

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
AGENDA**

**AUGUST 20, 2019**

**6:00 PM**

Mayor Mark Walsifer, Council President Thomas Brennan, Councilman James McCracken, Councilman Thomas Carvelli, Councilwoman Patricia Wann, Borough Attorneys Jerry Dasti, 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 there has been discussion about two events being scheduled for the same weekend in September (Surfer's Healing Bash and St. Rose Mass). It comes down to a parking problem. Have met with the Police Chief so parking is not an issue. Ocean Avenue will be closed down. There has been a lot of logistic work to make it safe for the children and provide parking and drop off locations for them as well as parking for the Bishop's event. Will finalize the plan tomorrow morning.

Mike Campbell, Director of DPW, met with Fran Hines who runs the Autism event and the Police Chief. In the end he feels it will be as safe if not safer than ever. Similar to the Sandcastle Contest there will be drop off lanes for the children to unload and go right to the ramp to the beach and then be shown where to park. Will also be closing off some parking on Ninth and Tenth.

Chief Huisman stated they have done multiple events on the same day. He has no concerns. Feels this plan will work and be much safer.

Mr. Kirschenbaum stated he spoke to the Church and they are happy with the way we are trying to work this out. Also spoke to Jackie Moskowitz of Autism Family Services who will attend our meeting tomorrow morning. She too was elated that we were able to work this through.

**PETITIONS:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Councilwoman Wann made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 6, 2019 meeting, which was seconded by Councilman Brennan and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Wann, Brennan, Carvelli and Walsifer

ABSTAIN: McCracken

**REPORTS OF COUNCIL:**

Councilman Carvelli: BBP second annual sidewalk sale is this Saturday. Police Explorers is starting up soon. Looking into parking concerns involving pedestrians and taxis. Will be working with the Police Chief to send a letter to all taxi companies and businesses to help with pedestrian safety.

Councilman McCracken: Asked if there is an update on pedestrian safety at 8<sup>th</sup> and Railroad. Chief Huisman stated they had a meeting with DOT and requested an additional meeting. Also getting the County involved. One option is to move the crosswalk further east, but it would be the State's responsibility. Councilman McCracken thanked Mr. Campbell for letting him and Councilman Carvelli spend a day with DPW learning their operations. Mainstreet Streetscape project was completed on Friday and will be closing out the project this week. Flowers on Main Street are watered almost every day. People litter in them and knock them over so it's a lot of work to maintain them. Shade Tree Commission seeking additional members.

Councilwoman Wann: Community Policing has been working very well. A gazebo/shelter will be put up at Maclearie Park. Parks and Rec Committee looking for a volunteer committee to raise money or find grant money to fix the tennis courts.

Councilman Brennan: Marina has more leases than it has had in the last few years. A sink hole on Route 35 was found and the State is working on fixing it. Working on next year's Boat Show. Environmental Commission is

having their October meeting at Taylor Pavilion and has invited other Commissions from neighboring shore towns. They also have two vacancies if anyone is interested. Musicians on a Mission event this past Saturday was successful. Thanks to everyone involved.

Mayor Walsifer: August 30<sup>th</sup> is dedication of the Post Office. Encouraged everyone to attend. There are two weeks left of the summer. The 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue road paving project finished today. The Feast of San Gennaro will be September 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>.

**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, 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, asked about the resolution to hire an engineer for the Lake Como Pipe. Mayor Walsifer stated we pulled that resolution from the agenda. Mr. Creamer asked how much is left in the HUD grant. Mr. Kirschenbaum stated he doesn't have that figure yet because of the pending \$600,000 and the project has stopped. Working with Maser and the State to fix the valve that isn't working. Mr. Dasti stated there is more than enough money in the grant to cover the additional costs.

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

Councilman McCracken asked about resolution 2019-168. Mr. Kirschenbaum stated this was a matching fund grant. Got a call from Monmouth County in February stating we were going to lose \$92,000 because the Borough never returned the County's calls. This resolution is to close out the project so we can receive the funds. Believes the project was about \$267,000 but the grant doesn't cover engineering costs which is \$103,000.

**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 offered the following resolutions for adoption:

**No. 2019-167 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS**

**No. 2019-168 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PROJECT COMPLETION FOR MACLEARIE PARK IMPROVEMENTS AND CLOSING OF THE MONMOUTH COUNTY OPEN SPACE PROGRAM AGREEMENT**

**No. 2019-169 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDS**

**No. 2019-170 RESOLUTION APPOINTING SPECIAL POLICE OFFICERS FOR 2019**

Seconded by Councilwoman Wann and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Wann, Brennan, Carvelli, McCracken and Walsifer

**ORDINANCES:**

*First Reading & Introduction*

**ORDINANCE 2019-31**

**ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER XXVI, HOUSING/PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE AND CHAPTER XL, DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR PERTAINING TO VARIOUS FIRE PREVENTION CODES**

Mayor Walsifer offered Ordinance 2019-31 for first reading and introduction, which was seconded by Councilwoman Wann and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Wann, Brennan, Carvelli, McCracken and Walsifer

**PUBLIC SESSION:**

Mark Pheiffer, 319 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, asked if we get the funding for the tennis courts, suggests only making two tennis courts and then create pickleball courts. He offered to join the committee.

Stephanie O'Donnell, 306 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue, thanked Councilwoman Wann for responding to her letter regarding the Surfer's Healing Beach Bash. Read her letter out loud. Anticipate 5700 people to attend. There will also be thousands attending the Bishop's Mass. Concerned about safety issues with these two events. Feels the drop off

system won't work. Asked why the Bishop's Mass is being held when it could be held somewhere. Feels the council hasn't taken into consideration what life is like for these children and their families.

Judy Rokoszak, 1223 Oakwood Road, also a parent of a special needs student who looks forward to this day. The parking resolution isn't going to work. Asked where the people for the mass will park.

Mr. Kirschenbaum stated we will discuss the plan tomorrow morning.

Councilman McCracken stated good points were made about the drop off. Understands there would be concerns for single parents. Offered to help if that would work.

Mayor Walsifer stated the plan will be discussed tomorrow morning. Mr. Campbell has worked the event every year and is confident we will finalize a plan. There used to be parking on the lake, but we are not doing that anymore so the spots that would have been there will be provided. We have another council meeting before the event so we will let everyone know the plan.

Linda Sharkus, 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, suggests moving the mass to Lake Como.

Fran Hines stated he hates the position we are all in right now but has to agree with the folks that are here. The Mass can be moved. We cannot do anything that would remotely affect the Surfer's Healing event. Feels their event is in jeopardy for next year. Will attend the meeting to hear the parking plan but is concerned. Feels this could have been avoidable and can still be fixed. Implores the Council and the Bishop to make this work. No matter what happens he will make this event a great time.

Kevin O'Donnell, 306 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue, has seen how DPW and Police have handled large events and is sure they are right that they can handle this. However, not sure it is the right plan. Concerned there won't be enough parking. Should ask the church to reschedule or go to another town.

Jim Bean, 612 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue, stated the Mayor could fix this with the snap of his finger. Ask the Church to reschedule or go somewhere else.

Leigh Kelsey O'Donnell, 306 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Surfer's Healing has been in existence for a dozen of years. The fact that this is even a debate shows these children and their families are being treated as second. It is disheartening to hear the resolution is a parking resolution. The other parishes involved in the Mass are our neighbors and should act that way.

Ken Pringle, 203 First Avenue, asked how the Mass works. Mayor Walsifer stated he was unsure but last year they got rained out. The issue with the double booking is an internal matter that will be dealt with. Has to look to our professionals who ensure this will work. Mr. Pringle stated he understands that but there is so much at risk. All of these families have enough on their minds and now have to worry about getting there in time and getting their child on the beach safely. Suggested moving the Mass to Memorial Field or reach out to other towns to host it.

Gerald Buccafusco, 409 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, gave three reasons to abandon RFP for a new municipal building. Has not seen any documentation or presentation regarding the status of the complex. Asked where the data is outlining what the problems are and how much it costs to fix them. The RFP says the building no longer meets the needs of the public. What does that mean? Felt the wording in the resolution was misleading. Are we building a new building or developing this area? Council has failed to allow residents to voice their opinions on what should be done with this property.

Sheila Langan, Lake Como, is a neighbor of a special needs child and has admiration for what they do. Asked if Father Ed was invited to attend this meeting. Mr. Kirschenbaum stated yes, and they stated they would not attend but will be at tomorrow's meeting. She has worked with Father Ed and he is very reasonable and feels if he had heard the sentiments tonight, he would have been the first to make a change. Mr. Kirschenbaum stated he will be aware of the comments made.

Nancy Koenig, 303 C Street, agrees with Ms. Langan. As a Catholic and parishner and volunteer at Surfers Healing, she now has to make a decision on which one to go to.

Gene Creamer, 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, there was a word in the RFP "Capaborough" asked what that means. Mr. Dasti stated that was a typo that will be corrected. Mr. Creamer stated he read a notice that T-Mobile is going to be upgrading their facilities at 1000 Ocean Avenue.

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