

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
BOROUGH OF BERGENFIELD
MAYOR AND COUNCIL WORK SESSION
JULY 5, 2016**

PRESENT: Mayor Norman Schmelz and Council President Thomas A. Lodato, Council members Charles Steinel, Arvin Amatorio, Ora Kornbluth, and P. Christopher Tully

ABSENT: Councilmember Hernando Rivera

ALSO PRESENT: Borough Administrator Corey Gallo
Borough Attorney John Schettino
Borough Clerk Marie Quinones

Mayor Schmelz called the meeting to order at 8:06 p.m. with the reading of the Open Public Meetings Act Statement, "In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the notice requirements have been satisfied. Meeting dates for the year are confirmed at the Annual Meeting. The Annual Notice is sent to the Record, Star Ledger, Twin Boro News, and Cablevision, placed on two Municipal Bulletin Boards and is on file in the Office of the Borough Clerk."

The Salute to the Flag was led by Councilperson Tully.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS/BOROUGH ENGINEER

A. Engineering & Inspection Status Report

Borough Engineer Gleassey stated that there are a number of items listed that are pending consideration. An updated proposal was submitted to include basketball court improvements and the preliminary development of a town wide community center with the lighting of the Memorial Field project. A proposal was submitted to the Borough regarding the installation of a traffic beacon at the firehouse on Church Street. Mr. Gleassey stated that a proposal was submitted for the installation of a light along New Bridge Road and Westminster Avenue. Mr. Gleassey explained that a preliminary/budgetary cost proposal was being developed to replace or re-line existing sanitary sewer facilities. National Water Main Cleaning Co. is starting the final locations of cleaning and televising. Repair plans will be prepared for bidding.

Mr. Gleassey stated that draft/final design plans have been circulated for review by the Borough to repave the entire length of Woodbine Street and North/South Front Street. Mr. Gleassey stated that the Carlton Place project was currently under design and the field survey was completed. Mr. Gleassey explained that it is anticipated that the sewer repairs under the 2016 Various Sanitary Sewer Improvements will be completed by mid-July, at which time the remaining "PSEG" roads can be paved by Tilcon, the paving contractor for PSEG. Glenwood Drive and Surrey Lane remain to be completed. Mr. Gleassey explained that Murray Hill Terrace will be repaved and is currently under design and the field survey was completed. The West Church Street/CSX Railroad Drainage project is awaiting the return of the signed agreement from CSX.

Mr. Gleassey stated that final plans, specifications, estimate and schedule was submitted to NJDOT for the "Safe Routes to School" Safety Project and Bikeway Extension. Mr. Gleassey explained that they are awaiting the County to issue authorization letters for the Washington Avenue Handicap Ramps project. Mr. Gleassey explained that the installation of the drainage pipe/structures have been completed for the CDBG Main Street Sewer Rehabilitation Project and that final documents were being prepared for submission to CDBG for processing the final grant payment. Mr. Gleassey stated that the reconstruction of the roadway and striping has been completed for the Highgate Terrace project.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Swim Club

No Report.

B. Adoption of Ordinance

The following ordinance published herewith were first read by title only on June 21, 2016, posted on the bulletin board of the municipal center.

ORDINANCE 16-2495 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 344 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERGENFIELD, ENTITLED “SANITARY CODE”

ORDINANCE 16-2496 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 266 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERGENFIELD, ENTITLED “SOLID WASTE”

Public Comments on Ordinances 16-2495 and 16-2496.

John Smith, resident, needed clarification regarding Ordinance 16-2495 section 344-59. All barrels must be placed at the curb. In the event that property will not be eligible for collection, the resident has tree telephone pole. Not between left of the items what will happen

Administrator Gallo stated that it would be on a case to case basis.

Mary Sullivan, resident, inquired if it is to be placed on the street.

Administrator Gallo stated that it is certain addresses that were being asking to place on median. Letters will be sent to explain how to use the pail. Mr. Gallo stated that when the pail was received, there will be a second letter with the instructions. Strategically, there are roads where the pails can't be on the median.

Barry Doll, resident, asked what will happen when there is snow and ice on the road.

Council President Steinel stated that residents in my neighborhood. You bring the barrel to the curb after the snow is plowed. If it gets sandwiched in, the truck can pull the barrel from the snow bank.

Mayor Schmelz stated that just like you do it now, you place the barrel on top of the snow and the truck will pick it up.

Administrator Gallo stated to place in garage.

Gerry Naylis, resident, inquired when the Board of Health changed/advocated for that responsibility. Mr. Naylis question how the Borough can move forward with passing the ordinance without informing the Board of Health on the changes to garbage collection.

Borough Attorney Schettino stated the Board of Health does not have an attorney, but the governing body approved it. The matter has never been challenged because it is similar other towns having privatized services. Raise interesting question does not invalidate.

Mr. Naylis inquired who reviewed the ordinance, sincere there are typos (244-59). He questioned how the ordinance will be corrected. He also inquired if there was any information on the mixed use plan before the end of the year.

Motion by Council President Steinel, Second by Councilmember Kornbluth, to pass Ordinance 16-2495 with the required correction on second and final reading and is hereby adopted and notice of same shall be published according to law.

On a roll call, the vote was recorded as follows:

Councilperson Lodato:	<i>aye</i>	Councilperson Kornbluth:	<i>aye</i>
Councilperson Amatorio:	<i>aye</i>	Councilperson Tully:	<i>aye</i>
Council President Steinel:	<i>aye</i>	Councilperson Rivera:	<i>absent</i>

Motion by Councilperson Steinel, Second by Councilmember Kornbluth, to pass Ordinance 16-2496 with the required correction on second and final reading and is hereby adopted and notice of the same shall be published according to law.

On a roll call, the vote was recorded as follows:

Councilperson Lodato:	<i>aye</i>	Councilperson Kornbluth:	<i>aye</i>
Councilperson Amatorio:	<i>aye</i>	Councilperson Tully:	<i>aye</i>
Council President Steinel:	<i>aye</i>	Councilperson Rivera:	<i>absent</i>

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administration Gallo stated that he met with the Fire Department on June 30th. Mr. Gallo explained that one topic that was discussed went back to a capital ordinance adopted in 2004. He stated that the Fire Department would like use the monies and subsidize funds to renovate Prospect Fire House, and utilize the addition that was purchased. Mr. Gallo explained that the renovation is estimated to cost \$500,000, and there is potential use for grant monies. Mr. Gallo stated that he believes the issues with the prior administration have subsided and have been resolved. After meeting with a few individuals, he received positive feedback on the direction the Borough is headed. Mr. Gallo pointed that he the Borough supports and value their work.

Mr. Gallo also stated that he received an e-mail from CSX, pertaining to robust upgrades they will be making to several intersections. There will be a pre-con meeting regarding these changes in the fall.

Mr. Gallo explained that the part-time electrical inspector was added to the agenda last minute because he was notified that when their regular electrical inspector takes time off, there is no one to fill the void. The Construction Code official found a per diem inspector that has all the necessary certifications.

Mr. Gallo also explained that he attended the recent BSID meeting, and learned that someone was hired in the administrator role. He explained that they are moving forward in getting the records up to date. He stated that the BSID is progressing, and will come before the Council with their budget soon.

MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORT

Councilperson Kornbluth

stated the Bergenfield Volunteer Ambulance Corp. responded to 990 calls this year. Family Fun Day was a great success. Two new members graduated from EMT school and will

start riding next week. The recreation department received 125 calls for recreation forms for summer day camp at Memorial Park. The summer day camp already started. United sports is starting at the library this week. Spring sports has finished and summer sports are starting. The Board of Education is working on sending out buses for Bergenfield junior football. The police department is preparing for the youth academy. It is a full class of 50 cadets. Kids on the waiting list who do not get admitted will be the first ones on the list for next year's class. The police app should be up and running by this week's end. The police report should be out shortly and there were numerous narcotic arrests made and there are ongoing investigations.

Council President Steinel

stated the DPW sign machine is was up and running. The sign will be used to put graphics on two of the new garbage trucks. Signs needed for around the town will be done in house. The zoning board will meet next month.

Councilperson Amatorio

stated there isn't anything to report. John Smith had asked that the borough consider giving the Veteran's Committee a disabled parking spot on the roadway in front of the VFW. This would enable disable veterans and all others who use handicapped spots to come through the front entrance instead of using the back.

Councilperson Tully

There was a joint Borough Hall meeting with Dumont last week. Dumont will be using the Bergenfield court room on August 1st, 2016 There will be another joint meeting with Dumont in next two weeks. There will be a clean up at Cooper's Pond on Saturday, July 16, 2016 from 9:00am to 12:00pm.

Councilperson Lodato

stated that he remembers speaking about having a disabled parking spot in front of the VFW with the police more than a year ago and that it was a safety issue. There will be a Stigma Free meeting next Thursday. The Planning Board meeting was cancelled last month. The next Planning Board meeting is July 25, 2016 at 8:00pm to discuss a subdivision application and the master plan. The fire department received 43 calls in June.

There were two calls on Family Fun Day because of the brushfires. The bond was put in place in 2004 for Prospect Park. The rent hasn't been paid. They acquired the property since it would be a prime location for a firehouse. Councilperson Lodato stated a career fireman retired last week. The firehouse is down one career staff but volunteer staff would be available on a per diem basis.

Mayor Schmelz inquired if an analysis was ever done on how many firefighters are needed per firehouse.

Councilperson Lodato stated that there are two firefighters in every firehouse.

Councilperson Tully stated that the concern is putting the career firefighters and the volunteers lives in danger when there isn't enough staff.

Councilperson Amatorio inquired if they are supposed to make recommendations.

Administrator Gallo stated that the mind set was that the volunteer staff were opposed to having a house closed. No advocate for one person.

Council President Steinel stated that the Fire Chief, like other department heads, should articulate their needs at a Closed Session meeting.

Mayor Schmelz

thanked the environmental club and the boy scouts for the bicycle check event that was held.

CORRESPONDENCE

A. Bishop Nieves/Mercy Church of God

Re: Block Party Request – Foster Street from New Bridge Road to North Street– Sunday, September 18, 2016 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

B. Kneisler/Alert Fire Company #1

Re: Boot Drive Request – Main, Clinton, New Bridge, Liberty & Washington from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

C. Milla/Bergenfield Firefighter

Re: Resignation Letter – Bergenfield Fire Department

Motion by Council President Steinel, second by Councilperson Tully, and all members present voting in favor, to approve Correspondence Items A through C.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Smith, resident, stated that the governing body had the Borough planner give review and requested changes, but the Planning Board hasn't had a meeting. Mr. Smith indicated that when he asked the Mayor the reason the meeting was cancelled, he was told that there were no items on the agenda. Mr. Smith stated that the Master Plan is overdue, and the Planning Board should meet to the review it. He further explained that meetings are cancelled last minute, and the board attorneys and secretaries are compensated to attend meetings.

Mayor Schmelz stated that if there aren't any applications, there is no need for a meeting. He also stated that the Master Plan was accepted in October.

Mary Sullivan, resident, stated that there will a demonstration on Crude Oil trains outside the post office tomorrow. She invited the public to attend, and told them to ask for the organizer, Rosemarie.

Barry Doll stated that the planning board is too important of a committee to pass by and not to have a report. Mr. Doll feels that there should be more information provided about what is going on. Mr. Doll inquired about the porta johns for Cooper's Pond.

Administrator Gallo stated that they were going to be delivered this week, and some were already delivered in anticipation to the start of summer camp.

Mr. Doll inquired if there were any comments or movements for the preservation of the mill and barn. He explained that the Museum was notified that they received grant approval, but no information has been received in writing. Mr. Doll stated that other towns have passed noise ordinances to ban gas blowers. He asked the governing to consider changing the noise ordinance to prohibit gas blowers altogether, as they cause such a disturbance all throughout the neighborhood. Mr. Doll commented that the debris in Cooper's Pond is a result of the garbage from Teaneck. He asked the governing body to place a border on the brook to stop the garbage coming from Teaneck.

Council President Steinel stated that he likes Mr. Doll's logic and thinking, but the border may not be permitted by the Department of Environmental Protection.

Councilperson Tully asked Mr. Doll to have the matter listed on the agenda for discussion in the next Environmental Committee meeting.

Buddy Deauna stated it is a learning processing for him to be present at this meeting and thanked Mr. Gallo for addressing the issue the Church was experiencing.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS TO BE ACTED UPON:

A. CONSENT AGENDA

CONSENT RESOLUTION 16-207. All matters listed below are considered by the Governing Body to be routine in nature. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If any discussion is desired by the Governing Body, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

- a. **16-208/**To Pay Bill
- b. **16-209/**To Authorize Renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption Liquor Licenses - 2016-2017 Term
- c. **16-210/**To Approve Tax Settlement – Block 190 Lot 11
- d. **16-211/**To Authorize Tax Refund – Block 183 Lot 3
- e. **16-212/**To Authorize Tax Refund to Outside Lien Holder for TTL #12-00016

Motion by Council President Steinel, second by Councilperson Lodato, to approve the Consent Resolution.

On a roll call, the vote was recorded as follows:

Councilperson Lodato:	<i>aye</i>	Councilperson Kornbluth:	<i>aye</i>
Councilperson Amatorio:	<i>aye</i>	Councilperson Tully:	<i>aye</i>
Council President Steinel:	<i>aye</i>	Councilperson Rivera:	<i>absent</i>

B. RESOLUTION

16-213/To Authorize Hire – Per Diem Electrical Inspector (*Borough Administrator*)

Motion by Council President Steinel, second by Councilperson Tully, to approve the Consent Resolution.

On a roll call, the vote was recorded as follows:

Councilperson Lodato:	<i>aye</i>	Councilperson Kornbluth:	<i>aye</i>
Councilperson Amatorio:	<i>aye</i>	Councilperson Tully:	<i>aye</i>
Council President Steinel:	<i>aye</i>	Councilperson Rivera:	<i>absent</i>

COUNCIL COMMENTS

The Mayor and Council thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

RESOLUTION **16-214/**Authorizing the Governing Body to Enter into Closed Executive Session to discuss:

- A. Personnel
 - 1. Finance Office Personnel Matters
 - 2. DPW Personnel Matter

- B. Collective Bargaining
 - 1. Bergenfield FMBA Local No. 65 Contract

Minutes will be taken of the meeting and released to the public at the time that the matter is resolved. After Closed Executive Session, the Mayor and Council will reconvene in the Executive Chambers to adjourn this public meeting.

On a motion by Councilperson Kornbluth, second by Councilperson Tully and all present voting in favor, the meeting was adjourned to the Closed Session in the Executive Chambers at 9:14 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, on a motion by Councilperson Kornbluth, second by Council President Steinel, and unanimously carried, to adjourn this meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Quinones
Acting Borough Clerk