



BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT

MAYOR & COUNCIL

MINUTES • JUNE 4, 2020

Workshop

Maple Place School

7:00 PM

2 Maple Place, Oceanport, NJ 07757

- I. **Meeting Called to Order:** Mayor Coffey called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM
- II. **Statement of Compliance with Open Public Meetings Act:** This meeting complies with the Open Public Meetings Act by notification on June 1, 2020 of this virtual/remote meeting, its location, date and time to the Asbury Park Press and the LINK News and by the posting of same on the municipal bulletin board and Borough Web Site. *Mayor Coffey then read the virtual/remote meeting advisory advising the public how to attend and participate during public portions of the meeting*
- III. **Flag Salute:** Mayor Coffey led attendees and the Council in the flag salute.
- IV. **Invocation:** Borough Chaplain Stacy Deerin gave the invocation.

V. **Roll Call:**

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Jay Coffey	Mayor	Remote	
William Deerin	Councilman	Remote	
Richard Gallo	Councilman	Remote	
Bryan Keeshen	Councilman	Absent	
Michael O'Brien	Councilman	Remote	
Thomas Tvrdik	Councilman	Remote	
Meghan Walker	Councilwoman	Remote	
Jeanne Smith	Borough Clerk	Remote	
Scott Arnette	Board Attorney	Remote	
Donna M. Phelps	Borough Administrator	Remote	
Catherine D. LaPorta	Chief Financial Office	Remote	

VI. **Administrator's Report:**

- Ms. Phelps requested action on a resolution to hire Rumson Court Administrator Michele Smallze so that Sea Bright Municipal Court may also be held in Rumson. She discussed the following items: a CDBG application to improve parking at the Old Wharf House, MEL/JIF adoption of an insurance rate freeze, so the Borough's rates will not increase; MEL/JIF establishment of a joint Cash Management and Investment pool, JIF establishment of a committee to resolve matters pertaining to the coronavirus. She commended JIF for providing information on several coronavirus issues. Ms. Phelps reported that since bulk pick up was removed from the contract with the sanitation company, DPW has taken over bulk pickup and outlined the new procedures. Ms. Phelps provided an update on the Borough's application for CARES Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Funding which is reimbursement for its Covid-19 expenses and any future expenses. Regarding FEMA funding, she stated that 25% that is not reimbursable can be submitted for reimbursement through the federal CARES funding.

Ms. Phelps advised that the Economic Development Authority (EDA) has grant funds available for small businesses. Information is available on their website cd.business.nj.gov and urged any small business to take advantage of the program.

- VII. **Clerk's Report:** Ms. Smith reported on the rescheduled Primary Election, advising that the Borough will only have one polling location at Blackberry Bay Pavilion. She advised there is mandatory training to comply with JIF cyber security policy. Once completed and with continuing training, it will reduce JIF premium by \$7500.

1. Technology Services for New Municipal Complex – Intron submitted a proposal for hardware, phone and internet service, servers for both the Municipal Complex and Police Dept.
2. Liquor License Renewals – Ms. Smith reported that renewals have been extended to September 30, 2020 based on Gov. Murphy's orders

June 18, 2020 Meeting Items:

3. Resolution authorizing refund due to tax appeal - Block 41, Lot 2
4. Resolution authorizing refund due to tax appeal - Block 74, Lot 17
5. Resolution authorizing self-examination of the 2020 Municipal Budget
6. Receipt of Minutes from Recreation Committee, March 11, 2020
7. Receipt of Minutes from Recreation Committee, April 15, 2020
8. Mayor & Council - Regular Meeting - Apr 23, 2020 7:00 PM

Ms. Smith asked for any questions or comments on the items for the June 18th meeting, hearing none, these items were moved forward to the regular meeting.

VIII. RESOLUTIONS:

#2020-139 Resolution authorizing payment of BILL LIST 06-04-2020

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Thomas Tvrdik, Councilman
SECONDER:	Michael O'Brien, Councilman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, O'Brien, Tvrdik, Walker
ABSENT:	Keeshen

#2020-140 Resolution authorizing execution of Reimbursement Agreement with Monmouth County

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	William Deerin, Councilman
SECONDER:	Meghan Walker, Councilwoman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, O'Brien, Tvrdik, Walker
ABSENT:	Keeshen

#2020-142 Resolution authorizing hiring of Michele Smallze to assist with Sea Bright Municipal Court

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Meghan Walker, Councilwoman
SECONDER:	Richard Gallo, Councilman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, O'Brien, Tvrdik, Walker
ABSENT:	Keeshen

#2020-143 Resolution awarding contract to Maser Consulting - CDBG Application

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Richard Gallo, Councilman
SECONDER:	William Deerin, Councilman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, O'Brien, Tvrdik, Walker
ABSENT:	Keeshen

MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION:

Mayor Coffey read a proclamation into the record regarding resident Peter Bova, age 96, recognizing him for his service to the United States, his receipt of the Bronze Star, recognizing him as a resident since

1955 and his service to the Country and Borough. Declaring that June 8th, 2020 is Peter Bova Day in the Borough. Councilman Deerin reminded everyone that there will be a drive by birthday celebration at 7 PM and invited them to attend.

IX. Discussion Items:

1. Boundary Line with Eatontown. Mayor Coffey discussed the proposed boundary changes between Oceanport and Eatontown, a swap of 7.86 acres between the two boroughs. Enabling a better tech campus for the McAfee building and the determination of boundary lines. There was additional information provided by Kristy Dante from FMERA regarding the boundary lines. Additional discussion with the Borough of Eatontown were to be scheduled.
2. Proposal for On-Street Parking Along a Portion of Crescent Place, Councilman Tvrdik provided an update on the proposal from the owners of Monmouth Park Corporate Center for additional parking. He described the prior history and current status, with proposals being reviewed by the Planning Board and Police Dept. Police Chief Kelly had questions regarding sidewalks and signage. William White, Borough Engineer/Planner had questions regarding parking spaces encroaching on private property, which could be addressed by easements. There was discussion regarding the speed limit and lighting. Since this is a concept plan, the proposal is subject to approval of full engineering plans.
3. Werah Place Bulkhead Replacement, Councilman Tvrdik provided a recap of the request by the property owner for the replacement. Councilman Tvrdik and Mr. Arnette will have discussions regarding a contribution by the property owner and budget concerns.

Prior to opening the meeting to petitions from the public, Mayor Coffey asked Councilwoman Walker to provide an update. Since Councilman Keeshen was not available, Councilwoman Walker provided information regarding websites for hurricane season, recent fire responses with assistance from neighboring jurisdictions. She read a statement from Police Chief Kelly regarding the protests surrounding the George Floyd incident in Minneapolis.

Mayor Coffey also provided information regarding the Governor's deadline extension for tax appeals and outdoor concerts/events at Monmouth Park Racetrack. Representatives from Monmouth Park and the Count Basie Center for the Arts provided input regarding the Borough's concerns, including liability and cancellations. There was discussion regarding scheduling future events and the possibility of convening a special meeting to provide prompt approval. There was additional discussion regarding security.

Mayor Coffey also discussed allowing outdoor dining, opening of hair and nail salons, recreation camps, youth sports programs, use of Borough fields for gyms. Mayor Coffey commended the volunteer first responders who responded to the recent fire, and Councilmen Deerin and Tvrdik added their thanks.

X. Petitions from the Public: Mayor Coffey opened the meeting to public and provided details on how to participate for this portion of the meeting.

John Wells, owner of Our Team Fitness, 117 Main St., 37 Morris Place, asked for clarification for the use of the Borough's athletic fields in order to conduct his business outdoors as well as provide an alternative to the recently cancelled action camp. Mayor Coffey advised Mr. Wells to complete the Facility Use Request form. There was discussion regarding hours of use and certificate of insurance. Mayor Coffey expressed his support.

Robin Kelly, 43 Cayuga Ave., commented that Our Team Fitness is a good organization and is glad that Our Team Fitness will be allowed to operate outside. The Council agreed that fees will be waived for facility use and outdoor dining requests.

As no one else from the public wished to be heard Mayor Coffey closed that portion of the meeting.

XI. Executive Session: At 9:09 PM Councilman O'Brien made a motion to adopt the resolution to enter Executive Session which was seconded by Councilwoman Walker and received the following roll call.

#2020-141 Resolution authorizing an Executive Session

Litigation, Negotiations and the Attorney Client Privilege N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b)(7)
New Municipal Complex

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Michael O'Brien, Councilman
SECONDER:	Meghan Walker, Councilwoman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, O'Brien, Tvrdik, Walker
ABSENT:	Keeshen

Motion to Return to Regular Meeting

At 9:18 pm, the Mayor & Council returned from Executive Session and the regular meeting was reopened on a motion by Council President Gallo and seconded by Councilman Deerin and approved by Council.

Councilman O'Brien requested and was given time to make a statement concerning pending legislation that could impact the municipality related taxation and New Jersey taking on additional debt. The Assembly has passed a bill along party lines and now before the Senate that would allow the State to incur up to \$14 billion in additional debt – debt that would be used to offset any gap in the current budget. What's different about this particular round of funding which normally would be repaid through NJ Sales Tax now contains a provision that allows any gap or shortfall in the payment to be funded through increases in property taxes. This new legislation would enable the State to come into Oceanport and levy an additional tax onto a residence based on the property value. There was a brief discussion on the potential impacts the legislation could present.

- XII. Adjournment:** As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:19 PM on a motion by Councilman Tvrdik, seconded by Councilman O'Brien and approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Smith
BOROUGH CLERK