

BOROUGH OF BRADLEY BEACH

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

August 31, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bradley Beach was held in the Meeting Room, 701 Main Street, Bradley Beach, New Jersey on the above date.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fox 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 in the Borough Office.

ROLL CALL 7:00 pm

Present: Council: Bonnell, Gubitosi, Sexsmith, Mayor Fox
Borough Administrator, Kimberly M. Humphrey
Chief Financial Officer, Sandra Rice
Borough Attorney, Gregory Cannon
Municipal Clerk, Erica Kostyz

Mayor Fox started this meeting by requesting a moment of silence for the military personnel that lost their lives recently in Kabul and the 2448 military members that lost their lives over the last 20 years.

Mayor Fox read the following OEM Mask Policy:

Effective July 6, 2021, the guidance further recommends that individuals not vaccinated continue to wear a mask and social distance when indoors. We'd ask for your conformance to this requirement. This is about protecting our fellow citizens and children from the Delta variant- thank you.

Bradley Beach Community Alliance Presentation:

Borough resident and Board of Director Chair Paula Gavin gave the following presentation.

Bradley Beach Business Community Alliance – Stronger Together 2021
Report to Mayor, Council and Town 8/31/21

Mission

The mission of the BBBCA is to bring business, community and the municipality together to enhance the lives of both residents and visitors as a partnership between all, taking actions to strengthen Bradley Beach resident life as well as economic development. A Non Profit 501c6 . Founded 1/1/20.



Vision

The BBBCA will make Bradley Beach the best it can be. 200 residents, non profits and businesses will work together as members of the Alliance to enhance the beauty , economic vitality and enjoyment of Bradley Beach.

Our Goals

1. **Small Business Promotion**
Social Media Postings
Weekly Newsletter
Alliance Brochure with Map
Marketing/ Social Media/Graphics Consultations
2. **Small Business Support**
Ambassadors Program Year Two (Fall)
Brookdale College Small Business Center Resources and Customized Course (Fall)
Small Business Support Plan (Joint with Borough) – Main Street Improvements ,
Small Business Guide, Façade Grant Support , Signage, Communications
3. **Member Events and Communications**
Rare (5/4), Kate Sweeney (6/21), UVA (8/4) 100 ~ Attendees ; Fall Event
Weekly Newsletter , Website , Social Media
4. **Town Events**
Winter – January Annual Meeting , March Food PickUp
Spring - April Green Fair, May Craft Fair , One Beach One Read
Summer- Alliance Week and Celebration Saturday
Fall – Dinner in the Park 9/25 , December Holiday Fair 12/4
5. **Member Committees and Focus Areas**
Organization- Membership and Borough Engagement
Business Promotion- Shop Local, Business Support
Economic Vitality- Business Development , Ambassadors Program
Town Design- Main Street and Beachfront
Civic Engagement – Town Events
Bradley Youth and Community Club – Mentoring Program (Library and BBES Partnership)
6. **Member Recruiting and Engagement of Members**
Total – 126 Actual (8/31)
Business - 60 Actual (50 Goal) , Non Profits- 6 Actual ,Residents -60 Actual (100 Goal)
Join The Alliance – www.bradleybeachalliance.org
Board of Directors
Residents- Mike Affuso , Meredith DeMarco, Tina Garyantes ,Paula Gavin, Doug Jung
Business- Simone Hazel (Stockroom), Anthony Pagano(UVA) , Danny Patel (Country Farm),
Andres Zapata (Panchos and Juanchos)

Mayor Fox asked Ms. Gavin if the Mentoring Program extends to the High School level.

Ms. Gavin responded that is being discussed as a future possibility.

ON MOTION by Fox/Sexsmith to approve the Workshop Meeting Minutes for August 10, 2021.

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

APPROVED

ON MOTION by Fox/Sexsmith to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for August 10, 2021.

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

APPROVED

Public Comment/Questions on Agenda Items:

Thomas J. Coan, 612 Third Avenue, thanked the Governing Body for the Beach Access Resolution.

Mr. Coan inquired about Resolutions 2021-220 & 2021-228.

Mr. Cannon & Mayor Fox answered Mr. Coan's inquiries.

Ordinance Introduction(s):

ORDINANCE 2021-26

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 5, SECTION 22, PURCHASE CONTROL, ARTICLE 5, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE TO REFLECT THE NEW THRESHOLD AND SUPPLEMENT THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF BRADLEY BEACH, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

ON MOTION by Fox/Bonnell to introduce the Ordinance 2021-26.

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

INTRODUCED

Ordinance Adoption(s):

BOND ORDINANCE 2021-23

BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING IN PART BOND ORDINANCE NO. 2020-02 ADOPTED ON FEBRUARY 11, 2020, PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES, IN ORDER TO INCREASE THE APPROPRIATION THEREFOR BY \$750,000 FOR A TOTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$2,250,000, TO INCREASE THE AUTHORIZED BONDS AND NOTES TO BE ISSUED TO FINANCE A PORTION OF THE COSTS THEREOF BY \$712,500 FOR A TOTAL DEBT AUTHORIZATION OF \$2,137,500, AND TO INCREASE THE ALLOCATION OF THE APPROPRIATION TO COSTS PERMITTED UNDER N.J.S.A. 40A:2-20, AUTHORIZED IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF BRADLEY BEACH, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY.

Purpose(s): Providing for the acquisition of certain real property commonly known as 319 LaReine Avenue by and in the Borough.

Appropriation: \$2,250,000

Bonds/Notes Authorized: \$2,137,500 Section 20 Costs: \$950,000

Useful Life: 40 Years

Councilman Gubitosi inquired about the bonding amount in this ordinance.

Ms. Rice explained the mechanics of the funding within the ordinance.

ON MOTION by Fox/Gubitosi to open the public hearing Bond Ordinance 2021-23.

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

Public Comments: None

ON MOTION by Fox/Sevsmith to close the public hearing and adopt Bond Ordinance 2021-23.

ROLL CALL AYES: Bonnell, Gubitosi, Sevsmith, Mayor Fox
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Weber
ABSTAIN: None

ADOPTED

BOND ORDINANCE 2021-24

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO NEWARK AVENUE PHASE II, APPROPRIATING \$250,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$65,000 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE A PORTION OF THE COSTS THEREOF, AUTHORIZED IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF BRADLEY BEACH, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY.

Purpose(s): Providing for the Newark Avenue Improvement Project - Phase II.
Appropriation: \$250,000
Bonds/Notes Authorized: \$65,000
Section 20 Costs: \$50,000
Useful Life: 20 Years
Grant Funds: \$185,000 NJDOT

Councilman Gubitosi explained the funding of this ordinance.

ON MOTION by Fox/Sevsmith to open the public hearing Bond Ordinance 2021-24.

ROLL CALL AYES: Bonnell Gubitosi, Sevsmith, Weber, Mayor Fox
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Weber
ABSTAIN: None

Public Comment:

Thomas J. Coan, 612 Third Avenue, expressed concerns with roads being torn up and repaved in relation with the upcoming sewer project.

ON MOTION by Fox/Sevsmith to close the public hearing and adopt Ordinance 2021-24.

ROLL CALL AYES: Bonnell, Gubitosi, Sevsmith, Mayor Fox
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Weber
ABSTAIN: None

ADOPTED

BOND ORDINANCE 2021-25

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND ACQUISITIONS, APPROPRIATING \$225,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$213,750 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE A PORTION OF THE COSTS THEREOF, AUTHORIZED IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF BRADLEY BEACH, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY.

Purpose(s): Various capital improvements and acquisitions, including, architectural services for, and improvements to, Borough Buildings, the acquisition of an inspection vehicle and an Electric Kubota, and improvements to the Fire Department's ventilation system.

Appropriation: \$225,000

Bonds/Notes Authorized: \$213,750

Section 20 Costs: \$75,000

Useful Life: 13.89 Years

Councilman Gubitosi inquired if some of the items in this ordinance are prohibited from being Allocated from other funds.

Ms. Rice responded no.

ON MOTION by Fox/Bonnell to open the public hearing Bond Ordinance 2021-25.

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

Public Comment:

Jack Gentempo, 103 Fourth Avenue, inquired if NW Financial had anything to do with these bond ordinances.

Mayor Fox responded NW Financial had nothing to do with these bond ordinances.

Ms. Rice further elaborated these bond ordinances were handled by the Borough's Bond Counsel; NW financial was not involved.

ON MOTION by Fox/Sexsmith to close the public hearing and adopt Ordinance 2021-25.

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

ADOPTED

Communications:

(A) Employee Memo Salary Increase for Special Police Officer Amber Newborn to \$15 per Hour effective August 16, 2021.

(B) Employee Memo for Part-Time New Hires.

(C) A request from Law Enforcement Against Drugs (L.E.A.D) to conduct their Walk/Run on Saturday, October 2, 2021 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am.

(D) A request from the Great American Volleyball Organization to add additional dates to their clinic for Saturday, September 25th and Sunday, September 26th.

ON MOTION by Fox/Sexsmith to move Communication Items C and D to the Consent Agenda.

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

APPROVED

CONSENT AGENDA:

Resolution 2021-211 Bill List for August 31, 2021.

Resolution 2021-212 Acknowledging Shade Tree Commission Resignations.

Resolution 2021-213 Authorizing a Refund of \$750 to Raquel Oribel Ledesma for Gazebo Rental Fees.

Resolution 2021-214 Authorizing a refund for a Street Opening Deposit in the amount of \$500 to Walsh Builders.

Resolution 2021-215 Approving L.E.A.D. to conduct their Race/Walk for Saturday, October 2, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Resolution 2021-216 Approving Great American Volleyball to add additional dates to their Clinic for September.

ON MOTION by Fox/Sexsmith to approve the Consent Agenda.

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

APPROVED

RESOLUTIONS:

2021-217 Appointing Anne Gubitosi as a Shade Tree Commission Member.

ON MOTION by Fox/Bonnell to Appoint Anne Gubitosi as a Shade Tree Commission Member.

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

APPROVED

2021-218 Acknowledging the Library Board Resignation for Anthony DiMaio.

ON MOTION by Fox/Sexsmith to Acknowledge the Library Board Resignation for Anthony DiMaio.

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

APPROVED

2021-219 Acknowledging the Library Appointment for Michael Healey.

ON MOTION by Fox/Sexsmith to Acknowledge the Library Appointment for Michael Healey.

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

APPROVED

2021-220 Authorizing a Shared Service Agreement with the County of Monmouth to use the MOD IV Property Assessment Computer System.

ON MOTION by Fox/Sexsmith to Authorize a Shared Service Agreement with the County of Monmouth to use the MOD IV Property Assessment Computer System.

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

APPROVED

2021-221 Authorizing Member Participation in the Middlesex Cooperative Pricing System.

ON MOTION by Fox/Sexsmith to Authorize Member Participation in the Middlesex Cooperative Pricing System.

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

APPROVED

2021-222 Approving the Council Meeting Dates for the remainder of 2021.

ON MOTION by Fox/Gubitosi to Approve the Council Meeting Dates for the remainder of 2021.

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

APPROVED

2021-223 Authorizing the cancellation of 2020 Outstanding Checks.

ON MOTION by Fox/Sexsmith to Authorize the cancellation of 2020 Outstanding Checks.

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

APPROVED

2021-224 Approving a stipend increase amount for the Deputy Clerk for performing the additional duties of the Public Agency Compliance Officer (P.A.C.O.).

ON MOTION by Fox/Sexsmith to Approve a stipend increase amount for the Deputy Clerk for performing the additional duties of the Public Agency Compliance Officer (P.A.C.O.).

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

APPROVED

2021-225 An Amendment to Resolution 2021-109 for the United Engine and Fire Company's Request on their original Race Application for August 21st for race participants to receive a free daily beach wristband in exchange for their race bib.

ON MOTION by Fox/Sexsmith to Amend Resolution 2021-109 for the United Engine and Fire Company's Request on their original race application for August 21st for race participants to receive a free daily beach wristband in exchange for their race bib.

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

APPROVED

2021-226 A Resolution in support of Competitive Electricity Markets to deliver Consumers Affordable, Reliable and Low Emission Electricity.

ON MOTION by Fox/Sexsmith to Support Competitive Electricity Markets to deliver Consumers Affordable, Reliable and Low Emission Electricity.

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

APPROVED

2021-227 Awarding the Beach Access Ramps/Ocean Park and Fourth Avenue Bid to Vulcan Construction Group in the amount of \$128,840.

ON MOTION by Fox/Sexsmith to Award the Beach Access Ramps/Ocean Park and Fourth Avenue Bid to Vulcan Construction Group in the amount of \$128,840.

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

APPROVED

2021-228 Awarding the Second and Third Avenue Parking Improvement Project to Fernandes Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$37,394.20.

ON MOTION by Fox/Sexsmith to Award the Second and Third Avenue Parking Improvement Project to Fernandes Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$37,394.20.

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

APPROVED

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:

Mayor Fox reported the following:

Today is International Overdose Awareness Day, a day we remember those who we have lost far too soon. More than 800,000 Americans have died of an overdose since 2000, as the opioid epidemic has ravaged the country. We take today to remember those friends and loved ones who succumbed to the disease of addiction and look to the future to help prevent further tragedies. I hope you have seen the display in Riley Park.

Bradley Beach is joining all other Monmouth County Coastal communities in hosting the “Light Up the Shore” in honor of the lives lost and the fearless display of heroism by rescue teams and citizens who responded to the tragedy on September 11, 2001. Everyone is invited to participate by going to light up the beaches with their cellphones 8:46 p.m. on Saturday, September 11, 2021 for 3 minutes. You can check for more details on the website. I’ll be personally inviting towns to our west to participate.

Congratulations to our United Engine and Fire Company for a successful 5K run event on August 21st- it’s good to see this event back!

We received our 2020 Audit results. They are generally good; but require several Corrective Actions that we are building into a plan. We will review that plan at our next Council meeting.

With the approvals of Resolutions 2021-27 and 2021-28, additional parking and the addition of 2 handicap ramps for our beaches; we continue to focus on necessary improvements for our residents and visitors. These improvements, along with the replacement of the boardwalk section of our

Promenade at the north side of town, will all be completed this fall. We are in process of planning several other infrastructure projects that I will cover in next week's meeting. I do want to specifically thank our DPW team for their achievements in the last weeks, keeping the beaches operational through a few storms and making significant improvements to Fletcher Lake and Lake Terrace Drive, more to come there too.

Our Summer Season is coming to an end. We have extended locker and beach showers through the end of the month for primarily our residents. We are lifting the beach mats as a contingency against September storms. We are very close to our revenue forecast. Hopefully the weekend gets us over the top.

As I mentioned at our last meeting, five big initiatives are continuing to get our focus:

- The COAH (Affordable Housing) requirements to get into compliance.
- The LaReine Avenue Church assessment
- Many Personnel related corrective actions
- Getting Infrastructure projects on track- the Sewer project Phase 2 is almost 2 years behind. I'd like to begin to assess a bulkhead extension from 3rd Avenue to Avon.
- Our Council Improvements of a Standing Committee Process

Councilman Bonnell reported the following:

With regards to the Merging of the Planning and Zoning Boards:

1. Checks and balances:

Planning and Zoning Boards are not checks and balances for each other, Planning is legislative/ Zoning is enforcement. Bradley has a long history of the Zoning Board undoing what the Planning Board puts in place and a single LUB will create a continuity we have lacked. Many other municipalities I contacted have now confirmed this.

2. Are other municipalities merged:

29 of 53 municipalities in Monmouth County have one LUB, some for decades. I reached out to all of them, several prior to the last meeting, and none reported any problems whatsoever.

3. COAH deliverable to State:

Our Planning Engineer confirmed the Planning Board has virtually no work ahead related to our COAH plan other than an interim review and final review for consistency. The plan is developed by the engineer and attorney. The Zoning Board has nothing to do with this process. The plan should have been adopted in 2016, but our Planning Board leadership has significantly failed the residents by brushing this under the carpet for 5 years, and now compromising our position with the state.

4. Cost savings benefit:

2021 budget allocations for Planning and Zoning were \$18K and \$23K respectively, with a spend of \$8,900 for Planning and \$13,000 for Zoning in 2020. This allocation to spend ratio is also typical for the last 5 years. Initial savings could be +/- the \$23K allocated to the Zoning Board, and we would still have roughly \$9k of surplus head room with the Planning budget.

5. Board participation in strategic planning effort:

Work of the Strategic Planning Committees has not/does not require anything from either board

and would not be affected by merging. If the Strategic planning committees are interested in seeking advice and opinion of a land use board, merging boards doesn't preclude them from an inquiry, the boards are not going to magically disappear between now and the time we switch to a single LUB.

6. Consolidation of power:

Decisions of either board come from 7 individuals with input from the alternates and professionals, not the combined membership of both boards. A land use board would probably consist of 14-16 individuals, this is an increase in the decision-making body, not a decrease. There is no consolidation of power by changing to a single LUB. Again, many other municipalities have confirmed this as well.

7. Rush to judgement:

This initiative has been on the table and discussed at many meetings since 2017. The process has always been in front of the public in a completely transparent manner, and I even raised the issue as far back as my 2016 council campaign. Additionally, it has passed the test of time in hundreds of other small towns throughout the state. There is no rush to judgement here, only careful consideration and research for ½ a decade.

8. Reducing volunteer opportunity:

There are hundreds of volunteer opportunities in town (Fire Company, First Aid Squad, Business Alliance, Sylvan/Fletcher Lake commissions, Rec Center, Women's Auxiliary, Historical Museum, the 5K and various beach sweeps and events) The boards' membership would be reduced from 22 to 14-16, we only lose 6-8 volunteer opportunities.

9. Loss of expertise in membership:

Merging boards does not mean cleaning house, all members of a single LUB will more than likely consist of all current Board members.

10. Overworking volunteers:

I have spoken to all the towns with merged boards in Monmouth County and there has been no issue with members getting burnt out from over work. Many municipalities over 15,000 residents have two meetings a month for each board. Bradley consistently cancels roughly ½ our board meetings for several years now because we are built out and there is just not that much application volume.

11. Political agenda:

The suggestion this Council has political agenda and is supporting this initiative to somehow stack the new board with members is impossible. The Mayor appoints the new board members, the council may provide comments but do not have final say in appointments. Members will likely all be selected from the current Boards. I do however see how a resident could feel there is un-ethical political agenda given the history of our boards. We ended up in a law suit a few years back in which the county stepped in reversing a variance application based on conflict of interest and making an embarrassment of our process. This was something the board leadership should have headed off but chose not to. Given of all the positives, and positive feedback from every town I spoke to with one land use board, it does seem there may be a couple folks, 3 or 4, with an ulterior motive for not merging our land use boards. While there may be underlying agenda driven by covert or misleading direction, or maybe campaign promises are at play here, I can tell you beyond a shadow of a doubt any clandestine operations related instituting a single LUB are not coming from any current council members or those supporting the merge.

So, with all this, I sincerely hope I've helped the small group of individuals expressing concerns addressed here tonight see how absolutely no harm will come to Bradley in any way from a single LUB, it will only streamline our process and save taxpayer dollars while bringing us up to speed with hundreds of other small towns already benefiting from a single LUB.

Councilman Gubitosi reported the following:

- **2020 Audit report has been delivered and suggested the Auditor give a presentation at the next Council Meeting for the public to hear.**
- **Thanked the Department of Public Works for their work at Fletcher Lake.**
- **Mentioned enforcement of bicycles on the boardwalk after 10:00 a.m. on behalf of the public.**

Councilman Sexsmith reported the following:

POLICE:

Police are investigating several motor vehicle burglaries that occurred during the overnight hours to unlocked cars. We ask residents to please remember to secure all your belongings and lock your vehicles.

FIRST AID:

For the operational period ending August 31, 2021, the Squad responded to 32 Day calls 14 Night calls for a total of 46 calls.

There were 34 requests for medical, eleven for fire, one ANSWERS call to Ocean Grove. There were no mutual aid requests there were no COVID-19 cases. The squad conducted 1 inhouse training sessions for the safety and education of the members on safe driving, we also provided medical support for the 24th Bradley Beach 5K run. The Squad fulfilled 100 % of their assignments for this operational period.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

For the operational period ending August 31, the Department responded to eleven requests for the department. Two inhouse training sessions were conducted for the safety and education of the firefighters, safe driving and fire spread, and suppression. The department provided logistical support for the 24th Bradley Beach 5K run and the food distribution at the Ascension church. The department fulfilled 100 % of their assignments for this operational period.

The Fire & First Aid are still looking for volunteers. Both offer free training for qualified individuals. Anyone wishing to volunteer for the Fire Department or First Aid Squad applications can be found on the Borough's web site.

The cooperation that exists between the Fire and First aid squad is allowing them to keep answering our citizen's needs for medical care and fire protection.

Councilman Sexsmith also mentioned the beach locker extension (weather permitting) and advised those who rent lockers to empty their lockers early, removal of Moby Mats, and the beach showers.

In Person Public Comment:

Thomas J. Coan, 612 Third Avenue, inquired about NW Financial's appointment to which Ms. Rice answered. Mr. Coan also inquired about the 2020 Audit, and Beach Revenue to which Mayor Fox and Ms. Rice answered.

Rich Despin, 600, Third Avenue, stated he is impressed with the Beach Revenue amounts and expressed concerns regarding business signage.

Julie Nutaitis, 605 Newark Avenue, thanked Councilman Sexsmith for the update on beach lockers and suggested more communication outlets for the public to stay updated.

Rick Bartolomei, 116 Newark Avenue, inquired when beach badge sales end and bicycles on Boardwalk.

Mayor Fox and Council and Lt. Browning answered Mr. Bartolomei's inquiries. Administrator Humphrey stated she will have the information posted on the website.

Jack Gentempo, 103 Fourth Avenue, is pleased beach ramps are being installed.

Mr. Gentempo inquired if NW Financial has received any funds through Bond Ordinances.

Mayor Fox confirmed NW Financial has not been involved in any of the Borough's bonding.

Mr. Gentempo stated Friends of the Bradley Beach Community Center is a non-denominational organization.

Mr. Gentempo mentioned the length of RFP packets and suggested they be shortened to attract more bidders for yearly appointments.

Conversation ensued regarding the necessity of forms included in RFP packets and the Activity involved in selecting the appointments.

William Psiuk, 110 Fifth Avenue, expressed concern with Councilman Bonnell's Council report.

Conversation ensued between Mr. Psiuk and Councilman Bonnell regarding the merging of Boards.

Public Comment received through Email:

Annie Hochstadter, 315 Lake Terrace (Received 8:57 p.m. after meeting adjourned)

Hello, I live at 315 Lake Terrace, Bradley Beach, N.J.

I have owned the house since 1984.

I don't remember the park ever getting any new playground equipment or a makeover since I have resided here. The little playground for babies & toddlers is extremely outdated & very dirty. I don't think I've ever seen it cleaned, even after the park re-opened after the height of Covid. I would like to see the ENTIRE park fenced in for the safety of the children. A portion of the park fenced off for dogs. RUBBER MATS under the NEW UPDATED playground area, perhaps even a Sprinkle Park. DO NOT use the horrible wood chips, they get

**disgusting & are not safe for children! More seating for adults to watch their children.
Thank you for your time!**

Fox/Sexsmith moved to adjourn.

THE COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:10 P.M.

Erica Kostyz

Erica Kostyz, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk