# MINUTES WORKSHOP MEETING BOROUGH OF SEA BRIGHT

### OCTOBER 12, 2023 (Thursday)

SEA BRIGHT, NEW JERSEY

TO ATTEND THIS MEETING REMOTELY PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING:

https://meet.goto.com/881753325 OR DIAL: +1 (872) 240-3311 Access Code: 881-753-325

**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 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

Councilmember's Erwin Bieber, Jefferey M. Booker, Sr., Heather Gorman, William J. Keeler, John M. Lamia, Jr.

**ABSENT:** Councilmember Samuel A. Catalano

**OTHERS:** Administrator Joseph L. Verruni, Attorney Richard Shaklee,

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.

#### **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

**SUBJECT:** Capital Projects Update

**ACTION:** Administrator Verruni reported that meetings have been scheduled with those who submitted RFPs for the Mad Hatter to take place next week in front of the committee which consists of himself, Attorney Roger McLaughlin, Borough Planner Jennifer Beam, Borough Engineer Greg Blash, and CFO Michael Bascom – he will provide feedback on our next steps to the Governing Body following the meeting. Mr. Verruni also stated that the Kelly's court hearing for their appeal of the Borough's abandoned property statute has been postponed again. Attorney Shaklee explained the court is backlogged and they are waiting to see if the EDA will subordinate the mortgage to the finance company. Councilman Bieber questioned the potential of a foreclosure on the property by the lien holder and how that would affect our effort. As we are in control of the property, it is a little unusual but the Attorney will look into how that might play out. Mr. Verruni said DPW will arrange to have a dumpster in early November to clean up the Mad Hatter property.

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

**ACTION:** Fire Chief Murphy reported 91 calls for service for the month of September bringing the year-to-date total to 563. Deal and Ocean Township sent a letter thanking the Sea Bright Fire Department for their assistance during the recent flood event – Council commended the department. Chief Murphy is working on revising/updating Chapter 20 "Fire Department" of the Borough code to reflect the recent changes in the department's bylaws.

Police Chief Friedman reported 426 calls for service for the month of September and numerous arrests and tickets. He stated they are now accepting applications for special officers for next year as the academy begins in January and is coming up quickly. He thanked Attorney Shaklee with assisting in contacting Shore Regional to obtain a list of students that live in Sea Bright – Mr. Verruni feels it may be difficult to acquire due to the pending litigation. It is important that the Police Department be aware of the students in case of flooding or other events. The Chief reported there is a drill rig at the end of Church Street blocking two driveways – it is part of the Rumson sewer pipe replacement and will be in place for up to six weeks. Councilman Bieber commented that as a result of hiring additional officers, there has been an increase in enforcement and ultimately an increase in ticket revenue.

**SUBJECT:** 2024 Beach Fees

**ACTION:** Mayor Kelly spoke with Councilman Catalano regarding 2024 beach fees – he will speak with Beach Manager Don Klein and provide a recommendation at the next workshop meeting.

#### **WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES**

**SUBJECT:** Authorizing RFPs for: a. 2024 Professionals

b. Skim Board Camp

**ACTION:** Administrator Verruni stated that it is that time of year again to go out for RFPs for all our professionals – they will be due December 8<sup>th</sup>. We will be adding "IT Consultant" to the list of professionals.

**SUBJECT:** Draft Ordinances: a. Fire Pit Ordinance

b. E-Bike Ordinance

c. Tree Removal Ordinance d. Salt Storage Ordinance

**ACTION:** Councilman Bieber stated the fire pit ordinance has been circulated a few times and recommends it be introduced as it currently stands which does not include anything about smoke because of the objectivity of it. The electric bike ordinance is not quite ready and Council needs to determine whether or not to include the splash pad and if it would even be enforcable. Mr. Verruni stated that both the tree removal and salt storage ordinances are necessary to have in place in order to obtain a stormwater permit from the DEP. Borough Engineer Greg Blash will discuss the ordinances at the next workshop meeting.

**SUBJECT:** Street Flooding

**ACTION:** Councilman Catalano was concerned about the flooding from the last storm and would like to discuss it at the November workshop meeting further. Mr. Verruni hopes that Senator O'Scanlon can get involved in securing the check valves in north beach. Councilman Bieber stated that he witnessed the pump station on Osborne doing a great job during the flood event but feels the bulkhead improvements will be increasingly beneficial. Councilman Keeler would like to look into finding a solution for the pooling water around the bus stop – the water pools there and it is very dangerous for those driving through and waiting for the bus.

**SUBJECT:** 2024 Monmouth County SPCA Agreement

**ACTION:** Mr. Verruni stated that it is time to renew our agreement with the Monmouth County SPCA for 2024 - a resolution will be prepared for the October 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Councilman Bieber said he was asked by a Borough employee to discuss and see if the Borough would be interested in becoming a potential film production destination. This is relevant due to the massive Netflix facility being built at the Fort which could spill out into neighboring towns. There is a program called "Film Ready NJ" which is a state sponsored program with a five step certification process which prepares towns to deal with these types of events. There is a workshop that we can attend to see if we are interested – there are great benefits to becoming certified and would recommend exploring this. Council agreed and Councilwoman Gorman volunteered to spearhead this opportunity since she has a background in this field.

# **SUBJECT:** Resolutions

- 1. Halloween Curfew
- 2. Authorizing the Release of Various Planning Board Escrow Account Balances
- 3. Authorizing the Cancellation of Certain Current Fund Receivable and Reserve Balances
- **4.** Authorizing the Cancellation of Certain General Capital Fund Receivable and Improvement Authorization Balances
- **5.** Authorizing Sale of Borough Surplus Property No Longer Needed for Public Use on an Online Auction Website
- 6. Authorizing the Disposal of a Borough Vehicle No Longer Needed for Public Use

**ACTION:** The above resolutions will be prepared for approval at the October 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### **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. Personnel
- 2. Litigation

**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 Absent Yes Yes Yes

# \*Councilman Booker left the meeting 10:15am\*

# **ADJOURNMENT:**

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

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

Yes Absent Absent Yes Yes Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Pfeiffer Borough Clerk