

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
BOROUGH OF SEA BRIGHT**

**MARCH 21, 2023**

**SEA BRIGHT, NEW JERSEY**

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

<https://meet.goto.com/444516581>

OR DIAL: (872) 240-3212

Access Code: 444-516-581

**Mayor Kelly** called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and requested those present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**Good Evening 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 10, 2023. 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  
Councilmembers, Erwin Bieber, Jefferey M. Booker Sr.,  
Heather Gorman, William J. Keeler, John M. Lamia, Jr.

**ABSENT:** Councilmember Samuel A. Catalano

**OTHERS:** Attorney Richard Shaklee, Administrator Joseph Verruni,  
CFO Michael Bascom, Borough Clerk Christine Pfeiffer

**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.

**No one wished to be heard.**

**PROCLAMATION:** Sea Bright Emergency Responders - March 10, 2023 Fire

## Official Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, first responders are our first and best defense against all emergencies, whatever their nature, that threaten our communities, and are ready to aid the people of Sea Bright every hour of the day, every day of the year; and

**WHEREAS**, Sea Bright's first responders are highly trained and selflessly contribute their expert skills for the public good; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 10, 2023, a structure fire erupted in an apartment above Bain's Hardware at 1090 Ocean Avenue - one of Sea Bright's most historic buildings; and

**WHEREAS**, Sea Bright's first responders and Public Works employees were quick to respond to an uncertain situation, mitigate the danger and fully combat the threat of a destructive fire in order to protect and keep our neighbors safe; and

**WHEREAS**, the teamwork and selfless display of courage amongst Sea Bright's Fire Department and First Aid volunteers and our dedicated Police and Public Works employees was remarkable; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT I**, Brian P. Kelly, Mayor of the Borough of Sea Bright, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, on behalf of the entire Governing Body, express gratitude and appreciation to all our first responders and Public Works employees for their invaluable and unmatched service to the Borough.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilmember Booker offered a motion to approve the items that are considered routine in nature under the consent agenda; seconded by Councilmember Keeler:

**Minutes**

03-07-2023 Special Budget Workshop Meeting  
03-07-2023 Executive Session  
03-07-2023 Regular Meeting

**Roll Call:** Bieber, Booker, Catalano, Gorman, Keeler, Lamia  
Yes Yes Absent Yes Yes Yes

**Resolutions:**

**No. 59-2023 Approving Policy for the use of the Borough of Sea Bright’s Website and Electronic Sign**

Councilmember Booker introduced and offered the following resolution for approval; seconded by Councilmember Keeler:

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the Borough of Sea Bright’s website and electronic sign is to disseminate information to the community related to Borough business, community events and topics of interest; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council wishes to adopt the policy attached hereto.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Borough Council of the Borough of Sea Bright, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, hereby approve the attached policy for the use of the Borough's website and electronic sign; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the following:

- 1. Borough Administrator
- 2. Police Department
- 3. Candace Mitchell

**Roll Call:** Bieber, Booker, Catalano, Gorman, Keeler, Lamia  
Yes Yes Absent Yes Yes Yes

**No. 60-2023 Donation of 2023 Beach Badges Borough of Sea Bright**

Councilmember Booker offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption; seconded by Councilmember Keeler:

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Body of the Borough of Sea Bright wish to support the fundraising efforts for the local organization listed below by donating four (4) 2023 beach badges as requested:

- 1. The Ashley Lauren Foundation **2 Badges**  
Paul Phillips Pediatric Cancer Fundraiser – June 24, 2023
- 2. Middletown Lions 10U **2 Badges**  
Baseball Fundraiser – May 21, 2023

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Auditor has been informed and advised that a resolution should be considered in order to donate 2023 Season Beach Badges.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Borough Council of the Borough of Sea Bright, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey authorize the donation of four (4) 2023 Season Beach Badges to the aforementioned charitable organizations; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the following:

- 1. Borough Administrator
- 2. Borough Auditor
- 3. Individual Requestors

**Roll Call:** Bieber, Booker, Catalano, Gorman, Keeler, Lamia  
Yes Yes Absent Yes Yes Yes

**No. 61-2023 Authorizing Receipt of Bids for the Purchase of One Lifeguard Stand**

Councilmember Booker introduced and offered for adoption the following Resolution: seconded by Councilmember Keeler:

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council is desirous of receiving bids for the following:

- a) Purchase of one (1) Lifeguard Stand

**WHEREAS**, specifications for the aforesaid items will be on file in the Borough Clerk’s Office, and will be available for inspection.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Borough Council of the Borough of Sea Bright, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey that it does hereby authorize the Borough Clerk to advertise for bids for the aforesaid item as per the specifications on file and will be received by the Borough on a date and time to be determined; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the following:

- 1. Finance Manager
- 2. Department of Public Works
- 3. CFO
- 4. Beach Manager

**Roll Call:**       Bieber,   Booker,   Catalano,   Gorman,   Keeler,   Lamia  
                       Yes        Yes        Absent     Yes        Yes        Yes

**INDIVIDUAL ACTION/New Business:**

**Vouchers:   \$ 719,675.93**

Councilmember Booker offered a motion to approve the Voucher List dated March 21, 2023 as submitted by the Finance Manager; seconded by Councilmember Bieber:

**Roll Call:**       Bieber,   Booker,   Catalano,   Gorman,   Keeler,   Lamia  
                       Yes        Yes        Absent     Yes        Yes        Yes

|          |                                      |  |  |      |          |  |
|----------|--------------------------------------|--|--|------|----------|--|
| 2830     | ACTION DATA SERVICES                 |  |  |      |          |  |
| 23-00311 | 03/15/23 A&E                         |  |  | Open | 2,001.75 |  |
| 02113    | AMERICAN WATER                       |  |  |      |          |  |
| 23-00294 | 03/14/23 SEWER                       |  |  | Open | 326.48   |  |
| 01241    | BAIN'S HARDWARE, INC.                |  |  |      |          |  |
| 23-00324 | 03/16/23 HARDWARE                    |  |  | Open | 395.14   |  |
| 2640     | BATHGATE, WEGENER & WOLF             |  |  |      |          |  |
| 23-00282 | 03/13/23 LEGAL                       |  |  | Open | 1,111.00 |  |
| 01957    | BENEMAX BENEFIT MANAGEMENT CO.       |  |  |      |          |  |
| 23-00283 | 03/13/23 HEALTH                      |  |  | Open | 348.00   |  |
| 2751     | BRICK GLASS                          |  |  |      |          |  |
| 23-00230 | 02/27/23 Buildings & Grounds         |  |  | Open | 1,750.00 |  |
| 2801     | CHIEF TECHNOLOGIES, LLC              |  |  |      |          |  |
| 23-00145 | 02/03/23 2023 Service                |  |  | Open | 1,479.00 |  |
| 00256    | CLEARY, GIACOBBE, ALFIERI &          |  |  |      |          |  |
| 23-00281 | 03/13/23 LEGAL                       |  |  | Open | 1,699.60 |  |
| 01801    | COLLIER ENGINEERING & DESIGN         |  |  |      |          |  |
| 22-00225 | 02/22/22 ENGINEER                    |  |  | Open | 370.00   |  |
| 01493    | COOPERATIVE INDUSTRIES, L.L.C.       |  |  |      |          |  |
| 23-00319 | 03/16/23 NAT GAS                     |  |  | Open | 2,533.31 |  |
| 02253    | DAVID HODER ASSOCIATES               |  |  |      |          |  |
| 23-00286 | 03/14/23 PLAN.BOARD                  |  |  | Open | 2,030.00 |  |
| 00419    | DRAGER SAFETY DIAGNOSTICS, INC       |  |  |      |          |  |
| 23-00252 | 02/28/23                             |  |  | Open | 60.00    |  |
| 2858     | ECO-CRETE, LLC                       |  |  |      |          |  |
| 23-00329 | 03/16/23 BEACH PAVILION              |  |  | Open | 2,880.00 |  |
| 01754    | EDMUNDS & ASSOCIATES, INC.           |  |  |      |          |  |
| 23-00239 | 02/28/23 BEACH                       |  |  | Open | 2,200.00 |  |
| 02101    | GANNETT NJ NEWSPAPERS                |  |  |      |          |  |
| 23-00320 | 03/16/23 PLAN BRD                    |  |  | Open | 82.52    |  |
| 02219    | GOODYEAR AUTO CENTER                 |  |  |      |          |  |
| 22-01314 | 12/02/22 POLICE: VEHICLE MAINTENANCE |  |  | Open | 633.68   |  |

**REGULAR MEETING**

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|          |                                |      |           |
|----------|--------------------------------|------|-----------|
| 2281     | GRAINGER                       |      |           |
| 23-00164 | 02/10/23 Sewer Department      | Open | 461.34    |
| 23-00250 | 02/28/23                       | Open | 138.08    |
|          |                                |      | -----     |
|          |                                |      | 599.42    |
| 2562     | HARD ROCK HOTEL & CASINO       |      |           |
| 23-00292 | 03/14/23 TAX                   | Open | 218.00    |
| 01887    | HEIM ELECTRONICS, INC.         |      |           |
| 23-00246 | 02/28/23 Buildings & Grounds   | Open | 485.22    |
| 01685    | HILSEN TERMITE & PEST          |      |           |
| 23-00257 | 02/28/23 Buildings & Grounds   | Open | 220.00    |
| 01838    | HOLMAN, FRENIA, ALLISON, P.C.  |      |           |
| 23-00327 | 03/16/23 AUDIT                 | Open | 2,500.00  |
| 01285    | HOME DEPOT CREDIT SERVICES     |      |           |
| 23-00249 | 02/28/23 Beach                 | Open | 39.24     |
| 2791     | HUDSON ENERGY SERVICES         |      |           |
| 23-00305 | 03/14/23 ELECTRIC              | Open | 451.78    |
| 2323     | INTEGRATED SYSTEMS & SERVICES  |      |           |
| 23-00227 | 02/27/23 Buildings & Grounds   | Open | 243.00    |
| 23-00229 | 02/27/23 Buildings & Grounds   | Open | 627.00    |
| 23-00255 | 02/28/23 Buildings & Grounds   | Open | 367.00    |
|          |                                |      | -----     |
|          |                                |      | 1,237.00  |
| 2561     | INTRON TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS    |      |           |
| 23-00325 | 03/16/23 I.T.                  | Open | 6,766.85  |
| 2573     | JCP & L                        |      |           |
| 23-00318 | 03/16/23 ELECTRIC              | Open | 6,442.04  |
| 2748     | JOHNSON CONTROLS               |      |           |
| 23-00225 | 02/27/23 Buildings & Grounds   | Open | 5,567.00  |
| 01784    | JUNGLE LASERS, LLC             |      |           |
| 23-00288 | 03/14/23 BLDG DEPT             | Open | 170.00    |
| 00108    | LEON S. AVAKIAN, INC.          |      |           |
| 23-00328 | 03/16/23 ENGINEER              | Open | 160.00    |
| 01603    | M AND N VENTURES               |      |           |
| 23-00284 | 03/13/23 BEAUTIFICATION        | Open | 30.92     |
| 2278     | MCLAUGHLIN, STAUFFER & SHAKLEE |      |           |
| 23-00280 | 03/13/23 LEGAL                 | Open | 7,397.08  |
| 2878     | MILLENNIUM STRATEGIES          |      |           |
| 23-00308 | 03/14/23 ENGINEER              | Open | 1,300.00  |
| 2838     | MOBILE PAYMENT PROCESSING SYS  |      |           |
| 23-00289 | 03/14/23 PARKING               | Open | 29.75     |
| 00110    | MONM CNTY REGIONAL HEALTH      |      |           |
| 23-00307 | 03/14/23 BOARD OF HEALTH       | Open | 18,025.54 |
| 01967    | MONMOUTH COUNTY PARK SYSTEM    |      |           |
| 23-00188 | 02/14/23 BENCH                 | Open | 140.00    |
| 01499    | MONMOUTH SPRINKLER CO., INC.   |      |           |
| 23-00254 | 02/28/23 Buildings & Grounds   | Open | 90.00     |
| 2525     | POOR JOHNS PORTABLE TOILETS    |      |           |
| 23-00256 | 02/28/23 Beach                 | Open | 366.00    |
| 01463    | PUMPING SERVICES, INC.         |      |           |
| 23-00226 | 02/27/23 Streets & Roads       | Open | 1,028.02  |
| 2728     | READY REFRESH BY NESTLE        |      |           |
| 23-00326 | 03/16/23 WATER                 | Open | 138.22    |
| 2745     | REMINGTON & VERNICK ENGINEERS  |      |           |
| 22-00904 | 08/11/22 ENGINEER              | Open | 1,497.22  |
| 00027    | SEABOARD WELDING SUPPLY, INC.  |      |           |
| 23-00291 | 03/14/23 DPW                   | Open | 18.50     |
| 01027    | SHORE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS       |      |           |
| 23-00317 | 03/15/23 A&E                   | Open | 241.59    |
| 00125    | SPAHR, PATRICIA                |      |           |
| 23-00287 | 03/14/23 TAX COLLECTOR         | Open | 117.95    |
| 02225    | STAPLES ADVANTAGE              |      |           |
| 23-00253 | 02/28/23 Office Supplies       | Open | 287.29    |
| 2535     | SUBURBAN DISPOSAL, INC.        |      |           |
| 23-00321 | 03/16/23 TRASH                 | Open | 985.75    |
| 23-00322 | 03/16/23 TRASH                 | Open | 21,472.65 |
| 23-00323 | 03/16/23 TRASH                 | Open | 5,397.94  |
|          |                                |      | -----     |
|          |                                |      | 27,856.34 |
| 005      | SUNNY BUNNY EASTER EGGS        |      |           |
| 23-00278 | 03/06/23                       | Open | 1,440.00  |
| 00192    | TAX COLL & TREAS ASSOC OF NJ   |      |           |
| 23-00105 | 01/31/23 TAX                   | Open | 100.00    |
| 2726     | TREASURER, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH  |      |           |
| 23-00306 | 03/14/23 FLOOD                 | Open | 1,500.00  |

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|          |                                |      |            |
|----------|--------------------------------|------|------------|
| 01243    | TREASURER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY |      |            |
| 23-00310 | 03/15/23 SAND                  | Open | 605,522.00 |
| 02061    | VERIZON WIRELESS               |      |            |
| 23-00290 | 03/14/23 POLICE                | Open | 1,482.29   |
| 23-00315 | 03/15/23 FIRE                  | Open | 268.06     |
| 23-00316 | 03/15/23 CELLS                 | Open | 187.33     |
|          |                                |      | -----      |
|          |                                |      | 1,937.68   |
| 00077    | WEX BANK                       |      |            |
| 23-00285 | 03/13/23 GASOLINE              | Open | 475.04     |

**TOTAL: \$ 714,296.17****Manual Checks**

|           |  |            |
|-----------|--|------------|
| 3/14/2023 | Treasurer, State of New Jersey-Div. of Fire Safety | \$323.00   |
| 23-00309  | Fire Marshall:Fire Safety-Life Hazard Use Permit   |            |
| 3/14/2023 | Wex Bank Fleet Card                                | \$4,419.58 |
| 23-00293  | Gasoline:February                                  |            |
| 3/15/2023 | Verizon  | \$374.39   |
| 23-00312  | Sewer:Phone/Alarms                                 |            |
| 3/15/2023 | Verizon  | \$73.80    |
| 23-00314  | Police:Fax Line                                    |            |
| 3/15/2023 | Verizon  | \$188.99   |
| 23-00313  | Municipal Complex-Fios                             |            |

**TOTAL: \$ 5,379.76****GRAND TOTAL: \$ 719,675.93****BUDGET INTRODUCTION:**

Councilman Booker thanked CFO Michael Bascom and the team for running a tight ship and being good stewards with the public's money. He stated that on tonight's agenda, the Borough Council will be asked to introduce the 2023 Municipal Budget. The budget we will vote on this evening reflects an increase in spending, not including grant spending, of approximately 4% as compared to 2022, and the majority of that spending can be linked to a few items, including:

- An increase health insurance costs for our employees as a result of a significant increase from the State of NJ Health Benefits Program totaling approximately \$80,000.00,
- Increased pension costs for our employees totaling \$71,000.00,
- The increased cost of managing our paid parking system totaling approximately \$30,000.00,
- And the general impact of operating with regional inflation rates that topped out at 7.6%, thus impacting virtually everything the Borough does
- In addition, the Borough is increasing our annual capital improvement fund contribution by \$50,000.00 to assure that we have the funds to continue to invest in our infrastructure for years to come.

In spite of all of this, the Borough's projected tax rate will decrease by 8.7% (4.4 cents) from 50.3 cents per \$100.00 of assessed value in 2022 to \$45.9 cents per \$100.00 of assessed value in 2023.

This equates to a \$328.00 decrease on a home assessed at \$750,000.00 as compared to 2022.

In addition, the budget includes the appropriation of a Local Efficiency Achievement Program Grant in the amount of approximately \$135,000.00 which will be shared with our partner communities in connection with our continued research of consolidating school districts.

The Borough Council is confident that the Department Heads and the Governing Body will continue to work closely throughout 2023 to improve revenues and reduce costs to continue the Borough's long history of municipal tax rate stability.

The public hearing on this budget will be held at our regular meeting of April 25, 2023.

**Res. No. 62-2023 Introduction of the 2023 Municipal Budget**

Councilmember Booker introduced and offered for adoption the following Resolution, seconded by Councilmember Bieber:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the following statements of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the Municipal Budget for the Year 2023; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that said budget be published in the Two River Times in the issue of March 30, 2023; and

The Governing Body of the Borough of Sea Bright does hereby approve the following, as the Budget for the year 2023:

| <b>RECORDED VOTE</b>                         | <b>Ayes</b> | <b>Nays</b> | <b>Abstained</b> | <b>Absent</b> |
|--|-------------|-------------|------------------|---------------|
| <b>COUNCILMEMBER ERWIN BIEBER</b>            | X           |             |                  |               |
| <b>COUNCILMEMBER JEFFEREY M. BOOKER, SR.</b> | X           |             |                  |               |
| <b>COUNCILMEMBER SAMUEL A. CATALANO</b>      |             |             |                  | X             |
| <b>COUNCILMEMBER HEATHER GORMAN</b>          | X           |             |                  |               |
| <b>COUNCILMEMBER WILIAM J. KEELER</b>        | X           |             |                  |               |
| <b>COUNCILMEMBER JOHN M. LAMIA, JR.</b>      | X           |             |                  |               |

**Notice is Hereby Given**, that the Budget and Tax resolution was approved by the Councilmembers of the Borough of Sea Bright, County of Monmouth on March 21, 2023.

A Public Hearing on the Budget and Tax Resolution will be held on April 18, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. at which time objections to said Budget and Tax Resolution for the year 2023 may be presented by taxpayers or other interested parties. This meeting will be held in The Mayor Dina Long Community Room, 1097 Ocean Avenue, Sea Bright, NJ - remote access information is available on the Borough website (www.seabrightnj.org).

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilman Keeler commended the Fire Department for their great job fighting the Bains’ apartment fire – they only used 100 gallons of water to extinguish the fire. Fire Chief Murphy has done an excellent job leading the department.

Councilman Bieber stated that he has taken a look at resident parking concerns in the downtown and the committee had their second meeting earlier today and will probably be in a position to present their findings and recommendations at the next council meeting. He has also been looking at public space ordinance enforcement specifically relating to the beach and seawall for smoking, alcohol, and dog violations - they plan to come to the next council meeting with recommendations. Regarding short term rental activity – he commended Building Department Secretary, Karen DiBerardino, and Code Enforcement Officer, Tom Haege, for their incredible work on this. They currently have over 30 registered short-term rentals and are likely to settle in at 40 total. The registration fee is \$500, there is a minimum stay requirement of 7 days, and we will be receiving municipal tax that is being collected by AIRBNB/VRBO. Lastly, Councilman Bieber reported he and his wife Jody plan to host a Jersey Mike’s lunch on March 30<sup>th</sup> to not only show our appreciate to the Borough staff and volunteers, but Jersey Mike’s is donating 100% of profits that day to the Valerie Fund which supports childhood cancer – his daughter was treated there when she was young.

Councilman Lamia reported he spent a couple hours with the Public Works team and they created a big list of what is going on in the town. They have a lot of challenges this time of year getting everything ready for the upcoming beach season. He also met with the New Jersey Blood Association and EMS to schedule a blood drive in the recreation center in May. They will get us a formal brochure/announcement. Lastly, Councilman Lamia said he is also working on getting things going with the beautification committee and will be meeting with Frank Lawrence.

Councilwoman Gorman reported she is holding a recreation meeting next week and has a running list of all the activities that they would like to create and put on a recreation program website for registration. She hopes that Council has given some thought to rental fees for use of the Borough facilities – she is working on an excel sheet with everyone’s recommendations. The website brief is almost ready to go and the team will present it to Liz from ZUMU. Liz will then provide us with a cost estimate, and we can make a determination at that time whether we want to move forward.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Executive session not held.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Booker offered a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Councilmember Keeler:

|                   |         |         |           |         |         |       |
|-------------------|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-------|
| <b>Roll Call:</b> | Bieber, | Booker, | Catalano, | Gorman, | Keeler, | Lamia |
|                   | Yes     | Yes     | Absent    | Yes     | Yes     | Yes   |

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Pfeiffer  
Borough Clerk