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Solicitor

Continued from page A1

Mahaney said, "I believe he had not handled those cases in the best interest of Cape May, both before the litigation and after."

Mahaney said Monzo was first appointed city solicitor in 1999 by a 3-2 vote. He said he voted against Monzo's appointment for two reasons, the first being there was no open and transparent selection process.

"He was hand picked by certain members of council," Mahaney said.

The second reason, Mahaney said, was because Monzo was already the solicitor in Lower Township and he believed at the time, as he does now, there was an opportunity for a conflict of interest in certain cases, specifically with regard to police and fire services and the water and sewer issues.

He said if Monzo was going to consider or accept the position in Lower Township he should have notified city council.

"It was only professional etiquette and it was not done," Mahaney said.

Mahaney said he was not looking to cause contention but felt the matter needed to be commented upon publicly as a matter of honesty.

"I don't believe there is a conflict with serving in two adjacent towns," Monzo said. "There is always a potential in any legal capacity where legal conflicts arise, but in the seven and a half years I represented both municipalities, Cape May and Lower Township, there was never an instance when I had to stop representing either town."

Monzo said there were, however, conflicts with private clients and a municipality.

As far as the not informing Cape May City Council of his intention to take the Lower job, Monzo said it all happened at the end of the year around the holidays, and since he had served as solicitor in both municipalities up until two years ago he didn't give notifying Cape May a thought.

"If serving in the position was brand new, I would probably have been more sensitive to notifying them," Monzo said.

Monzo said he could not comment on the active legal cases the mayor referred to, but said he did disagree with the mayor's opinion.

"I respect the mayor and his opinion, and he is entitled to it. I don't have any animosity toward him. We have had a good working relationship and it will continue despite this particular issue."

Budgeting

Continued from page A1

progressive ways of creating a budget, a fairer way of raising revenue — other than property taxes — and a fairer way to include all taxpayers in the decisions that affect taxes.

Crowley said the city should look at creating a new method of budgeting and raising revenue, much like the process used to decide on a new Convention Hall, saying the city should gather information, hold public discussions, reach a consensus, and finally, take action.

"There are a lot of needs not being met by traditional budgeting," Crowley said.

Mayor Edward Mahaney referred to shared services as a way of keeping budgets down, but there are only so many shared services a municipality can engage in.

"This municipality went to shared services in several areas years ago, and we can't reap those benefits now," he said.

Mahaney told Crowley Cape May has a higher rate of using miscellaneous revenues than other shore towns. He said the test of time would be to develop an "avant-garde" budgeting process, calling this a challenging and exciting time.

Crowley said TPA would like the city to be proactive

because, "It's not going to be pleasant when we have to cut services."

"We don't want to cut down to no services, we want to find

doing things radically different than we have been doing them?"

Crowley said that is indeed what TPA is saying; it was

'We don't want to cut down to no services, we want to find a way to fund it.'

—Dennis Crowley

a way to fund it," he said.

Councilman Niels Favre capsize Crowley's presentation, saying it raised the question, "Should we be

time to take a serious look at the issues and change the model for budgeting and raising revenue.

Vending spot

Continued from page A1

Second Avenue was considered a high traffic area and

unsuitable for vending.

"You seem to be getting away from that," she said.

Mayor Edward Mahaney

told Johnston city council had not yet made a decision on Second Avenue.

The Johnstons feel the city is disregarding their concerns and doesn't believe this would happen if the hot dog vendors wanted to vend at the Washington Street Mall.

There are seven designated locations for the veteran or volunteer firefighter vendors, all of them on Beach Avenue.

They are located at Grant Avenue, Windsor, the Periwinkle Inn, Philadelphia Avenue, Trenton, Pittsburgh and Wilmington Avenue. The ordinance allows the locations to be changed by the city manager and chief of police. However, MacLeod recommended the ordinance be amended to require changes to be made by city council.

MacLeod recommended removing a 75-foot-from-intersections requirement for at-large vending locations, which would allow for a spot at Second Avenue. MacLeod also recommended changing the language of the ordinance from allowing "at least seven spaces" to "only" seven, so there would be no potential for an increase.

Mahaney said he would favor designating spaces by parking meter numbers so there would be no question about whether the spot was north or south of an intersection, for example. Mahaney said he was also interested in reviewing the entire ordinance, not just the section pertaining to locations, so they would not have to address other issues in the future.

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Flea market

Continued from page A1

ing at 28 weeks. He said he has investigated the matter for two years, and some markets, such as Cowtown, close at the end of the season. U-Sell, he said, operates year around. Ginsberg said he envisions opening three days a week initially and maybe expanding to five days. He said the pavilion would be able to be taken down at the end of the operating period.

Ginsberg said there would probably be a need for part-time employees with the possibility of creating full-time jobs in the future.

Township Manager Kathy McPherson said flea markets are now a permitted use only for non-profits, but suggested having the planning board review the request and make recommendations. She said the ordinance could be amended to include other than non-profit organizations.

Upcoming events and services at Cape Regional

COURT HOUSE - February 2009 Calendar Notes for Cape Regional Medical Center are as follows:

Free Blood Pressure Screening
Cape Regional Medical Center will offer free blood pressure screenings from 9 a.m. to noon, on Friday, Feb. 6 & 20 in the Patient South

Lobby. Call 463-4043 for more information.

Gastric Bypass Support Group
Cape Regional Medical Center will offer a Gastric Bypass support group on Wednesday, Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. in the Maruchi Room. Call 463-4043 for more information.

AA and AlAnon Support Groups

AA and AlAnon Support Groups meet Sunday, Feb. 8, 15, 22 at 10 a.m. in Classrooms A & B. The AlAnon Group meets Monday, Feb. 9, 16, 23 at 7 p.m. in Classrooms A & B. AA meets Wednesday, Feb. 11, 18, 25 in rooms 3 & 4 at 8:30 p.m. New members are welcome. Call 463-4043 for more information.

Weight Watchers
Weight Watchers will meet Tuesday, Feb. 10, 17, 24 in Classrooms A & B. Weigh-ins at 3:30 p.m. and meetings at 4:00 p.m. Fee required. New members are welcome. Call 463-4043 for more information.

Cancer Support
The Cancer Support Group will meet on Thursday, Feb. 12 & 26 at 7 p.m. in the radiation oncology classroom. New members are welcome. Call 463-2298 for more information.

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