Council Elect Discusses Sea Isle Municipal Code

By JOE HART

SEA ISLE CITY — "There was a good dialogue between council members and productive input from the public," Councilman Elect Mike McHale said regarding the new council's first public meeting to discuss the city's municipal code.

McHale, a former mayor of Sea Isle, said council was looking at Ocean City's code as a model for its own.

Council is working with Solicitor Paul Baldini's office and former Ocean City Administrator Richard Deaney who is very familiar with the code.

"Ocean City government is broken into eight departments," McHale said, "but they're a much bigger community than we are."

Sea Isle would most likely have around five departments in its new government, he said.

The meeting progressed through over an hour of discussion of several pages of Ocean City's code before an hour of public comment.

According to McHale, about 30 members of the public attended the meeting and expressed some good ideas regarding board of health issues, a comprehensive audit of municipal salaries, ordinance adoption procedures and meeting accessibility.

Council has planned two more public meetings, today and June 20, prior to their inauguration on July 1. Both meetings will be held in the Public Safety Building on JFK Boulevard at 10 a.m.

Council will also meet with zoning and planning board members today at 1 p.m. to discuss possible zoning changes to the commercial districts.

"We want to keep the public involved in the process," McHale said.

McHale said the city is still considering where to hold council's inauguration.

"The choice is between

the Community Lodge and outside on the Promenade," he said.

He said they have, however, decided on council meeting dates.

"The second and fourth Tuesday of each month," he said. "The second Tuesday meeting will be in the evening at 7 p.m. and the fourth Tuesday meeting will be early at 10 a.m."

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