

**MINUTES  
WORKSHOP MEETING  
BOROUGH OF SEA BRIGHT**

**APRIL 10, 2024 (Wednesday)**

**SEA BRIGHT, NEW JERSEY**

**TO ATTEND THIS MEETING REMOTELY PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING:**

<https://meet.goto.com/988805725>

OR DIAL: 872-240-3212

**Access Code: 988-805-725**

**Mayor Kelly** called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and requested those present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Mayor Kelly** read the following Compliance Statement:

**COMPLIANCE STATEMENT (N.J.S.A. 10:4-18)**

**Good Morning Ladies and Gentlemen. This Meeting Is Now Called to Order: In Line With The Borough Of Sea Bright's Longstanding Policy Of Open Government, And In Compliance With The "Open Public Meetings Act" I Wish To Advise You That Adequate Notice Of This Regularly Scheduled Meeting Was Sent to the Asbury Park Press and other local newspapers on January 8, 2024. In each instance, the Date, Time, And Location of This Meeting Were Provided in the Notice. This Meeting Is Open to The Public."**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Brian P. Kelly  
Councilmember's Erwin Bieber, Samuel A. Catalano,  
Heather Gorman, William J. Keeler

**ABSENT:** Councilmember John M. Lamia, Jr., Marc A. Leckstein

**OTHERS:** Administrator Joseph L. Verruni, Attorney Richard Shaklee,  
Engineer Greg Blash, Clerk Christine Pfeiffer

Mayor Kelly shared his condolences to Councilman Leckstein as his father recently passed away and welcomed incoming Borough Administrator Rachel Giolitto to her first Workshop Meeting.

**REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE: (limited to 3 minutes)**

The Public Comment portion of this meeting allows members of the audience to bring their concerns or comments to the Mayor and Council's attention. Pursuant to Borough Ordinance 3-2011, a member of the public who wishes to speak shall give his/her name and address for the record and may have up to three minutes to state his/her comments to the Mayor and Council as a Body. If additional time or information is requested, an appointment can be made with the Administrator's office during regular business hours.

Charlie Rooney, resident, presented Council with a petition with over 100 signatures to ban e-bikes on the splash pad. North beach residents are strongly against e-bikes on the splash pad and feel the town needs to focus on pedestrian safety.

Patricia Williamson, resident, stated that with the stairs over the sea wall it only leaves about five feet of space for quiet e-bikes to pass through at around 30 miles per hour and added she almost got knocked over by one last week. She believes motorized vehicles should be on the asphalt on Ocean Avenue not the concrete splash pad – it is absolutely unsafe.

Ira Schussheim, resident, explained the difference in weight between standard bicycles and e-bikes making e-bikes much more dangerous and said regular bikes on the splashpad should be permitted with proper signage. Mr. Schussheim pointed out that the public access stairways over the sea wall are in bad shape and need repairs. Administrator Verruni stated that we appropriated funds in this year's budget to make improvements to those walkovers.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

**SUBJECT:** ACB Hearing – Janitorial Bid

**ACTION:** Attorney Shaklee stated that a notice was sent to ACB Janitorial Services advising them that they could potentially be disqualified due to previous negative experiences and offered them the opportunity to have a hearing to provide valid evidence and testimony as to why they shouldn't be disqualified. Joan Hogan from ACB was present, was put under oath and presented her testimony explaining that this was the first she was hearing of any problems as there was little to no documentation over the past few years and is asking for an opportunity to prove they are fully capable of fulfilling janitorial services for the Borough. The Council will discuss further in executive session.

**SUBJECT:** Capital Projects Update

**ACTION:** Mr. Verruni stated that we awarded a contract to have the soffits repaired and snow guards installed at the Municipal Complex and Beach Pavilion. Next month we are ready to move forward with the new public works building at an estimated cost of \$650,000. CFO Michael Bascom has put together the funding and Borough Engineer Greg Blash and Public Works has put together the plan. This project is imperative since we no longer have garage space for our Borough vehicles. Mr. Verruni stated that we are working on getting a contractor to make repairs to the Pavilion for leakage issues. The Beach Street viewing platform bids came in within the budgeted amount and a contract will be awarded at the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. We introduced a bond ordinance for the downtown sewer relining project and will begin design on that shortly. Our OEM plan has been updated and a hard copy will be in the conference room for review as it is 500 pages. Councilman Bieber requested a summary be distributed to the Council. Also, Councilman Bieber asked to be included in future discussions with the DOT regarding check valves and crosswalks.

**SUBJECT:** Public Safety Update & Public Works Update

**ACTION:** Mayor Kelly stated that the Fireman's Fair will be May 9<sup>th</sup> thru May 12<sup>th</sup>. Fire Department Chief Murphy reported 29 calls for service for the month of March bringing the total for the year to 120. All the seasonal firefighter applications are prepared for approval at the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. The department was successful in receiving the DCA grant in the amount of \$70,000 which will help in the purchase of much needed turnout gear. Chief Murphy reported that there is annual routine maintenance being done on the firetrucks behind the Municipal Complex.

Police Chief Friedman reported 359 calls for service and are working on getting everything ready for the summer. There are six officers in the academy as Class I's and three as Class II's and are working on hiring one full time officer. There is a fireworks meeting on April 22<sup>nd</sup> with our Fire Marshall and Homeland Security and hopes to firm them up for Friday July 5<sup>th</sup>.

Public Works Director Dave Bahrle reported that the three-day coastal storm last week created additional beach erosion. They are putting up beach erosion signs on parts of the main beach, anchorage beach, and portions near Ship Ahoy. Beach lockers are still being repaired for the season. During the storms last week, the water reached the sea wall which is a major concern with the placement of the lockers. Mr. Verruni suggested a new configuration to place the lockers along the seawall. Street sweeping started yesterday and will run through October. They will work on the sand in the parking lot. Clean Ocean Action is doing a beach sweep this Saturday and are always looking for volunteers. He also reported that they haven't received any applications for seasonal employees. Councilman Bieber recommended increasing the hourly rate to be more attractive to applicants - Mr. Verruni will survey what surrounding towns pay. Mr. Bahrle reported he has reached out to get quotes to fix the leaks in the sanitary sewer collection system - middle pump station. Grounds maintenance bids for the 2024 season are due Friday at 10:00am. The erosion issue has to be addressed at the end of Peninsula Avenue as the sidewalk is in trouble. Mr. Verruni said the Borough should not allow parking on the lot in the present condition.

Councilman Bieber stated that the beach is about as bad as we've seen it in several years - we have had a great amount of beach erosion and we are not scheduled to have a sand replenishment for several years unless we have a serious event. In some areas the water is reaching the sea wall and is impacting and a threat to the integrity of the sea wall. He would like to assess what constitutes an "emergency" so we can get assistance from the Army Corp. of Engineers. Mr. Verruni will make a call to Coastal Engineering.

**SUBJECT:** Beach Street Viewing Platform Bids Received

**ACTION:** Bids were received for the construction of a viewing platform on Beach Street and a resolution will be prepared for approval at the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**SUBJECT:** New Stormwater Control Ordinance

**ACTION:** Borough Engineer Greg Blash explained that the State is requiring updates to the stormwater control ordinance. It will be prepared and ready for introduction at the May 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

**SUBJECT:** Ord. No. 06-2024 (E-Bikes)

**ACTION:** Mayor Kelly explained that they met with Sands Beach Club to discuss their safety concerns regarding e-bikes and overall had good conversations. The Chief of Police is waiting to hear back from the State for guidance on regulation. Mayor Kelly stated that this continues to be an ongoing conversation and there are various recommendations floating around. Chief Friedman stated that he absolutely does not want to push anyone out onto Ocean Avenue. Councilman Bieber would like to get something on the books as soon as possible as the summer season is quickly approaching. Councilwoman Gorman would like to add signage along the splashpad that clearly states the regulations. Ordinance No. 06-2024 will be listed on the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting for introduction.

**SUBJECT:** Ord. No. 08-2024 (Ocean Ave Parking)

**ACTION:** Mayor Kelly stated that this ordinance would change the 30 minutes parking regulations along Ocean Avenue per the request of the owner of Lucky Dog Surf Shop. Council agreed to table the ordinance.

**SUBJECT:** Building Department/Construction Fees

**ACTION:** Mr. Verruni stated that the Construction Official and Building Department Secretary have been working on updating construction fees. The fees have not been revised since 2008 and is long overdue. The Ordinance will be prepared for introduction for the April 16 meeting.

**SUBJECT:** Sidewalk Café – Alcohol Consumption  
- Annual Renewals

**ACTION:** Mr. Verruni said a new business has approached the Clerk's Office to obtain a sidewalk café permit. Ironically, if you have a liquor license you are unable to serve outside the licensed premise unless you have previously obtained a Covid special permit from the ABC which is set to expire this November. If you do not have a liquor license you are permitted to have "BYOB" outside of your premises. The issue is that when the Covid special permits expire the Borough will need to decide how to move forward. Councilman Bieber said we should seriously consider what we want to do as in some areas, the sidewalk cafes make the sidewalk impassable.

**SUBJECT:** MPAP Update – Conservation Easement

**ACTION:** Attorney Shaklee stated that we have been working on getting the Municipal Public Access Plan approved by the state. One requirement is an updated public access plan be adopted by resolution by the Governing Body which will be prepared for approval at the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Verruni added that we must have the MPAP to do almost anything on our beaches.

**SUBJECT:** Resolutions

1. Authorizing an Agreement with Edgewater Beach and Cabana Club for 2024 Ocean Rescue Lifeguard Services
2. Authorizing an Agreement with Surf rider Beach Club for 2024 Ocean Rescue Lifeguard Services
3. Authorizing an Agreement with the Borough of Highlands 2024 Ocean Rescue Lifeguard Services
4. Authorizing a Shared Service Agreement with the Borough of Highlands for Street Sweeping Services
5. Donation of 2024 Beach Badges
6. Donation of 2025 Beach Badges
7. Authorizing the Purchase of Kubota 4WD Utility Vehicle for the Department of Public Works
8. Amend Resolution Establishing Dune Crossovers

**ACTION:** The above resolutions will be prepared for approval at the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Councilmember Bieber offered a motion to enter in to Closed Session; second by Councilmember Gorman:

**WHEREAS**, Section 8 of the Open Public Meeting Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, it is recommended by the Borough Attorney and Administrator that the Borough Council go into executive session to discuss matters set forth hereinafter which are permissible for discussion in executive session.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Sea Bright, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, that they meet in closed session to discuss the issues as herein set forth:

1. Personnel

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, minutes will be kept and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentiality, then the minutes can be made public; and

**IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Mayor and Council may come back into Regular Session to conduct additional business.

<b>Roll Call:</b>	Bieber,	Catalano,	Gorman,	Keeler,	Lamia,	Leckstein
	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Absent

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilmember Gorman offered a motion to Adjourn the Workshop meeting; seconded by Councilmember Catalano:

<b>Roll Call:</b>	Bieber,	Catalano,	Gorman,	Keeler,	Lamia,	Leckstein
	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Absent

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Pfeiffer  
Borough Clerk