

# Deaney starts as Sea Isle's interim business administrator May 7

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Ocean City Sentinel

SEA ISLE CITY – Former Ocean City business administrator Richard Deaney will start as Sea Isle City's interim business administrator on May 7.

Sea Isle City's government will change on July 1 from a commission to a mayor-council form of government. Under the new government, a business administrator runs the

daily operations of the city.

Sea Isle City Commissioners contracted with Jersey Professional Management to perform an internal study of the city and provide an interim business administrator until the new council could hire a new business administrator. The firm will also assist the newly-elected council in selecting a fulltime administrator.

Deaney will serve as the interim administrator until council selects a

permanent business administrator and to help with a transition from the commission form to the mayor-council form.

"I'm excited to be able to help a neighboring community. It will be a part-time position, so that will work out with my schedule," Deaney said. "I have experience in the mayor-council form and my previous job before I came to Ocean City, I was the first township manager in Medford."

Deaney served as Ocean City's business administrator for 17 years before he retired in 2006.

"Mr. Deaney is an excellent fit for our community. He knows Sea Isle City and Ocean City and what it's like to be here in the summer. If we hired someone to be the interim and they were from north Jersey, they could not possibly understand how overnight we could go from 3,000 people to 25,000 people in the community," Sea Isle City Mayor

Leonard Desiderio said.

Desiderio said Deaney would work 25 hours a week as interim business administrator. He said he chose Deaney from a list of candidates provided by Jersey Professional Management.

"I suggested Rich Deaney would be perfect for it because he was Ocean City's administrator and he knows what it's like to be at a Cape

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May County shore community," Desiderio said.

Desiderio said while Deaney is interim business

administrator, Jersey Professional Management will interview potential candidates for a fulltime business administrator. When the new government takes effect

July 1, they will be given five names of potential candidates to choose from.

Deaney said he's receiving payment from the firm, not the city. He said Jersey Professional Management provides consulting work for municipalities in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Deaney said retired business administrators are on call for the company.

"I'm very much looking forward to meeting the newly-elected people and being part of the transition and helping those people to really get started on the right foot," Deaney said.