

BOROUGH OF BRADLEY BEACH

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

April 28, 2020 at 6:30 pm

A regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bradley Beach was held by means of communication equipment, N.J.S.A. 10:4-8(b), to include streaming services and other online meeting platforms and formal action will be taken on the above date.

Mayor Engelstad requested a moment of silence to remember the 6044 New Jersey Residents who have passed from the COVID-19 crisis.

Mayor Engelstad reported the Food Drive this past Saturday was a terrific success. He honored Jayne Mackta and Judy Staggard from the Food Pantry.

Ms. Mackta and Ms. Staggard expressed their gratitude to the volunteers for their outpouring and effort of the community to serve their neighbors during this time of need.

The Mayor also thanked Julie Nutaitis, also a Food Pantry Volunteer for her involvement in the Food Drive.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Engelstad opened the meeting with a salute to the flag.

Sunshine Law

The meeting has been noticed publicly according to the Open Public Meetings Act requirement for the “Annual Notice”, and posted on the official bulletin board.

ROLL CALL 6:30 pm

Present: Council: Bonnell, Gubitosi, Sexsmith, Weber, Mayor Engelstad
Borough Administrator David G. Brown II
Chief Financial Officer Sandra Rice
Borough Attorneys Gregory Cannon and Andrew Sobel
Deputy Municipal Clerk Erica Kostyz

ON MOTION by Engelstad/Bonnell to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 14, 2020

ROLL CALL AYES: Bonnell, Gubitosi, Sexsmith, Weber, Mayor Engelstad
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

APPROVED

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jack Gentempo, 103 Fourth Avenue, asked if second quarter property taxes are being deferred.

Ms. Rice responded the Executive Order signed today from the Governor's Office gives the Municipality the opportunity to defer second quarter tax payments which would have to be done by resolution of the Governing Body.

Thomas Coan, 612 Third Avenue, expressed concerns regarding Resolution 2020-105 and commended the Administrator and Governing Body on Resolution 2020-103. He stated it appears to be a good way to obtain grants. He also stated he would like to see another Budget Workshop.

Communication(s) N/A

CONSENT AGENDA:

ON MOTION by Engelstad/Weber to approve the Consent Agenda
ROLL CALL AYES: Bonnell, Gubitosi, Sexsmith, Weber, Mayor Engelstad
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Resolution 2020-98 BILL LIST for 4-28-20

Resolution 2020-99 Authorizing the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute the FY2021-2023 agreement with Monmouth County for Cooperative Participation in the Community Development Program pursuant to the Interlocal Services Act.

Borough Attorney explained this resolution is an Interlocal Services Agreement program through the County that is trying to get a group of municipalities together to seek funds through the Community Development Block Grant Program.

Councilman Weber inquired what types of things this grant money would be used for.

The Borough Attorney responded the grant funds would go towards community renewal, water and sewer facilities, neighborhood facilities, housing rehabilitation and Open Space.

Resolution 2020-100 Authorizing for Emergency Temporary Appropriations for period between the beginning of the current fiscal year and the date of the adoption of the budget for said year.

APPROVED

RESOLUTIONS:

ON MOTION by Engelstad/Weber to Table the Introduction of the 2020 Municipal Budget.

ROLL CALL AYES: Bonnell, Gubitosi, Sexsmith, Weber, Mayor Engelstad
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

2020- 101 Authorizing the Introduction of the 2020 Municipal Budget.

TABLED

Chief Financial Officer Sandra Rice explained this resolution is being tabled this evening due to information she received that could have an impact on the 2020 Budget.

ON MOTION by Engelstad/Weber to Authorize Permission for the Dedication by Rider for an Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

ROLL CALL AYES: Bonnell, Gubitosi, Sexsmith, Weber, Mayor Engelstad
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Resolution 2020-102 Authorizing Permission for the Dedication by Rider for an Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

APPROVED

The Borough Planner, Jennifer Beahm gave an explanation of the steps involved, expenses, length of time, and pros and cons to obtain an Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

Thomas Coan, 612 Third Avenue, stated he was disappointed the Affordable Housing Fund was not put into place originally in 2017.

Mayor Engelstad stated he would like to have a dedicated workshop for this item given all the steps involved and the lengthy process.

Councilman Weber stated he feels it would be best to proceed and get the process started given the length of time.

Ms. Beahm stated passing this resolution this evening will not expedite the process of establishing a trust fund, however it will not hinder anything either.

ON MOTION by Engelstad/Gubitosi to Authorize Approval for Millennium Strategies to provide Grant Research Portal Services for \$8000.00.

Administrator Brown stated this will give the Borough the ability to have a user platform with online research ability for grant opportunities, grant summaries and project based writing if necessary.

ROLL CALL AYES: Bonnell, Gubitosi, Sexsmith, Weber, Mayor Engelstad
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Resolution 2020-103 Authorizing Approval for Millennium Strategies to provide Grant Research Portal Services for \$8000.00.

APPROVED

ON MOTION by Engelstad/Weber to Authorize the Appointment for Michele Whille as the Deputy Municipal Clerk for a Stipend Salary of \$2500.00.

Administrator Brown stated with Erica Kostyz being appointed Acting Clerk, there will be a need for a Deputy Clerk. Given Ms. Whille's background and knowledge, he feels she would be an excellent candidate for this position.

Councilman Bonnell questioned the need for a Deputy Clerk and made a motion to table this resolution to discuss it further.

A discussion ensued between Council and Administrator Brown regarding the value of having a Deputy Clerk as a backup for the Municipal Clerk in the event of an absence or vacation for several reasons (ex. signing documents, document research, license functions and other Clerk related duties).

Councilman Gubitosi seconded the motion to table the resolution, then decided not to as he felt there is a value to the \$2500.00 Stipend in having a Deputy Clerk.

Councilman Sexsmith, Councilman Weber and Mayor Engelstad also voted not to table the resolution.

ON MOTION by Engelstad/Weber to Authorize the Appointment for Michele Whille as the Deputy Municipal Clerk for a Stipend Salary of \$2500.00.

ROLL CALL AYES: Gubitosi, Sexsmith, Weber, Mayor Engelstad
NAYS: Bonnell
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Resolution 2020-104 Authorizing the Appointment for Michele Whille as the Deputy Municipal Clerk for a Stipend Salary of \$2500.00.

APPROVED

ON MOTION by Engelstad/Weber to Table the Appointment for Amy Hall as the Public Relations/Tourism Director (Full-Time) for an Annual Salary of \$41,000.00.

Borough Administrator Brown explained the Administration needs to do further review on personnel recruitment policy and make sure all actions in the policy are being followed before passing this resolution. Mr. Brown also stated he and the CFO need to review the Salary Ordinance and consult with the Borough Attorney.

ROLL CALL AYES: Bonnell, Gubitosi, Sexsmith, Weber, Mayor Engelstad
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Resolution 2020-105 Authorizing the Appointment for Amy Hall as the Public Relations/Tourism Director (Full-Time) for an Annual Salary of \$41,000.00.

TABLED

ON MOTION by Engelstad/Weber to Authorize the Appointment for Jared Poplawski as a Laborer for an Hourly Salary of \$13.00 per hour.

Councilman Weber inquired if this is a seasonal position filled every year.

Administrator Brown answered yes, this is a seasonal position. At the request of Councilman Gubitosi, DPW Supervisor Patrick Allan explained this position is a replacement to fulfill a seasonal hourly position.

Councilman Gubitosi inquired if the Employee Handbook states the Borough can replace seasonal personnel.

Administrator Brown responded yes, because the position is seasonal or temporary, the authorization is left to the Borough Manager.

ROLL CALL AYES: Bonnell, Gubitosi, Sexsmith, Weber, Mayor Engelstad
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Resolution 2020-106 Authorizing the Appointment for Jared Poplawski as a Laborer for an Hourly Salary of \$13.00 per hour.

APPROVED

ON MOTION by Engelstad/Gubitosi to Authorize the Re-Appointment for Municipal Court Judge Paul J. Capotorto for a three year term effective July 1st 2020 through June 30, 2023.

ROLL CALL AYES: Bonnell, Gubitosi, Sexsmith, Weber, Mayor Engelstad
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Resolution 2020-107 Authorizing the Re-Appointment for Municipal Court Judge Paul J. Capotorto for a three year term effective July 1st 2020 through June 30, 2023.

APPROVED

Mayor Engelstad inquired about re-opening the Municipal Court.

Administrator Brown answered the Municipal Court Management Team will meet tomorrow to discuss video conferencing court starting in mid-May.

ON MOTION by Engelstad/Weber to Authorize the Appointment for Erica Kostyz as Acting Municipal Clerk for an Annual Salary of \$64,500.00.

ROLL CALL AYES: Bonnell, Gubitosi, Sexsmith, Weber, Mayor Engelstad
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Resolution 2020-108 Authorizing the Appointment for Erica Kostyz as Acting Municipal Clerk for an Annual Salary of \$64,500.00.

APPROVED

Both Appointments for the Community Center Task force Committee were voted out separately at the request of Mayor Engelstad.

ON MOTION by Engelstad/Gubitosi to Authorize the Appointment for Richard Despins as a Public Member of the Community Center Task Force Committee.

ROLL CALL AYES: Bonnell, Gubitosi, Sexsmith, Weber, Mayor Engelstad
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

ON MOTION by Engelstad/Bonnell to Authorize the Appointment for Alan Gubitosi as Council Liaison of the Community Center Task Force Committee.

ROLL CALL AYES: Bonnell, Sexsmith, Weber, Mayor Engelstad
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: Gubitosi

Resolution 2020-109 Authorizing the Appointments for Richard Despins as a Public Member and Alan Gubitosi as Council Liaison of the Community Center Task Force Committee.

APPROVED

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilman Weber reported the following:

- **The Community Development Department started discussing ideas to help restaurants when they re-open regarding Land Use and Zoning laws to continue practicing Social Distancing.**
- **The Mayor and Council are following the present state guidelines in regards to opening the beach for the season.**

Councilman Sexsmith reported the following:

- **Encouraged everyone to lock their vehicles to avoid burglaries.**
- **An announcement was made last week to cancel the Memorial Day Parade due to COVID-19.**
- **He thanked everyone in town for their support with the Food Drive this past Saturday. He also thanked Julie Nutaitis, Mayor Engelstad, Amy Hall and the Fire Department and First Aid for their assistance in organizing this event.**

Councilman Bonnell reported the DPW recently put down new treated material on the boardwalk and encouraged everyone to take a look to see what it will look like when

finished. He expressed the Borough is well equipped to handle the North End Boardwalk Project in-house without Engineering services

Mayor Engelstad reported the following:

- **The Mayor sat in on two conference calls with Monmouth County Beach Mayors to discuss opening the beaches for the season. The decision to open the beaches rests within the Municipality and the State wishes not to be involved in that process. The consensus on the first conference call was to open the beaches on July 1st. The consensus on the second conference call is to open the beaches Memorial Day. Spring Lake was the only town still considering this. The Mayor will have the Borough Administrator set up bi-weekly meetings to discuss the guidelines for a Memorial Day opening in regards to COVID-19 safety. He strongly encouraged the Borough look into a quota system for the disbursement of badges.**
- **The Bradley Beach Business Community Alliance announced they will waive membership dues for all small business in town for the remainder of 2020 and credit current businesses and non-profit organizations in 2021. Individual resident membership dues will be dedicated to supporting small businesses and the creation of a new program called Bradley Beach Families in Need.**
- **The new development team for 301 Main Street (Giamanno's) was approved at the April 23rd Planning Board Meeting.**
- **As per the Borough Administrator, a meeting may take place regarding a property tax extension.**
- **Given the forecast for nice weather this weekend, the police will be out to enforce Social Distancing and the Drone will be in use.**
- **He also reported the boardwalk may be opened up to give more space if Ocean Avenue gets too crowded.**
- **The Mayor thanked Councilman Gubitosi for bringing Ms. Mackta and Ms. Staggard to the meeting to discuss the Food Pantry.**
- **He thanked Pete & Elda's for donating 25 pizzas for the Food Drive volunteers this weekend.**

Councilman Gubitosi reported the following:

- **The Sylvan Lake Restoration Project is moving forward and a letter of support will be drafted to present to the Mayor and Council to support the vision that is being ensued for this project.**
- **Councilman Gubitosi inquired if there will still be a Memorial Day Ceremony. Mayor Engelstad responded the Borough hopes to and that is still being figured out.**
- **He stated a lot of important issues and ideas were discussed at the 4/23 Planning Board Meeting for 301 Main Street.**
- **He reminded everyone 3 more Public Resident Members are needed for the Bradley Beach Task Force Committee.**
- **He acknowledged the volunteers behind the scenes at the Food Pantry.**
- **He mentioned the four Ordinances that are still being worked on.**

Councilman Weber asked if Spring considering an opening for July 1st and stated using the

Drone this weekend is a good idea.

Mayor Engelstad responded Spring Lake is considering a later opening.

Public Comment:

Eileen Shissias expressed concerns about possible overflow of people on the beach and if the Borough has a plan to protect residents.

Mayor Engelstad responded the police are doing everything they can to protect the residents and have been exercising Executive Orders.

Jack Gentempo, 103 Fourth Avenue, inquired if the Recycle Center will re-open.

Mayor Engelstad responded on the advice of the DPW Director, the Recycle Center is not a ready to open. He suggested scheduling a bulk pick-up for the town in the near future.

Thomas Coan, 612 Third Avenue, suggested opening parking meters early to generate income, would like to see more workshops and have an Administrator Report at each meeting, and expressed appreciation for the Food Pantry Volunteers.

Mr. Coan also mentioned the 4/23 Planning Board Meeting went on until after midnight and suggested there should be an ordinance that states meetings do not go past 11:00 p.m.

Julie Nutaitus, 605 Newark Avenue, thanked everyone involved with the Food Drive this weekend.

Paul Neshamkin asked if he can schedule the first meeting for the Community Center Task Force.

Mayor Engelstad replied he would like to figure out a way to do that with Social Distancing and do a safe tour of the building with the group.

Mr, Neshamkin also expressed concern about opening the beach for Memorial Day and stated Point Pleasant is not planning to do that.

Mayor Engelstad responded Point Pleasant is also opening Memorial Day, however it is owned by a private enterprise.

William Psiuk inquired how beach badges are being monitored for residents that have seasonal badges.

Mayor Engelstad responded putting a plan in place that will establish a safe capacity for the beach.

Mr. Psiuk also stated there is a time limit on the Planning Board Meetings and a vote was taken to see if the board members wanted to continue with the application hearing and the

vote was to continue.

Councilman Sexsmith stated as a follow up to Mr. Coan's suggestion regarding the parking meters, there is an ordinance in place that controls when the Borough charges for parking.

Engelstad/Bonnell moved to adjourn
ADJOURNED 7:55 P.M.

Erica Kostyz, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk