

# MAYOR AND COUNCIL

## AGENDA

JUNE 15, 2021

6:00 PM

**PRESENT:** Mayor Mark Walsifer, Councilman Thomas Brennan, Councilman Thomas Carvelli, Council President Patricia Wann, Borough Attorney Patrick Varga, Business Administrator Edward Kirschenbaum and Borough Clerk April Claudio

**ABSENT:** Councilman James McCracken

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 Ken O'Donnell

### **RESOLUTION:**

Councilman Brennan offered the following resolution for adoption:

#### **No. 2021-144 RESOLUTION APPOINTING PATROLMAN OF THE BELMAR POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Seconded by Councilwoman Wann and approved by the following vote:

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

Mayor Walsifer administered the Oath of Office to Officer Poppert.

**PROCLAMATION:** Honoring Tony Trebino

**2021 BUDGET HEARING:** CFO, Ricardo Llanos and Borough Auditor Bob Allison gave a PowerPoint presentation on the 2021 budget. Assistant CFOs Christine Manolio and Lorraine Carafa were also present. Mr. Llanos stated there will be no increase to the local tax rate.

Gerald Buccafusco, 409 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, prepared his own graphs which he presented to the Council and Finance team. He asked if there is a long-term plan to address issues like decaying infrastructure. He asked how many full and part time employees are in the budget compared to 2020. Mayor Walsifer stated he knows the number of part time employees are down. Ms. Manolio will get him the exact numbers. Mr. Buccafusco felt this information should be available on a regular basis. Mr. Buccafusco asked how much overtime there was for 2020 and 2019. He felt this is not a healthy budget. He questioned the increase in reserves. Mr. Llanos stated the Borough received several reimbursements in 2020 from the Cares Act. Mr. Buccafusco was concerned about using surplus funds. Mr. Allison explained the finance team believes the surplus will be replenished. Mr. Buccafusco would like to see property tax relief.

Cheri Russo, 1218 Briarwood Road, asked what our credit rating is. Mr. Llanos stated the last one done was before his time. Mr. Allison explained when we bond through the County you don't need to have a credit rating.

Mayor Walsifer made a motion to close the budget hearing, which was seconded by Councilwoman Wann and approved unanimously.

**WORKSHOP DISCUSSION:** none

**PETITIONS:** none

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Councilman Carvelli made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2021 meeting, which was seconded by Councilwoman Wann and approved unanimously.

### **REPORTS OF COUNCIL**

Councilman Carvelli: At the last meeting there was an implication that the Council doesn't understand the things they are approving, specifically the CAP ordinance. He explained the purpose of the ordinance and added that he trusts the professionals to provide guidance.

Councilman Brennan: Harbor Commission met last week. Marina is doing great. Environmental Commission met last week. Noser Mehta resigned. He and his wife were in a minor car accident last week. Very proud of the Police and EMS and how they handled the situation.

Councilwoman Wann: Circle of Friends is having a walk on June 22<sup>nd</sup> on the boardwalk. Congratulated everyone who worked on the tennis and pickleball courts.

Mayor Walsifer: Library is reopening June 24<sup>th</sup>. Farmer's market starts June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Recreation programs are up and running. Fireworks will be July 2<sup>nd</sup> with a rain date of July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Seeking volunteers for the Friendship Force and 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary committee. Also seeking employees for the beach. Movie screen is on its way and movies on the beach start July 15<sup>th</sup>.

**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, 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, asked about Resolution 2021-152. He felt it should state the November 14, 2021 date should be January 14, 2022. Mayor Walsifer stated he would check the legislation but believes that was a COVID ruling and would not be in the license renewal resolution.

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

**CONSENT AGENDA #1 - 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. 2021-145 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS**

**No. 2021-146 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR TAX COLLECTOR TO PREPARE AND MAIL ESTIMATED TAX BILLS IN ACCORDANCE WITH P.L. 1994, c. 72.**

**No. 2021-147 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT TO THE 2021 TEMPORARY BUDGET**

**No. 2021-148 RESOLUTION APPOINTING SPECIAL POLICE OFFICERS FOR 2021**

**No. 2021-149 RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO N.J.A.C. 5:30-14.4 ET SEQ. CHANGE ORDER NUMBER ONE FOR THE 15<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE WATER MAIN PROJECT**

**No. 2021-150 RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR APPROVING A FIREWORKS DISPLAY**

**No. 2021-160 RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE BELMAR PLANNING BOARD**

Seconded by Councilman Brennan and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Wann, Brennan, Carvelli and Walsifer

**CONSENT AGENDA #2 - RESOLUTIONS:**

Mayor Walsifer offered the following resolutions for adoption:

**No. 2021-151 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSE NO. 1306-32-015-009 TO FUSAL, LLC T/A LA DOLCE VITA FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2022**

**No. 2021-152 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF SEASONAL RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSE TO D'JAIS LLC, T/A D'JAIS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2022**

**No. 2021-153 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF SEASONAL PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE FOR CSL BELMAR LLC FOR PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2022 TO BE HELD IN POCKET**

**No. 2021-154 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LICENSE FOR DAI SENG CORP. T/A LITTLE RED BARN FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2022**

- No. 2021-155 RESOLUTION TO ALLOW STATE OF NEW JERSEY DIVISION OF A.B.C TO RENEW CLUB LICENSE TO THE BELMAR FISHING CLUB FOR PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2022**
- No. 2021-156 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSE FOR EAST COAST BREWING CO. LLC FOR PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2022**
- No. 2021-157 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LICENSE TO ARPADO, INC. T/A HANLEY'S LIQUORS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2022**
- No. 2021-158 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF CLASS C LIQUOR TO TWO DAWGS, INC T/A THE BOATHOUSE BAR AND GRILL FOR PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2022**
- No. 2021-159 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSE NO. 1306-34-011-011 TO 1000 MAIN LIQUOR LICENSE LLC FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2022 (INACTIVE – HELD IN POCKET)**

Seconded by Councilman Carvelli and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Wann, Carvelli and Walsifer  
ABSTAIN: Brennan

**ORDINANCES:**

**ORDINANCE 2021-16 *Second Reading & Public Hearing***

**BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF A FIRE TRUCK, APPROPRIATING \$500,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$475,000 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE A PORTION OF THE COSTS THEREOF, AUTHORIZED IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY**

Public Hearing: Cheri Russo, 1218 Briarwood Road, asked how many fire trucks we purchased this year. Mayor Walsifer stated one was purchased last year and one this year. She asked how many more will be needed. Mayor Walsifer stated there are 3 out of service but felt this one was the most important.

Tucker Brendle, Hook & Ladder Fire Department, speaking on behalf of their department only, discussed the need to replace their rescue truck. Thanked the Mayor and Council for supporting them and the purchase of the truck.

Councilwoman Wann made a motion to close the public hearing, which was seconded by Councilman Brennan and approved unanimously.

Councilman Carvelli offered Ordinance 2021-16 for adoption, which was seconded by Councilman Brennan and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Wann, Brennan, Carvelli and Walsifer

**ORDINANCE 2021-17 *First Reading & Introduction***

**ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON LOCATED AT BLOCK 83 LOT 10, AKA 414 NINTH AVENUE, BELMAR, NEW JERSEY**

Councilman Brennan offered Ordinance 2021-17 for first reading and introduction, which was seconded by Councilwoman Wann and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Wann, Brennan, Carvelli and Walsifer

**ORDINANCE 2021-18 *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 XXVI ENTITLED HOUSING AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE IN ORDER TO PROHIBIT THE PLANTING OR GROWING OF BAMBOO**

Councilman Brennan offered Ordinance 2021-18 for first reading and introduction, which was seconded by Councilwoman Wann and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Wann, Brennan, Carvelli and Walsifer

**PUBLIC SESSION:**

Maria Rondinaro, 1246 Pinetree Way, hopes we can still have meetings on zoom. She asked about Ordinance 2021-17. She is saddened to see the town will be bonding money for something that could have been resolved with \$40,000 and a good relationship. Hearing ideas of expanding the building and would like to not see that happen. Mayor Walsifer stated we are paying the highest bid price. Mr. Varga stated we are actively negotiating with the First Aid Squad and hope to resolve the issues with deed restrictions. Mr. Varga explained the difference between a deed restriction and a zoning variance. Ms. Rondinaro would like that building not to change.

Cheri Russo, 1218 Briarwood Road, asked if the pickleball courts are free. Mayor Walsifer replied yes. She asked how to join the Friendship Force. Mr. Kirschenbaum suggested she email him. She had questions about the animal house ordinance. She asked how loud is too loud. Mayor Walsifer and Chief Scott explained noise can occur 24 hours a day. Chief Scott stated if there is noise that can be heard off the property line that is an issue. Mayor Walsifer suggested contacting the Community Policing Officer to discuss any concerns. Ms. Russo was concerned about bonding for the First Aid building and her disappointment that it couldn't be resolved.

Linda Sharkus, 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, thanked the Mayor and Council, Business Administrator and Code Enforcement for bringing quiet to the 500 block of 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Sharon Russell Fowler, Library Board, the 24<sup>th</sup> is the reopening date. Pat Roddy will be playing that evening. New hours of operation. Have new computers for the public and some other new features. Also providing art and poetry sessions.

Sean Pringle, Wall Township, referenced a letter from Ken Pringle on behalf of the First Aid stating they are going to reject the Borough's bid and that the Borough wants to move the three firehouses there. Mayor Walsifer stated moving the firehouses would be up to them, we are just purchasing the building.

Valerie Ottofaro, 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, was concerned about the cars coming on Ocean Avenue and being noisy. Mayor Walsifer stated the Police Department is working on it.

Gerald Buccafusco, 409 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, also referenced the letter from Ken Pringle. There was another allegation that the Borough has been talking about consolidating the fire and first aid. Mayor Walsifer stated it would be up to the fire departments. He added we need the building for public safety: first aid, lifeguards and water rescue.

Gene Creamer, 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, as taxpayer he feels the Belmar First Aid Squad was formed by tax deductible charitable donations, and any funds from the sale would go for charitable donations. If the Borough is purchasing the building, why wouldn't that be a charitable donation. He believed there is new law that would allow for the creation of charitable fund. Mr. Varga will look into it.

Councilman Brennan 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