

## MAYOR AND COUNCIL

### MINUTES

MARCH 2, 2021

6:00 PM

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

**ABSENT:** Councilman Thomas Carvelli

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, first responders and healthcare workers

### **WORKSHOP DISCUSSION:**

- Mayor Walsifer wished resident Harry Tahan a Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday.
- Barr Trogu, Recreation Director, discussed procedures that must be followed in order to have a summer camp. Councilman Brennan asked if the parents must be present with the child at drop off until they are cleared to enter. Mr. Trogu replied yes. Mr. Trogu stated the camp will be from 9-1 and he is still determining the number of campers. It will be limited to Belmar and Lake Como residents only. He is working on a plan for when it rains as well as an itinerary of activities. Councilman McCracken suggested a day learning about fire and police services. Also looking into running Junior lifeguards, summer basketball, running club, and pickup baseball. Some possible new programs are kickball, beach soccer and tennis lessons. Mayor Walsifer pointed out that safety is our biggest concern. Mr. Kirschenbaum added the surf camp and FOBH sailing camp reopening proposals are under review.
- Mayor Walsifer stated there will be new pirate ships at the two beach playgrounds. One of the vendors proposed a design not made of concrete which will last longer and costs only \$40,000.
- Ms. Claudio announced the library has a new program for those who have a visual and print impairment. Anyone interested in learning about it should contact the Library. Mr. Kirschenbaum has stated the Library is working on their reopening plan but will continue to stay at Phase 3 like the other libraries until the Governor loosens more restrictions.
- Mayor Walsifer announced there is a resolution on the agenda to appoint two new police officers. Chief Scott read their bios. She added that there is a new mobile speed sign currently being tested out on 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Mayor Walsifer explained the additional paid parking areas being added.
- Chief Scott explained Ordinance 2021-04. Councilwoman Wann would like to see landlords and realtors reminded to let their tenants know about the rules.

**PETITIONS:** Summer camp and Junior Lifeguards petition

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Councilman Brennan made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2021 meeting, which was seconded by Councilwoman Wann and approved by the following vote:

**AYES:** Wann, Brennan, McCracken and Walsifer

### **REPORTS OF COUNCIL**

Councilman McCracken: Housing Authority met last night. Thanked DPW for the snow removal. Working on Wi-Fi for the building. Looking into HUD programs. Shade Tree Commission meets on Thursday. Beach revenues out passed previous years last year which has allowed us to replace two playgrounds, two bathrooms, add mobi mats, and replace trash cans.

Councilman Brennan: Reminded everyone that vaccine availability is supposed to increase and encouraged everyone to get the vaccine.

Councilwoman Wann: ADA Committee met last week, working on welcome baskets for new residents. Their zoom meeting was hacked which is being investigated by the Police Department.

Mayor Walsifer: Working on having EMS services April 1<sup>st</sup>. Taking two paths. One is the EMS RFP. The Second is taking over EMS in house through the police department. Fire Official Ryan Dullea gave an update

on the process. Mayor Walsifer thanked DPW for the awnings in the marina.

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

Gerald Buccafusco, 409 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, asked about resolution 2021-69. Mr. Dullea stated it goes with the new EMS plan.

Mr. Buccafusco asked about resolution 2021-73. Mayor Walsifer stated it includes startup costs for the First Aid and the purchase of bathroom trailers.

Cheri Russo, 1218 Briarwood Road, asked if the summer camp parents will be charged for parking around the lake. Mayor Walsifer explained that only the angled parking spaces will be paid parking. She asked if taxes would go up with the new first aid system. Mayor Walsifer did not believe they would.

Councilman Brennan made a motion to close the public session, which was seconded by Councilwoman Wann 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.

Councilwoman Wann made a motion to amend resolution 2021-70 to include \$1 per hour parking on the east side of Ocean Avenue from 7 am to 10 pm, which was seconded by Mayor Walsifer and approved unanimously.

Councilman Brennan offered the following resolutions for adoption as amended:

**No. 2021-64 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS**

**No. 2021-65 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDS**

**No. 2021-66 RESOLUTION AWARDED CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO MOBILE RESTROOMS**

**No. 2021-67 RESOLUTION AWARDED CONTRACT FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO FIFTEENTH AVENUE WATER MAIN**

**No. 2021-68 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING NOTICE TO BIDDERS FOR PARASAIL EXCURSIONS IN THE BELMAR MARINA**

**No. 2021-69 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RECEIPT OF BIDS FOR EMS BILLING & COLLECTIONS**

**No. 2021-70 RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING PAID PARKING AREAS**

**No. 2021-71 RESOLUTION APPROVING MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTEER HOOK & LADDER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**No. 2021-72 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSIENT FEES AT THE BELMAR MARINA**

**No. 2021-73 RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR A TEMPORARY BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2021 PURSUANT TO N.J.S. 40A:4-19**

**No. 2021-74 RESOLUTION APPOINTING TWO PATROLMAN OF THE BELMAR POLICE DEPARTMENT WITH ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**No. 2021-75 RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE TRANSFER OF SURPLUS FUNDS**

Seconded by Councilwoman Wann and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Brennan, Wann, McCracken and Walsifer

**ORDINANCES**

**ORDINANCE 2021-03** *First Reading & Introduction*

**ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 5**

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Mayor Walsifer offered Ordinance 2021-03 for first reading and introduction, which was seconded by Councilman Brennan and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Brennan, Wann, McCracken and Walsifer

### **ORDINANCE 2021-04** *First Reading & Introduction*

### **ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER XIX, TRAFFIC, SECTION 19-10 TEMPORARY PARKING PROHIBITION FOR SNOW PLOWING AND REMOVAL, OF THE GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR**

Councilwoman Wann offered Ordinance 2021-04 for first reading and introduction, which was seconded by Mayor Walsifer and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Brennan, Wann, McCracken and Walsifer

### **ORDINANCE 2021-05** *First Reading & Introduction*

### **ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER XIX, TRAFFIC, VARIOUS SECTIONS, OF THE GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR**

Mayor Walsifer offered Ordinance 2021-05 for first reading and introduction, which was seconded by Councilwoman Wann and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Brennan, Wann, McCracken and Walsifer

## **PUBLIC SESSION**

Cy Reitmeyer, 400 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, asked if the apartments and condos near Silver Lake will get resident stickers so they don't have to pay to park. Mayor Walsifer replied no but added it will be reviewed at a later date should it become an issue.

Linda Sharkus, 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, stated the last meeting was disappointing. Felt respect has been lost. If people spoke to their bosses, the way people spoke to the Mayor and Council they would be fired from their jobs. Reminded everyone that when they are speaking disparagingly about someone, they are speaking about someone's friends or neighbor.

Nancy DeLorenzo, 206 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue, asked about the animal house revisions. Mr. Dasti will contact her to discuss further.

Eric Krause, FOBH, offered to work with Barry Trogu on the summer camp.

Paul Olynik, 1406 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue, thanked Mr. Trogu for bringing back summer camp.

Cheri Russo, 1218 Briarwood Road, congratulated the new police officers. She asked about beach locker renewals. Ms. Claudio explained we are switching to a new system and emails will be going out soon. Ms. Russo was upset by the startup costs for the First Aid. She asked how traffic will be managed with summer camp drop off. Mr. Trogu stated there haven't been traffic issues before but will work with the Police if needed.

Gerald Buccafusco, 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, asked what streets Ordinance 2021-04 applies to. Mayor Walsifer stated all streets. Mr. Buccafusco would like to see budget presentations made before the budget is introduced.

Seema Bohl, 112 Inlet Terrace, offered to help with recreation.

Maria Rondinaro, 1246 Pinetree, would like to see Taylor Pavilion used as a community building not for private events.

Mr. Kirschenbaum stated there has been discussion about programs being diminished which is not true. Mr. Trogu has added programs. Mr. Kirschenbaum stated programs were only stopped because of COVID.

Ms. Rondinaro asked about movies on the beach. Mr. Kirschenbaum stated the screen broke in 2019 and there were plans to bring it back in 2020 but that didn't happen because of COVID. They will happen again if we get the proper equipment.

Beth Mane, 308 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, asked when sailing and surf camps will reopen. Mr. Kirschenbaum is discussing that with the camp owners.

She would like the traffic light at 12<sup>th</sup> and Main Street looked into.

Gene Creamer, 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, suggested putting paid parking around Schroeder Park.

Brett Lomas, 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue, supports the alternate side snow removal. Asked about the progress of the walking signals at the intersections on Main Street. Mayor Walsifer stated we are waiting for DOT to install them.

John Walsh, 11<sup>th</sup> and B Street, stated there were programs that disappeared like movies on the beach, yoga, the Belmar Sol 5k, and library events.

Cy Reitmeyer, 400 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, asked if the Finance Committee has any input on the budget. Mayor Walsifer stated they will review it when it is complete. Mr. Reitmeyer asked about the seafood festival. Mayor Walsifer stated it might be postponed to the fall.

Lauren Stout, 419 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, asked about the easter egg hunt and the Belmar 5 mile. Mayor Walsifer stated the 5-mile run is scheduled for September and no decision has been made yet on the easter egg hunt.

Antoinette Raucci, 309 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, would like to see Youth Club and open gym available. She asked what the funds from the last Mayor's Ball are going to be used for.

Kerri McNally, 509 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue, also asked about the Mayor's Ball money.

Mayor Walsifer stated the Mayor's Ball committee will determine how the money will be used for recreation.

Maria Rondinaro asked if there is a way for the community to help people get vaccine appointments. Suggested community policing help those who need help.

Sharon Fowler, 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, stated there is a Facebook group that assists people with vaccines. She suggested a buzzer be placed in the lobby of Borough Hall.

Carole Moore, 1206 Oakwood Road, suggested putting alerts out not just through Code Red but also on the website and Facebook.

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

Respectively submitted,

April Claudio  
Municipal Clerk