

“GOD BLESS AMERICA”

REGULAR MEETING

DECEMBER 1, 2015

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Belmar held on the above date at 6:00 pm at the Belmar Municipal Building, 601 Main Street.

PRESENT: Mayor Doherty, Councilman Brennan, Councilwoman Keown-Blackburn, Councilman Magovern, Business Administrator Colleen Connolly, and Borough Clerk April Claudio

ABSENT: Councilwoman Nicolay and Borough Attorney William Northgrave, Esq.

The Borough Clerk stated “Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided to The Coast Star, the official newspaper of the Borough of Belmar, and the Asbury Park Press on December 29, 2014 and notice of this meeting was prominently posted on the bulletin board of the Municipal Building and filed with the Clerk of the Borough of Belmar.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE: Our troops and their families

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

- First Responder of the Month – George Komitas
- Gene Kelly announced as new full-time DPW Laborer

WORKSHOP DISCUSSION:

- Zoning Board of Adjustment recommendations
 - o Ms. Claudio stated the Board had an application before them that had a nice architectural plan that masked the large foundation on the newly elevated home, which the Board liked. They thought the Mayor and Council should look into an ordinance making it a requirement that the foundations be dressed up.
 - o Council member Brennan stated it would make the houses more attractive for resale.
 - o Council member Magovern asked who would create the specifics of the ordinance.
 - o Ms. Claudio and Ms. Connolly stated they could research what other towns are doing and speak to the Planning Board Attorney about drafting an ordinance to be introduced in 2016.
 - o Council member Magovern would also want the ordinance to list types of materials we don’t want to see.
 - o Ms. Claudio stated the Board has worked hard to try to get applicants to put their overhead utility wires underground but are concerned that there may be a lot of inactive overhead wires that could be removed. They would like the Borough to look into possibly determining if there are dead wires and if they can be removed.
- 2016 Marina rates
 - o Mayor Doherty stated the rates stayed the same. Added new features such as a discount if pay early or the ability to lock in the rates for two years. Jet ski rental fee was reduced.
- Seafood Festival
 - o Mayor Doherty stated it was discussed having the festival before Memorial Day or after Labor Day.
 - o Ms. Connolly stated we looked at having it in May, two weeks before Memorial Day.
 - o Mayor Doherty stated some people thought to just leave it in June as it is.
 - o Council member Magovern stated he doesn’t know why Friday was added to the festival. He would like to see the size of the event and possibly reducing it be discussed. He also doesn’t see the fireworks being necessary and vendors selling insurance and solar panels. Would like it to go back to being just food and craft vendors. He would prefer it being in May.
 - o Council member Keown-Blackburn stated she would prefer May rather than September because there are other towns that have seafood festivals in September. Also suggested reducing the marketing. Suggested closing 8th Avenue except to residents. The street could then be used for emergency vehicles. Suggested renting parking lots in neighboring towns and using shuttle buses.
 - o Council member Brennan stated he doesn’t think changing the date will help. Thinks we need to scale down the size of the event. He likes the idea of off-site parking areas with shuttles but it would be a lot of work. Thinks putting it back to two days is a really good idea. Suggested

changing the layout to mix in the food vendors with craft vendors to help breakup foot traffic. He was concerned that if it's in May and it's a beautiful day people will want to take advantage of the free beach when we won't be ready for that. He suggested if the date is moved that the festival be moved away from the beach. Marketing also needs to be reduced.

- Mayor Doherty asked Tom Burke who is a member of the Belmar Business Partnership to weigh in since Councilwoman Nicolay was not present. Mr. Burke stated he thought the idea of shuttling in people was interesting. He added the BBP is working with Monmouth County on ways to do that. He agreed it doesn't need to be three days.
- Mayor Doherty wondered what the business community would think of moving it to Main Street. Mr. Burke stated a lot of business owners felt they didn't benefit from all of the people attending the festival. The businesses also found that it was hard for their regular customers to get to them.
- Tom Volker of the BBP stated he likes the idea of moving it to May. He suggested moving the crafts onto the boardwalk so the food vendors could be spread out. Also suggested charging a nominal entrance fee.
- Council member Magovern felt charging a fee would only work if the event is moved to Memorial Field since it is fenced in.
- Council member Brennan wasn't sure charging a fee would be good since the food is so expensive to begin with.
- Council member Magovern didn't think closing off 8th Avenue would work because the residents wouldn't be able to have their families visit. Also stated if the event is moved to May it is prime nesting season for the birds at the lake which would mean the fireworks could not happen.
- Mary Brabazon, Tourism Administrator, stated she likes the open conversation being had. Likes the idea of moving it to May. There won't be fireworks next year.
- Police Captain Andrew Huisman did not see a problem with moving it to May.
- DPW Director Mike Campbell stated May would be fine however it will be a challenge for them as they are preparing to open the beach during that time. However, as a resident, he thinks it will work better in May.
- Ms. Connolly stated she will take all of their ideas to the special events committee for their review and the final decision will be presented to the council at the next meeting.
- Mayor Doherty stated we will go with May 13th and 14th. He added he would like to still have Friday night as a local night and suggested not advertising it.

PETITIONS: none

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council member Magovern offered to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2015 meeting, which was seconded by Mayor Doherty and approved unanimously.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL

Council member Magovern: Today was opening day of 2016 beach badge sales. Sold \$7,000 worth in one day. Belmar resident Maryna Mabrey was named rookie of the week while playing for Notre Dame.

Council member Keown-Blackburn: Announced upcoming Belmar Elementary School events as well as Belmar Library events. Senior luncheon is tomorrow. Senior walking in the gym started today.

Council member Brennan: The plaza looks great with all of the lights. Working on a bamboo ordinance. Also looking into a plastic bag ordinance. BES band concert is next week. There was an incident today at school where he got to see our first responder of the month George Komitas in action. He was impressed with how quickly the police and EMS arrived and how calm they were in the situation.

Mayor Doherty: Discussing with Lake Como the possibility of providing them police services next year. Former Mayor Ken Pringle contacted our Borough Attorney stating he is going to challenge the charging of special police officers against the beach utility. If he proceeds with this that means there would either be less police officers in the summer or the tax payers would have to pay for them.

Mayor Doherty made a motion to add four resolutions to the consent agenda, which was seconded by Council member Brennan and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Keown-Blackburn, Magovern, Brennan, and Doherty

PUBLIC SESSION: Public Session on resolutions only on the Agenda. We will continue to have a Public Session at the end of this meeting.

David Schneck, 302 C Street, reminded the council that the meeting dates for 2016 are for the public and would

like the council to stick to the schedule rather than cancelling and rescheduling meetings. He asked if there is still a waiting list for beach lockers. Ms. Connolly replied yes. He suggested adding storage lockers underneath the Fifth Avenue Pavilion. Mr. Campbell stated DPW will be using that area. Mr. Schneck was concerned about the public not having enough time to review the four resolutions that were added to the agenda since they weren't on the website. Ms. Claudio stated they were in the folder of resolutions left on the table for the public to review during the meeting.

Mayor Doherty made a motion to close the public session, which was seconded by Council member Keown-Blackburn and approved unanimously.

Mayor Doherty explained the two bond resolutions on the Consent Agenda and explained we will be working on getting a higher rating.

CONSENT AGENDA:

All matters listed in the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Borough Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

RESOLUTIONS BY CONSENT:

Mayor Doherty offered the following resolutions for adoption:

2015-206

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS

PAYMENT OF BILLS: certification that the vouchers listed on the warrant register numbering 64686 thru 64793 are as follows and comply with requirements of State Law and Borough Ordinance as to content and form, that proper and sufficient appropriations exist for the payment to be made and that there is legal authority as provided in N.J.S. 40A: 5-17(a)(1) for the payment to be made.

01 General Account	\$2,768,776.96
05 General Capital Account	\$226,963.40
11 Water/Sewer Account	\$52,012.27
15 Water/Sewer Capital Account	\$935.00
21 Beach Utility Account	\$19,014.02
25 Beach Capital Account	\$167,738.94
23 Parking Utility Fund	\$7,925.00
41 Dog License Account	\$150.00
55 Trust Fund Account	\$31,435.54
61 Tourism Development Account	\$15,068.43
Total	\$3,290,019.56

2015-207

RESOLUTION SETTING 2016 MEETING DATES

2015-208

RESOLUTION CERTIFYING TO THE LOCAL FINANCE BOARD THAT ALL MEMBERS OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL HAVE REVIEWED, AS A MINIMUM, THE SECTION OF THE ANNUAL AUDIT ENTITLED: COMMENTS-RECOMMENDATIONS

2015-209

RESOLUTION APPROVING ELECTION OF DEPARTMENTAL OFFICERS FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT 2016

2015-210

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE ASSOCIATED HUMANE SOCIETIES FOR ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES FOR 2016

2015-211

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR AND THE MONMOUTH COUNTY SCAT PROJECT FOR 2016

2015-212

RESOLUTION APPOINTING SPECIAL POLICE OFFICERS

2015-213

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDS

2015-214

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING SEASONAL BEACH BADGE FEES FOR THE 2016 SEASON IN THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR, MONMOUTH COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

2015-215

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING BEACH STORAGE LOCKER FEES FOR THE 2016 SEASON IN THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR, MONMOUTH COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

2015-216

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE COMBINATION OF CERTAIN ISSUES OF GENERAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS OF THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY INTO A SINGLE ISSUE OF BONDS AGGREGATING NOT TO EXCEED \$3,375,000 IN PRINCIPAL AMOUNT

2015-217

RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE FORM AND OTHER DETAILS AND PROVIDING FOR THE DETERMINATION OF OTHER TERMS OF NOT TO EXCEED \$3,375,000 GENERAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS, SERIES 2015 OF THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR SALE TO THE MONMOUTH COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY

2015-218

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR REGARDING THE RESULTS OF PUBLIC QUESTION LISTED ON THE NOVEMBER 3, 2015 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT

2015-219

RESOLUTION INDICATING CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN/STATUS REGARDING THE 2014 MUNICIPAL AUDIT REPORT

2015-220

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CALENDAR YEAR 2016 SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BUDGET AND SETTING THE HEARING ON THE BUDGET

2015-221

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MARINA FEES FOR THE YEAR 2016 AT THE BELMAR MARINA

Seconded by Council member Keown-Blackburn and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Keown-Blackburn, Magovern, Brennan, and Doherty

ORDINANCES: none

PUBLIC SESSION:

Andy Maroney, 16th Avenue, asked to discuss taking over Lake Como's police department. He stated he can't understand why we would be doing this and to whose benefit this would be. He felt towns are trying to downsize and not add salaries to the budget. Doesn't see how we can do it cheaper than they can. He asked about the lateral transfers and their salaries.

Mayor Doherty stated we would not be taking over a police department, not adding police officers, not adding salaries, not merging the department. We would not sacrifice anything. We would not doing any shared service that doesn't generate money for the town.

Marie Sheppard, Main Street, we got rid of some bars and now we are going to be sending our police officers to deal with Lake Como's bars.

Donna Volker, 412 11th Avenue, asked why there aren't trash cans on the boardwalk. Mr. Campbell stated we take them down every year in the winter because they blow around.

David Schneck, 302 C Street, stated it seems like we are always offering services to other towns and asked if there are any towns offering a service that we are paying for. Mayor Doherty replied no. He added he would

rather be in a position of providing a service and generating revenue rather than paying someone else to do a service for us. Mr. Schneck thought it is weird that nobody is offering a service to us. He would like the Borough Attorney to look into the bidding process for concession leases. He feels the bidding turns into a circus being at a public meeting.

Mike Tardio, delegate of local 50, represents members of Lake Como police department, stated they are concerned about the layoffs of the Lake Como officers as well as concerned for the moral of Belmar's department. Would hope there will be a study done by the division of criminal justice on any type of merger.

Mayor Doherty stated again that there will not be a merger and is not sure if a study will be done.

Brendan Reed, 100 Ninth Avenue, suggested the garbage cans just be put out on the days where there is nice weather and then brought in at night.

Mayor Doherty made a motion to close the public session and adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Council member Brennan and approved unanimously.

Respectively submitted,

April Claudio
Municipal Clerk