

Borough of Tenafly

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

MINUTES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2023

PRESENT: Mayor Mark Zinna Councilmembers Lauren Dayton, Jeffrey Grossman, Venugopal Menon, Adam Michaels, Julie O' Connor and Daniel Park

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Borough Administrator Jimmy Homsi
Borough Clerk Omar Stovall
Chief Financial Officer Susan Corrado
Borough Attorney Wendy Rubinstein Quiroga

At 7:32p.m. Mayor Zinna 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. THE MEETING DATES FOR THE YEAR ARE CONFIRMED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING, ARE POSTED ON THE PUBLIC BULLETIN BOARD IN THE LOBBY OF THE MUNICIPAL CENTER, AND PUBLISHED IN THE RECORD WITHIN THE FIRST 10 DAYS OF THE NEW YEAR."

The Salute to the Flag was led by Mayor Zinna

PRESENTATION

Police Swearing-in Ceremony

Chief Chamberlain read the bios of Probationary Police Officers Kaitlyn Hermansen and Hosam Morsey.

Borough Clerk Omar Stovall administered to the Oath of Office to Police Officers Kaitlyn Hermansen and Hosam Morsey.

TO BE CONSIDERED

A. Sidewalk Discussion

C. O' Connor voiced why she wanted discuss sidewalks throughout the Borough. C. Dayton added to the discussion that Old Tappan had installed sidewalks throughout their community. C. Grossman believed that the Governing Body should look into priority areas that may need sidewalks. C. O'Connor asked to Governing Body to look into specific areas within the Borough. C. Menon added that the Governing Body needs be aware of the cost element. M. Zinna voiced that if there are comments for to look into particular streets to email the Borough Administrator. The Governing Body asked that the area around the school and Leonard Ave be looked into.

B. Naming of Council Chambers

C. Dayton voiced that it has been three years since the passing of former Borough Attorney William McClure who succumbed to COVID-19. C. Dayton expressed that she would like to name Council Chambers in his honor. C. Menon believed that the process should be done methodically and less emotionally. C. Park expressed the subcommittee will come back with a recommendation. C. Grossman voiced that there were many servants to the Borough that deserve honoring. C. Menon believed a plaque should be installed to honor the individual. C. O' Connor expressed that the subcommittee's next task is to discuss naming. She added that she believed there is a lack of comfort in omitting other servants to the Borough.

C. Grossman recommended naming the dais the "Bill McClure Dais" M. Zinna believed that this discussion be added on the next meeting agenda.

C. TVAC Ordinance

Borough Attorney Wendy Rubinstein Quiroga explained that the ordinance change would include a medical director to be appointed by the Mayor and Council and to renumber the point system. C. Grossman expressed that in the ordinance there is a term of members needing to be a US Citizens and would like that language reviewed. Ms. Rubinstein expressed that she will look into the terminology. C. Dayton expressed thanks to the Borough Attorney for her work on this item.

C. Park wanted to increase. Chief Financial Officer Corrado that an increase should be discussed as part of the Budget Hearing. Borough Attorney Wendy Rubinstein Quiroga expressed that TVAC Captain JP Pedoto ask to increase by \$5,000. C. Menon asked if the Borough is having an issue attracting members. C. Park answered yes. M. Zinna asked the Borough Administrator, Chief Financial Officer, and Borough Attorney to work this item and to present at the next council meeting.

D. Council Meetings Ordinance

Borough Attorney Wendy Rubinstein expressed that she is proposing to align the ordinance with the Open Public Meetings Act. C. Grossman expressed that it is too early to start changing the ordinance. He added it is a great starting point for a discussion.

E. Senior Van

Mr. Homsy reported that he is looking for a van that does not require a CDL Drivers License. Mr. Homsy continued that he will be working with the Senior Bus Scheduler and the Chief Financial Officer to see if a vehicle is available through the County's Co-Op. He added that a Co-Op was found in Pennsylvania that sells non-CDL vans and that more research is being done in regards to that particular Co-op.

M. Zinna made a request to move public comments.

A motion was made by C. Dayton and seconded C. Park to move public comments.

M. Zinna asked for a moment a silence for David Wall who served the Borough for 18 years on the Historic Preservation Commission.

C. Grossman expressed that Mr. Wall was instrumental in helping with the Elizabeth Cady Stanton walking tour.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

J. Patterson – 11 Country Club Road – Thank the council for Dog Park. Mr. Patterson expressed opposition of a installing a Skate park next to a dog park. He believed that it was an accident waiting to happen. He believed that this would open the Borough to liability.

M. Zinna commented the grant application had seven to eight items that was included and that none of the items are set in stone and is a work in progress.

C. Dayton asked if the skate park be accepted. M. Zinna answered that it was one of the items. Borough Attorney explained that the grant is a matching fund grant and that in the future the Governing Body can decide on what items to proceed with.

C. Evron - 39 Leroy Street- asked the Governing Body to not to rush the sidewalk decision. She believed that citizen groups should be considered with a comprehensive list. She added that the Governing Body set the outdoor dining policy as soon as possible.

Z. Kahn – 45 Tenafly Road – Mr. Kahn expressed that he is hoping to have a Ramadan Display within Tenafly.

C. Grossman asked what type of lighting display is he seeking. Mr. Kahn expressed that the display would be either a crescent or fanoos (lantern). M. Zinna added that items such as this are typically displayed in Huyler Park. C. Dayton asked Mr. Kahn if he is seeking funds from Tenafly to purchase the lighting display. M. Zinna explained that it's up to the organization to purchase its own lighting display. M. Zinna asked Mr. Kahn to discuss logistics with the Borough Administrator.

L. Kaufmann Belkhatat- 220 Oxford Drive – Ms. Belkhatat encouraged the Governing Body to take a look of the space and not to proceed with a skate park. She believed that the Borough has insufficient facilities for sports and that the Governing Body should seek other ideas.

V. Zeltser – 4 Hillcrest Road – Ms. Zelter expressed that she in a favor of more sidewalks around town.

A. Bershadsky– 133 Stonehurst Dr. – wanted to know how the Governing Body came to a decision to proceed with a Skate Park

M. Zinna explained the Borough had an opportunity to apply for a grant there was a list with multiple items that could potentially go into that location.

C. Grossman added that a petition was submitted by students who were in favor of a new skate park and that those residents should not be ignored.

L. Kaufmann Belkhatat - 220 Oxford Drive – expressed that the Governing Body should survey its residents to seek their opinion.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Homsy reported that Millennium Strategies submitted the Grant Application for the Beautification of Municipal Field. He added that one of the chess tables was relocated behind Borough Hall. He also reported that the Deputy Treasurer had submitted her letter of resignation.

Mr. Homs reported the that funds for equipment in Froggy Park be placed in the Temporary capital budget as recommended by the Chief Financial Officer.

C. Michaels asked about the status of CSX. Mr. Homs reported that the fix is from the Borough and not CSX and that they have material to fix.

Consent Agenda

Resolution R23-65 – Award Contract – Repair and Maintenance of Police Vehicles

Resolution R23-66 - Award Contract – Repair and Maintenance of Traffic Signals and Related Equipment

Resolution R23-67 - Authorize Expenditures from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund – Special Affordable Housing Planner

Resolution R23-68 - Authorize Expenditures from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund – Special Affordable Housing Counsel

Resolution R23-69 - Authorize Expenditures from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund – Third Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan

Resolution R23-70 – Appoint Municipal Housing Liaison

Resolution R23-71 – Approve Refunds – Recreation Department – Various

Resolution R23-72 – Confirm Appointment – Recreation Board

Resolution R23-73 – Authorize Additional Professional Engineering Services – Salt Shed Structural Assessment

Resolution R23-74 – Authorize 2022 Line Item Transfers

Resolution R23-75 – Authorize Receipt of Bids - FY 2021 NJDOT Municipal Aid Program

Resolution R23-76 – Approve Redemption of Tax Lien – Block 1207, Lot 6

Resolution R23-77 – Authorize Purchase of Motorcycle – Police Department

Motion by C. Dayton second by C. Park that the Consent Agenda be approved.

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

C. Dayton:	aye	C. Michaels:	aye
C. Grossman:	aye	C. O'Connor:	aye
C. Menon:	aye	C. Park:	aye

Motion by C. Dayton second by C. Park that **Resolution R23-77** – Authorize Purchase of Motorcycle – Police Department be approved.

On a roll call, the vote on **Resolution R23-77** – Authorize Purchase of Motorcycle – Police Department was recorded as follows:

C. Dayton:	aye	C. Michaels:	aye
C. Grossman:	aye	C. O'Connor:	aye
C. Menon:	aye	C. Park:	aye

RESOLUTIONS

~~**Resolution R23-57** – Award Contract – Sanitary Sewer System – Piermont Road Sinkhole & Piping Repairs~~

~~**Resolution R23-58** – Authorize Engineering Construction Inspection Services – Piermont Road Sinkhole & Piping Repairs~~

C. O' Connor explained that a resident had wrote the Governing Body about banning the use of E-bikes. Borough Attorney Wendy Rubinstein Quiroga expressed that feedback should be solicited from the Chief of Police.

Flood Zones

M. Zinna expressed that Senator Gordon Johnson office asked for submission of three areas of need concerning flood zones. The Governing Body agreed to move forward with submitting the maps of the three areas of concern.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- A. Introduction of TVAC Ordinance
- B. Meeting Format/Agenda
- C. Resolution R23-57 - Award Contract – Sanitary Sewer System - Piermont Road Sinkhole & Piping Repairs
- D. Resolution R23-58 - Authorize Engineering Construction Inspection Services – Piermont Road Sinkhole & Piping Repairs
- E. Resolution R23-79 – Authorize Contract for the Replacement of Drop Ceiling – Tenafly Firehouse

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

Appointed Linda Khorozian to the Planning Board and Elyssa Todd to the Dog Park Committee. M. Zinna expressed looking to update the Mayor and Council Chamber. M. Zinna expressed look to upgrade the equipment.

CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Zinna recognized Borough Attorney Wendy Rubinstein Quiroga, who read into the record Resolution 23-81.

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:

- A. Matters falling within the Attorney-Client Privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise her ethical duties as a lawyer.
 - 1. Potential Litigation (2 Matters)
 - 2. Potential Real Property Acquisition
- B. Collective Bargaining
 - 1. Crossing Guards
 - 2. PBA
- C. Personnel
 - 1. Administration

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. Michaels seconded by C. Park, and all present voting in favor, the meeting was adjourned to the Closed Session at 10:08 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to come before the Council, on a motion by C. Park, second by Dayton and unanimously carried, to adjourn this meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 11:04p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Omar Stovall, MPA, RMC
Borough Clerk