

**MINUTES  
WORKSHOP MEETING  
BOROUGH OF SEA BRIGHT**

**APRIL 18, 2023 (Tuesday)**

**SEA BRIGHT, NEW JERSEY**

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

<https://meet.goto.com/443334445>

OR DIAL: (571) 317-3122

Access Code: 443-334-445

**Mayor Kelly** called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and requested those present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Mayor Kelly** read the following Compliance Statement:0

**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 April 6, 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., Samuel A. Catalano (arrived late), Heather Gorman, William J. Keeler, John M. Lamia, Jr.

**OTHERS:**

Attorney Roger McLaughlin, Administrator Joseph Verruni,  
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.

Jo-Ann Adams, resident, commented that as she was driving through town the other day she noticed Councilman Lamia weeding and doesn't feel that any member of council should be taking on any of that type of responsibility. She feels this is something that our Public Works Department can handle. Councilman Lamia stated that we have gone out to bid for ground maintenance but wanted to get certain areas weeded as soon as possible. Ms. Adams thanked Councilman Lamia for all the work he is doing.

Kristy Caldarella, resident, asked for an update on the school regionalization. Mayor Kelly stated that it has been a long process, but the next step is to have a mediation between the Highlands and Atlantic Highlands to work out their finances. Our goal remains to have all three towns form a K-12 regionalized school district. In addition, Shore Regional and Oceanport filed a petition against this regionalization which has been dismissed by the Commissioner of Education. Ms. Caldarella asked if we have looked into the option of reworking our current formula with Shore and Oceanport. Mayor Kelly stated that we would always be open to a discussion as they are our current partner, but Shore has not shown any interest in reworking the formula.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

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

**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. Litigation
2. Contracts
3. 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

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

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

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

**SUBJECT:**     Capital Projects Update

**ACTION:**     Administrator Verruni stated that the current road repaving project is underway and tonight we have a resolution to approve the second phase of the Shrewsbury Riverfront project. Mr. Verruni said he spoke with the Estate of the old schoolhouse lot owner and they would be willing to allow us to utilize the property for parking this summer. Chief Friedman stated that he has a meeting tomorrow morning with Mike Conti to see if the Church Street lot will be available this summer – if it is, he is not sure we necessarily need the old school lot - he will let everyone know after his meeting. Councilwoman Gorman feels that it may be smart to have it as a back-up in case the Church Street lot needs to be used for the redevelopment project. Mr. Verruni and CFO Michael Bascom are also preparing a spreadsheet of the items that were discussed at the 5-year capital plan meeting with funding details to discuss at the next workshop meeting.

Councilman Keeler presented his request for support for the purchase of a power lift stretcher and Lucas chest compressor for our First Aid Squad. Sea Bright EMS and the JIF are in favor of purchasing this product as it will reduce the likelihood of an injury to our responders. Administrator Verruni added that this purchase was not included in the budget but capital funds have been set aside. Dr. Matthew Letizia, Sea Bright First Aid Medical Director, wrote a lengthy letter in support of the new equipment. Councilman Bieber asked where we stand on the review Councilman Keeler’s committee was asked to complete to look at alternative strategies for EMS and added he does not think we should approve this purchase prior to the review.

Councilman Keeler responded that our First Aid Squad is 100% volunteer and all of the other options that he looked into including working with the Highlands, Atlantic Highlands, Monmouth Beach, and Rumson were extremely expensive. Our squad of 28 members is working diligently to put together a long-term program similar to our successful Fire Department. Councilman Bieber stated that when speaking to members of the First Aid Squad he understood that this was something that would be nice to have not something that is a necessity but ultimately feels that we need to explore other options before spending \$100,000 on this equipment.

Councilman Keeler stated that the most difficult part of getting someone to the hospital is loading them onto the stretcher and into and out of the ambulance. The purchase of these two items will enhance our squad and help our volunteers. Councilman Booker feels that though this expense is significant – our CFO, who is well versed in this area feels it is justified and from a risk management perspective, one insurance claim could make this purchase look like pennies. We are balancing fiscal responsibility with providing safe services to our residents....he is in support of this purchase.

The consensus of Council was to move forward with the purchase of the equipment.

**SUBJECT:**     Public Safety Update (Police, Fire, EMS)

**ACTION:**     Police Chief Friedman reported 387 calls for service for the month of March, multiple arrests including DWIs, warrants, stolen vehicles, and domestics. The department overall has been very busy. He will send out a Nixle when street sweeping begins. He stated we have 5 Class I officers and 2 permanent patrol officers ready to start in May.

Fire Chief Murphy reported 94 calls for service for the year compared to 83 last year. There are eight new seasonal members on a resolution at tonight’s meeting for approval and he will have a few more new members ready to join soon - once they complete training. The Fireman’s Fair is May 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> which pushed the department training to May 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>. Beach Manager, Don Klein has hired an independent consultant (who worked with Mike Hudson) who will provide training on swift water rescues on May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>.

**SUBJECT:**     Proposal for street-end viewing platform on Beach Street

**ACTION:**     Administrator Verruni reported Colliers Engineering & Design submitted an engineering proposal to complete the street-end viewing platform on Beach Street. Administrator Verruni recommended we award them the contract as they have successfully engineered the other two platforms. A resolution is listed on the following meeting agenda.

**SUBJECT:**     CRS Rating Renewal

**ACTION:**     Borough Clerk Christine Pfeiffer reported the Borough received official notice that the Borough will retain its Class 6 rating in the National Flood Insurance Program/Community Rating System for the next five years. This ranking will save our residents 20% on their flood insurance premiums. Thanks to Building Department Secretary Karen Diberardino and Floodplain Manager Mary Tangolics.

**SUBJECT:** Free Surf Wax at Via Ripa public access point

**ACTION:** Ms. Pfeiffer reported the Borough received an inquiry from a student who has asked for permission to distribute free surf wax at the public access point on Via Ripa. He makes the wax and will build the little box as part of a school project. Council agreed and a resolution will be prepared for the following meeting.

**SUBJECT:** Monmouth County Park System – acquisition of north beach lots for parking

**ACTION:** Mr. Verruni explained that the County contacted him to inquire if the Governing Body would like them to pursue potentially purchasing property in north beach near our public access points for additional parking for beach access. They will not condemn any property – it would be part of the County Recreation Program. Councilman Bieber reported he was contacted by a member of the Monmouth County Park Systems about purchasing public or private properties that they would own and maintain. It was agreed to have a discussion to hear more about the County’s plan - Mr. Verruni will coordinate a meeting with the Beach Committee and the County.

**SUBJECT:** Public Space Ordinance Enforcement

**ACTION:** Carried discussed to 4/18/23 Council meeting.

**SUBJECT:** Resident Parking Permit Review Recommendations.

**ACTION:** Carried discussion to 4/18/23 Council meeting.

**SUBJECT:** Resolutions

- 1. Authorizing Agreement with JNM Holdings, Inc. for use of Parking Lot at 1139 Ocean Avenue – Block19, Lots 2 & 2.01 for the 2023 Summer Season
- 2. Supporting the Development of the New Jersey Department of Transportation Route 36 Mid-Block Crosswalk Improvements in the Borough of Sea Bright
- 3. Donation of 2023 Beach Badges
- 4. Authorizing Hiring of Police Officers - Designation of Special Law Enforcement Officers - Class I
- 5. Authorizing the Borough of Sea Bright to Enter into A Cooperative Pricing Agreement with The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS)
- 6. Authorizing an Agreement with Edgewater Beach and Cabana Club For 2023 Ocean Rescue Lifeguard Services
- 7. Authorizing Request for Proposals for Professional Services – 2023 State Tax Court Appeals
- 8. Adopting The 2022 Municipal Budget

**ACTION:** The above resolutions will be prepared for approval at the Regular Meeting directly following this workshop meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilmember Keeler offered a motion to Adjourn the Workshop meeting; seconded by Councilmember Bieber:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Pfeiffer  
Borough Clerk