

# MAYOR AND COUNCIL

## MINUTES

JANUARY 19, 2021

6:00 PM

**PRESENT:** Mayor Mark Walsifer, Councilman Thomas Brennan, Councilman James McCracken, Councilman Thomas Carvelli, Borough Attorney Jerry Dasti, Business Administrator Edward Kirschenbaum and Borough Clerk April Claudio

**ABSENT:** Councilwoman Wann

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 2, 2020 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, healthcare workers and first responders

### **WORKSHOP DISCUSSION:**

- Environmental Commission gave a PowerPoint presentation on the new Environmental Resources Inventory.
- Mayor Walsifer gave a few updates. He stated he is confident we will have EMS services on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Borough saved over \$90,000 by doing recycling in house versus hiring a vendor. Sidewalk assessment is being closed out and meetings will be held to discuss billing. DEP is going to fine the Borough if the water tower is not painted. The Borough bonded for it in 2015 but they did not do it and the finance team determined the funds may have been used to pay off a lawsuit. ADA Committee is working with Mr. Kirschenbaum on disability badges, which Councilwoman Wann will present at the next meeting.
- Councilman McCracken was concerned about bond money for the water tower being used for something else. Mr. Dasti will look into the legality of it further.

**PETITIONS:** None

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Councilman Brennan made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 28, 2020 meeting, which was seconded by Councilman Carvelli and approved unanimously.

Councilman Carvelli made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2021 meeting, which was seconded by Councilman Brennan and approved unanimously.

### **REPORTS OF COUNCIL:**

Councilman Carvelli: BBP is trying to figure out how to restart. Planning Board meets on Monday.

Councilman McCracken: Thanked the Environmental Commission for their presentation and hard work. Suggested everyone go on the website to register for the COVID vaccine. Would like to help out those without a computer to register if possible. Shade Tree Commission meets tomorrow.

Councilman Brennan: Thanked the Environmental Commission. County does COVID testing at the Asbury Park train station for anyone that needs it.

Mayor Walsifer: Thanked the Environmental Commission. Thanked all the volunteers on all the boards and commissions. Attended ribbon cuttings for three new businesses. Thanked them for opening a business in Belmar during the pandemic.

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

None

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

## **CONSENT AGENDA - RESOLUTIONS:**

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. 2021-40 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS**

**No. 2021-41 RESOLUTION REAFFIRMING 2021 MEETING DATES**

**No. 2021-42 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDS**

**No. 2021-43 RESOLUTION AWARDED CONTRACT FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO TWELFTH AVENUE PHASE III & SIXTEENTH AVENUE**

**No. 2021-44 RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY WATER/SEWER CAPITAL BUDGET**

Seconded by Mayor Walsifer and approved by the following vote:

AYES: McCracken, Carvelli, Brennan and Walsifer

## **ORDINANCES:**

### **ORDINANCE 2021-01 *First Reading & Introduction***

**ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 4-4 OF THE BOROUGH CODE ENTITLED "DIVISION OF TREASURY; FUNCTIONS."**

Councilman Carvelli offered Ordinance 2021-01 for first reading and introduction, which was seconded by Councilman Brennan and approved by the following vote:

AYES: McCracken, Carvelli, Brennan and Walsifer

### **ORDINANCE 2021-02 *First Reading & Introduction***

**BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING IN PART BOND ORDINANCE NO. 2020-42 ADOPTED ON DECEMBER 1, 2020, PROVIDING FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF A WATER MAIN LOCATED ALONG FIFTEENTH AVENUE FROM EAST RAILROAD AVENUE TO D STREET, IN ORDER TO INCREASE THE APPROPRIATION THEREFOR BY \$100,000 FOR A TOTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$400,000, TO INCREASE THE AUTHORIZED BONDS AND NOTES TO BE ISSUED TO FINANCE A PORTION OF THE COSTS THEREOF BY \$100,000 FOR A TOTAL DEBT AUTHORIZATION OF \$400,000, AND TO INCREASE COSTS PERMITTED UNDER N.J.S.A. 40A:2-20, IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF BELMAR, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY**

Councilman Brennan offered Ordinance 2021-02 for first reading and introduction, which was seconded by Mayor Walsifer and approved by the following vote:

AYES: McCracken, Carvelli, Brennan and Walsifer

## **PUBLIC SESSION:**

John Walsh, 1101 B Street, encouraged people to register for the vaccine and not just do the preregistration.

Katrina Clapsis, 1304 B Street, thanked the Environmental Commission. She is happy to see the debt statement is healthy. Was concerned about the water tower issue.

Cheri Russo, 1218 Briarwood Road, thanked the Environmental Commission. Would like to see garbage cans on the beach. Thought the water tower money went to fixing streets and a water main. Asked how the savings for recycling would be used to help the taxpayers.

Mayor Walsifer stated metal garbage cans are on order. The finance team is looking into the water tower bond ordinance to see where the money went. They believe it was used to settle a lawsuit for a pipe project in the Rhode Island point section of town. Recycling money could be used to pay down debt or other things.

Gene Creamer, 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, thanked the Environmental Commission. Was concerned about the oil in Silver Lake from a vehicle that was submerged in it a few months ago. It is important to get the vaccine info out to the

seniors.

Drew Fromkin, 201 South Lake Drive, commended the Mayor and Council for all their hard work. Thanked John Maguire of DPW for responding to his email. Would like the Mayor and Council to look into public/private partnerships that may be available.

Douglas Mende, 605 Ocean Avenue, asked if the \$350,000 price tag for the water tower is the 2015 price or current price. Mayor Walsifer stated that was the 2015 amount and the engineers are working on a new estimate. Mr. Mende was concerned about recycling falling out of the golf carts because of high winds.

Maria Rondinaro, 1246 Pinetree Way, asked why the First Aid is disbanding. Mayor Walsifer stated the Borough tried to take them over, but they just want to disband with no discussion, which is tragic. Mr. Dasti stated he has several letters with the First Aid's attorney trying to work out a solution, but they are just done. She did not understand why and did not believe the Borough was trying to get them to stay.

Carole Moore, 1206 Oakwood Road, stated the Governor announced they are setting up a call center for the vaccine for those without technology.

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

Respectively submitted,

April Claudio  
Municipal Clerk