

Borough of Tenafly

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

MINUTES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2014

PRESENT: Mayor Peter Rustin and Council members Anthony Barzelatto, Maxim Basch, Nadia LaMastra, Daniel Park, Jon Warms, and Mark Zinna

ABSENT: None

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

At 7:49 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.

Borough Attorney McClure administered the Oath of Office to Councilman Basch.

Motion by C. LaMastra, second by C. Zinna, and all other members voting in favor,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Minutes of the 2013 Recess Meeting, 2014 Reorganization Meeting, and January 7, 2014 Closed Session (not to be released) are approved.

REVISIONS TO AGENDA:

There were no revisions to the agenda.

AUDIENCE REMARKS FOR AGENDA ITEMS:

No one came forward

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Rustin noted that the consent agenda includes the appointment of the Borough's Electrical Inspector.

#R14-45/Approve Expenditures as of January 8, 2014

#R14-46/Execute Developer's Agreement – Friends of Grace Seniors, Inc

#R14-47/Authorize Refund – Planning Board Escrow Account PB#1-13-09

#R14-48/Authorize Refunds – County Tax Board Judgments – 2013 – Various

#R14-49/Approve Raffle Applications – RA 1066 & RA 1067

#R14-50/Authorize Expenditure of Affordable Housing Trust Fund - The Buzak Law Group, LLC

#R14-51/Authorize Expenditure of Affordable Housing Trust Fund - Sokol, Behot & Fiorenzo

#R14-52/Authorize Expenditure of Affordable Housing Trust Fund - Burgis Associates, Inc.

#R14-53/Appoint Electrical Sub-Code Official

#R14-54/Authorize Submission of Grant Extension - Tenafly Municipal Alliance Grant

#R14-55/Amend 2014 Meeting Schedule – Add Budget Hearing Meetings

#R14-56/Authorize Submission of Amended Energy Allocation – FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program – Borough Generator Project

#R14-57/Request NJDEP to Allow for Transfer of Responsibility for Preparation of the Municipal Wastewater Management Plan to the BCUA

Motion by C. LaMastra, second by C. Zinna that the Consent Agenda be approved.

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

C. Barzelatto:	aye	C. Park:	aye
C. Basch:	aye	C. Warms:	aye
C. LaMastra:	aye	C. Zinna:	aye

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Park

Tenaflly Municipal Alliance Committee is in the process of planning on a forum for the parents. Detective Sgt. Kopesky reported at the meeting that a prescription medicine drop box will be placed in the police station within a month or so for residents to drop off expired and unused medications.

Councilman Barzelatto

Tenaflly OEM received letter from the Presbyterian Church offering its facilities as shelter. He will schedule a meeting with Rev. Lindner to tour the facility with the American Red Cross. He confirmed that a commitment was not being made, but the evaluation of the facility was the first step in the Process.

C. Zinna inquired if any other private facility has been designated as a shelter. C. Barzelatto responded that the American Red Cross has designated Our Lady of Mt. Carmel as a shelter.

Mayor Rustin

Mayor Rustin provided details from the Library Board that he had received from his representative, Mrs. Kerge. The Library Board President is Pat Rouse, the Vice President is Kathleen Cook, and the Secretary is Soon Juhng, with David DiGregorio as the Board of Education member. Library will seek to purchase more digital books. Concerts and events will begin in February through June. A program, Tenaflly Art & Artists Remembered has been scheduled for May 4th from 5pm to 7pm. The Library is working with the Recreation Department on the scheduling of the McCandless room.

Mayor Rustin attended the Historic Preservation Commission Meeting last Thursday, which included a hearing on 53 Knickerbocker Road. The vote was 6-0 to request to Council to consider the designation of the property as historic.

Mayor Rustin received the referendum letter signed by members of the Save Tenaflly Green Acres committee indicating that they will abide by the results of the referendum. One member submitted a fax with his signature as he was out of the country. Mayor Rustin requested a clearer document for copying purposes and expects to receive it by e-mail and regular mail. The Nature Center advised that they will be sending their signed letter indicating that they will also comply with the results of the referendum.

Mayor Rustin attended the Bergen County Mayors Association Breakfast, in which Robert Chilton from Gable Associates presented an energy aggregation program for residential customers. Mrs. Thompson-Chin stated that a more detailed presentation will be made at tomorrow's Riverside Co-Op meeting. She will provide Council with further information on the program.

Councilwoman LaMastra

C. LaMastra reported that the new chairperson for the Welcome Committee is Roxanne Surrey.

The Senior Citizens Services Committee met and expressed their appreciation with meeting with Council last month and would like to hold such a meeting annually.

The new chairperson for the Recreation Board is Rob Silber and Jeff Pattison is serving as vice chair.

The Board discussed the high school basketball program, which has 60 students. There are 25 students in wrestling program. Fees for summer camp were discussed and will be presented in greater detail during budget hearings. The Board is recommending an increase of \$50 for residents and \$75 for non-residents.

Councilman Warm's

The Tenaflly Nature Center has scheduled its annual boundary walk for March 2nd, with a rain date of March 16th. Annual dinner will be held on March 30th at the Clinton Inn, which will honor Congressman Bill Pascrell and Mary Beth Wilmit. At their meeting last night, they confirmed that they will sign the referendum letter.

The new president of the Tenaflly Chamber of Commerce is Christine Evron.

C. Warm's attended the Board of Adjustment reorganization meeting in which Jeff Grossman was designated to continue serving as the chairperson. The Planning Board also had its reorganization meeting which designated Mary Beth Wilmit as the chair.

Mayor Rustin asked for a volunteer to serve as the Board of Adjustment liaison in February. C. LaMastra advised that she was available. C. Basch volunteered to attend the March meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Introduction of Ordinances

C. Barzelatto moved to introduce and pass on first reading Ordinances 14-01 and 14-02 on first reading and setting January 28, 2014 at 8:45 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard as the date and time and the Council Chambers of the Tenaflly Municipal Center as the place for a hearing on said ordinances. Seconded by C. LaMastra:

The Borough Clerk read the ordinances into the record:

ORDINANCE NO. 14-01 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2-47 OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF TENAFLY AND AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JUNIOR FIREFIGHTER'S AUXILIARY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:14-95, ET SEQ.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-02 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER II, SECTION 2-57.2 OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF TENAFLY SETTING FORTH THE MEMBERS AND CLASS QUALIFICATIONS OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

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

C. Barzelatto:	aye	C. Park:	aye
C. Basch:	aye	C. Warm's:	aye
C. LaMastra:	aye	C. Zinna:	aye

AUDIENCE REMARKS FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Johanne Gambrell – Ravine Road – inquired about the role of the nature center and the Borough in terms of the hydrology report and commented on the portion of the newsletter in which the Nature Center devoted to the project. She recommended that the new councilmembers review the BID bylaws, especially since they do not have a director and are not collecting taxes this year. She requested that Council speak directly into the microphones so the audience can hear them better.

Ernest Kollitides – 164 East Clinton Avenue – requested that the referendum letter from the Save Tenaflly Green Acres should be accepted.

Mayor Rustin advised that the letter is acceptable, but to make copies for the public should any OPRA requests be filed, a clearer copy will be needed.

Mayor Rustin commented that when the Nature Center conducted its wetlands study, it was referred to as the hydrology study. It is the only study that has been done to this point.

C. LaMastra advised that the BID will hold their first meeting of 2014 on Monday, January 27th since the third Monday in January is a holiday. She confirmed that there is no new assessment to the taxpayers.

C. Basch stated that there was no question that last year Council behaved as a surrogate for the Nature Center. He hopes that this year, the Council will be more neutral with the referendum and no longer a surrogate.

Mayor Rustin responded that it is not the obligation of any member to be neutral on any issue. The governing body decided last November to move forward with a referendum to let the people speak, The next step is to form a committee to create an interpretive statement .

MAYOR'S REMARKS:

A. Proclamation – January – Human Trafficking Awareness Month

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a borderless crime against individuals that violates the most basic human rights and deprives victims of every shred of personal freedom; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking occurs when a person is recruited, harbored, obtained, or exported through force, fraud, or coercion for the purposes of sexual or labor exploitations, involuntary servitude, and other types of mental and physical abuse; and

WHEREAS, human traffickers target impoverished and marginalized children, women, and men, isolating them from society and supportive networks and exploiting them for personal and monetary gain; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is the fastest growing criminal enterprise in the world today, and is tied with arms smuggling as the second largest international criminal industry, falling only behind the illicit drug trade; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations' International Labor Organization has estimated that at least 12.3 million adults and children worldwide are currently in forced labor, bonded labor, or forced prostitution; and it is estimated that more people are now harmed by Human Trafficking worldwide than have been at any other point in human history. Approximately 80% of the victims are women and girls, and 50% are younger than age 18; and

WHEREAS, many victims trafficked into the US do not speak or understand English and are unable to communicate to seek rescue. Under New Jersey and US law, any person under 18 involved in the commercial sex industry is considered a human trafficking victim; and victims include US citizens and documented immigrants; and

WHEREAS, we recognized that New Jersey is a prime location for human trafficking because it is a major national and international transportation corridor and a culturally diverse state; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is modern-day slavery, a practice that is in direct opposition to the fundamental principles of liberty and human rights upon which our nation was founded; and

WHEREAS, on February 1, 1865, President Abraham Lincoln signed the 13th Amendment to the United States Constitution. Once ratified, it officially outlawed slavery and involuntary servitude except as a punishment for a crime; and

WHEREAS, although the federal government and the State of New Jersey have enacted laws to prosecute human traffickers and protect the victims of human trafficking, traffickers use techniques to keep their victims enslaved that severely limit self-reporting and that require broad public awareness of human trafficking issues for enforcement and prevention to occur; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey State Constitution declares that all persons are by nature free and independent and have certain natural and unalienable rights; and

WHEREAS, the people of New Jersey, regardless of political persuasion, creed, race or national origin, stand together with the global community to protect the fundamental freedoms and rights of all persons, to fight the proliferation of human trafficking in all of its forms, and to assist survivors of modern day slavery; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Tenafly stands committed to protecting human rights and individual freedom by eliminating human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Tenafly is resolved to support the goals and ideals of observing a National Day of Human Trafficking Awareness on January 11 of each year and to support all efforts by individuals, businesses, organizations, and governing bodies to raise awareness of and opposition to human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, the Borough commends the work of the NJ Coalition Against Human Trafficking for its statewide efforts to end human trafficking through education, advocacy, and assistance to survivors and to increase coordination and visibility of New Jersey's commitment to end human trafficking.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter S. Rustin, do hereby proclaim the month of January of each year as: Human Trafficking Awareness Month in the Borough of Tenafly to raise awareness about the signs and consequences of human trafficking, to promote reporting mechanisms and opposition to human trafficking in all of its forms. We hope to encourage support for the survivors of human trafficking throughout the State of New Jersey and across the world to put an end to this criminal activity and restore freedom and dignity to its survivors.

Ms. Elaine Bieger, a Tenafly resident and a member of the NJ Coalition Against Human Trafficking was present to receive the proclamation along with other members of the Bergen County chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women.

Bea Porterefsky – Teaneck – National Council of Jewish Women – commented how major events, like the Superbowl, are associated with an increase in human trafficking. Their group has been working in coalition with 70 diverse organizations to raise awareness. With this proclamation, Council has brought scope of heinous crime to public attention. She expressed her appreciation for the proclamation.

CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Rustin recognized Borough Attorney William McClure, who read into the record Resolution 14-58.

BE IT RESOLVED in compliance with NJSA 10:4-12, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Tenafly are going into Closed Executive Session to discuss the following matters:

- A. Collective Bargaining
 - 1. Contract Negotiations Update

Minutes will be taken of the meeting and released to the public at the time that the matter is resolved. After Closed Executive Session, the Mayor and Council will reconvene in the Richard D. Wilson Committee Room to adjourn this public meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Council, on a motion from C. Zinna, seconded by C. Basch, and all present voting in favor, the meeting was adjourned to the Closed Session in the Committee Room at 8:38 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

As there was no further business to come before the Council, on a motion by C. Warms, second by C. Park, and unanimously carried, to adjourn this meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lissette Aportela-Hernandez, MPA, RMC
Borough Clerk