

“GOD BLESS AMERICA”

REGULAR MEETING

SEPTEMBER 1, 2015

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Belmar held on the above date at 6:00 PM at the Belmar Municipal Building, 601 Main Street.

PRESENT: Mayor Doherty (left at 7:15 p.m.), Councilman Brennan, Councilwoman Keown-Blackburn, Councilman Magovern, Borough Attorney Michael DuPont Esq., Business Administrator Colleen Connolly, and Borough Clerk April Claudio

ABSENT: Councilwoman Nicolay

The Borough Clerk stated “Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided to The Coast Star, the official newspaper of the Borough of Belmar, and the Asbury Park Press on December 29, 2014 notice of this meeting was prominently posted on the bulletin board of the Municipal Building and filed with the Clerk of the Borough of Belmar.

NATIONAL ANTHEM (Sung by Chris Kelly)

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: First Responder of the Month (postponed)

WORKSHOP DISCUSSION:

- Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety Committee Presentation
 - o Kate Walters, member of the Committee, presented the Committee’s report to the Mayor and Council and gave a summarized PowerPoint presentation.
 - Report will be submitted to State, County, and other entities for review and help with addressing.
 - Want to have Complete Streets: streets that can be shared by pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicles.
 - Areas of discussion: Hwy 35 & 71, Main Street, 16th Avenue, and Ocean Avenue
 - Discussed possible solutions
 - Also suggest looking into safe paths to the schools and a cinder path at Lake Como
 - o Mayor Doherty would like the report posted on the Borough’s website.
 - o Council member Magovern was concerned the grass area near Lake Como may not be wide enough for a path.
 - o Tom Burke, Committee member, thanked Ms. Walters for working with the group. Thanked Bill McKim for the photos in the presentation. Thanked Ms. Connolly and Kelsey Windas for helping to prepare the PowerPoint. Stated the proposals for Ocean Avenue have to be approved by the County and they require the proposed changes be adopted into the Borough’s Master Plan.
 - o Council member Keown-Blackburn stated they also want to educate the pedestrians and bicyclists as well not just vehicles.
 - o Ms. Walters added that besides adding additional signage, enforcement will have to be addressed.
 - o Council member Brennan agreed education and enforcement are important.
- Monmouth County Open Space Grant – Maclearie Park improvements, Phase II – Public Hearing
 - o Ms. Connolly gave a PowerPoint presentation.
 - Phase II consists of: parking lot improvements, parking lot lighting, walkway/boardwalk lighting, utility work, grills and picnic tables
 - Will pick up an additional 30-40 parking spaces with new plan
 - o Council member Magovern asked if there are any plans to light the tennis courts. Ms. Connolly stated there is nothing about lights for the tennis courts on the plans. Council member Magovern suggested blue stone gravel instead of the grass pavers for the parking spots. He added that when they had Bocce courts at the park a long time ago they went unused because the seagulls made a mess of them. Suggested removing them and giving more grass area.
 - o Council member Keown-Blackburn suggested looking into pedestrian crossing at streets other than L Street.
 - o Council member Brennan felt the first plan had a more open green space when the tennis courts were at the north which he thinks would be better but the new plan has two patches of grass area. He would like to hear from the public about this.
 - o Mayor Doherty thanked Ms. Connolly for working to obtain grant money. He added that this design allows for the improvements to be done and the bulkhead improvements to be done later

when funding is obtained.

- Janet Brazenos 1206 Briarwood, stated she feels the park needs to be cleaned up and not redeveloped.
- Carolyn Wooley, 1311 River Road, was concerned that the park where children and families play will be destroyed. She would like it to be restored to what it was and have it maintained.
- Mayor Doherty stated he understands not wanting views blocked but we are looking at ways to use the money to better the park.
- Terry Rauskauskas, 912 13th Avenue, stated what was presented was responsive to the feedback. Encouraged neighbors to have their ears open and offer their support but also wants the town to listen. This is a great opportunity to restore the park in a way that is productive.
- Ellen Ramey, 710 8th Avenue, had a cookout at Maclearie Park on August 22nd which was wonderful however she was approached by a resident that said this was the last cookout she would have and wanted her to give a statement.
- Mary Hall, 1217 Maplewood Road, asked for clarification on the grants. Ms. Connolly stated the grant under discussion tonight is for \$250,000 with a match from the Borough for \$250,000 which can be paid for through other grants. Ms. Connolly added that the Green Acres grant is part grant and part loan. Ms. Hall stated it would be easier for her to understand if the Borough's budgets were posted online. Ms. Hall asked why we can't start the bulkheads with this money. Ms. Connolly stated the money that has been awarded is not for the bulkhead. Mayor Doherty stated we will work on obtaining funding for the bulkhead.
- Mayor Doherty clarified that this public hearing is just a requirement as part of the application to allow us to apply for grant money for Phase II of the improvements.
- Ms. Hall felt this project should be treated like a zoning board application where positive and negative criteria are provided. She would like to know dollar amounts that the tax payers may be held accountable for.
- Ted Ehmann, Oakwood Road, stated he received a copy of the plan through an OPRA request on August 21st which is different than the plan that was presented tonight. He would have liked minutes to have been kept of the neighborhood meetings held at Turnstile. He was concerned about the plans for Phase I having been revised since the grant was awarded and was concerned about meeting deadlines. Ms. Connolly reminded everyone this hearing is on Phase II only. Mr. Ehmann felt the Planning Board should be involved in the redesign. He felt there should have been more involvement from the Council on this redesign.
- Linda Weinstein, 1219 Maplewood Road, expressed concern about this not being a transparent process.
- Council member Magovern stated there will always be a concern from someone they didn't get notice about this but feels everyone will be happy with the outcome because the park needs to be upgraded and they won't notice much change except for it being nicer.
- Ms. Weinstein felt the bulkhead needs to be addressed first. Was concerned this grant money would be wasted when the bulkhead work eventually starts.
- Bill Strauss, 1218 Oakwood Road, was concerned about the work done to the park being torn up when the bulkhead is done. Wanted to make sure the scuba stairs don't go away. He asked about the FOBH sailing program. Ms. Connolly stated the FOBH will have the same space they have now.
- Carol Cupoli, 402 Ninth Avenue, believes the work that has been done is in the best interest of everyone. It doesn't seem to be changing a lot. Doesn't understand what the complaints are about if we have the money to do this and would have a nicer park. These improvements can only be better.
- Michael Seebeck, 110 2nd Avenue, thinks the money should be used to improve the tennis courts and is happy the park is being kept stable. Asked if there has been a study on the bulkhead. He had a friend who looked at it and felt the bulkhead has some life in it and can possibly be repaired. Council member Magovern stated he would hope the engineer has looked at it and we could find out.
- Laurie Brown, 1201 Briarwood Road, stated notification about this must be improved. Asked for clarification on Phase I and Phase II. She stated the community doesn't want Phase III and IV and just wants the improvements to stop here. She was concerned about a three story building for the FOBH. Council member Magovern stated there is no building. Ms. Connolly clarified the box on the plan is just to show the existing footprint of space that the FOBH currently uses. Ms. Brown stated she would like to see less parking.
- Claire Deicke, 1007 14th Avenue, stated she is glad to hear the L Street traffic light will be longer. She stated she likes the improvements.
- George Skadara, 1311 River Road, asked why we haven't tried to restore some of the damage to Maclearie Park, i.e. the fence, bushes, and debris. Council member Magovern stated DPW has spent many hours on cleanup. Ms. Connolly stated the fence is to be replaced as part of these improvements. Mr. Skadara was concerned about a structure for the FOBH sailing program. He asked about the pavilion that was on a plan. Ms. Connolly stated it is a shade structure shown on the Phase I plan and is something that the Borough already owns.

- Mark Levis, 904 13th Avenue, stated he went to every single meeting since 2013. What he saw at the meetings was an elaborate plan that got scaled down. He added that we can't make everyone happy but the council has tried to address some concerns. Thinks the Council has done a pretty good job of keeping it simple.
 - Kathleen Devine, 1208 Briarwood, asked for some clarifications on the plan. Her only concern would be if her view changes. Council member Magovern stated her view would not change. She stated she feels the bulkhead should be top priority.
 - Gene Murray, 710 8th Avenue, felt people are going to complain even if the park is free. He would just like everyone to agree to have a nice park that everyone can enjoy.
 - Theresa Pringle 1002 13th Avenue, stated she is a big advocate for bulkhead vs beauty. Doesn't know of anyone who wants a new park over just improving what's there. Council member Magovern clarified that we had applied for money for the bulkhead too but was denied. Ms. Pringle stated in 2011 she submitted a list of items that needed to be repaired at the park that were never done. She felt someone should do a punch list of what needs to be fixed and do it in house.
 - Gene Creamer, Fourth Avenue, stated he reviewed Monmouth County and DEP records and the Borough doesn't own the bulkhead. Felt the plan should show property lines. Felt the property owners should have been involved in the process by way of sending letters to the Freeholders or State officials. He asked if there will need to be 24 hour surveillance by the police department. Was concerned about water quality of the L Street beach being affected by the parking lot being extended closer to the beach.
 - Licia McClary, 1205 Briarwood Road, stated she received some documents but they don't match what was presented tonight. Ms. Connolly stated the presentation was worked on all day today and the final version is on the website for everyone to review.
 - Linda Chelston, 1602 L Street, stated she came to talk about previous plans but is impressed with the changes and the plans presented tonight. She stated there is no excuse for the unsanitary conditions at the park. She would actually like to see more parking on site if possible.
 - Council member Magovern made a motion to close the public hearing, which was seconded by Council member Keown-Blackburn and approved unanimously.
- Ordinance 2015-26 Pay to Play amendments: Council member Magovern made a motion to table this discussion until the next meeting, which was seconded by Council member Keown-Blackburn and approved unanimously.
 - At 8:30 pm Council member Magovern made a motion to take a recess, which was seconded by Council member Brennan and approved unanimously. At 8:37 pm the Council reconvened.

PETITIONS: none

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Council member Keown-Blackburn made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2015 meeting, which was seconded by Council member Magovern and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Keown-Blackburn, Magovern, and Brennan

REPORTS OF COUNCIL:

Council member Keown-Blackburn: Thanked Kate Walters for the presentation on the pedestrian and bicycle safety committee. The Recreation/Mayors Wellness walking group walked 4,505,499 steps and had a luncheon today to celebrate. September 9th is the senior lunch with flu shots. ADA Committee has mobility devices available to residents. There are a lot of upcoming bus trips. September 26th and 27th is town wide yard sale.

Council member Brennan: Just came back from a visit in New Orleans. Resident Krista Sperber was there with a group working on helping those in the Ninth Ward that haven't rebuilt. Felt we should use New Orleans as an example of how not to handle the rebuilding process after a major storm.

Council member Magovern: November 7th is Historical Society Bootleggers Ball. Beach report; biggest summer we have ever had. Read DPW report.

PUBLIC SESSION: Public Session on resolutions only on the Agenda. We will continue to have a Public Session at the end of this meeting.

Ted Ehmman, 1218 Oakwood Road, asked to urge the council not to go to application on Phase II for Maclearie Park because the residents haven't had enough time to review the new plan. He stated he thinks the plan can be revised to change the parking area. He would like clarification that Monmouth County Open Space is okay with

our modified plans.

David Schneck, 302 C Street, stated Paul Repetti died who was co-owner of the Waterview Pavilion and was not mentioned in the beginning during the moment of silence. He asked about a payment to Spark about a guide printing. Ms. Connolly stated she believes it's for the waterway guide advertising the marina but would double check. He asked about a bond interest payment. Ms. Connolly stated she would send him the information. He asked about green trust loan payments. Ms. Connolly stated she would send him the information. He asked about the wire transfer for the Central Jersey JIF.

Mike Seebeck, 110 Second Avenue, asked if there is any harm in waiting on voting on the resolution for phase II. Council member Magovern stated we need to get this moving forward because we can't apply for the grant without the vote.

Council member Brennan stated he feels by seeking these grants and doing the improvements it shows how serious we are about this park and makes it harder for the state or anyone to deny a grant for the bulkhead. He added that every change that was made was from resident input.

Mr. Seebeck would like in the future that any changes be discussed with residents before design plans are made.

George Skadara, 1311 River Road, asked if the band shell is no longer part of the plan for Maclearie Park. Council member Brennan replied yes. Mr. Skadara asked again about a building for the FOBH. Council member Brennan and Magovern stated there is no building. He stated he believes the FOBH has a lease. Council member Magovern stated the FOBH doesn't have a lease, but the standup paddleboards do.

Mary Hall, 1217 Maplewood, asked if the Borough knew that we don't own the bulkhead. Council member Magovern replied yes.

Michael Druz, 400 Ocean Avenue, stated we may not own the bulkhead but we may be responsible for maintaining it. He feels it's better to make the application and make changes later rather than missing the deadline for submission.

Bill Strauss, 1218 Oakwood Road, asked Council member Magovern if he knew we didn't own the bulkhead. Council member Magovern replied yes. Ms. Connolly stated she knew too. Mr. Strauss felt the residents in that area should have known that.

Council member Magovern made a motion to close the public session, which was seconded by Council member Brennan and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Keown-Blackburn, Magovern, and Brennan

CONSENT AGENDA:

All matters listed in the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Borough Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

RESOLUTIONS BY CONSENT:

Council member Magovern offered the following resolutions for adoption:

2015-163

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS

2015-164

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR

2015-165

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO THE MONMOUTH COUNTY MUNICIPAL OPEN SPACE GRANT PROGRAM

Seconded by Council member Keown-Blackburn and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Keown-Blackburn, Magovern, and Brennan

PAYMENT OF BILLS: certification that the vouchers listed on the warrant register numbering 64213 thru 64284 are as follows and comply with requirements of State Law and Borough Ordinance as to content and

form, that proper and sufficient appropriations exist for the payment to be made and that there is legal authority as provided in N.J.S. 40A: 5-17(a)(1) for the payment to be made.

01 General Account	\$1,213,447.68
11 Water/Sewer Account	\$111,294.63
21 Beach Utility Account	\$151,454.58
55 Trust Fund Account	\$6,202.00
61 Tourism Development Account	\$10,816.25
Total	\$1,493,215.14

ORDINANCES: None

PUBLIC SESSION:

Theresa Pringle, 1002 13th Avenue, thinks the safety committee study is great. She is concerned about Jack's Tavern and Federici's there is not enough room on the sidewalk. Also near Tulipanos. She would like the entrance to the marina to be moved from K Street to 12th Avenue possibly. Would like the DPW to clean up the waterworks property at 12th and railroad.

David Schneck, 302 C Street, was concerned about traffic at 5th and Main because they can't see when the drawbridge is up because of the new building. He suggested an indicator sign on 5th Avenue to let people know that the bridge is up. He asked if the pay to play ordinance amendments will be introduced for first reading at the next meeting. He felt there should be a public hearing on it before the ordinance is even drafted.

Brendan Reed, 100 9th Avenue, September 17th is kite festival, beach bash and surf pro.

Chuck Ross, 1223 Maplewood Road, stated he couldn't find the plans online for Maclearie Park. Thought if the plan was up earlier it could have addressed some of the concerns. Asked if there is anything that can be done by the residents for the dredging. Council member Magovern stated they are going to start dredging the state channels in the fall.

George Komitas, 111 Third Avenue, stated the FOBH is a great program. Is happy to hear about pedestrian and bicycle safety. He thought everyone would be happy about the changes to Maclearie Park.

Council member Magovern made a motion to close the public session and adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Council member Brennan and approved unanimously.

Respectively Submitted,

April Claudio
Municipal Clerk