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify the above to be a true and exact copy of a  
Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the  
Borough of Neptune City at a meeting held on  
September 23, 2019.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bryan A. Russell, Acting Municipal Clerk

Motion for adoption was made by C/Lewis, seconded by C/Kocsis. There was no discussion and the resolution was approved unanimously by roll call.

**Resolution 19-168** Resolution Appointing Insertion of Special Items of Revenues and Appropriations in the CY 2019 Municipal Budget

**Resolution 2019-168**

**Resolution Appointing Insertion of Special Items of Revenues and Appropriations in the CY 2019 Municipal Budget**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S. 40A4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget, and

**WHEREAS**, said Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for an equal amount, and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Neptune City has been awarded from the State of New Jersey, an amount of \$10,000.00 from a *Municipal Alliance Grant*, and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Neptune City wishes to amend its 2019 Budget to include said additional revenue, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Neptune City hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of the year 2019 in the sum of \$10,000.00 which is now available as a revenue from:

Miscellaneous Revenues  
Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written  
Consent of the Director of Local Government Services:  
Public and Private Revenues Off-Set with Appropriations:  
*Municipal Alliance Grant*

pursuant to provisions of Statute, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a like sum of \$10,000.00 be and the same is hereby appropriated under the caption of:

General Appropriations  
(a) Operations Excluded from CAPS  
Public and Private Programs Off-Set by Revenues:  
*Municipal Alliance Grant*

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Borough Clerk forward two copies of this resolution to the Director of Local Government Services.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify the above to be a true and exact copy of  
a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the  
Borough of Neptune City at a regular meeting held on September 23,  
2019

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bryan A. Russell, Acting Borough Clerk

Motion for adoption was made by C/Lewis, seconded by C/Calhoun. There was no discussion and the resolution was approved unanimously by roll call.

**Resolution 19-169** Resolution Approving a Correction to Text and Title for the Budget Year 2019

**Resolution 2019-169**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING A CORRECTION TO TEXT AND TITLE FOR THE BUDGET YEAR 2019.**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S. 40A4-85 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may, at the request of, or the consent of, the governing body of any county or municipality, make such correction of the title, text

or amount of any appropriation appearing in the budget as may be necessary to make said item of appropriation available for the purpose of purposed required for the needs of any such county of municipality, when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-85, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Neptune City hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to make the following corrections in the budget year 2019:

*That the appropriation provided for in the approved budget entitled:*

*Operations Excluded from CAPS:*

*Matching Funds for Grants be reduced by \$2,500.00*

*and an appropriation in the like amount of \$2,500.00 be added to the budget entitled:*

*Operations Excluded from CAPS:*

*Municipal Alliance – Local Share*

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the foregoing correction is, in the opinion of the governing body, warranted and authorized by the statute referred to, and is necessary for the orderly operation of the Borough for the reasons hereinafter set forth:

*The Borough provided for the possibility of receiving an added grant after the adoption of the 2019 budget by providing a line item “Matching Share for Grants.” The amount of the grant and the related match requirement has now become known after the passage of the budget. In order to accept the Municipal Alliance Grant, legal provision for the required match must be made. The above correction will provide the sais legal provisions.*

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Borough Clerk forward two copies of this resolution to the Director of Local Government Services.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify the above to be a true and exact copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Neptune City at a regular meeting held on September 23, 2019

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bryan A. Russell, Acting Borough Clerk

Motion for adoption was made by C/Lewis, seconded by C/Kocsis. There was no discussion and the resolution was approved unanimously by roll call.

**Resolution 19-170** Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Electricity Supply Services for Public Use on an Online Auction Website

**Resolution 2019-170**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF ELECTRICITY SUPPLY SERVICES FOR PUBLIC USE ON AN ONLINE AUCTION WEBSITE**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Neptune City has determined to move forward with EMEX Reverse Auction in order to procure electricity for the Borough of Neptune City; and



**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Neptune City Technology Pilot Program and Study Act (P.L. 2001, c. 30) (The ACT) authorizes the purchase of electricity supply service for public use through the use of an online auction service; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Neptune City will once again utilize the online auction service of EMEX, LLC, an approved vendor pursuant to the Act, waiver number EMEX LLC-1; and

**WHEREAS**, EMEX LLC is compensated for all services rendered through the participating supplier that a contract is awarded to; and

**WHEREAS**, an auction was conducted on Thursday September 19, 2019 pursuant to the ACT; and

**WHEREAS**, Constellation Energy was the apparent winner with a supply price of \$0.08100; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Borough Administrator of the Borough of Neptune City be and hereby is authorized to execute on behalf of the Local Unit any electricity contracted preferred by the participating supplier that has submitted the winning bid to the EMEX Reverse Auction

#### CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify the above to be a true and exact copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Neptune City at a regular meeting held on September 23, 2019

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Bryan A. Russell, Acting Borough Clerk

Motion for adoption was made by C/Lewis, seconded by C/Calhoun. There was no discussion and the resolution was approved unanimously by roll call.

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –**

George Kary, Myron Ave, a former resident of Asbury Park, lived there for 60 years, moved to Neptune City about 5 years ago. Moved out of Asbury Park due to their Rehabilitation Plan about 20 or so years ago, and went to meetings to ask questions, but didn't get answers for. There are many people that moved to Neptune City from Asbury Park because they could not afford to live there anymore. At the last Council Meeting there was an amendment to the agenda, from what I read in the Coaster, which added and passed a Resolution without much public knowledge of it. There is no transparency with added a resolution like this on, especially as a tax payer that did not know about this. What is in the Resolution are there going to be tax abatements. The Mayor stated that he gave his concerns about the resolution with how fast it went. It is a study to go to the Land Use Board now. The Land Use Board will go over and review all parts of this Rehabilitation Plan to see what would be done, if anything. There are no real details available. Mr. Kary asked if eminent domain would be used. Mayor Brown stated we do not know. Mr. Kary asked C/Renee what strings would be attached for the Grants from the State. C/Renee responded that there are no more strings attached than any other grants we receive from the County and the State. Mayor Brown stated that as he is aware, they do not know what kind of grants we would be able to get. There are no details as of now. C/Renee thanked Mr. Kary for his question; she stated that the quarterly workshops were added to have more transparency and more opportunity to have more discussions on topics, such as this. We have been discussing this for the past 6 months with the Borough Planner coming to give a presentation and there have been many comments and questions asked on this topic. Mr. Kary asked why C/Renee did what she did by throwing the Resolution onto the Agenda. C/Renee stated there

were specific reasons for that, we have within the budget a proposed \$18,000 for the rehabilitation plan that we passed to move forward to the Land Use Board. They will then do a study, but it could end up dead in the water there. Since the State has declared Neptune City as an opportunity zone, which is a rare opportunity to have, as the Mayor was saying, most towns only have little pockets of an opportunity zone. In order to take advantage of the grants, we have to have a plan in place. C/Renee states that there are many infrastructure issues with things like flooding that have not been taken care of for many years that this could help to fix. By doing this rehabilitation plan, we can take care of the infrastructure issues without having to raise taxes. This was all brought up because of the Deed Restriction on the property at Third Ave, they wanted that lifted to be able to bring something to that vacant building, we want smart planning so we can make as many people happy as we can. The Mayor called order to the room to stop the back and forth banter from going on.

Ted Wardell, 9 Tucker Dr., and not sure if it was legal to introduce a resolution without public comment, especially a resolution to spend money; that could have waited a few weeks to be passed. As far as transparency goes, your fellow republican colleagues have no idea what is going on until the last minute, it is just irresponsible. The Republicans were also elected by residents and also represent all of the residents.

Mayor Brown stated that anyone that would like to have a comment or ask a question, please address them to the Mayor.

Jim Ward asked who proposed the Rehabilitation Plan. Mayor Brown responded C/Renee and part of her economic committee proposed it.

Pat Ward, 32 Coastal, from my understanding, the republicans were not privy to this information for it to be proposed. Mayor Brown responded that we are not going to do the back and forth, this was discussed in a workshop session at six o'clock, the regular meeting was at seven o'clock. The resolution was prepared, so as soon as we went to the regular meeting the motion to amend the agenda of the regular meeting and was voted on and passed. Normally the workshop is where things can get discussed then get prepared and presented for the next meeting so it can be on the agenda, posted for residents to be notified that it will be put on for that meeting.

Jenn Coombs, asked why C/Renee stated that this was a unique opportunity for Neptune City. Mayor Brown stated that he will not answer that, at this point it is being presumptuous at this point, until the resolution that was passed goes to the Land Use Board and they determine if anything is done, if there is a study done, if there is an area in need and if there might be grant available. C/Renee responded that we have the deed restriction on the property in the center of town, so with that we can use smart development to decide what can or cannot go there. Another is our town being declared an opportunity zone by the State which does open up grant opportunities for things to be done without having to raise taxes to be done.

Jim Ward, if you get a grant, you have to have money to be able to get a grant. Has this been in front of the Land Use Board yet. Mayor Brown stated it has been sent but not in front of the board yet.

Stacey Higgins, 29 Coastal/NCHA, it was asked if the Council could take a look at the structure of the Environmental Committee for issues like the TFH smell. Mayor Brown responded that they will take that into consideration, we do have the State and County that handle most of that.

Ted Wardell asked if there was a date as to when the Land Use Board would get the packet to review. Mayor Brown stated that it will be in their packet for the next meeting on the second Tuesday of October.

**ADJOURN 8:08 p.m.**

Motion to adjourn by C/Wardell. Seconded by C/Calhoun.

Approved unanimously by roll call.

