

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES**

FEBRUARY 19, 2019

6:00 PM

Mayor Mark Walsifer, Council President Thomas Brennan, Councilman James McCracken, Councilman Thomas Carvelli, Councilwoman Patricia Wann, Borough Attorneys Jerry Dasti and Chuck Schlager, Acting Business Administrator Edward Kirschenbaum and Borough Clerk April Claudio

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 19, 2018 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

WORKSHOP DISCUSSION:

- Mayor Walsifer stated a productive meeting was held with Maser Consulting to have a smooth transition with the new engineering firm. Mr. Schlager explained the status of various projects. Several of the projects have outstanding items that need to be addressed before they can be closed out. Several projects also require additional payments to Maser and the contractors. Maser will be retained to help with closing out some the projects while Avakian will take over other projects. To get grant money back the projects must be closed out and paid in full. Will be working with Avakian, Maser and the CFO to determine cost to close out projects. Looks like we might have to do a short term note to pay these fees. Estimated total owed to Maser is \$480,000 for work already done.
- Councilman McCracken asked who from the Borough would oversee these types of projects. Mr. Dasti stated the Business Administrator. Councilman McCracken asked what the process is for approving change orders. Mr. Schlager stated it would go to the state for approval if there is grant money involved and then would come before the Mayor and Council.
- Councilman Carvelli asked if we will get all the grant money back. Mr. Schlager stated he is unsure at this time.

PETITIONS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Councilwoman Wann made a motion to approve the February 5, 2019 meeting minutes, which was seconded by Councilman Brennan and approved unanimously.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL:

Councilman Carvelli: JCP&L is a little behind with the pole replacement on Main Street but is moving forward. Wednesdays in March there will be baseball and softball clinics in the gym. Thanked Marshall and DPW for getting WIFI in the marina. Been working with various website developers on a website overhaul.

Councilman McCracken: Shade Tree Commission meeting soon will report on their first meeting at the next Council meeting. Thanked DPW Director Mike Campbell for getting lights outside the Municipal Building.

Councilwoman Wann: Looking into the new marijuana regulations. Going to wait to see what Governor signs into effect. Moving forward with the Community Policing Program.

Councilman Brennan: Harbor Commission hasn't met yet but will be meeting soon. Parade Day is coming up soon.

Mayor Walsifer: Going to try having a small boat show in the marina to attract slip rentals. DPW has been working hard to make Borough Hall operational. Parade is coming up, hopes everyone enjoys it.

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

Steve Lemoine, 403 C Street, asked why we didn't bid out the music at Taylor Pavilion. Mayor Walsifer stated it is the same group that has always been there and it's costing us half the price as last year. Mr. Lemoine asked about the corrective action plan resolution. Mayor Walsifer stated the new CFO will handle it. Mr. Lemoine asked how the temporary budget aligns with the 2019 budget. Mayor Walsifer stated the CFO would have to answer specific questions about it. Mr. Dasti and Mr. Schlager explained what a temporary budget is.

Joan Corallo, A Street, asked who is to be held responsible for the audit and all the things that were done wrong. Mayor Walsifer stated it would be the CFO who is watched by the Auditor.

Katrina Clapsis, B Street, a lot of people want to know why Mayor Walsifer and Councilman Brennan approved a budget and the audit in 2017. Mayor Walsifer stated you need to have confidence in your professionals that the budget is prepared accordingly. The audit then comes out the following year. Mayor Walsifer stated he had no idea there were issues with the budget, was told it was fine. He was skeptical and asked a lot of questions but was told everything was fine. Councilman Brennan stated he was happy to hear no tax increase. He has read the report of recommendations in previous audits and asked if these things are being taken care of and was told yes.

Councilman Brennan made a motion to close the public session, which was seconded by Mayor Walsifer and approved unanimously.

Councilman Brennan made a motion to remove Resolution 2019-62 from the consent agenda, so it could be voted on separately, which was seconded by Mayor Walsifer and approved unanimously.

Councilman Brennan made a motion to remove Resolution 2019-67 from the consent agenda and table it for a future meeting, which was seconded by Councilwoman Wann and approved unanimously.

Mayor Walsifer offered the following for adoption:

No. 2019-62 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH LOCAL 399 AFM FOR MUSICAL SERVICES FOR 2019

Seconded by Councilman McCracken and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Carvelli, McCracken, Wann, and Walsifer

ABSTAIN: Brennan

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.

Councilman Brennan made a motion to approve the following resolutions:

No. 2019-61 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS

No. 2019-63 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDS

No. 2019-64 RESOLUTION INDICATING CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN/STATUS REGARDING THE 2017 MUNICIPAL AUDIT REPORT

No. 2019-65 RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING FEES FOR CERTAIN RECREATION PROGRAMS

No. 2019-66 RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS

~~No. 2019-67 RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A PERMIT PARKING AREA FOR MARINA SLIP HOLDERS IN THE BELMAR MARINA IN THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR, MONMOUTH COUNTY, NEW JERSEY~~

No. 2019-68 RESOLUTION PERMITTING SPECIAL EVENTS

Seconded by Mayor Walsifer and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Carvelli, McCracken, Wann, Brennan and Walsifer

ORDINANCES:

Second Reading & Public Hearing:

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-03

ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING BOROUGH CODE CHAPTER XVIII, SECTION 2.5 ENTITLED "FEES AND CHARGES" (BEACH LOCKER FEES)

Public: Laura Thompson, Neptune, asked what percentage non-resident are versus resident. Councilman Brennan stated we are looking at digitizing the records which will help us determine that. Ms. Thompson stated residents of neighboring towns support Belmar and an increase hurts them.

Christine Cardellino, 15th Avenue, asked if you are a resident on a waiting list would you bump ahead a nonresident. Ms. Claudio stated anyone who had a locker last year will get a chance to renew before it goes to the waiting list.

Councilman Brennan made a motion to close the public hearing, which was seconded by Mayor Walsifer and approved unanimously.

Mayor Walsifer made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-03, which was seconded by Councilman McCracken and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Carvelli, McCracken, Wann, Brennan and Walsifer

Second Reading & Public Hearing:

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-04

ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING BOROUGH CODE SECTION 18-2.7, TO PROHIBIT SMOKING ON BOROUGH BEACHES WHEREAS ADJACENT THERETO

Public Hearing: None

Councilwoman Wann made a motion to close the public hearing, which was seconded by Mayor Walsifer and approved unanimously.

Councilman Brennan made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-04, which was seconded by Mayor Walsifer and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Carvelli, McCracken, Wann, Brennan and Walsifer

Second Reading & Public Hearing:

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-05

ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SALARIES FOR CERTAIN BOROUGH EMPLOYEES FOR 2019

Public Hearing: None

Councilwoman Wann made a motion to close the public hearing, which was seconded by Mayor Walsifer and approved unanimously.

Mayor Walsifer made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-05, which was seconded by Councilwoman Wann and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Carvelli, McCracken, Wann, Brennan and Walsifer

Second Reading & Public Hearing:

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-06

ORDINANCE CREATING THE UNCLASSIFIED, CONFIDENTIAL POSITION OF "DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS" IN THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR

Public Hearing: Katrina Clapsis, B Street, asked for an explanation on this. Mr. Schlager stated it is not a civil service position.

Ms. Corallo, A Street, asked if this position will have any say in how many events there will be in town. Mayor Walsifer stated there will only be one event the 5 Mile Run during the summer months. Will no longer be closing off Ocean Avenue. Will review all the other events throughout the year. This position will be bridging relationships with Tourism, BBP and the business community.

Councilman Brennan made a motion to close the public hearing, which was seconded by Councilwoman Wann and approved unanimously.

Councilman McCracken made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-06, which was seconded by Mayor Walsifer and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Carvelli, McCracken, Wann, Brennan and Walsifer

First Reading & Introduction:

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-08

ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTERS IV DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, SECTION 4-4 DIVISION OF TREASURY FUNCTIONS OF THE REVISED GENERAL

ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY

Councilman Brennan offered Ordinance 2019-08 for first reading and introduction, which was seconded by Mayor Walsifer and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Carvelli, McCracken, Wann, Brennan and Walsifer

PUBLIC SESSION:

Tom Burke, 10th Avenue, light poles on Main Street look great, however there is a leaning one near Rite Aid that should be considered for replacement.

Patrick Gross, 219 Third Avenue, asked for clarification on his tax bill. His bill reflected improvements to his home that were not true. Spoke to the Tax Assessor but did not notice a correction to his tax bill. Mayor Walsifer suggested he speak to the new Tax Assessor.

Bill Garcia, 322 14th Avenue, stated the Mayor and Council have to take ownership of what has been put in front of them as far as what has occurred with Maser and the past administration. Somebody on the Mayor and Council should be qualified to oversee the CFO and other employees to determine if they are inept. Mr. Kirschenbaum stated we inherited what has happened in the past and people want to know what we are going to do about it. We are going to consult with our professionals and do investigations. We need all the facts to have a true understanding of what happened and how. Mr. Garcia felt they have lost the trust of the taxpayers. He volunteered to help because he has experience overseeing million-dollar operating budgets in the private sector.

Rose Dagayna, 201 9th Avenue, asked how we change the laws to stop the zoning board and planning board from allowing people to build whatever they want. Mayor Walsifer stated the boards are an extension of the council and have maps and rules they follow. Suggested she voice her concerns to them . Councilwoman Wann suggested she come to the next planning board meeting and speak to Mr. Kovats.

Marcus Kirschenbaum, Wall Township, asked about fixing the fishing pier. Mayor Walsifer stated we are looking into it. Mr. Kirschenbaum spoke about the assessment program the Borough participates in. He found houses that he feels are not being assessed properly. Mayor Walsifer suggested anyone who has a concern or question should speak to the new Tax Assessor.

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

Respectively submitted,

April Claudio
Municipal Clerk