

**BOROUGH OF OLD TAPPAN
MAYOR AND COUNCIL REGULAR
AND REORGANIZATION MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2020
FIRST HALF**

REGULAR MEETING

In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law, notification 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.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 7:00 PM

ROLL CALL:	Mayor John Kramer	Present
	Councilman Ronald Binaghi Jr.	Present
	Councilman Guy Carnazza	Present
	Councilman Victor Cioce	Present
	Councilman Thomas Gallagher	Present
	Councilman Matthew Nalbandian	Absent
	Councilman Jin Yhu	Present

Also Present: Borough Clerk Jean M. Donch
 Borough Attorney Allen Bell

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

PRAYER - Councilman Thomas Gallagher

PUBLICS OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK

Motion to open the meeting to the public by Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion - None

On voice vote, all in favor, none opposed, the motion carried

Patrick Gambutti, 16 Autumn Lane, regarding property at 30 Autumn Lane. He wants to know how the Mayor and Council feel about the application before the Planning Board to build a house on this property. Councilman Gallagher responded that it is a privately owned property and the Planning

Board members are aware of the history of the property. DEP regulations apply. The Planning Board meets on Wednesday.

Motion to close the meeting to the public by Councilman Binaghi

Second – Councilman Gallagher

Discussion - None

On voice vote, all in favor, none opposed, the motion carried

STAFF APPOINTMENT

Brian Drewes – Plumbing Sub-Code Official – 4 Year Appointment

Motion to accept the Mayor’s appointment – Councilman Binaghi

Second – Councilman Cioce

Discussion – None

Roll Call	Councilman Binaghi	Yes
	Councilman Carnazza	Yes
	Councilman Cioce	Yes
	Councilman Gallagher	Yes
	Councilman Yhu	Yes

CONSENT RESOLUTION

Councilman Binaghi read the Consent Resolution

Second – Councilman Cioce

Discussion – None

Roll Call	Councilman Binaghi	Yes
	Councilman Carnazza	Yes
	Councilman Cioce	Yes
	Councilman Gallagher	Yes
	Councilman Yhu	Yes

ACTION ON MINUTES

Minutes to be Approved:

Councilman Binaghi made a motion to approve the following minutes:

- Closed Meeting, December 2, 2019
- Regular & Executive Meetings, December 2, 2019
- Special Meeting, December 16, 2019

Second – Councilman Cioce

Discussion – None

Roll Call:	Councilman Binaghi	Yes
	Councilman Carnazza	Yes
	Councilman Cioce	Yes
	Councilman Gallagher	Yes
	Councilman Yhu	Yes

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

COUNCILMAN BINAGHI – DPW / CONSTRUCTION

Councilman Binaghi welcomed everyone. State that he has been a Councilman for 21 years. This past year he served as liaison to the DPW, Building Department and Zoning Officer. He spoke about our former Zoning Officer and Councilman, Nick Pappas, who passed away in 2019. Councilman Binaghi recalled how Mr. Pappas constantly encouraged him to run for Council. Bob Rusch is our new Zoning Officer and he is glad to have him on board. DPW Superintendent Andy Brackenbury and his crew are the best and Councilman Binaghi has received many compliments from other towns on how great our fields look. The crew does a great job throughout the year with snow, leaves, maintenance of parks and fields; we have been named the top recycling town in Bergen County. It's been an honor to work with my fellow Councilmembers. Councilman Cioce has represented the town with integrity. Councilman Yhu volunteers to take on projects. Councilman Binaghi welcomed William Boyce who will take his Oath as Councilman this evening. Councilman Carnazza for years has worked well with recreation, the kids and the residents. Councilman Binaghi thanked all the volunteers for their dedicated work.

COUNCILMAN YHU – SAFETY / SENIORS / AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Councilman Yhu thanked everyone for attending. He congratulated Mayor Kramer and Councilman Nalbandian on their reelection and welcomed William Boyce who will take his Oath of Office as Councilman this evening; he will be a great asset. Councilman Yhu thanked the Mayor and Council for supporting his appointment to the Governing Body. I will serve with the best of my abilities and always with the interest of the Borough in mind. He congratulated Councilman Cioce on his retirement and wished him well. He thanked his mother and father who were present and taught him true values and how to live an honest life. Councilman Yhu thanked his children for taking the time to be present this evening. He thanked his wife for her love and support over 23 years, without her

none of this would have been possible.

Old Tappan has an excellent school system. We have accomplished a AAA Bond Rating thanks to CFO Becky Overgaard and her team. We have the highest safety ratings from the Bergen County JIF, thanks to Police Chief Shine, Chief Reilly, Captain Geerinck, and DPW Superintendent Andy Brackenbury. Councilman Yhu thanked Borough Administrator Anna Haverilla, who has served the community on various committees, Council and now as Borough Administrator. We are fortunate to have her. He thanked all the volunteers who serve on boards and committees. He thanked those who assist with the Boys, Girls and Cub Scouts. Councilman Yhu thanked Nancy Labov for her efforts in speaking about drug addiction and substance abuse. He enjoys listening to those on the Senior Advisory Committee lead by David Northrop. He is looking to expand on our Good Neighbor Program. Councilman Yhu thanked Donna Geitz and the Local Assistance Board for their service. He is looking forward to his assignments and will work hard for Old Tappan.

COUNCILMAN GALLAGHER – PLANNING / FIRE / FIRST AID / ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Happy New Year to all. Congratulations to Mayor Kramer, Councilman Nalbandian, Councilman Yhu and William Boyce. Councilman Gallagher is looking forward to working with all of them. He wished Councilman Cioce and his wife good luck in retirement. Councilman Cioce has been diligent during budget meetings; thank you. Councilman Gallagher thanked the Mayor and Council and staff at Borough Hall, his wife and kids. Concerts in the park have been wonderful, special thank you to Janet Manning, Borough Administrator Anna Haverilla and DPW Superintendent Andy Brackenbury for setting up lighting and audio at the park. The First Aid Corps had a productive and active year; new members logged in over 7,000 hours in training and calls. He reviewed highlights of the volunteer Fire Department and thanked them for their work. Councilman Gallagher is happy to serve on the Planning Board and thanked all those members for their volunteer work on the board. He is honored to work with such great committees.

COUNCILMAN CARNAZZA – RECREATION / GOLF / HEALTH

This is Councilman Carnazza's twentieth year as Councilman. He congratulated Mayor Kramer and Councilman Nalbandian on their reelection. He welcomed William Boyce who will be sworn in as Councilman this evening, and is happy to continue working with Councilman Yhu. Councilman Carnazza spoke highly of Councilman Cioce and wished him well in his retirement; he will be missed. The volunteers on the Recreation Commission, Golf Commission and Board of Health – the work that they do and their efforts, make our job easier. DPW – Councilman Carnazza hears from other towns how great our fields are maintained and how great the town looks. Happy New Year to all.

COUNCILMAN CIOCE – ENVIRONMENTAL / LIBRARY / HISTORICAL

Served eighteen years on the Council, during those years he rotated through departments as liaison. Most recently the library and Environmental Commission. The library is a top-notch resource. The Environmental Commission has put its efforts in many events in the town, Hooked-on-Fishing, Not

On Drugs, Walk to School Week, tree seedlings distribution, Community Garden, Family Camp Night – to name a few. Councilman Cioce is grateful to have served with the Mayor and Council and thanked the residents for allowing him to serve. He wished everyone a Happy, Healthy New Year.

MAYOR’S COMMENTS

Mayor Kramer thanked his family and his wife for their support. He welcomed former Borough Administrator Pat O’Brien, who retired, and his wife who were present. We found his replacement in Anna Haverilla, former Councilwoman. Councilman Yhu has filled our vacant Council seat. William Boyce will be sworn in to replace Councilman Cioce who will be retiring. Mayor Kramer reviewed the employees who have or will be retiring assuring that all positions will be filled. He wished them all the best in their retirement. Traffic light installation request at the intersection of Orangeburg and Old Tappan Roads has been denied for a number of years however, with the assistance of Councilman Binaghi and Borough Administrator Anna Haverilla, we have obtained permission from property owners to allow tree cutting to improve sight distances to a great degree. We will attempt to further explore the safety of that intersection.

Borough Administrator Anna Haverilla, CFO Becky Overgaard, Auditor Jeff Bliss and I, representing the Borough, participated in a successful exercise that resulted in a AAA Bond Rating. Our relationship with our local schools has been reinforced over the past years.

Mayor Kramer has received compliments from Mayors and residents of other communities on the success and reputation Old Tappan has. Great schools, stable taxes, parks and recreation facilities and our golf course and the reputation as a well-run community. It is the people that surround me that make Old Tappan a great place to live. Mayor Kramer quoted that to be a good leader you hire people stronger than you, if you hire people stronger than you, they will never take your job, they will help you keep your job. He considers himself fortunate to have dedicated Councilmembers elected by the public to serve alongside me; each bring their own talent and style to the table. Mayor Kramer thanked the employees and department heads, professionals and volunteers who serve the public in a professional and dedicated way. He thanked the Borough Engineer and Borough Attorney. He thanked the members of the Fire Department, First Aid Corps and Planning Board.

Bill Bochicchio, Deputy Chief of Staff representing Assemblywoman Schepisi and Assemblyman Auth read a resolution honoring Councilman Victor Cioce for his years of service to the community.

Mayor Kramer read a proclamation honoring Councilman Victor Cioce for his exceptional service to Old Tappan and its residents.

OLD BUSINESS -None

NEW BUSINESS - None

PUBLICS OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK

Motion to open the meeting to the public by Councilman Binaghi

Second – Councilman Carnazza

Discussion - None

On voice vote, all in favor, none opposed, the motion carried

No Public Comment

Motion to close the meeting to the public by Councilman Binaghi

Second – Councilman Gallagher

Discussion - None

On voice vote, all in favor, none opposed, the motion carried

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Carnazza

Second - Councilman Yhu

On voice vote, all in favor, none opposed, the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed and approved:

Sylvia Kokowski, Recording Secretary

Jean M. Donch
Borough Clerk

cc: Mayor and Council
Allen Bell, Esq.

Date Approved: January 21, 2020