

**BOROUGH OF BERGENFIELD  
MAYOR & COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

**8:00 p.m.  
JULY 19, 2016**

PRESENT: Mayor Norman Schmelz, Council President Charlie Steinel, Council members Thomas Lodato, Ora Kornbluth, P. Christopher Tully, and Hernando Rivera

ABSENT: Arvin Amatorio

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

Mayor Schmelz called the meeting to order at 8:02 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 Kornbluth.

AGENDA CHANGES

Remove Item A from Correspondence.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Council President Steinel, second by Councilperson Tully, to approve minutes of the June 21, 2016 Regular Public Meeting, June 21, 2016 Closed Session (not to be released), July 5, 2016 Work Session, July 5, 2016 Closed Session (not to be released). All members present voting in favor, none opposed.

PRESENTATIONS

A. Certificate of Appreciation in honor of Uma Nandini Nath

Mayor Schmelz presented the certificate of appreciation in honor of Uma Nandini Nath into the record.

Ms. Nath thanked the mayor and council for the award and stated that she was so happy for being honored.

B. Police Department Presentation

1. Oath of Office to Andres Enriquez (*Police Chief*)

- ❖ Biography of Mr. Enriquez read by Police Chief Cathy Madalone
- ❖ **Resolution 16-215**/To Hire Andres Enriquez to the Rank of Police Officer in the Bergenfield Police Department.

Chief Madalone read Mr. Enriquez's biography into the record.

Motion by Councilperson Kornbluth, second by Councilperson Tully, that Resolution #16-215 be approved.

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

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

The Oath of Office was administered by Borough Attorney John Schettino.

Police Officer Andres Enriquez thanked the Mayor and Council, Chief Madalone, and his family.

#### COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilperson Lodato congratulated Police Officer Enriquez and wished him many years of safe service to Bergenfield.

Council President Steinel wished Police Officer Enriquez the best of luck and stated that it is a tough, trying time for police officers now. Council President Steinel thanked Police Officer Enriquez for his years of service to this country.

Councilperson Kornbluth welcomed and congratulated Police Officer Enriquez on his new position. Councilperson Kornbluth thanked him for his years of service.

Councilperson Tully welcomed Officer Enriquez and thanked him for his years of service. Councilperson Tully stated that it is troubling times for police officers and wished him the best of luck in his new position.

Councilperson Rivera congratulated Officer Enriquez and stated that he will be serving in one of the greatest towns.

Mayor Schmelz congratulated and welcomed Officer Enriquez. Mayor Schmelz stated that he will be a great addition to the police department. Mayor Schmelz stated that it has been troubling times for police officers with all the events that have been happening all around the world.

#### VERBAL COMMUNICATIONS I

Mayor Schmelz opened the meeting and invited the public for comments on agenda items only, limited to five minutes per speaker.

John Smith, resident, thanked the council for recognizing the young lady who sang the national anthem. Mr. Smith stated that a copy of the proclamation should be sent to the school and that this could encourage youngsters to volunteer. Mr. Smith asked that the council take their time in considering to appoint new SID personnel. Mr. Smith stated that even though an individual's resume may look good, it doesn't mean anything if they can't "do the walk and talk the talk". There have been some SID members in the past that talked a good game but were not able to produce.

Barry Doll, resident, stated there was nothing listed on the agenda under unfinished business. Mr. Doll inquired why the swim club was not listed as this still remains unresolved. Mr. Doll stated that any issues that were unresolved should be carried over to the next meeting until it gets resolved. Mr. Doll stated that when issues are not carried forward, they get lost.

Mayor Schmelz stated that these items should probably get carried forward. There was nothing new to report with the swim club.

Mary Demauro, resident, stated that she hopes and prays that the council won't accept the introduction for the 2016 budget of the Bergenfield Special Improvement District. Ms. Demauro

stated that taxes are raised and services are reduced. Ms. Demauro explained that when organizations approach businesses for donations, they will be turned away as people will not have the money for donations since they have to pay the Special Improvement District taxes.

Tom O'Reilly, Secretary for the Special Improvement District Board, stated that it took a lot of time to put together the 2016 budget for the Special Improvement District and hopes that it gets approved.

Stuart Koperweis, President of Economic Development Strategist, has been working the Special Improvement District. Mr. Koperweis stated that he is happy to say that he has been working with and helping with improving business districts over the past 25 years. Mr. Koperweis stated that he has worked with a variety of different improvement districts to bring back an area to where they can be successful in an environment of partnership with working with their municipality. Mr. Koperweis stated that the same can be done with the Bergenfield Special Improvement District and has been working with Bergenfield councilmembers and mayor to put together a work plan and the 2016 special improvement district budget. It will be a full budget that will be introduced. Mr. Koperweis said that he is looking forward to working with the board members. He stated that he left his contact information if anyone had any questions or needed more information.

There being no one else who wishes to be heard, Mayor Schmelz closed Verbal Communications I.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

~~A. Lodato/Board of Fire Directors~~

**Re:** Request to lead 9-11 Ceremonies - Sunday, September 11, 2016 (**Held 6-9-16**)

B. Trotter/Hoboken Resident

**Re:** Request to use Memorial Park Pavilion for Birthday Picnic - Saturday, August 27, 2016 from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

~~C. Manlapaz/18 Morgan Street~~

**Re:** Request to use Memorial Park Pavilion for Picnic & Mass - Sunday, September 4, 2016 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

D. Enders/Bergenfield High School  
Project Graduation Committee 2016

**Re:** Coin Toss Request - W. Clinton, E. Clinton, and Washington Avenue - Saturday, September 10, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

E. Boerner/Calvary Lutheran Church

**Re:** Block Party Request - Arlington Avenue and Clinton Avenue - Sunday, September 11, 2016 from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

F. Suero/44 Banta Place

**Re:** Block Party Request - Banta Place between Prospect & Ames Avenue - Saturday, September 3, 2016 from 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Motion by Councilperson Kornbluth, second by Council President Steinel, and all other members voting in favor, that items B, D, E, and F are approved.

#### A. CONSENT AGENDA

**CONSENT RESOLUTION 16-216.** 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. **16-217/To Pay Bills**

- b. **16-218**/To Approve Raffle Application 1306
- c. **16-219**/To Authorize Award of Contract – 2016 Riverside Cooperative Road Improvement Program – Shifano Construction Corp.
- d. **16-220**/To Authorize Tax Refund – Block 85 Lot 22.01
- e. **16-221**/To Authorize Tax Refund – Block 162 Lots 2 & 20
- f. **16-222**/To Authorize Refund of Redemption Monies to Outside Lien Holder for TTL#15-00008
- g. **16-223**/To Authorize Renewal of the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Hackensack for Local Public Health Services

Motion by Council President Steinel, second by Councilperson Rivera, that the Consent Resolution be approved.

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

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Introduction of Ordinance

Motion that the following ordinance be introduced and passed on first reading and setting Tuesday, August 2, 2016 at 8:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard as the date and time and the Executive Chambers of the Bergenfield Borough as the place for a hearing on said ordinances.

ORDINANCE 16-2497 – A CAPITAL ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERGENFIELD IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF A VEHICLE CAMERA SYSTEM FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH, APPROPRIATING THEREFOR THE SUM OF \$60,000 AND PROVIDING THAT SUCH SUM SO APPROPRIATED SHALL BE RAISED FROM THE BOROUGH’S CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND.

Motion by Council Person Kornbluth, second by Councilperson Rivera, to pass Ordinance 16-2497 on first reading, 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>absent</i> | Councilperson Tully:     | <i>aye</i> |
| Council President Steinel: | <i>aye</i>    | Councilperson Rivera:    | <i>aye</i> |

B. Resolutions

**16-224**/To Hire Clerk Typist 1 – Stefania Figueroa

Motion by Council President Steinel, second by Councilperson Rivera, that Resolution# 16-224 be approved.

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

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

**16-225/To Introduce 2016 Budget of the Bergenfield Special Improvement District**

Motion by Council President Steinel, second by Councilperson Kornbluth, that Resolution# 16-225 be approved.

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

|                            |               |                          |               |
|----------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Councilperson Lodato:      | <i>nay</i>    | Councilperson Kornbluth: | <i>aye</i>    |
| Councilperson Amatorio:    | <i>absent</i> | Councilperson Tully:     | <i>recuse</i> |
| Council President Steinel: | <i>aye</i>    | Councilperson Rivera:    | <i>nay</i>    |
| Mayor Schmelz:             | <i>aye</i>    |                          |               |

**Committee/Department Reports**

Motion offered by Council President Steinel that the Committee/Department Reports be spread upon the minutes in full and filed. Second by Councilperson Lodato. All in favor, none opposed.

**VERBAL COMMUNICATIONS II**

Mayor Schmelz opened the meeting to Verbal Communications II and invited the public to comment on any subject, limited to five minutes per speaker.

Linda Tafarelli, an animal control officer, was present at the meeting to introduce ordinance #1806 that bans the sales of dogs and cats from pet shops and stated that she was one of protestors in Emerson to close Just Pups. Robike Noll-Faries distributed a copy of the ordinance passed by Wyckoff to the governing body. Ms. Noll-Faries stated that 59 towns have already signed and have adopted this ordinance. Just Pups owns 5 stores in New Jersey and 4 of them are no longer there. The owner has his own puppy mill in Missouri. Ms. Noll-Faries stated that there is a lot of retail space in Bergenfield and that you never know where a pet store can pop up in any town. Ms. Noll-Faries asked the mayor and council to consider adopting this ordinance as it would also be protection for the town.

Mary Sullivan, resident, stated that she spent an hour and a half on the Bergenfield website looking for the ordinance regarding illegal renting of rooms. Ms. Sullivan stated that the website is a disaster and that she couldn't find what she was looking for.

Administrator Gallo asked if she had looked it up in the borough code and that he will look for it himself and call her.

Ms. Sullivan stated that she did look in the Borough code. She didn't see anything under code enforcement or the building department. Ms. Sullivan stated she typed in parking and all kinds of information came up such as shredding. Ms. Sullivan stated that the website is a mess and needs to be cleaned up. Ms. Sullivan explained that the website needs to be a working too. Ms. Sullivan stated that the ordinances are listed by number but if we don't know what the number is, then how do you find what you are looking for. Ms. Sullivan stated that the Council should consider putting a restriction on the minimum amount of days someone can rent a home for.

Administrator Gallo stated that there is a search engine in the Borough code.

John Smith, resident, stated that a new P.A. system is needed. It is not just at the mayor and council meetings that there are problems hearing what everyone is saying. Mr. Smith stated that it is outdated and should be replaced so everyone can understand what is being said. Mr. Smith stated that he had submitted a new OPRA Request to find out if the Planning Board had met to discuss and revise recommendations made by the governing council. Mr. Smith stated that there has not been a Planning Board meeting since and that only two Planning Board members had responded when Ron Mondello had asked if a "do over" meeting to discuss the master plan was necessary. There wasn't even a response from the Mayor. Mr. Smith stated that the minutes from the Planning Board October 2015 meeting were not memorialized. Mr. Smith explained that the former planning board secretary had told him there weren't any minutes from the October 2015 Planning Board meeting since it was only a presentation and not a public meeting. Mr. Smith stated that there had only been one planning board meeting this year and that was the re-organization meeting. Mr. Smith asked why an attorney and a secretary was being paid when there weren't any meetings taking place.

Councilperson Kornbluth asked the Borough Attorney if the governing body has the authority to direct the Planning Board to hold the meetings or have them reappointed.

Borough Attorney Schettino stated that the Mayor and Council have no authority whether a hearing was held or not. If there is no record, the meeting should be held again even if it did take place. Planning Board members are appointed by the Mayor.

Mayor Schmelz stated that the former secretary of the Planning Board had found the minutes from the October 2015 meeting.

Council President Steinel stated there wouldn't be any minutes since it was not a public meeting.

John Smith, resident, stated that he knows that the lease agreement for PAL and the Little League was going to be up shortly. Mr. Smith stated that he had previously requested for financial documentation about 3 to 4 times without ever receiving anything for the PAL and the Little League. Mr. Smith also inquired about the letter regarding the facilities.

Council President Steinel stated that he has asked about this before and the Borough Auditor needs to provide information on everything that is required. Council President asked where the letter is.

Barry Doll, resident, stated that every committee, including the Planning and Zoning Board should have their minutes published and available at the Mayor and Council meetings. Mr. Doll stated that the museum is separate from any committee or board in town and has a lease agreement.

Council President Steinel inquired if the museum has a lease. Council President Steinel stated that information is needed on the value and that the financial information should be reported.

Mr. Doll stated that the museum reports to the state and that a copy can be given to the mayor and council.

Administrator Gallo stated that there is a meeting with the auditor on Thursday and he will discuss it with them then.

There being no one else who wishes to be heard, Mayor Schmelz closed Verbal Communications II.

#### COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilperson Lodato thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Council President Steinel thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Councilperson Kornbluth thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. She congratulated Councilmember Armatorio on the birth of his new daughter.

Councilperson Tully thanked everyone for coming to the meeting wanted to congratulate Councilperson Armatorio on the birth of his new daughter.

Councilperson Rivera thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and wished everyone a good night.

#### CLOSED SESSION

RESOLUTION **16-226**/Authorizing the Governing Body to Enter into Closed Executive Session to discuss:

- A. Contracts
  - 1. Police Department In-Car Camera System
  - 2. IT Services Update
- B. Collective Bargaining
  - 1. Bergenfield DPW Employees Association Contact
  - 2. Bergenfield FMBA Local No. 65 Contract
- C. Personnel
  - 1. Police Department Promotions
  - 2. Acting Municipal Clerk Status
  - 3. QPA Personnel Status

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 Council President Steinel, second by Councilperson Tully, and all present voting in favor, the meeting was adjourned to the Closed Session in the Executive Chambers at 9:04 p.m.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, on a motion by Councilperson Tully, second by Councilperson Kornbluth, and unanimously carried, to adjourn this meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Quinones  
Acting Borough Clerk