

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
BOROUGH OF BERGENFIELD
MAYOR AND COUNCIL WORK SESSION
MARCH 5, 2024**

PRESENT: Mayor Arvin Amatorio and Council members Thomas A. Lodato, Buddy Deauna, Ora Kornbluth, and Marc Pascual

ABSENT: Council President Rivera and Councilperson Almonte

ALSO PRESENT: Borough Administrator Corey Gallo
Borough Attorney John Schettino
Borough Clerk Marie Quiñones-Wilson

Mayor Amatorio called the meeting to order at 8:04 p.m. with the reading of the Open Public Meetings Act Statement, "In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the notice requirements have been satisfied. Meeting dates for the year are confirmed at the Annual Meeting. The Annual Notice is sent to the Record, Star Ledger, Twin Boro News, and Cablevision, placed on two Municipal Bulletin Boards and is on file in the Office of the Borough Clerk."

The Salute to the Flag was led by Mayor Amatorio.

AGENDA CHANGES

Councilperson Kornbluth motioned to add a resignation letter from Mr. Conall O' Malley and a park reservation request form from Mr. Barry Doll to correspondence, and a closed session meeting to discuss items under attorney-client privilege. Councilperson Pascual seconded the motion. All present voting in favor, none opposed.

PRESENTATIONS

None.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS/BOROUGH ENGINEER

A. Engineering & Inspection Status Report

Borough Engineer, Robert Klein of Remington and Vernick Engineers, reported that the contractor is waiting for the weather to break to mobilize and complete the early work on Smith, Edward and Oneil from last years' road program. With regards to this years' program, the contractors have begun the process for the funded roads, which are Bedford, Delford, N. 1st Street, and E. Church St. He stated that he is waiting for the remainder of the list of roads.

Mayor Amatorio stated that he previously inquired the costs of Bradley and Brooks. He inquired whether these roads have been added to the list.

Mr. Klein stated that the roads have been added to the list for consideration.

ORDINANCES

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

No report.

MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORT

No reports.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a.) O' Keefe/Resident **RE:** Road Closure Request/Cooper Street from Ralph Street to Phelan Street/June 8, 2024/1:00 p.m. until Dark
- b.) Paster Stenberg/Calvary Lutheran Church **RE:** Request to Reserve Memorial Park for Community Event/March 30, 2024/1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- c.) O' Malley/Assistant to the Borough Administrator **RE:** Resignation Letter
- d.) Doll/Restored Rusty Relics **RE:** Request to Reserve Memorial Park for Meetings/Several Dates from May through August/1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Motion by Councilperson Pascual, seconded by Councilperson Kornbluth, and all members present voting in favor, to accept Correspondence Items A through D. All present voting in favor, none opposed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sergeant Major Warren Williams, Chairman of the Veterans Advisory Committee, thanked Borough Clerk Marie Quiñones-Wilson and Deputy Clerk Hilda Tavitian for turning in the old registry sheets of veterans from World War II, which is now being housed at the museum. He expressed there is a lot of historic information in the registry, and as such, he thanks them for finding the voter canvassers.

John Smith, resident, stated that when requests come in to reserve the park for several days, we should list the dates to ensure they do not interfere with other events. Mr. Smith was advised that the dates are kept at Borough Hall.

MP motioned
OK seconded
All in Favor, AYE

OFFICIAL BUSINESS TO BE ACTED UPON:

A. CONSENT AGENDA

CONSENT RESOLUTION 24-100. All matters listed below are considered by the Governing Body to be routine in nature. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If any discussion is desired by the Governing Body, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

- a. **24-101/To Approve Bill List**

- b. **24-102**/To Support the Arc of Bergen and Passaic Counties Inc. Community Development Grant Application
- c. **24-103**/To Approve Liquor License Transfer Application – Aloha Krab of Bergenfield LLC to Lula’s Liquor LLC
- d. **24-104**/To Authorize an Electronic Tax Sale
- e. **24-105**/To Authorize Electronic Tax Sale Fees
- f. **24-106**/To Authorize Refund of Redemption Monies to Outside Lien Holder for TTL #20-00001
- g. **24-107**/To Authorize Grant Application – New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Grant Application in the Amount of \$1,225,000 for Various Projects and Improvements
- h. **24-108**/To Authorize Grant Application – New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Grant Application in the Amount of \$100,000 for Playground at Twin Boro Field
- i. **24-109**/To Approve Change Order No. 1 – VESTA 911 Emergency Call Handling System and Services – Motorola Solutions Inc.
- j. **24-110**/To Approve Proposal – IT Consulting Services – Education Technology Integrators
- k. **24-111**/To Approve Proposal - Asbestos Abatement Air Monitoring Services – Pennoni Associates Inc.

Motion by Councilperson Pascual, seconded by Councilperson Deauna, to approve Consent Resolution #24-100.

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

Councilperson Lodato:	<i>aye</i>	Councilperson Kornbluth:	<i>aye</i>
Councilperson Deauna:	<i>aye</i>	Council President Rivera:	<i>absent</i>
Councilperson Almonte:	<i>absent</i>	Councilperson Pascual:	<i>aye</i>

B. Resolutions

24-112/To Authorize Refund of Permit Fees – 29 Ames Avenue

Motion by Councilperson Kornbluth, seconded by Councilperson Deauna, that Resolution #24-112 be approved.

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

Councilperson Lodato:	<i>aye</i>	Councilperson Kornbluth:	<i>aye</i>
Councilperson Deauna:	<i>aye</i>	Council President Rivera:	<i>absent</i>
Councilperson Almonte:	<i>absent</i>	Councilperson Pascual:	<i>aye</i>

COUNCIL COMMENTS

The Mayor and Council thanked everyone for attending the meeting and wished all a good night.

Councilperson Pascual stated that this past weekend was great. He stated that it was the second annual of the crescent lighting in recognition of Ramadan and it was wonderful. He expressed that it was great to see the community come together and he cannot wait for next year. He stated that this upcoming Thursday and Friday the Borough Hall offices will be closed as everyone will be transitioning into the new building. Councilperson Pascual also reminded everyone that the St. Patrick’s Day is scheduled for this Sunday, and advised everyone to bring umbrellas.

Mayor Amatorio thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He reminded everyone that the parade will be held on Sunday, rain or shine. He also reported that the Borough Hall will be closed, but the phones will be in operation for the Police Department.

Borough Administrator Gallo stated that the Police Department phones and radios will be working, but offices will be shut for day-to-day operations.

CLOSED SESSION

RESOLUTION **24-113**/Authorizing the Governing Body to Enter into Closed Executive Session to discuss:

A. Attorney-Client Privilege

1. Knickerbocker Country Club v. Bergenfield
2. Revaluation Updates

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 Executive Chambers to adjourn this public meeting.

On a motion by Councilperson Kornbluth, second by Councilperson Pascual, and all present voting in favor, the meeting was adjourned to the Closed Session in the Executive Chambers at 8:12 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, on a motion by Councilperson Pascual, second by Councilperson Kornbluth and unanimously carried, to adjourn this meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Marie Quiñones-Wilson
Borough Clerk