

**BOROUGH OF OLD TAPPAN**  
**MAYOR & COUNCIL SPECIAL & EXECUTIVE MEETING**  
**June 1, 2020**  
**Virtual Meeting**

In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law, notice of this meeting has been sent to our official newspapers and other publications circulated in the Borough of Old Tappan, and notice posted on the bulletin board at Borough Hall.

Please note fire exits located at the main entrance to the Council Chambers and in the rear of the Council Chambers.

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** 7:30 p.m.

<b>ROLL CALL:</b>	Mayor John Kramer	Present
	Councilman Ronald Binaghi, Jr.	Present
	Councilman William Boyce	Present
	Councilman Guy Carnazza	Present
	Councilman Thomas Gallagher	Present
	Councilman Matthew Nalbandian	Present
	Councilman Jin Yhu	Present

Also Present:	Borough Attorney Brian Giblin
	Borough Clerk, Jean M. Donch, RMC
	Borough Engineer Thomas Skrable
	Borough Administrator Anna Haverilla
	Borough CFO Rebecca Overgaard

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

**APPOINTMENT OF POLICE LIEUTENANT**

**Robert Wacht**

Motion to accept the appointment – Councilman Binaghi

Second – Councilman Gallagher

Discussion – None

Roll Call	Councilman Binaghi	Yes
	Councilman Boyce	Yes
	Councilman Carnazza	Yes
	Councilman Gallagher	Yes

Councilman Nalbandian	Yes
Councilman Yhu	Yes

## **APPOINTMENT OF PATROL OFFICER**

### **Charles Anders**

Motion to accept the appointment – Councilman Gallagher

Second – Councilman Yhu

Discussion – Councilman Binaghi reported that when his dad was Police Commissioner he appointed Chuck Anders as Patrolman and it gives him great pleasure as Police Commissioner now to be the son of a Councilman who appointed the father of Charles Anders at that time. Councilman Yhu added that we interviewed a lot of good candidates.

Roll Call	Councilman Binaghi	Yes
	Councilman Boyce	Yes
	Councilman Carnazza	Yes
	Councilman Gallagher	Yes
	Councilman Nalbandian	Yes
	Councilman Yhu	Yes

## **CONSENT RESOLUTION**

Councilman Gallagher read the Consent Resolution

Second – Councilman Nalbandian

Discussion – None

Roll Call	Councilman Binaghi	Yes
	Councilman Boyce	Yes
	Councilman Carnazza	Yes
	Councilman Gallagher	Yes
	Councilman Nalbandian	Yes
	Councilman Yhu	Yes

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Governor's Covid-19 Plan**

Councilman Nalbandian had asked to bring this up for discussion. We haven't discussed what the Governor has been doing to get things open and moving. There have been Mayor's meetings and updates from the League of Municipalities; and yet no plan in site

to get businesses open. He is aware of hospital statistics commenting that they are basically empty. He asked what we can do to get our voices heard and businesses open and getting people back to work. Councilman Nalbandian recommends that we attempt to do something to move the process along. The Governor is not managing this matter.

Mayor Kramer reported that on July 6<sup>th</sup> we will begin to have graduation ceremonies which was put together by the Pascack Mayor's Association in particular the mayors of Woodcliff Lake and Montvale who put together a plan and submitted it to the Governor which was eventually accepted. Mayor Kramer asked for relief, as well as others for Golf Courses and that was permitted. He specifically asked for allowance of twenty people to attend Council meetings; the answer that he received from the Governor's Aid was "no". The latest notice from the Governor's office allows restaurants to serve outdoors beginning June 15<sup>th</sup> and hair salons and barbershops can reopen on June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Councilman Nalbandian asked do they have a plan going forward. Recreation programs are cancelled and he is concerned about businesses opening and people going back to work. There seems to be no mechanism to plan ahead. He suggests a resolution circulated to other towns and to get the League of Municipalities involved.

Councilman Yhu commented that in some areas they are breaking the executive order and opening up. Councilman Nalbandian stated that we represent everyone, we need to be heard and to do something.

Mayor Kramer commented on restaurants that will be able to serve outdoors on June 15<sup>th</sup>. We have several restaurants, those that have liquor licenses are prohibited to serve liquor outdoors by Borough ordinance. He asked about suspending the ordinance temporarily for a period of time. Borough Attorney Giblin responded that we can amend the ordinance but it will require two meetings. Mayor Kramer asked to have an amendment to the ordinance prepared for the next Mayor and Council meeting.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Councilman Gallagher recalled a report of health concerns in a school area and the presence of a health officer. Borough Administrator Haverilla responded that she spoke with the health department and it was confirmed that some of the properties did have rats and each of the residents reported that they will take care of their own property. The school had an exterminator, they did not find a problem.

## **PUBLIC'S OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK**

Motion to open the meeting to the public – Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

No Public Comment

Motion to close meeting to the public – Councilman Nalbandian

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

On voice vote, all in favor, the motion carried.

Motion to adjourn Special Meeting – Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Binaghi

On voice vote, all in favor, the motion carried.

### **EXECUTIVE MEETING**

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### **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

<b>ROLL CALL:</b>	Mayor John Kramer	Present
	Councilman Ronald Binaghi, Jr.	Present
	Councilman William Boyce	Present
	Councilman Guy Carnazza	Present
	Councilman Thomas Gallagher	Present
	Councilman Matthew Nalbandian	Present
	Councilman Jin Yhu	Present

Also Present:	Borough Attorney Brian Giblin
	Borough Clerk, Jean M. Donch, RMC
	Borough Engineer Thomas Skrable
	Borough Administrator Anna Haverilla
	Borough CFO Rebecca Overgaard

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Borough Engineer Thomas Skrable reported as follows:

Stone Point Park – all work is complete with the exception of the path milling and paving.

DeWolf Road – construction is proceeding and operating slowly with no big issues. The police were concerned with the status of the trench which will be taken care of tomorrow.

Borough Paving Project – based on the approved shared services agreement, we will be proceeding with Northern Valley of Old Tappan on that project. We will have to award at our July meeting. I will be looking to receive bids on July 16th. Based on the pandemic we will have to discuss how to proceed.

## **COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE**

### **COUNCILMAN BINAGHI – POLICE / AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

Police Department – we made our promotion to Lieutenant and hired a new Patrol Officer. We will be hiring another Patrol Officer. We will have two promotions to Sargent; we have posted the position internally. Councilman Binaghi received a letter via email from a resident asking when the Police Department will release a statement about all the unarmed black men, and children who have been murdered by police in this country sometimes in their own homes. What is the plan to train OTPD member's and strategies to protect neighbors who are of color? Councilman Binaghi spoke to the Police Chief who provided what training is done and required by all officers to be compliant.

Councilman Nalbandian found the letter to be offensive, distasteful and disgusting. The resident took the news of the day to imply that our officers are anything other than professional.

### **COUNCILMAN BOYCE – GOLF / PLANNING BOARD / ENVIRONMENTAL**

Environmental Commission – Earth Fair has been cancelled, Walk to School Week has been postponed until October, Family Camp Night and Movie will possibly be held in November, Hooked on Fishing in October, the photo contest has been extended to June 15<sup>th</sup>. We are working on a tree ordinance for presentation to the Mayor and Council. Community Garden is up and running. The Golf Course has been going very well, we have about 30% more activity; Saturday's and Sunday's are busy. We will be looking to open the restaurant as soon as allowed. Planning Board approved 200 Old Tappan Road, formerly the Pearson Property; the draft resolution has been circulated to our Borough Engineer and Planner. Three new applications have been received for review. Boy and Girl Scouts are on hold.

### **COUNCILMAN CARNAZZA – RECREATION / HEALTH**

Councilman Carnazza spoke with the Recreation Director; there will be no camp this year. We are discussing the possibility of having a drive-in movie in July or August if permissible using the Bi State Plaza parking lot. The Board of Health reported 63 cases of

Covid-19 and 2 deaths. Town Day and fireworks display are being discussed; there are no firm plans. We want to do something this summer. Councilman Gallagher feels that a decision needs be made soon pertaining to Town Day. Councilman Yhu added that camps can open on July 6<sup>th</sup> according to executive order. Borough Administrator Haverilla stated that there are a lot of guidelines to follow and it is difficult to do with children. Councilman Carnazza reported that there are companies that will run the entire camp; he will have more information next meeting.

#### **COUNCILMAN NALBANDIAN – DPW / CONSTRUCTION**

DPW – forms for mulch delivery will be available on the website later this week. The mechanic work being done with Woodcliff Lake is working out well. The new sewer truck is incredible; one man can operate it. Construction – spoke with Construction Official Rusch who reports he has caught up with his permits which is good for revenue. Awhile back, we approved Pat O'Brien as a Code Enforcement Officer, as our Construction Official advised that he has been noticing a lot of issues in town we would like to have Pat O'Brien start as soon as possible. His title will be Borough Code Enforcement Officer. The CFO, Rebecca Overgaard, advised that we budgeted \$5,000 for a whole year for this position, the salary ordinance needs to be amended and a resolution to appoint. She suggests August 1<sup>st</sup> as a start date and salary for one-half year of \$2,500. The Mayor and Council agree with her suggestion.

#### **COUNCILMAN YHU – SCHOOLS / SENIORS**

Schools – we worked out details of our shared services as mentioned this evening. They are still planning for a virtual graduation even though outdoor graduations can be held on July 6<sup>th</sup>. Graduation gifts were delivered to out-going seniors this year. It has been very stressful for students; the Board is allowing students to choose up to three classes for a pass / fail grade. Grades K – 8 students and parents can connect with health and wellness professionals. Library – they are looking to reopen June 15<sup>th</sup> in a safe and sanitized environment. Local Assistance is very busy; a lot of donations have been received; numerous residents have asked if they can help.

#### **COUNCILMAN GALLAGHER – FINANCE / FIRE / FIRST AID**

Councilman Gallagher thanked the Borough Hall staff, who, under these trying times are doing a great job. As a reminder to Department Heads, we are holding back 20% over the normal 10% this year. The Fire Department is looking to amending their new membership applications. The Fire Department held their first organized drill. EMS – continue to answer all calls; they are in need of N-95 masks. Sunrise had 12 cases of Covid-19 and 3 deaths. People are afraid to go to hospitals; emergency services are working hard.

#### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Kramer was offended by the letter from a resident pertaining to our Police Department. He added that no one is happy with what is going on in our country. Our Police Department personnel receive training in many areas.

Chief Financial Officer Overgaard advised that we have to send out estimated tax bills because we will not have the tax rate in time. The statutory deadline is June 30<sup>th</sup> which has been extended to July 31<sup>st</sup>. If we send out the tax bills by July 31<sup>st</sup>, the taxes will not be due until August 25<sup>th</sup>. She has to have the bills out by June 30<sup>th</sup>, having taxes due by August 1<sup>st</sup> with a 10-day grace period. There is a delay in our State Aid and will not be received until October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Councilman Gallagher is in favor of sending the tax bills out June 30<sup>th</sup> we should stay on schedule. Councilman Carnazza commented that Northvale, Norwood and Harrington Park voted to extend the grace period for tax payments for 30 days until June 1<sup>st</sup> and Old Tappan voted not to. This time he is in favor of the extension.

Motion to send estimated tax bills out June 30<sup>th</sup> – Councilman Gallagher

Second – Councilman Nalbandian

Discussion – None

Roll Call:	Councilman Binaghi	Yes
	Councilman Boyce	Yes
	Councilman Carnazza	No
	Councilman Gallagher	Yes
	Councilman Nalbandian	Yes
	Councilman Yhu	Yes

Motion to adjourn – Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Binaghi

On voice vote, all in favor, the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Kokowski, Recording Secretary

cc: Mayor and Council  
Brian Giblin, Borough Attorney

Reviewed and approved:

By: Jean M. Donch, Borough Clerk

Date Approved: June 15, 2020