

“GOD BLESS AMERICA”

REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 3, 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, Councilwoman Nicolay, Borough Attorney Michael DuPont Esq., Business Administrator Colleen Connolly, and Borough Clerk April Claudio

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 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

PROCLAMATIONS:

- Women’s History Month
- Irish Heritage Month

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

- Employee of the Month: Kendy Thompson
- Resolution Honoring St. Patrick’s Day Parade Grand Marshal and Deputy Grand Marshal (read at next meeting)

PUBLIC BIDS:

- 13th Avenue Boardwalk Trailer #1 – minimum bid \$1500 per a month for a 5 month lease
 - o 8 bidders were present
 - o Winning bid was Trent & Hilary Colanduoni in the amount of \$7,600 per a month.
- 13th Avenue Boardwalk Trailer #2 – minimum bid \$1500 per a month for a 5 month lease
 - o 7 bidders were present
 - o Winning bid was Carducci’s/Kathy Samuelson in the amount of \$8,000 per a month

WORKSHOP DISCUSSION: none

PETITIONS: none

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Council member Magovern offered to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2015 regular meeting, which was seconded by Council member Nicolay and approved by the following vote:

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

REPORTS OF COUNCIL:

Council member Magovern: DPW did a great job in February and with the parade.

Council member Keown-Blackburn: DPW did a great job cleaning up the streets for the parade. Belmar Hook and Ladder comedy night is this month. Historical Society grand opening is in April. Walking in the gym is available on Tuesdays and Thursdays this month.

Council member Brennan: Commended the Police, DPW, Fire and First Aid for a great parade. Community garden at 15th Ave playground is getting ready for spring.

Council member Nicolay: Read DPW report. Announced upcoming Arts Council, Belmar Elementary School and St. Rose Grammar School events. BBP working on a Facebook marketing campaign.

Mayor Doherty: No report

Council member Nicolay left the meeting at approximately 6:35 pm.

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

Gene Creamer, Fourth Avenue, asked about the Mayor’s Ball which is listed on the special events resolution. Mayor Doherty stated it is a fundraiser that raises money through ticket and ad sales. Last year the money went to Youth Club. This year the money will probably go to the St. Vincent DePaul Society.

Council member Magovern stated the FOBH runs a marine science camp as well. Ms. Connolly stated there was a different marine science camp that was operating there without a lease. Council member Magovern asked to pull the resolution off the agenda until it can be discussed further with the FOBH.

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

Mayor Doherty made a motion to amend the consent agenda to remove the resolution regarding advertising for bids for a marine science camp, which was seconded by Council member Magovern and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Magovern, Keown-Blackburn, Brennan and Doherty

RESOLUTIONS:
Mayor Doherty offered Resolution 2015-67, **RESOLUTION PERMITTING SPECIAL PERMITS FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS FOR BELMAR FISHING CLUB**, for adoption, which was seconded by Council member Keown-Blackburn and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Magovern, Keown-Blackburn, Brennan and Doherty

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:

2015-68
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS

2015-69
RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING FEES FOR CERTAIN RECREATION PROGRAMS

2015-70
RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO N.J.A.C. 5:30-14.4 ET SEQ. CHANGE ORDER NUMBER TWO FOR THE RIVERWALK PHASE IV PROJECT

2015-71
RESOLUTION PERMITTING SPECIAL EVENTS

2015-72
RESOLUTION APPOINTING AND CONFIRMING APPOINTMENTS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION AS PROVIDED BY BOROUGH ORDINANCE 1991-3 AND ORDINANCE 2004-19

(Removed from Consent Agenda and Tabled) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS TO LEASE A PORTION OF MACLEARIE PARK FOR A MARINE SCIENCE CAMP

2015-73
RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, AUTHORIZING SETTLEMENT OF THE LITIGATION WITH PARTNER ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE, INC.

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

AYES: Magovern, Keown-Blackburn, Brennan and Doherty

PAYMENT OF BILLS: certification that the vouchers listed on the warrant register numbering 63217 thru 63305 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	\$1,846,236.84
05 General Capital Account	\$109,105.01
11 Water/Sewer Account	\$84,088.65
21 Beach Utility Account	\$23,496.06
23 Parking Utility Fund	\$500.00
41 Dog License Account	\$1,464.00
55 Trust Fund Account	\$4,460.00
61 Tourism Development Account	\$7,770.30
Total	\$2,077,120.86

ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE 2015-12

Second Reading & Public Hearing

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER XIX, TRAFFIC, SECTION 19-40.1 PARKING METER ZONES AND REGULATIONS, OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY

Public Hearing: Mayor Doherty stated there is some confusion about what areas are included with this. A map was presented via a projector. There would be 57 spaces around Schroeder Park, 98 spots at the head of Silver Lake, and 50 at the head of Lake Como. There are no proposed parking meters for the west of Ocean Avenue even though that’s already permitted in the ordinance.

Council member Magovern stated he doesn’t like it. He feels putting the meters back at just the west side of Ocean Avenue which people were used to for several years before they were removed would be better. He was concerned about confusion near Silver Lake because one side of the street is metered and the other isn’t. He doesn’t believe these spots will add that much more revenue.

Susan Gerber, 208 5th Avenue, stated the homes next to her are all two family, bed and breakfasts or condo buildings which have multiple cars. She is concerned they will not have an empty spot to park. Suggested providing resident parking in that area.

Laurie Thompson, Neptune resident, has been coming to Belmar for many years for volleyball. They are at the beach everyday playing and they usually park by Silver Lake. Feels its locals and residents using those spots and not the tourists. Asked why the increase is needed.

Mayor Doherty stated this allows us to generate revenue outside of property taxes. If for some reason it doesn’t work out this year can always pull the meters.

(Council member Nicolay rejoined the meeting at approximately 6:56 pm.)

Frank Gianacci, 5 Ocean Avenue, objected to entire ordinance but specifically the spots near Schroeder Park which are heavily used by the persons in his building and neighboring properties. Suggests increasing meter costs for those already metered instead. Feels it will affect property values as well.

Mayor Doherty suggested changing the metered end time from 7 pm to 5 pm. Mr. Gianacci stated that would not help them. Ms. Thompson stated if they come after work then that would be better.

Nick Valente, 5 Ocean Avenue, stated Schroeder Park is a high density area and agrees with Mr. Gianacci.

Peter Piro, North Blvd., feels the streets will be more crowded now. Concerned those spots will be used by D’Jais patrons. Meters will be a burden.

Mayor Doherty stated this doesn't solve any parking problems it just creates revenue. If nobody is parking in these spots we can eliminate the meters.

Jack Suarez, 5 Ocean Avenue, suggested just increasing the metered price instead of adding spots.

Brendan Reed, 100 Ninth Avenue, suggested working with Monmouth County on a partnership for parking since Ocean Avenue is a county street.

A suggestion was made to increase beach badge fees instead.

Mayor Doherty stated there will be opposition if we just do the west side of Ocean Avenue or if we increase beach badges.

Pat Corea, Ocean Avenue, suggested just putting the meters on the west side of Ocean Avenue because the people who live on Ocean Avenue don't actually park on Ocean Avenue; they have other areas to park.

Tom Dilberger, 1000 River Road, asked how much revenue would be generated. Mayor Doherty stated it would be around \$116,000.

Gina Colucci, 206 5th Avenue, stated it will take away the charm of our beach.

Paul Nuno, 5 Ocean Avenue, suggested parking passes for residents that allows them to park in a metered spot without having to pay. Also suggested putting meters on Main Street instead.

Mayor Doherty stated we could explore the parking pass idea but has some concerns about it.

Connie Dallaportas, 1002 Main Street, is against adding fines or more things for people to pay for.

David Schneck, 302 C Street, asked if the new meters would be included in the parking authority and how much of it would go into the beach utility. Mayor Doherty stated they would be part of the parking authority. Mr. Schneck asked if this would increase the amount of police specials needed. Mayor Doherty replied no. Chief Palmisano stated the specials already walk in those areas.

Stephanie Englestadt, Belmar Fishing Club, stated it is difficult for their members to find parking and understands that the residents in that area have a harder time. She liked the idea of reducing the time to 5 pm or even 4 pm.

Beth Gerstein, 415 11th Avenue, suggested just increasing the beach badge revenue instead of parking meters. Feels it will change the look and the feel of the town by adding meters.

Natalie Purdente, Pinetree Way, stated the metered parking may not be directly in front of people's homes but are across the street and used by these residents. Likes the idea of just putting them on Ocean Avenue.

Brian Donahue, West Belmar, stated nobody has come here to support this. Feels this will deflect people to Bradley Beach and Avon.

Mayor Doherty stated he understands that there will be people against this even if moved to different areas but it's the burden of the Council to look for ways to generate revenue outside of property taxes that will have a minimal impact.

Angela Pheiffer, Fifth Avenue, suggested raising the metered parking fee and see how that goes. She doesn't think anyone would object to it.

Bill Strauss, 1218 Oakwood Road, feels the purpose of these meetings is to listen to the residents and if you don't listen to the people then there is no purpose for these meetings. Should go back to the drawing board and figure out what will work.

Doug Thorn, Howell, stated he has been playing on the beach for years and feels putting the meters on the west side of Ocean Avenue is a better option.

Gene Creamer, Fourth Avenue, recommended just putting the meters back on the west side of Ocean Avenue since they were there for so many years before and it's already on the books.

Joy DeSanctis, 101 Sixth Avenue, stated after hearing from all of the residents that perhaps the ordinance should be revisited.

Don Griffin stated he would like to hear what the rest of the Council has to say. Read some letters from residents who were unable to attend the meeting who are against this ordinance.

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

Mayor Doherty made a motion to table the ordinance to allow for time to take in all of the comments, which was seconded by Council member Keown-Blackburn and approved by the following vote:

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

Council member Magovern stated he doesn't understand why we never put the meters back on the west side of Ocean Avenue.

Council member Keown-Blackburn stated she is not a fan of parking meters and is glad we are tabling the ordinance so we can look at other options. She doesn't want to raise taxes for residents so understands the need to generate more revenue.

Council member Brennan stated he felt some people who were making arguments against it were in fact making arguments that justify it. He is concerned about keeping property taxes lower for the resident on a fixed income even if that doesn't make him popular. We are already running a tight ship and we have incurred debt from Hurricane Sandy so there is a need to generate revenue if we don't want to increase property taxes. He doesn't think it will hurt the businesses or the beach. He does understand it will affect the people near Schroeder Park.

Council member Nicolay stated she agrees we have to look at ways to not raise property taxes but understands the concerns of the residents near Schroeder Park. Likes the idea of permit parking. Suggested if we put the meters on the west side we can use the kiosks on the east side.

ORDINANCE 2015-13
Second Reading & Public Hearing
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER XIX (TRAFFIC) OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR, SECTIONS 19-38 LOADING ZONES

Public Hearing: David Marola, 817 12th Avenue, stated he lives across the street from the loading zone and asked if there are times for the loading zone. Ms. Connolly stated it's anytime. He suggested putting a timeframe on it. Chief Palmisano stated there is only one parking spot lost.

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

Council member Magovern made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2015-13, which was seconded by Mayor Doherty and approved by the following vote:

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

ORDINANCE 2014-14
Second Reading & Public Hearing
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER XIX, TRAFFIC, SECTION 19-10 TEMPORARY PARKING PROHIBITION FOR SNOW PLOWING AND REMOVAL, OF THE GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR

Public Hearing: Mayor Doherty stated the notification requirement was reduced to 12 hours.

Brendan Reed, 100 Ninth Avenue, stated he supports this ordinance because it will help DPW clear the streets. Suggested notifying property managers of multifamily homes or apartments to notify their residents.

Pat Corea, Ocean Avenue, stated not everyone has off street parking and that should be taken into consideration.

Michael Druz, 16th Avenue, stated he supports the ordinance; it would save money because they only have to clear the streets once.

Gene Creamer, Fourth Avenue, requested a change to one word in the ordinance. He suggested changing the word "residents" to "public". He was concerned about giving a code enforcement officer the power to enforce this ordinance.

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

Mayor Doherty made a motion to adopt ordinance 2015-14, which was seconded by Council member Brennan and approved by the following vote:

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

PUBLIC SESSION:

Connie Dallaportas, 1002 Main Street, asked if the library and fire departments pay utilities. Mayor Doherty replied yes.

Joy DeSanctis, 101 Sixth Avenue, stated she saw a very large bill on the last meeting’s payment of bill list which she thought should have been discussed. Mayor Doherty stated Partner Engineering sued us for 1.8 million dollars but we settled for about half of that. He explained Partner Engineering purchased Birdsall Engineering’s receivables at a very cheap rate. We owed them 1.3 million and settled for \$925,000. Ms. DeSanctis was concerned about how we will pay for this and if it will hurt our budget.

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