

Borough of Tenafly

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

MINUTES

TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2013

PRESENT: Mayor Peter Rustin and Council members Barry Honig, Martha Kerge, Nadia LaMastra, Jon Warms, and Mark Zinna

ABSENT: Council member Anthony Barzelatto

ALSO PRESENT: Borough Administrator Jewel Thompson-Chin
Borough Attorney William R. McClure

At 8:37 p.m. Mayor Rustin read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement: "In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act P.L. 1975, chapter 231, the notice requirements have been satisfied. Meeting dates for the year are listed in the Annual Agenda; copies are sent to the Record, Suburbanite, and Northern Valley News and posted on the bulletin board in the lobby of the Municipal Center. "

The Salute to the Flag was led by Mayor Peter Rustin.

REVISIONS TO AGENDA:

Borough Attorney McClure advised that they are adding a new matter requiring action regarding the Soccer Cage Project under New Business. He further advised that Resolution #R13-204/ Authorize Submission of Application to HMFA for Construction Funding – 311 Tenafly Road is being removed from the Consent Agenda and moved to New Business.

PRESENTATIONS:

Oath of Office to Police Captain Michael deMoncada and Sergeant Donato Monte

Mayor Rustin stated that it is his privilege and honor to take part in the two promotions in the Police Department. He then read Captain Michael deMoncada's biography:

Lieutenant deMoncada is a 16-year veteran of the department. He was appointed in 1998 and served in the patrol division until he was assigned to the traffic division in 2002. In 2009, P.O. deMoncada was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and served as a first line supervisor in the patrol division. In 2011, Sgt. deMoncada was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant and commanded a patrol squad in the patrol division. Some of his responsibilities and accomplishments include being assigned to the highly regarded Honor Guard, the highly trained Emergency Response Team as an entry person, a sniper, and currently as a team leader. He is the recipient of 2 Honorable Service awards, 1 Life Saving award, and most notably, the Gallantry Star, for apprehending a fleeing homicide suspect from an Englewood home invasion robbery-homicide in 2002 that led to the conviction of all of the involved suspects. His new responsibilities as Captain will include scheduling, training, internal affairs, grants, managing the accreditation process and a host of other administrative functions.

Borough Attorney McClure administered Oath of Office to Captain Michael deMoncada. His wife, Katie, pinned on his badge.

Mayor Rustin read Sgt Donato Monte's biography:

P.O. Monte was appointed to the department in 2006 and served in the patrol division. From 2008 to 2009, he was assigned to the traffic division in the one year rotation assignment. At the beginning of this year, he was reassigned back to the traffic division where he performed traffic related function that include policing school traffic, investigating motor vehicle crashes, investigating traffic complaints, applying traffic calming measures, and conducting enforcement details to name a few of his responsibilities. P.O. Monte is the department's bargaining unit treasurer, he is a member of the highly regarded Honor Guard, he's a certified crisis negotiator, and he's a new member to the Emergency Response Team. He is also the recipient of an Honorable Serve and Life Saving award. His new role as a Sergeant will be to serve as a front line supervisor for a squad in the patrol division.

Borough Attorney McClure administered the Oath of Office to Sgt. Donato Monte. Sgt. Monte's wife, Lisa, pinned on his badge.

Mayor Rustin emphasized how difficult the promotion process is as all those who apply are so well-qualified and terrific police officers. He congratulated the two officers and thanked their wives and children as he knows that the job of police officer is not easy on their families.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mark Feldman, 133 Lylewood Drive, explained that Stillman School is on a different electrical grid than the rest of Tenafly and questioned whether its use as an emergency location has ever been discussed.

Mayor Rustin advised that there are issues with a lack of restrooms, showers, and kitchens. He also remarked that although that grid seems to be a little more reliable, there is no guarantee that they will have power during a storm.

Louis Bertolotti, 27 Elm Street, and Eric Del Gizzo, 125 Magnolia Avenue, advised that they are Seniors at Tenafly High School and have organized, with the help of Bruce Baker, the Young Republicans Club, Tetars. They explained that they would like to be politically active in the community and expressed their hope to work with the Council going forward. They provided information on their group and the projects in which they are currently involved and invited Council to a party on June 4th at Tenafly High School. Council gave them words of encouragement and advised that they should give the community a sense of who they are and for what they stand. Mr. Bertolotti advised that he and Ben Nissan of the Young Democrats will be holding a debate on either June 18th or 19th.

Bruce Baker, 1 Byrne Lane, thanked the Council for their comments and for extending the time for audience remarks to allow these gentlemen to speak. He commented that he is pleased to see the new officers on the Tenafly Police Department.

CONSENT AGENDA:

#R13-201/Authorize Cancellation of Checks – Municipal Court

#R13-202/Adopt Bergen County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund Loss Control Program

#R13-203/Authorize Refund Overpayment of Taxes – 86 Highwood Avenue

~~**#R13-204/**Authorize Submission of Application to HMEFA for Construction Funding —
311 Tenafly Road Moved to New Business~~

#R13-205/Approve Raffle Application RA1055

#R13-206/Authorize Solicitation of Bids/Furnishing & Delivery of One (1) 2013 GMC Sierra 3500 HD or Equivalent for the Tenafly Ambulance Corps

Motion by C. LaMastra, second by C. Kerge that the Consent Agenda be approved as amended.

On a roll call, the vote on the Consent Agenda was recorded as follows:

C. Barzelatto:	absent	C. LaMastra:	aye
C. Honig:	aye	C. Warms:	aye
C. Kerge:	aye	C. Zinna:	aye

All members present voting in favor, the Consent Agenda was approved as amended.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Honig No report.

Councilman Zinna No report.

Mayor Rustin Mayor Rustin commented that the Memorial Day Parade and ceremonies went extremely well. The Grand Marshal had graduated from Tenafly High School in 1964 and spoke very well, providing a history of his service during the Vietnam War.

On May 8th, the NJ Transit Board of Directors had a meeting in Newark and there was discussion on the Northern Branch. They will strongly consider an extension of the branch to Englewood Hospital, but

advised that the real hurdle is identifying financing for this project.

Councilwoman LaMastra No report.

Councilman Warms No report.

Councilwoman Kerge No report.

Mayor Rustin The Planning Board prepared a walkthrough of the land use element of the Master Plan and Council will have the opportunity to review it at some point in the near future.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **#R13-204/** Authorize Submission of Application to HMFA for Construction Funding – 311 Tenafly Road

Motion by C. Warms, second by C. Zinna that Resolution #R13-204 be approved.

C. Honig stated that he does not approve of the structure of this project and believes that this resolution is another example of a bait and switch. He expressed his opinion that it is time to step up the investigation of this process.

Mayor Rustin advised that this resolution only authorizes the submission of an application for funding.

On a roll call, the vote was recorded as follows:

C. Barzelatto:	absent	C. LaMastra:	aye
C. Honig:	nay	C. Warms:	aye
C. Kerge:	aye	C. Zinna:	aye

- B. Soccer Cage Project

On a motion by C. LaMastra, second by C. Zinna, and all members present voting in favor, authorization for Tenafly United Soccer Club to move forward with the process of planning and bidding for the Soccer Cage Project is hereby approved.

MAYOR'S REMARKS:

Mayor Rustin advised that Council will be returning to the Committee of the Whole and then will enter into Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT:

As there was no further business to come before the Council, on a motion by C. LaMastra, second by C. Zinna, and unanimously carried, to adjourn this meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lissette Aportela-Hernandez, MPA, RMC
Borough Clerk