

BOROUGH OF BERGENFIELD
MAYOR & COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
8:00 p.m.
September 20, 2016

PRESENT: Council President Charlie Steinel, and Council members Arvin Amatorio, Ora Kornbluth, P. Christopher Tully, and Hernando Rivera

ABSENT: Mayor Norman Schmelz and Councilperson Thomas Lodato

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

Council President Steinel called the meeting to order at 8:07 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

Motion by Councilperson Kornbluth, Second by Councilperson Tully, and all present voting in favor, Litigation was added to Closed Session.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Council member Tully , second by Council member Rivera, to approve minutes of the August 16, 2016 Regular Public Meeting, August 16, 2016 Closed Session (not to be released), September 6, 2016 Work Session, September 6, 2016 Closed Session (not to be released). All members present voting in favor, none opposed.

PRESENTATIONS

None.

VERBAL COMMUNICATIONS I

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

No one came forward.

There being no one else who wishes to be heard, Council President Steinel closed Verbal Communications I.

CORRESPONDENCE

- A. Bruce Van Tassel/Bergenfield Lions Club **Re:** Coin Toss Request –White Cane Day – Saturday, November 5th and Sunday, November 6th – Main St. and N. Washington Avenue – 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- B. Lodato/Board of Fire Officers **Re:** Personnel Action

Motion by Councilperson Kornbluth, second by Councilperson Tully, and all other members voting in favor, that items A through B are approved.

A. CONSENT AGENDA

CONSENT RESOLUTION 16-274. 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. **16-275/**To Pay Bills
- b. **16-276/**To Authorize Public Bid Threshold
- c. **16-277/**To Authorize Changes in Petty Cash Custodians and Amounts
- d. **16-278/**To Approve Emergency Appropriation – Municipal Alliance Grant
- e. **16-279/**To Request Approval for Insertion of Special Item of Revenue in 2016 Budget – Municipal Alliance Grant - Chapter 159
- f. **16-280/**To Accept Resignation – Ellen Buckey
- g. **16-281/**To Accept Resignation – John McManus
- h. **16-282/**To Authorize Refund of Redemption Monies to Outside Lien Holder For TTL#15-00016
- i. **16-283/**To Authorize Refund of Redemption Monies to Outside Lien Holder for TTL#15-00017
- j. **16-284/**To Endorse Bergen County Community Development Grant – FY 2017 CDBG Hughes Road and Madison Avenue Improvements Project in the amount of \$139,782.22
- k. **16-285/**To Approve Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual Dated September 2016
- l. **16-286/**To Authorize Increased Hours for Part-Time Code Enforcement Officer – Dennis Parente
- m. **16-287/**To Authorize Road Improvement Program Phase II – Riverside Cooperative
- n. **16-288/** To Approve Civil Rights Policy
- o. **16-289/**To Authorize Bid – 2017 Ford F350 XL 4x4

Motion by Councilperson Kornbluth, 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>absent</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>aye</i>

B. Resolutions

16-290/To Hire Part-time Electrical Subcode Official – Leo Belgiovine

Motion by Councilperson Rivera, second by Councilperson Tully, that Resolution #16-290 be approved.

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

Councilperson Lodato:	<i>absent</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>aye</i>

16-291/To Hire Full-time Laborer – Juan Jose Rodriguez

Motion by Councilperson Tully, second by Councilperson Kornbluth, that Resolution #16-291 be approved.

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

Councilperson Lodato:	<i>absent</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>aye</i>

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Swim Club

No Report.

B. Parking Ordinance Amendments

Administrator Gallo stated there was one change, but was unable to find the document. Mr. Gallo offered to provide the change at the next meeting.

C. Tabled Resolutions

1. 16-258/Adopt the 2016 Budget of the Bergenfield Special Improvement District (Tabled 8-4-16)

No action.

Committee/Department Reports

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

VERBAL COMMUNICATIONS II

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

Alfredo Cardenas, resident, expressed his concern with the DPW employees engaging in maliciousness, harassment, discrimination, and creating hazardous conditions around his home. Mr. Cardenas indicated that he has spoken with the employees on several occasions, and in one occasion, one employee wanted to fight him. Mr. Cardenas stated that his spoke with everyone he can speak to, with the exception of the Council and Borough Attorney.

Councilperson Kornbluth inquired if he had spoken with the superintendent of DPW.

Mr. Cardenas stated that he has spoken with the superintendent of DPW. Mr. Cardenas stated that it has not happened since he spoke with Mr. Gallo two weeks ago. Mr. Cardenas stated he has videos and pictures. Mayor Schmelz was over at his house and saw the videos. However, there are no consequences. They have no respect for the mayor, the mayor's office, and me and my family.

Council President Steinel inquired if the issue stopped when he had spoken with the administrator.

Mr. Cardenas explained that the issue stopped.

Fred Sahlberg, resident, indicated that he believes in following the chain of command and not coming to the Councilmembers with problems. Mr. Sahlberg stated that about two weeks ago, he presented a derelict problem to the Board of Health, and was told that it will be dealt with as a nuisance complaint. Mr. Sahlberg commented that the problem was rectified a week later. Mr. Sahlberg expressed his gratitude to the Board of Health.

John Smith, resident, commented that a new sound system should be included in the budget. Mr. Smith thanked the Mayor and Council for putting together the 9/11 Ceremony, and stated that he was impressed with the great participated. He commented that the next event is the Veteran's Day Ceremony.

There being no one else who wishes to be heard, Council President Steinel closed Verbal Communications II.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

No comments.

CLOSED SESSION

RESOLUTION **16-292**/Authorizing the Governing Body to Enter into Closed Executive Session to discuss:

- A. Personnel
 - 1. Fire Department Personnel Matters
- B. Attorney-client privilege
 - 1. Shared Services Agreement
- C. Contracts
 - 1. Tax Collector Agreement
- D. Litigation

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 8:28 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, on a motion by Councilperson Kornbluth, second by Councilperson Tully, and unanimously carried, to adjourn this meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Quinones
Acting Borough Clerk