

“GOD BLESS AMERICA”

REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 6, 2018

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 Matthew Doherty, Councilman Mark Walsifer, Councilman Brian Magovern, Councilwoman Jennifer Nicolay, Borough Attorney Greg Cannon, Esq., and Borough Clerk April Claudio

ABSENT: Councilman Thomas Brennan and Business Administrator Colleen Connolly

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 7, 2017 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

WORKSHOP DISCUSSION: None

PETITIONS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Council member Magovern made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2018 meeting, which was seconded by Council member Walsifer and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Magovern, Walsifer, Nicolay and Doherty

REPORTS OF COUNCIL:

Council member Magovern: Parade was very successful. Police and DPW did a great job. Storm is coming, if lose power call JCP&L. DPW has been proactive trimming and pruning trees all winter including today to help with storms. Historical Society has a great display in the lobby on basketball. Historical Society will be fixing Doughboy Statue very soon. Lucas Revano won wrestling championship for Camden Catholic. Dara Mabrey scored her 2000th point in high school basketball career. Thanked Jim and Marlene Marturano for their gift of the arch at the playground at 8th and C St.

Council member Walsifer: Attended PBA Valor Awards. Was nice to see Officers Lieb and Clayton receive recognition for the great work they do. DPW and Police did a great job with parade. Congratulated Lucas Revano.

Council member Nicolay: Book art show at Arts Council is on display. Glad to hear about Doughboy Statue. There are always bricks for sale by the statue. Beach Badges would be a great gift idea with Mother’s Day and Father’s Day. Encouraged everyone to shop local.

Mayor Doherty: Recreation Director Ray Claudio is leaving on March 16th. He has done a remarkable job for the last five years. Echoed comments about DPW and Police for doing an outstanding job during the parade.

PUBLIC SESSION: Public Session on resolutions only on the Agenda.
None

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

RESOLUTIONS:

The Mayor shall abstain from voting on the following Resolutions by reason of his or her “General Ineligibility” as provided by Belmar Ord. No. 9-5.

Council member Magovern offered, **2018-52, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS**, for

adoption, which was seconded by Council member Walsifer and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Magovern, Walsifer, and Nicolay

PAYMENT OF BILLS: certification that the vouchers listed on the warrant register numbering 1776 thru 1858 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	\$1,033,774.95
11	Water/Sewer Account	\$86,561.79
21	Beach Utility Account	\$2,055.54
41	Dog License Account	\$1,464.00
55	Trust Fund Account	\$4,975.00
61	Tourism Development Account	\$3,543.41
Total:		\$1,132,374.69

Council member Magovern offered, **2018-53, RESOLUTION AWARDING A LEASE AGREEMENT FOR THE BEACH UMBRELLA AND CHAIR RENTAL CONCESSION AT THE BELMAR BEACH**, for adoption, which was seconded by Council member Nicolay and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Magovern, Walsifer, and Nicolay

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:

2018-54
RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2017-214 CANCELLING CERTAIN BALANCES TO SURPLUS

2018-55
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDS

2018-56
RESOLUTION PERMITTING SPECIAL EVENTS

Seconded by Council member Magovern and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Magovern, Walsifer, Nicolay, and Doherty

ORDINANCES:
Second Reading & Public Hearing:
ORDINANCE 2018-01
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER XIX (TRAFFIC) OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR, SECTIONS 19-46 HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACES

Public hearing: none

Mayor Doherty made a motion to close the public hearing, which was seconded by Council member Nicolay and approved unanimously.

Mayor Doherty offered ordinance 2018-01 for adoption, which was seconded by Council member Magovern and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Magovern, Walsifer, Nicolay and Doherty

Second Reading & Public Hearing:

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-02

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER XL OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR, SECTIONS 40-3.14 FEES

Public hearing: none

Mayor Doherty made a motion to close the public hearing, which was seconded by Council member Magovern and approved unanimously.

Mayor Doherty offered ordinance 2018-02 for adoption, which was seconded by Council member Nicolay and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Magovern, Walsifer, Nicolay, and Doherty

First Reading & Introduction:

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-03

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR AMENDING REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCE CHAPTER 23: “GARBAGE AND WASTE” AND CHAPTER 26: “HOUSING AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE” TO ELIMINATE SPECIAL MONDAY COLLECTIONS AND ACCORDINGLY MODIFY CERTAIN SPECIAL REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO SUMMER RENTALS

Mayor Doherty offered ordinance 2018-03 for first reading and introduction, which was seconded by Council member Magovern and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Magovern, Walsifer, Nicolay, and Doherty

Council member Magovern asked DPW Director Mike Campbell to explain. Mr. Campbell stated this will eliminate the special Monday garbage and recycling pick up and everyone will have to comply with the standard pick up schedules.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Claire Hayner, 18th and B Street, thinks trash change is a good idea but doesn't see it working with recycling. She asked for an update on reversing the direction of Snyder Avenue. Mayor Doherty stated it makes sense to do and the Chief will probably work on it when he is back from Quantico. She asked if the change to the one ways has caused an increase of tickets for people going the wrong way. She has noticed a problem on 18th Avenue. Mayor Doherty stated we could look into the signage. She also asked about stop signs. Captain Scott stated they are working on the traffic study and ordinance and have started ordering the signs.

Council member Magovern felt we should discuss the two roundabouts on 10th Avenue at the next meeting. Director Campbell would like to have them removed and just put up four way stop signs.

Chris Leal, apologized for him being upset at the last meeting. Has resigned to the fact that he is not happy with the lifeguard situation and will be going somewhere else. Read a letter from 2006 that was sent to Chief Lynch about an incident with a distressed swimmer where he and Harry Harsin made a rescue after hours. Spoke to Spring Lake Administrator about getting a job there and they laughed at how much money he makes in Belmar.

Mickey McDonald, spoke at the last meeting, has a problem reconciling the lifeguard matter. Talked about when he was rescued by a Belmar lifeguard several years ago. His sons traveled here from Monroe to be lifeguards due to the leadership and mentorship. Many lifeguards have given their lives for this and look forward to this every year. Many of them are upset by the articles being printed and how this all went down. Feels there is a personal vendetta.

Harry Harsin, Wall Township, stated he still has some unanswered questions about the lifeguard matter. Felt if stands being down were an emergent matter the Mayor could have asked one of the lifeguards about it. He asked why Ray Elms was not aware of meeting held this past weekend. CBS news article about the lifeguards was humiliating. Concerned families won't want to come to Belmar anymore. Everyone at the beach does a great job and takes it personal. Felt the Mayor should be more appreciative to the lifeguards for working with little pay and little staff. Instead of negative publicity they should be thanked for doing a great job. Mayor Doherty stated the first council meeting after Labor Day he always thanks the lifeguards.

Tim O'Donnell, Brick, stated he asked several times why he got a letter and if he would be coming back and was told it's up to the Chief. He spoke to the Chief who apologized for the way he was handled and said he didn't know about the letter he received. Asked who sent it out then. Mayor Doherty stated he believes the

letters were drafted by the attorneys and sent out under the Chief's signature.

Jim Venino, Wall Township, stated the supervisors were told they were eligible to come back but didn't get phone calls about the Saturday meeting. Asked why they were not called. Mayor Doherty stated he will find out but he believed everyone was called.

Mr. O'Donnell questioned how the lifeguard selection committee can have two people (Ms. Connolly and the Chief) who know nothing about lifeguards and Council member Magovern who hasn't been a lifeguard in a long time. Council member Magovern stated they will select the supervisors based on the resumes and then review the rank and file applications with the new supervisors.

Anna Lamb, Ocean Avenue, didn't realize all the work the lifeguards put in at such a young age and thanked them. Understands how the lifeguards would feel unappreciated. Bad press is also an issue. Asked what the Mayor and Council will do to address this and make sure people are still going to come into town. Asked how are we going to make sure people know Belmar is safe.

Mayor Doherty stated anyone that says they aren't coming back should call him and he will explain. He added that we will be fully staffed with lifeguards.

Chris Venino, Wall Township, thinks there should be a public apology for the way this was handled. He called CBS news and News 12 to tell them they were wrong. Felt the Mayor should be contacting the press to correct the negative press. He was also concerned about losing lifeguards this year.

Council member Magovern explained nobody got fired, the lifeguards are seasonal employees, who have to reapply for their positions on a yearly basis. Mayor Doherty stated the resolution was done to be above board and transparent. He added he disagrees that the lifeguards were treated poorly.

Mr. Harsin questioned the need for the help wanted ad for lifeguards if nobody was fired. He added that just because a stand was down or unattended it doesn't mean the water wasn't watched.

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

Respectively submitted,

April Claudio
Municipal Clerk