

The City of Vineland  
City Council Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, March 31, 2026  
4:00 PM

**Call to Order**

The Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Vineland was called to order by the President, Paul F. Spinelli.

The following members were present at roll call:  
Councilmember Arthur, Councilmember English, Councilmember Vargas, Council Vice President Gomez, Council President Spinelli

Also present were:

Anthony R. Fanucci, Mayor  
Susan M. Baldosaro, Chief Financial Officer  
Robert E. Dickenson, Jr., Business Administrator  
Richard P. Tonetta, Esq., City Solicitor  
Maryanne Wolf, Deputy City Clerk  
Edwin Alicea, Director of Public Safety  
H. James Neher, Director of Public Works

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The President led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Notice**

The City Clerk stated that Public Notice of this meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, has been given on March 29, 2026 by the City Clerk, in the following manner:

1. Posting written notice on the official bulletin board in the lobby of the City Hall;
2. Providing written notice to the offices of The Daily Journal, The Press of Atlantic City, the Vineland Voice and publishing electronically on the city's official website; and
3. Filing written notice in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Vineland.

**Budget Presentation**

The Mayor delivered the 2026 City of Vineland annual budget to City Council with a presentation created by CFO Susan Baldo

**General Public Comment**

Sandy Acevedo from Upper Deerfield Township asked if copies of the budget will be available to the public tonight. Municipal Clerk Franchetta stated it will be online however his office would provide a hard copy free of charge if she requested.

Vineland resident Andrea Land questioned statements made by Mr. Beyney in a newsletter, asking for clearer and more specific explanations. She requested details on what “stringent safety rules” are being followed and under which laws, how a “safe location” for storage tanks is

defined, and what “standard inspections” and “general procedures” actually involve. She also expressed concern that the project being built may differ from what was originally approved—suggesting a data center campus could be under construction without proper approval—and asked if someone could get clarification on these points.

Vineland resident Ramon Mora Jr. raised concerns about a projected budget deficit tied to rising health insurance and salary costs, questioning what is causing the shortfall. He suggested it could be due to tax breaks for large companies, along with city spending on renovations, vehicles, and other projects while many residents are struggling financially. He asked how the city plans to cover an estimated \$39–40 million gap, whether taxes on residents will increase, and whether lower- and middle-income residents will bear the burden instead of businesses paying their fair share. Overall, he questioned how the city will fund its future goals and infrastructure needs.

Larry Garrity from Vineland criticized the short 48-hour (but legal) notice for the meeting, arguing it limits public participation and reflects a lack of effort to involve residents. He also expressed frustration with officials leaving before public comment and questioned the city’s priorities for 2026, specifically opposing the inclusion of a War on Terror memorial.

### **Ordinances First Reading**

- 1) **ORDINANCE NO. 2026-20, BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO VARIOUS ROADS AND RELATED DRAINAGE AND SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE CITY OF VINELAND, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$10,000,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$9,500,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE CITY TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.**

The Clerk presented, ORDINANCE NO. 2026-20 which was ready for a First Reading.

The President entertained a motion moved by Councilmember Vargas, and seconded by Councilmember Dr. Arthur, that ORDINANCE NO. 2026-20 be taken up for a First Reading.

The Clerk called the roll: YEAS:

Councilmember Dr. Elizabeth Arthur, Councilmember Scott English, Councilmember Albert Vargas, Council Vice President Cruz Gomez, Council President Paul Spinelli

The Clerk read ORDINANCE NO. 2026-20, BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO VARIOUS ROADS AND RELATED DRAINAGE AND SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE CITY OF VINELAND, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$10,000,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$9,500,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE CITY TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

The President entertained a motion moved by Councilmember Vargas, and seconded by Councilmember Dr. Arthur, that ORDINANCE NO. 2026-20 be passed for First Reading and that a Public Hearing be held on Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 5:30 P.M.

The President asked if there was any discussion by Council members on this motion.

There being no discussion, the Clerk called the roll: YEAS:

Councilmember Dr. Elizabeth Arthur, Councilmember Scott English,  
Councilmember Albert Vargas, Council Vice President Cruz Gomez, Council President Paul Spinelli

- 2) ORDINANCE NO. 2026-21, ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$9,850,000 FROM THE ELECTRIC UTILITY'S CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS TO THE VINELAND MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY IN AND BY THE CITY OF VINELAND, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, NEW JERSEY.

The Clerk presented, ORDINANCE NO. 2026-21 which was ready for a First Reading.

The President entertained a motion moved by Councilmember Vargas, and seconded by Councilmember Dr. Arthur, that ORDINANCE NO. 2026-21 be taken up for a First Reading.

The Clerk called the roll: YEAS:

Councilmember Dr. Elizabeth Arthur, Councilmember Scott English, Councilmember Albert Vargas, Council Vice President Cruz Gomez, Council President Paul Spinelli

The Clerk read ORDINANCE NO. 2026-21, ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$9,850,000 FROM THE ELECTRIC UTILITY'S CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS TO THE VINELAND MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY IN AND BY THE CITY OF VINELAND, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, NEW JERSEY.

The President entertained a motion moved by Councilmember Vargas, and seconded by Councilmember Arthur, that ORDINANCE NO. 2026-21 be passed for First Reading and that a Public Hearing be held on Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 5:30 P.M.

The President asked if there was any discussion by Council members on this motion.

There being no discussion, the Clerk called the roll: YEAS:

Councilmember Dr. Elizabeth Arthur, Councilmember Scott English,  
Councilmember Albert Vargas, Council Vice President Cruz Gomez, Council President Paul Spinelli

- 3) ORDINANCE NO. 2026-22, BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE CITY OF VINELAND, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$10,000,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$9,500,000 BONDS

## OR NOTES OF THE CITY TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

The Clerk presented, ORDINANCE NO. 2026-22 which was ready for a First Reading.

The President entertained a motion moved by Councilmember Vargas, and seconded by Councilmember Dr. Arthur, that ORDINANCE NO. 2026-22 be taken up for a First Reading.

The Clerk called the roll: YEAS:

Councilmember Dr. Elizabeth Arthur, Councilmember Scott English, Councilmember Albert Vargas, Council Vice President Cruz Gomez, Council President Paul Spinelli

The Clerk read ORDINANCE NO. 2026-22, BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE CITY OF VINELAND, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$10,000,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$9,500,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE CITY TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

The President entertained a motion moved by Councilmember Vargas, and seconded by Councilmember Dr. Arthur, that ORDINANCE NO. 2026-22 be passed for First Reading and that a Public Hearing be held on Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 5:30 P.M.

The President asked if there was any discussion by Council members on this motion.

There being no discussion, the Clerk called the roll: YEAS:

Councilmember Dr. Elizabeth Arthur, Councilmember Scott English, Councilmember Albert Vargas, Council Vice President Cruz Gomez, Council President Paul Spinelli

### **Resolutions**

- 1) RESOLUTION NO. 2026-145, A RESOLUTION TO INTRODUCE THE CALENDAR YEAR 2026 MUNICIPAL BUDGET OF THE CITY OF VINELAND.

The Clerk presented, RESOLUTION NO. 2026-145, A RESOLUTION TO INTRODUCE THE CALENDAR YEAR 2026 MUNICIPAL BUDGET OF THE CITY OF VINELAND.

The President entertained a motion moved by Councilmember Vargas, and seconded by Councilmember Dr. Arthur that, RESOLUTION NO. 2026-145 be approved and adopted according to law.

The President asked if there was any discussion by Council Members on this motion.

There being no discussion, the Clerk called the roll: YEAS:

Councilmember Dr. Elizabeth Arthur, Councilmember Scott English, Councilmember Albert Vargas, Council Vice President Cruz Gomez, Council President Paul Spinelli

2) RESOLUTION NO. 2026-146, A RESOLUTION MAKING TEMPORARY EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2026 PENDING FINAL ADOPTION OF THE CALENDAR YEAR 2026 BUDGET.

The Clerk presented, RESOLUTION NO. 2026-146, A RESOLUTION MAKING TEMPORARY EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2026 PENDING FINAL ADOPTION OF THE CALENDAR YEAR 2026 BUDGET.

The President entertained a motion moved by Councilmember Vargas, and seconded by Councilmember Dr. Arthur that, RESOLUTION NO. 2026-146 be approved and adopted according to law.

The President asked if there was any discussion by Council Members on this motion.

There being no discussion, the Clerk called the roll: YEAS:

Councilmember Dr. Elizabeth Arthur, Councilmember Scott English, Councilmember Albert Vargas, Council Vice President Cruz Gomez, Council President Paul Spinelli

3) RESOLUTION NO. 2026-147, RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING COMPLIANCE WITH THE UNITED STATES EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION'S ENFORCEMENT GUIDANCE ON THE CONSIDERATION OF ARREST AND CONVICTION RECORDS IN EMPLOYMENT DECISIONS UNDER TITLE VII OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964.

The Clerk presented, RESOLUTION NO. 2026-147, RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING COMPLIANCE WITH THE UNITED STATES EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION'S ENFORCEMENT GUIDANCE ON THE CONSIDERATION OF ARREST AND CONVICTION RECORDS IN EMPLOYMENT DECISIONS UNDER TITLE VII OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964.

The President entertained a motion moved by Councilmember Vargas, and seconded by Councilmember Dr. Arthur that, RESOLUTION NO. 2026-147 be approved and adopted according to law.

The President asked if there was any discussion by Council Members on this motion.

There being no discussion, the Clerk called the roll: YEAS:

Councilmember Dr. Elizabeth Arthur, Councilmember Scott English, Councilmember Albert Vargas, Council Vice President Cruz Gomez, Council President Paul Spinelli

4) RESOLUTION NO. 2026-148, RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF VINELAND MAKING APPLICATION TO THE LOCAL FINANCE BOARD PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.3(ee).

The Clerk presented, RESOLUTION NO. 2026-148, RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF VINELAND MAKING APPLICATION TO THE LOCAL FINANCE BOARD PURSUANT

TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.3(ee).

The President entertained a motion moved by Councilmember Vargas, and seconded by Councilmember Dr. Arthur that, RESOLUTION NO. 2026-148 be approved and adopted according to law.

The President asked if there was any discussion by Council Members on this motion.

There being no discussion, the Clerk called the roll: YEAS:

Councilmember Dr. Elizabeth Arthur, Councilmember Scott English, Councilmember Albert Vargas, Council Vice President Cruz Gomez, Council President Paul Spinelli

- 5) RESOLUTION NO. 2026-149, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH ASSOCIATED HUMANE SOCIETIES, SOUTH, VINELAND, NEW JERSEY, FOR ANIMAL SHELTER SERVICES FOR JANUARY 1, 2026 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2026.

The Clerk presented, RESOLUTION NO. 2026-149, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH ASSOCIATED HUMANE SOCIETIES, SOUTH, VINELAND, NEW JERSEY, FOR ANIMAL SHELTER SERVICES FOR JANUARY 1, 2026 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2026.

The President entertained a motion moved by Councilmember Vargas, and seconded by Councilmember Dr. Arthur that, RESOLUTION NO. 2026-149 be approved and adopted according to law.

The President asked if there was any discussion by Council Members on this motion.

There being no discussion, the Clerk called the roll: YEAS:

Councilmember Dr. Elizabeth Arthur, Councilmember Scott English, Councilmember Albert Vargas, Council Vice President Cruz Gomez, Council President Paul Spinelli

### **Privilege of the Floor**

No comments.

### **Adjournment**

The President entertained a motion moved by Councilmember Vargas, and seconded by Councilmember Dr. Arthur, to adjourn the meeting.

The Clerk called the roll: YEAS:

Councilmember Dr. Elizabeth Arthur, Councilmember Scott English, Councilmember Albert Vargas, Council Vice President Cruz Gomez, Council President Paul Spinelli

Meeting adjourned at 04:28 PM

ATTEST:

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Paul F. Spinelli  
Council President

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Richard G. Franchetta, RMC  
City Clerk