



Council considers ordinance changes

City eyeing new fire zones on residential streets

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - On Tuesday city council discussed amending the city's ordinance to create about a dozen new fire zones on residential streets.

Deputy Mayor Linda Steenrod, a member of the city's Ordinance Review Committee, said the committee considered recommendations from Fire Chief Jerry Inderwies, who was concerned about emergency vehicles being blocked from accessing narrow streets due to parked vehicles.

The committee agreed and recommended fire zones be created on Atlantic Terrace, Cake Street, Chestnut, the east side of Clay and the cul-de-sac, Dale, Golf, Page Pearl, Osborne and Yacht. Councilman David Kurkowski, also a member of the committee, said the front side of the Acme

Supermarket had been added to the list.

City clerk Diane Wheldon said all sides of the Acme were currently considered fire zones.

The concern is mainly for the front of the building, where vehicles park in the lane near the door. Council and committee members were uncertain who would be responsible for marking the area a no parking zone.

Mayor Edward Mahaney said he favored keeping the fire zone on all sides, saying people sometimes park near the loading dock on the Lafayette Street side and go in the store, leaving tractor trailers to sit idling on the street.

Steenrod said there needs to be stricter enforcement to go along with the creation of the fire zones.

"It doesn't matter if we designate the zones if we don't enforce the law," she said.

Councilman Niels Favre said the city should notify the residents of the affected streets to get their input. Steenrod said that had

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Jennifer Kopp/Cape May Star and Wave

The magic of a Christmas parade

Even though it literally rained on our parade, the annual West Cape May Community Christmas Parade brought smiles to all attending and performing. Above, Paula Tramatolo of the Joanne Reagan Dancers performs on Carpenter's Lane. More photos on Page A6. Also see parade winners on Page A7.

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DEC. TIDE TABLE				
	HIGH		LOW	
	am	pm	am	pm
12/11	6:08	6:35	12:28	
12/12	7:00	7:29	12:16	1:22
12/13	7:53	8:24	1:10	2:15
12/14	8:46	9:19	2:05	3:09
12/15	9:39	10:16	3:00	4:02
12/16	10:34	11:15	3:58	4:57
12/17	11:30		4:58	5:51
1st Quarter		12:05		
Full Moon		12:12		
Last Quarter		12:19		
New Moon		12:27		

Planning Board delays vote on Beach Theatre

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - The Cape May Planning Board decided to take more time before deciding on an application filed by Franks Investments to replace the Beach Theatre with six condos.

Planning board solicitor George Neidig recommended postponing the vote until Dec. 23 so the applicant and the board can come to an understanding of what waivers the applicant is asking the board to consider.

Among other things, Franks Investments has asked for relief from providing an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) for the project. Attorney Steven Nemas said the applicant would instead provide a Phase I Environmental Audit and a Phase II audit if necessary.

An environmental audit is an independent statement of a party's compliance to environmental regulations or requirements.

An EIS is a more detailed report, which would include

adverse environmental effects that could not be avoided and reasonable alternatives.

Planning board engineer Craig Hurless said the Phase I audit would include interviews, looking at maps, questionnaires to past owners and checking the DEP website, for example, to see if there was a history of contamination on the site.

"What they are proposing is not exactly the checklist Cape May has, but is an industry standard," Hurless said.

The EIS is an item on a checklist of waivers being sought including a traffic impact study and a solid waste and recycling report. Hurless said the applicant was also seeking waivers from design standards.

He said the applicant requested a waiver from the requirement to pave the parking lot and from providing a storm water removal system. Hurless said there would be no waiver on paving the parking lot and the applicant withdrew the waiver request on the storm water system.

The applicant also requested waivers on an outdoor lighting system of 1.5 foot candles, wanting to provide less, and a waiver of a 12x55 loading area requirement.

"George and I will work out all the conditions attached to any approval given - however the board votes," Hurless said.

Franks Investments has also asked for variances on building height, for existing non-conforming setbacks, and number of parking spaces.

The height variance pertains to a decorative peak, which would extend a little more than a foot above the 35-foot limit. Nemas said an existing storage area on the Stockton Place side of the building would be eliminated, bringing that side's setback into conformity. The existing covered area on the Beach Avenue side is also an existing non-conformity as it is in the setback area.

Most of the discussion of, and objection to the project

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Carpenters union opposes Beach Theatre project

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - Cape May County Carpenters Union Local 1743 has come out opposed to the application by Franks Investments to redevelop the Beach Theatre.

Andrew Bulakowski, vice president and council representative for the union told the planning board the carpenters were concerned that local tradesmen would not be hired to do the work, and urged the board to not grant the variances requested.

After the meeting, Bulakowski said, "Our concern is that it has been the past practice of unscrupulous contractors to bring in outside labor with people, who may not only not be residents of this community, but non-residents of this country. And with the situation this country is in, it's about time everyone is accountable that they do the right thing."

Bulakowski said the union would like to see local contractors hired and the work performed by local residents do the work, providing tax paying jobs, and maintaining union standards of construction.

Bulakowski did not specifically mention the project, but the union protested during the last project of Franks Investments, the construction of the Rio Stadium Theater in Rio Grande.

Actor Robert Prosky, 77, dies from heart complications

By JOHN K. ALVAREZ
Cape May Star and Wave

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Robert Prosky, 77, a supporting actor with hundreds of film, television and stage credits, and whose roles included an avuncular sergeant on the NBC police drama "Hill Street Blues" and a desperate real estate salesman in David Mamet's play "Glengarry Glen Ross," died Dec. 8 at Washington Hospital Center from complications of a heart procedure.

Over his fifty-year career, Prosky had been nominated for two Tony Awards for his work on Broadway in "A Walk in the Woods" and "Glengarry Glen Ross." He won the Outer Critics Circle award for his work in "A Walk in the Woods" and a Helen Hayes Award for his 2008 role in Arthur Miller's "The Price," at Washington's

Arena Stage, a production which was first produced in Cape May at Cape May Stage. He was born Robert Porzuczek in the Manayunk section of Philadelphia, Pa., on Dec. 13, 1930, to Polish-American parents.

Prosky's theatrical career started with Mrs. Gibbon's Boys, at the Bucks County Playhouse in New Hope, Pa. in 1955. In 1958, Prosky began a relationship with Washington's Arena Stage which lasted to earlier this year in their production of Arthur Miller's "The Price," a production started in Cape May at Cape May Stage in 2006 before going to the Walnut Street Theater in Philadelphia this past January.

When Prosky heard that he was going to the Walnut Street Theater, he smiled and said, "I never performed in Philadelphia. I'll be 78 when



Actor Robert Prosky at the Beach Theatre during the recent 2008 Film Festival. Prosky died Monday in Washington, D.C.

I'm making my debut in my own hometown."

Former Cape May Stage artistic director Michael Carleton directed Bob Prosky in "The Price" as well as a benefit reading of "Love Letters," performed in Cape May in 2000 with Estelle Parsons.

When asked for comment on Prosky's death, Carleton said, "I'm sad. It's a sad day for anyone who had known him. I feel honored to have known and worked with him. I know it sounds corny and cliched, but it's true. I'll miss him."

Prosky made his Broadway debut in Michael Weller's "Moonchildren" in 1972. His first Tony Award nomination was in 1984 for his portrayal of the distressed salesman Shelly "The Machine" Levine in David Mamet's drama "Glengarry Glen Ross." His second came in 1988 as a clever Soviet diplomat ver-

bally dancing with an American negotiator, played by Sam Waterston, in Lee Blessing's "A Walk in the Woods." His most recent Broadway role was in 2004 as a German politician in Michael Frayn's "Democracy." Prosky performed "A Walk in the Woods" in several Russian cities also performing in productions of "Inherit the Wind" and "Our Town."

Prosky also had a strong movie career appearing in 37 films.

He portrayed characters ranging from the salt of the earth and the average Joe to the cold and sinister. A few of his more memorable roles were Leo in "Thief," the judge in "The Natural," Father Cavanaugh in "Rudy," Judge Harper, "Miracle on 34th Street" (1994), Jonathan

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