

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
BOROUGH OF BERGENFIELD
MAYOR AND COUNCIL WORK SESSION
TELECONFERENCE MEETING VIA CISCO WEBEX
MAY 5, 2020**

PRESENT: Mayor Arvin Amatorio and Council President Rafael Marte, Council members Thomas A. Lodato, Buddy Deauna, Ora Kornbluth, Hernando Rivera, and Marc Pascual

ABSENT: No one.

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

Mayor Amatorio called the meeting to order at 5:05 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. Notice of this meeting via the May 1, 2020 Sunshine Notice has been sent to the Record, Star Ledger, Twin Boro News and Cablevision and posted on two municipal bulletin boards and the Borough website."

The Salute to the Flag was led by Mayor Arvin Amatorio.

Mayor Amatorio thanked everyone for being present at an earlier time. He thanked all the first responders, DPW, and the health department.

AGENDA CHANGES

Motion by Councilperson Kornbluth, second by Councilperson Lodato to add Resolution #20-176 to approve Professional Services Agreement for Third Round Housing Administrative Agent to the Consent Agenda. All present voting in favor, no one opposed.

PRESENTATIONS

20-166/To Hire Part Time Temporary Laborer – Steven Mulder

Motion by Councilperson Marte, second by Councilperson Rivera, that Resolution #20-166 be approved.

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

| | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Councilperson Lodato: | <i>aye</i> | Councilperson Kornbluth: | <i>aye</i> |
| Councilperson Deauna: | <i>aye</i> | Councilperson Rivera: | <i>aye</i> |
| Council President Marte: | <i>aye</i> | Councilperson Pascual: | <i>aye</i> |

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS/BOROUGH ENGINEER

A. Engineering & Inspection Status Report

Mr. Bob Klein, Remington & Vernick engineer, stated the 2019 road program contractor has mobilized to do the concrete work. Highview Avenue has been finished and the contractor will be moving along to the other roads by the end of the month. The 2020 road program is progressing as planned, as they have completed most of the video for the roads. The work had to be subcontracted out for a few other segments, but the results should be submitted soon. The West Clinton Avenue

2020 DOT funded project plans are being worked on and progressing nicely. The plans will be sent to NJDOT by the end of the month for their review. RVE has been working with the grant consultant for the 2021 NJDOT funded road projects, which will include Anderson Avenue.

Mayor Amatorio inquired when the bidding will start and if the camera work is ready.

Mr. Klein stated for the 2019 roads, it will be as soon as the concrete work is done in early June, and the other roads will be later in the summer. The 2019 non-grant roads are Highview Avenue, Schoolcraft Road, E. Englewood Avenue, a section of E. Johnson Avenue, Fox Place, Van Houten, and Froelich. The start time for those roads will be early June.

Borough Administrator Gallo stated there were some problems with the camera and additional bids were received to proceed with the camera work.

ORDINANCES

A. Adoption of Ordinances

Mayor Amatorio read into the record:

The following ordinance published herewith was first read by title only on January 21, 2020, re-introduced on February 18, 2020, and posted on the bulletin board of the municipal center.
(TABLED 4-21-20)

ORDINANCE 20-2559 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 186 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERGENFIELD, ENTITLED “LAND DEVELOPMENT”

Motion by Councilperson Kornbluth, second by Councilperson Deauna, to remove Ordinance 20-2559 from the table.

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

| | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Councilperson Lodato: | <i>aye</i> | Councilperson Kornbluth: | <i>aye</i> |
| Councilperson Deauna: | <i>aye</i> | Councilperson Rivera: | <i>aye</i> |
| Council President Marte: | <i>aye</i> | Councilperson Pascual: | <i>aye</i> |

Borough Administrator Gallo stated that members of the zoning board, zoning board attorney, planning board attorney, borough attorney, construction official, zoning official, Councilperson Kornbluth, Councilperson Lodato, Mayor Amatorio, and himself had a conference call using the Webex system to discuss the pavers and where the municipality stands. The definition of pavers was revised with a clear definition. There were a couple of changes made to the ordinance in two areas. The first change pertains to section 2-part B, where there is an increase in the schedule of an additional 10% coverage. Furthermore, the cost of escrow fees was reduced to a limit of \$1,500.

Borough Attorney John Schettino stated they have been going back and forth with this ordinance for several months and they can always amend it again.

Councilperson Kornbluth stated the issue she had was due to the fact that she was reading the ordinance improperly. She explained that all the requirements via escrow and survey is due when the someone is exceeding their lot coverage. If someone is not exceeding the lot coverage, they do not need the escrow or the survey.

Mayor Amatorio stated the reason the ordinance was tabled was because they could not agree on the required engineering survey when the lot coverage did not exceed a particular property. It was clarified that there was no need for meeting approval unless the lot coverage is exceeded and a variance is needed. The escrow amount was reduced from \$3,000 to \$1,500 and the 10% additional is just for the pavers, not for lot coverage. Mayor Amatorio, reiterated Mr. Schettino's point, that if there is a need to amend it, they can always do so.

Public Comments on Ordinance 20-2559

Barry Doll, resident, stated his concern is how they are installing the pavers and what material they are putting down to prevent water going through. Mr. Doll stated there is the question of pervious versus impervious. Mr. Doll inquired about the projects that have already been approved.

Mr. Gallo stated the ordinance states silicone sand cannot be utilized for the paver system.

Mayor Amatorio stated the definition for pavers is now more straight forward. He further stated that the current projects have been grandfathered, and the ordinance will cover new applicants.

John Smith, resident, stated that as of today, there are people laying down pavers. He inquired who will be checking to see they are completing the work according to the ordinance. He further stated that there are people that put the pavers down after they get the Certificate of Occupancy, and he even saw a cement machine today. He commented that the pavers are being put down with cement. He explained that the main problem is that water runs into the street when people use cement or silica sand. Mr. Smith inquired what will happen if people violate the ordinance.

Councilperson Kornbluth stated that residents can do whatever they want if it is counted within the lot coverage. The building department will be going after people who illegally put down pavers, but this cannot be done if they are within their limits.

Mr. Gallo stated if they are under their lot coverage, they are being charged as part of their lot coverage. He clarified that this ordinance only pertains to resident that exceed their lot coverage, because there are certain requirements they have to follow. Mr. Gallo stated that fines will be given if people are putting down pavers illegally. He further stated that the pavers can be pulled off or a penalty will be issued.

There being no one else who wishes to be heard, Mayor Amatorio closed public comments on Ordinance 20-2559.

Mayor Amatorio read into the record:

The following ordinance published herewith was first read by title only on January 21, 2020, re-introduced on February 18, 2020, and posted on the bulletin board of the municipal center.

ORDINANCE 20-2559 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 186 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERGENFIELD, ENTITLED “LAND DEVELOPMENT”

Motion by Councilperson Kornbluth, second by Councilperson Pascual, to pass Ordinance 20-2559 as amended 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 Deauna: | <i>aye</i> | Councilperson Rivera: | <i>aye</i> |
| Council President Marte: | <i>aye</i> | Councilperson Pascual: | <i>aye</i> |

Mayor Amatorio read into the record:

The following ordinance published herewith was first read by title only on March 3, 2020 and posted on the bulletin board of the municipal center. **(TABLED 3-17-20)**

ORDINANCE 20-2561 – AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE SALARY RANGES OF EMPLOYEES NOT SUBJECTED TO UNIONIZED CONTRACTUAL UNITS OF THE BOROUGH OF BERGENFIELD

Mr. Gallo stated this ordinance will remain tabled. No action taken.

B. Introduction of Ordinances

Motion by Councilperson Marte that the following ordinance be introduced and passed on first reading and setting Tuesday, May 19, 2020 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 Hall as the place for a hearing on said ordinance. Second by Councilperson Kornbluth.

Mayor Amatorio read the title of the ordinance into the record:

ORDINANCE 20-2565 - AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE SALARY RANGES OF EMPLOYEES NOT SUBJECTED TO UNIONIZED CONTRACTUAL UNITS OF THE BOROUGH OF BERGENFIELD

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

| | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Councilperson Lodato: | <i>aye</i> | Councilperson Kornbluth: | <i>aye</i> |
| Councilperson Deauna: | <i>aye</i> | Councilperson Rivera: | <i>aye</i> |
| Council President Marte: | <i>aye</i> | Councilperson Pascual: | <i>aye</i> |

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Tabled Resolutions

20-159/To Appoint and Approve Contract – Deputy CFO – Kent Christner (TABLED 4-21-20)

No action taken.

B. Street Parking Near Foster Village

No action taken.

C. Investigation of Complaints of Harassment and Hostile Work Environment Against Chief Rabboh

Borough Administrator Gallo stated that the investigation of the complaints of harassment and hostile work environment against Chief Rabboh were reviewed by Judge Edward DeFazio, who completed an extensive review. He spoke with several members of the department, including the deputy chief and the lieutenant. All initial complaints went to the prosecutor’s office in Bergen County, and they found no wrong doing. Mr. DeFazio also found no wrong doing on behalf of Chief Rabboh in any of the matters pertaining to the complaints. He also found there was no administrative wrong doing in the matter. Mr. Gallo explained that at this time, the report is not permissible for release under OPRA because it is still an ongoing investigation and the records fall under attorney client privilege.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Complete Count Committee Members

Mayor Amatorio stated the borough created a committee to ensure a complete count in Bergenfield. The members of the committee are the Borough Administrator, Councilperson Rivera, Councilperson Kornbluth, the Director of the Public Library, School Superintendent, and a member from the local church. Mayor Amatorio stated that if anyone wishes to volunteer as a member of the committee, please let him know.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Borough Administrator Gallo stated that the extension of taxes was implemented for the residents. A mailbox was created in the back of borough hall exclusively for tax payments. It is secured by camera and is nailed into the cement. The last pick up will be at 4:00 p.m. Mr. Gallo stated that any payments received after that time will be posted the next day. He commented that many residents have taken advantage of the drop box, but residents can also come to the window to pay their taxes by appointment during the hours of operations. Payment can also be made online. The Clerk's office continues to receive OPRA requests and they are working hard on processing them. They have also been working on Financial Disclosure Statements, and the deadline to file has been extended to July 30th. The clerk's office has been working with the county preparing for the primary elections, which has been postponed to July 7th. The deadline to change party affiliation is May 13th and the deadline to register to vote has been moved to June 16th. Furthermore, the renewal period for liquor licenses has been extended to September 30th. The Clerk's office has also been working with local organizations to amend their raffle licenses for new dates. The Public Library has also been working, and has sent out over 800 emails and made over 770 telephone calls to check on Bergenfield seniors and provide them information pertaining to the local food bank and learning their needs. The library continues with their ESL programs and is coordinating various streaming video services for residents that cannot afford Hulu or Netflixs. The library is working to put a plan together, now that schools are closed, to have a controlled library opening, in which an order can be placed online and then picked up in a safe manner. The number of Police Department and BVAC calls are slowly declining, which is due to social distancing. Mr. Gallo stated he is aware there was some criticism about the parks being closed, as Coopers Pond and the track were never open, but in but the proximity in Coopers Pond is small and the number of people would have exceeded the level of social distancing. The Board of Education shared the same sentiment, as we have been in communication with Dr. Tully about the track. At this point, the borough cannot prohibit residents from walking in the streets, while practicing social distancing. The Police Department, Fire Department, and the BVAC are all working. The borough offices are working and road work has proceeded as scheduled. The DPW is also working and continues to move along with the construction at the ball fields, and Memorial Field is almost done. The DPW has also been working on the painting and cleaning the dugouts, the aluminum siding, the façade, and the new roof over the dugouts and should be done by the weekend. They have also been working on some drainage issues at Hickory Field and are starting to trim and cut trees. Mr. Gallo stated everyone is continuing to work as we are supposed to. Mr. Gallo stated he understands with the weather being so nice everyone wants to be out, but reminded everyone to practice social distancing.

MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORT

Mayor Amatorio stated that the Council does not have as any reports to make because there have been no committee or board meetings. He stated that the Zoning Board of Adjustment had their first meeting via Webex last night and it went well. The Planning Board is scheduled to have their meeting via Webex on May 18th. He stated that hopefully other committees can meet in the same manner in the future. Mayor Amatorio thanked everyone who has been working on setting up the new testing center in Bergenfield.

Council President Marte

stated the Zoning Board of Adjustment met last night. There were three applications heard. Frank Rotonda, the Board Engineer, was reappointed. The first two applications had similar issues with the construction being too big for the lot size. The applicants complied with the recommendations. There will a meeting on May 13th to review revised plans for the one application that was not approved. The third application was for SkyZone Trampoline Park on Washington Avenue, where the old Sears used to be. Everything was fine with this application and it was welcomed very well. The main concern with this application was making a left turn in and out of the

business. The applicant is willing to comply with not having a left turn in and out of their business.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Steven Carmona, resident, inquired who is advising the council about when the parks should be opened and how they are going to figure it out. Mr. Carmona inquired if people who are making donations to the food bank at the VFW are aware that non-residents have been getting food from the food bank. He commented that there are other non-profits that are advertising on Facebook to whoever can drive to Bergenfield is allowed to get food from the food bank. Mr. Carmona inquired if the testing center is paying to be at Memorial Field. Mr. Carmona inquired how OPRA requests for Mayor and Council work being done on their cellphones can be done.

Carolyn Schmelz, resident, stated that she is making signs to thank first responders and would like to donate one to borough hall. The money made would go to the BVAC to show support for the first responders in town.

Mary Hernandez, resident, thanked everyone for all the hard work. Ms. Hernandez inquired when ordinance 20-2565 will be posted on the borough website. Ms. Hernandez inquired why the deputy CFO position was created and if the person already has a specific position in the borough. Ms. Hernandez inquired how the taxes may have been affected by the Department of Education and the budget that was discussed last week. Ms. Hernandez inquired about the testing center and if the town is benefitting from it. She suggested that the council should get in touch and work with the Board of Education to help those families who are in need as they may know families that already receive reduced/free lunch prior to this situation, since there are times people are unwilling to come in if they are in trouble. She suggested posting more information of the Facebook page, and offered kudos to whoever came up with the touchless garbage trucks.

Barry Doll, resident, stated that he is impressed by the comments made by the residents. Mr. Doll inquired when the borough will publish the final amount for all of the entities. Mr. Doll stated that will be very helpful for the residents. Mr. Doll stated he was disappointed at the handling of one of applications at the Zoning Board meeting last night. There seems to be a controversy in the building department or the Zoning Board where one of the members agreed on the plan and another member said it was wrong. He commented that the the Zoning Board decided to go along with the person who gave the wrong approval. He stated that a comment was made that the individual/owner should not be penalized by the mistake made by the borough, but that seemed to be an illogical decision. Mr. Doll feels they should not just arbitrarily let them have their way. Apparently, something was wrong with the design.

Jen DaCosta, resident, inquired why someone would have to contact the borough if they go for testing and do not have insurance. She inquired how long the testing will be going on for. Mrs. DaCosta inquired if it will be for Bergenfield residents for a certain number of weeks and then opened up to other towns.

John Smith, resident, inquired what is the difference is between an addition, renovation, and a new building and the price difference. Mr. Smith inquired what constitutes a wall being left up, and inquired how much of a wall needs to be left up to be considered a renovation. He commented that this topic came up at the Zoning Board meeting last night and is an issue. Mr. Smith commented that the borough is losing money because the builders are calling everything a renovation. The price for the permits is the same, but they are only taxed for an addition and not for a brand-new house because of 2ft of a wall. He expressed that the ordinance needs to be changed on that. Mr. Smith stated that there is going to be another Zoning Board meeting on May 13th because there is a back log. Mr. Smith inquired whether the Zoning Board has to accept new applications or can hold off accepting new applications until this situation is over and the borough is back to normal. He

explained that there is a time limit with the applications and there isn't enough time to look at the applications. The building department should be told no more new applications until the coronavirus is over. The veterans committee will not have any Memorial Day services, but they will place the banners up around town. Mr. Smith stated he has been running the food bank for 52 days and has seen all types of people come to the food bank. He confirmed that no one is denied any food. A Bergenfield resident will get more food than a non-Bergenfield resident. He commended the people who have donated food several times. He commented that anyone who feels food should only be given to Bergenfield residents should be ashamed. Mr. Smith stated there was a single mom with four children who was so happy over a bag of rice, because she said that she can feed her family for a month. Mr. Smith stated he does not care about anyone's status and is doing the best he can. The hours of the food bank are going to be changed as they are averaging over 100 hours per week.

Mike Shanahan, resident, inquired if there will be any decisions made about Memorial Day. Mr. Shanahan inquired if the testing center is offering 10 free tests and if that will be for people who are not able to pay for the test. Mr. Shanahan stated his insurance is out of network and he will have to pay \$150 for the test.

Mary Sullivan, resident, stated that Council President Marte was listening to the Zoning Board meeting last night for three hours in which the plans for review were previously submitted. She commented that the applications were heard at a previous meeting and had to come back. Ms. Sullivan stated that Mr. Smith had suggested no new applications should be accepted by the building department. Ms. Sullivan recommended that no new applications be accepted that require variance relief and needs to be go before the Zoning Board. She expressed that there should be at least a 30-day hiatus, preferably 60 days, until the virus is under control, since residents were not able to read the plans that were posted on the website. Residents rely on the pictorial poster boards put up on easels at the meetings. Ms. Sullivan inquired if there is a choice of having either the swab or the saliva test done at the testing center. Ms. Sullivan stated she and other residents to not have Facebook and was nothing to do with it. The website is the official site for the borough and that is where all information should be posted.

Suzanne Gallagher, resident, thanked OEM for posting information on Facebook. She inquired if they will be adding the number of Bergenfield residents that are tested.

There being no one else who wishes to be heard, Mayor Amatorio closed public comments.

Mayor Amatorio stated if anyone feels that their issues were not addressed, they can send an email. Mayor Amatorio stated that he receives daily reports from the health department, health officer, the health administrator, and OEM. He explained that the information is analyzed and then the Council is advised on actions that should be taken. He commented that the opening of the parks depends on the experts. He further commented that no one is turned away from getting food from the food bank. Mayor Amatorio stated that there have been instances where Mr. Smith has advised a someone that they may not be entitled to the food bank if they are currently working. Mr. Smith has also advised people to go to their own local food bank if they are coming from another town, but never leave our food bank empty handed. The testing company is not paying the borough and the borough is not paying anything to the testing company for their service to the residents.

Borough Administrator Gallo stated that if anyone wants to submit an OPRA request, they can email it to the borough clerk and she will provide it to them within the statutory time frame. Mr. Gallo stated he was the one who gave Mr. Smith the information to provide people from other towns with other food banks. Mr. Gallo stated the County provided a list of various food banks that are run by the towns and the county, but the food bank in Bergenfield is primarily for Bergenfield residents. Mr. Gallo commented that he has been impressed with the resilience of the community supporting the food bank. He stated that there are about 125 people that come to the food bank in a week. Mr. Gallo also stated that he receives input from the county on a regular basis of how parks should be opened. The reason the parks in Bergenfield remained closed this week is because the County parks that were opened were overcrowded. He explained there is too much of a risk to

open parks when the Borough has 800 plus cases. He stated that hopefully in a week or two, the borough will be able to open some of the parks as the numbers continue to decrease.

Councilperson Rivera stated Bergenfield residents have shown a tremendous amount of support in donating supplies to the food bank. A lot of people from out of town have also been donating food to the food bank. There have been a lot of companies from out of town that have contributed.

Mayor Amatorio stated there have been a lot of donors from out of town, but Bergenfield residents are prioritized. Mayor Amatorio also stated that there should be no problem with a sign for first responders being placed at borough hall. A banner thanking the first responders and essential workers will also be put up soon. It is appreciated that Mrs. Schmelz has been making the signs in thanking the first responders.

Mr. Gallo stated there were two people working in the finance office up to 2019. During the past five years, there has been an employee who has been working for the Borough, who has his bachelor's degree in accounting, received his CPA, and started doing bank reconciliations and postings. These were the responsibilities of another employee who worked part-time in Bergenfield, but worked full time as the CFO of Mahwah and later retired. Mr. Gallo explained that in order to become a CFO, you need to have a license, which the employee has attained. He has been here since 2005, starting out in the tax collector's office and has worked his way up doing much of the financial work. It is no different than people getting promotions in other departments. He has all of the qualifications and is imperative that they seek someone from within. Mr. Gallo also commented that there is a huge demand for a CFO, and it is advantageous to the Borough to retain him here. The employee has met all the criteria, done the work, and deserves to be put in that position. He has also worked on the budgets and the requirements for the state. The position needs to be filled because there was an outside person doing the work, that no longer works for the borough.

Mayor Amatorio stated that the CFO is also a part-time position. The Borough is developing an employee in house that is needed.

Borough Administrator Gallo stated that it was previously explained that the Board of Education budget is separate and apart with the municipal budget. He commented that the \$1.46 million is their budget. Mr. Gallo stated they are hoping to have the estimated tax bill authorized at the next meeting. Mr. Gallo stated he speaks with Dr. Tully regularly. He will reach out to him and ask if there are people on the board that are willing to reach out to people who are in need. Mr. Gallo stated the borough will be receiving 10 free tests per month from the testing center. He explained that the borough is documenting the names of people who do not have insurance, as there may be alternative ways to get them tested in the future. He referenced that residents need to call the customer service to determine whether or not their insurance is accepted. The goal of the testing is to have Bergenfield tested. He explained that the soft opening was done for employees and first responders on Saturday and Sunday. He commented that there were 223 people tested today and around the same number will be tested tomorrow. He explained that the testing will be for Bergenfield residents as long as there is a demand for it. He further explained that the Borough has the option to expand testing to neighboring communities such as Tenafly, New Milford, Dumont, and Teaneck, similar to mutual aid agreements shared with emergency services.

Mayor Amatorio stated that he spoke with the County Executive about Bergenfield having its own testing center. He learned that the County will be providing some assistance for people that want to be tested, but cannot pay for it. Mayor Amatorio stated that the contract can be terminated at any time, especially if there is no demand for testing.

Borough Attorney Schettino stated that pertaining to the question on construction or renovation, the applicant does not have the final say as to whether the proposed construction is a renovation, addition, or a new home. He commented that the decision is made by the Zoning Officer. He explained that the Zoning Office receives the application and the plans, and then determines where it is a renovation, which means that all the work is being done with the existing structure of the building. He further explained that new construction becomes more of an issue, because it then needs to be determined whether it is commercial or residential, and conforming or non-conforming

use. Mr. Schettino stated that some towns have a formula where if more than 50% of the square footage or volume is removed, that constitutes abandonment of the structure. If it is a non-conforming use, and the person wants to rebuild or modify their existing structure, then it requires a use variance. Mr. Schettino stated that if there is one wall remaining, it does not mean they get the benefit of the pre-existing conditions, the construction has to be treated as new construction. Mr. Schettino stated that the Tax Assessor reviews the types of plans and the details when determining how much square footage was added, such as a new bathroom and kitchen, additional bedrooms. The classification provided by the board will not impact the Tax Assessor's analysis. Mr. Schettino also explained that it is contrary to state statute to stop accepting new applications. He stated that the statute allows for 120 days for the board to make a decision once an application is deemed complete. Mr. Schettino further explained that the governor has not extended this deadline. The board can have special meetings. If there isn't enough time in the day to have a special meeting, the applicant can be asked to give consent for an extension of the 120-day rule.

Councilperson Lodato stated the applicant should provide a PDF copy of the plans, so that it could be posted on the borough website for residents to review in the absence of being able to come to borough hall to inspect the plans. Councilperson Lodato further stated that suspension of hearing applications would also impact the buyer and seller. It would be best to let the Planning Board and Zoning Board govern their own agendas and for applications/plans to be posted on the borough website.

Borough Attorney Schettino stated that his recommendation to all the towns he serves, is to have the applicant be responsible of ensuring the plans are available for review. He recommends that the applicant post the plans on the borough website, and provide the link in their notices. He commented that all the applications need to be accepted. However, if the board meets once a month, or the meeting runs till 11 p.m., and there are 15 applications that are deemed complete, it is understandable that the board cannot review 15 applications in one night. Mr. Schettino explained that when you ask an applicant to extend the time period, sometimes they are more than willing to do it. If there is an overflow of applications, the board attorney should contact the applicant and let them know there is a full agenda and the will the board is unable to review the application for the given meeting. The applicant will most likely agree to an extension. If the applicant disagrees, then the board should schedule a special meeting and inform the applicant.

Councilperson Marte stated the application was accepted because the applicant was given a permit. The mistake was discovered after the work was already done. He was asked to draw a new plan with conditions and be presented in two weeks at a special meeting.

Borough Administrator Gallo stated the Memorial Day parade is going to be cancelled. He is unsure about the ceremonies as he knows they are very important. Mr. Gallo stated that he is awaiting guidance from the county and the governor. Mr. Gallo stated that the borough posts all the information on the borough website and then it gets funneled to Facebook.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS TO BE ACTED UPON:

A. CONSENT AGENDA

CONSENT RESOLUTION 20-167. 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. **20-168/**To Pay Bills
- b. **20-169/**To Approve Tax Settlement – TOM 2 Bergenfield LLC
- c. **20-170/**To Approve Public Hydrant Agreement – Annex Place – Suez Water New Jersey
- d. **20-171/**To Approve Stipend – Emergency Management Coordinator
- e. **20-172/**To Approve Grant Application – NJDOT FY 2021 MAP ANDERSON FROM S FRONT ST TO S PROSPECT AVE
- f. **20-173/**To Authorize Extension of Liquor License Renewal Period

- g. **20-174**/To Authorize Extension of Grace Period for Second Quarter Property Taxes
- h. **20-175**/To Approve Agreement – COVID-19 Drive Through Testing
- i. **20-176**/To Approve Professional Services – Fair Share Housing Administrative Agent – Community, Grants, Planning and Housing LLC

Motion by Councilperson Rivera, second by Council President Marte, 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 Deauna: | <i>aye</i> | Councilperson Rivera: | <i>aye</i> |
| Council President Marte: | <i>aye</i> | Councilperson Pascual: | <i>aye</i> |

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilperson Lodato thanked all the residents who participated in the meeting tonight and the borough administrator for all the time and the great job he is doing with the current situation and the challenges.

Councilperson Deauna stated that everyone stay safe, stay well, and commented that we will get through this.

Council President Marte thanked all of the participants and wished everyone a good night.

Councilperson Kornbluth thanked the borough administrator, the police, the fire department, the ambulance corps., DPW, all essentials workers in town, medical workers, and the residents who have banded together to help each other whether it's to make signs to support the ambulance corps., donating food, or just being there for each other.

Councilperson Pascual thanked the administrator, the first responders, and the residents for attending the meeting.

Councilperson Rivera thanked everyone participating in the meeting. He thanked the essential workers and everyone who has donated food to the food pantry.

Mayor Amatorio stated there are many things that have happened the past two weeks. He thanked the council for extending the grace period for property taxes. There are many people who are suffering and extending the tax period is very helpful. The testing site is very helpful and useful in making decisions in the future. Mayor Amatorio thanked the different departments in Bergenfield who continue to help each other, including the police department, OEM, fire department, and the DPW during the situation occurring in town, especially with the senior residents. The residents have been very helpful to each other. The best of Bergenfield has come out. He thanked everyone and wished everyone a great night. Stay safe and stay at home.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, motion by Councilperson Rivera, second by Council President Marte and unanimously carried, to adjourn this meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Quinones
Borough Clerk