

The City of Vineland
City Council Special Meeting
Tuesday, February 3, 2026
6:00 PM

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 Dr. Arthur, Councilmember English, Councilmember Vargas, Council Vice President Gomez, Council President Spinelli

Also present were:

Robert E. Dickenson, Jr., Business Administrator

Richard P. Tonetta, Esq., City Solicitor

Maryanne Wolf, Deputy City Clerk

Edwin Alicea, Director of Public Safety

Ryan Headley, City Engineer

The President led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The City Clerk stated that Public Notice of this meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, has been given on January 27, 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 and the Vineland Voice; and;
3. Filing written notice in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Vineland.

The President recognized City Engineer Ryan Headley who gave a presentation to council on prospected recreational improvements to Howard Pagluighi Park by way of a full funding grant application to the NJDEP Green Acres Park Development Program.

Vineland resident Nicole Gardener asked for clarification on this grant application versus the LRIG grant the city is also going to apply for at its next council meeting. She also addressed other options should the city not receive funding. Scott Armato, Triad & Associates (Vineland's grant writers) provided some clarity on the issue. Ryan Headley also commented that while this project is likely set, supplemental funding and other exercising options are being looked at following this application.

Vineland resident Steve Lewis asked if there would be lighting for the pickleball courts and walking track. Headley responded in the affirmative and also mentioned the park will likely be gated like other parks which abide by Green Acres standards.

The Clerk presented, RESOLUTION NO. 2026-46, A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE MISS VINELAND PAGEANT

The President entertained a motion moved by Councilmember Vargas, and seconded by Councilmember Dr. Arthur that, RESOLUTION NO. 2026-46 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

The Clerk presented, THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION GREEN ACRES PROGRAM - PARK DEVELOPMENT, which was ready for a Public Hearing.

The President entertained a motion by Councilmember Vargas, and seconded by Councilmember Dr. Arthur, that THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION GREEN ACRES PROGRAM - PARK DEVELOPMENT, be taken up for a public hearing and open to the public for discussion.

The Clerk called the roll: YEAS:

Councilmember Dr. Arthur
Councilmember English
Councilmember Vargas
Council Vice President Gomez
Council President Spinelli

The President asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to be heard on THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION GREEN ACRES PROGRAM - PARK DEVELOPMENT project.

There being no one to be heard, the President entertained a motion moved by Councilmember Vargas and seconded by Councilmember Dr. Arthur, that the public hearing on THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION GREEN ACRES PROGRAM - PARK DEVELOPMENT project, be closed.

The Clerk called the roll: YEAS:

Councilmember Dr. Arthur
Councilmember English
Councilmember Vargas

Council Vice President Gomez Council
President Spinelli

The Clerk presented, RESOLUTION NO. 2026-47, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GREEN ACRES PROGRAM - PARK DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION TO THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

The President entertained a motion moved by Councilmember Vargas, and seconded by Councilmember Dr. Arthur that, RESOLUTION NO. 2026-47 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

The Clerk presented, RESOLUTION NO. 2026-48, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC FROM A MEETING BETWEEN THE MAYOR, CITY COUNCIL, CITY CLERK AND STAFF, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR AND STAFF, CITY SOLICITOR AND STAFF, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER AND STAFF AND HEALTH OFFICER AND STAFF CONCERNING CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH ASSOCIATED HUMANE SOCIETIES COMMUNITY SHELTER, FORMERLY SOUTH JERSEY REGIONAL ANIMAL SHELTER AND MATTERS RELATING TO LITIGATION IN WHICH THE PUBLIC BODY IS OR MAY BECOME A PARTY AND MATTERS FALLING UNDER THE ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE AND AUTHORIZING THE DISCLOSURE OF MINUTES OF SAID MEETING AS PROVIDED HEREIN.

The President entertained a motion moved by Councilmember Vargas, and seconded by Councilmember Dr. Arthur that, RESOLUTION NO. 2026-48 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

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

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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 06:34 PM

Paul F. Spinelli
Council President

ATTEST:

Richard G. Franchetta, RMC, EJD
City Clerk