

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

MINUTES

MAY 4, 2021

6:00 PM

Mayor Mark Walsifer, Councilman Thomas Brennan, Councilman James McCracken, Councilman Thomas Carvelli, Council President Patricia Wann, Borough Attorney Jerry Dasti, Business Administrator Edward Kirschenbaum and Borough Clerk April Claudio

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 2, 2020 and 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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE: Our troops and their families

WORKSHOP DISCUSSION:

Mayor Walsifer stated the first aid building is for sale and asked the Council if the Borough should try to negotiate for it. The Council discussed using the building for consolidating fire houses, training for fire, first aid and lifeguards and for storage. Councilman McCracken asked if they would donate the building to the Borough. Mayor Walsifer felt it would be better for the Borough to have the building for emergency services rather than let it go to a developer.

Mayor Walsifer explained the water/sewer rate ordinance will be changing. As discussed last year when the rates were changed the Borough reevaluated the ordinance and determined that changes could be made. Specifically, the multi-unit charge will be removed, and each unit will be charged the \$88.95 minimum fee and get 5000 gallons of water included with that rate. This will help the condos who would then get build at the tier rates after they go over the 5000 gallons. This makes it fair for everyone.

Councilman McCracken asked for an update on painting the water tower. Mayor Walsifer stated the Borough engineer is preparing a cost estimate.

Chief Scott gave a police update. A resolution is on the agenda for the purchase of body worn cameras which is a new state mandate. A grant will be applied for to get reimbursed for them. The mobile speed sign is moving around town. It was on Ninth Avenue last week and about 85% of the drivers were following the speed limit.

Councilman McCracken asked about resolution 2021-108. Mr. Kirschenbaum stated it is an annual resolution the County requires for Belmar to partake in their program.

PROCLAMATION: Municipal Clerk's Week

PETITIONS: Opposing Mediterranean Project

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Councilwoman Wann made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2021 meeting, which was seconded by Mayor Walsifer and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Wann, Brennan, McCracken and Walsifer

ABSTAIN: Carvelli

REPORTS OF COUNCIL:

Councilman Carvelli: Thanked Ms. Claudio for all that she does.

Councilman McCracken: Thanked Ms. Claudio and stated she is an asset to the town and a pleasure to work with. The Housing Authority roof is almost done, Wi-Fi is being installed, the parking lot will be resurfaced, and the units are full. Shade Tree Commission had a successful Arbor Day.

Councilman Brennan: Mother's Day is this weekend. Hook and Ladder Fire Department is hosting a flower sail as a fundraiser. D'Jais is hosting a vaccine clinic on May 12th. Harbor Commission met and the marina slips are almost full.

Councilwoman Wann: Library gave a presentation at the last ADA committee meeting. Circle of Friends dances will be at Pyanoe Plaza. Thanked Ms. Claudio for everything she does.

Mayor Walsifer: Town wide yard sale is May 15th and 16th. Ms. Claudio is working on a farmer's market in June. Borough is looking into a new movie screen for movies on the beach.

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

Gene Creamer, 4th Avenue, was opposed to Resolution 2021-111.

Katrina Clapsis, 1304 B Street, asked who will be renting the Cruz Bay Café. Mayor Walsifer stated it will be run by Jimmy's Pizza.

Councilman Brennan made a motion to close the public session, which was seconded by Mayor Walsifer and approved unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA - RESOLUTIONS:

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.

Councilman Carvelli offered the following resolutions for adoption:

No. 2021-106 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS

No. 2021-107 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDS

No. 2021-108 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR TO PARTICIPATE IN INTRA-COUNTY MUTUAL AID AND ASSISTANCE AGREEMENTS WITH PARTICIPATING UNITS IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH

No. 2021-109 RESOLUTION APPROVING ADDITIONAL DRIVERS OF FIRE APPARATUS FOR HOOK & LADDER FIRE COMPANY NO. 1 FOR 2021

No. 2021-110 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH LOCAL 399 AFM FOR MUSICAL SERVICES FOR 2021

No. 2021-111 RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, OPPOSING THE RATE INCREASES REQUESTED BY NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS

No. 2021-112 RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE AND EXECUTION OF A LEASE AGREEMENT

No. 2021-113 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT TO THE 2021 TEMPORARY BUDGET

No. 2021-114 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF BODY CAMERAS UNDER THE BODY WORN CAMERA GRANT FOR POLICE DEPT

Seconded by Councilman Brennan and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Wann, Brennan, McCracken, Carvelli and Walsifer

ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-08 *First Reading & Introduction*

ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 29-7 OF THE BOROUGH CODE ENTITLED "RATES AND SERVICE CHARGES"

Councilman Brennan offered Ordinance 2021-08 for first reading and introduction, which was seconded by Councilwoman Wann and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Wann, Brennan, McCracken, Carvelli and Walsifer

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-09 *First Reading & Introduction*

ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND

SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 18-2.7 OF THE BOROUGH CODE ENTITLED “RULES AND REGULATIONS.”

Councilman Carvelli offered Ordinance 2021-09 for first reading and introduction, which was seconded by Councilwoman Brennan and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Wann, Brennan, McCracken, Carvelli and Walsifer

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-10 *First Reading & Introduction*

ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 16-14 OF THE BOROUGH CODE ENTITLED “REGULATION OF CONDUCT IN PUBLIC PARKS, RECREATION AREAS OR ANY OTHER PUBLIC PROPERTY.”

Mayor Walsifer offered Ordinance 2021-10 for first reading and introduction, which was seconded by Councilman Brennan and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Wann, Brennan, McCracken, Carvelli and Walsifer

PUBLIC SESSION:

Ms. Claudio read an email from Anita Pecorelli, First Avenue, asking when the library will be reopening. Mr. Kirschenbaum stated the library is having a meeting with the state this week to discuss reopening procedures.

Linda Sharkus, 4th Avenue, stated Ms. Claudio does a great job. Asked for an update on pickleball and tennis. Mayor Walsifer stated we are waiting for the contractor to finish the work on the courts.

Megan Hacker, 5th Avenue, sent emails regarding the 5th Avenue paid parking and is awaiting a response.

Mayor Walsifer stated he is working on a plan for anyone that has a hardship, and the parking is not being enforced yet.

Gina Colucci, 5th Avenue, was concerned about the end time for paid parking of 10 pm being too late. Mayor Walsifer stated he hopes the paid parking will deter the popup car shows. She asked for an explanation on the \$2 vs. \$1 per hour rate. Mayor Walsifer stated the judge determined that the beach could only be charged \$1, and it cannot be increased without justifiable reasons.

Tom Volker, 527 8th Avenue, stated the noise from the pop car shows is horrendous. Chief Scott is handling the issue when it arises.

Gerald Buccafusco, 409 5th Avenue, thanked Ms. Claudio for doing a great job. His petition is to allow residents to have a voice on the redevelopment project. He is not against redevelopment as long as it is within the guidelines.

Carmel Calcagno, 1244 Maplewood Road, was concerned about the paid parking on North Boulevard because that is where she parks when going to the beach. Mayor Walsifer explained there are plenty of free parking spaces on the west side of Ocean Avenue and throughout the neighborhoods.

Maria Rondinaro, 1246 Pinetree Way, thanked Ms. Claudio for everything she does. She signed the petition because it will create a traffic nightmare. She asked if the redevelopment project would increase flood insurance costs for the residents. Mayor Walsifer explained the project would be built in compliance with flood zone regulations. She asked if meetings return to in person that a virtual option still be provided for those that cannot attend in person. She would like to see all residents get free parking in town.

Gene Creamer, 4th Avenue, asked if the water level in Silver Lake gets adjusted. John Maguire, DPW, explained it gets lowered when a storm is coming. Mr. Creamer suggested looking into the rules about the beach utility because he believes we may be able to change the parking fee.

Councilman Carvelli made a motion to close the public session and adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mayor Walsifer and approved unanimously.

Respectively submitted,

April Claudio
Municipal Clerk