

BOROUGH OF OLD TAPPAN
MAYOR & COUNCIL REGULAR & EXECUTIVE MEETING
April 5, 2021

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.

REGULAR MEETING

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

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

Also Present: Borough Clerk Jean M. Donch
Borough Attorney Brian Giblin

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

STAFF APPOINTMENTS

Diane Frohlich - Accounts Payable Clerk

Motion to accept the appointment – Councilman Gallagher

Second – Councilman Nalbandian

Discussion – None

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

Jo-Ann Forcellati - Administrative Assistant/Board of Health Secretary

Motion to accept the appointment – Councilman Gallagher

Second – Councilman Nalbandian

Discussion – None

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

Anna Haverilla - Registrar of Vital Statistics - Unexpired Term Ending 8/20/21

Motion to accept the appointment – Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Nalbandian

Discussion – None

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

PUBLIC HEARING

Ordinance 1178-21 – Amend Sanitary Sewer Ordinance – Resolution of Adoption

Councilman Carnazza described the ordinance and made a motion to open the meeting to the public.

Second – Councilman Yhu

No Public Comment

Motion to close the meeting to the public – Councilman Gallagher

Second – Councilman Nalbandian

Discussion – None

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

Councilman Carnazza read the resolution

Second – Councilman Gallagher

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

RESOLUTION

2021 Municipal Budget Introduction

Councilman Gallagher read the 2021 Municipal Budget Introduction Resolution

Second – Councilman Nalbandian

Discussion – None

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

CONSENT RESOLUTION

Councilman Carnazza read the Consent Resolution

Second – Councilman Gallagher

Discussion – Councilman Yhu read a statement in regard to the Declaring Solidarity with the Asian and Asian American Communities resolution. He referenced the violence that has been visited upon the Asian community and that Old Tappan and its residents does not and will not tolerate racism or discrimination of any kind. He thanked the Mayor and Council for supporting this resolution.

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

Mayor Kramer read the Declaring Solidarity with the Asian and Asian American Communities resolution in its entirety.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance 1179-21 – Capital Ordinance - Various Improvements & Acquisitions – Resolution of Introduction

Councilman Gallagher read the resolution

Second – Councilman Yhu

Discussion – None

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

Ordinance 1180-21 – Capital Ordinance - Various Sewer Improvements & Acquisitions – Resolution of Introduction

Councilman Carnazza read the resolution

Second – Councilman Nalbandian

Discussion – None

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

Ordinance 1181-21 – Capital Ordinance - Various Improvements & Acquisitions – Resolution of Introduction (Fully Funded)

Councilman Gallagher read the resolution

Second – Councilman Yhu

Discussion – None

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

Councilman Yhu Yes

Ordinance 1182-21 – Exceed Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits & Establish a Cap Bank – Resolution of Introduction

Councilman Gallagher read the resolution

Second – Councilman Yhu

Discussion – None

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

Ordinance 1183-21 – 2021 Salary Ordinance – Resolution of Introduction

Councilman Gallagher read the resolution

Second – Councilman Carnazza

Discussion – None

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

OLD BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC’S OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK

Motion to open the meeting to the public – Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Nalbandian

Discussion – None

Motion to close meeting to the public – Councilman Nalbandian

Second – Councilman Carnazza

Discussion – None

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

Motion to adjourn Regular Meeting – Councilman Nalbandian

Second – Councilman Carnazza

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

EXECUTIVE 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.

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MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

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

Also Present:	Borough Clerk Jean M. Donch
	Borough Attorney Brian Giblin

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Skrable reported on the handicap ramps on Central Avenue. The County would like to pave Central Avenue but before they do that the Borough is responsible for upgrading all of the handicap ramps to current standards. The existing ones will need to be ripped out and replaced. In some places there is not sufficient right of way to redo the ramps and meet the current standards. Feels that the County should give us the measurements of their right of ways so we know what we are working with. We also have to worry about resident's right of ways as well. The Borough has budgeted approximately \$50,000 for the ramps.

Councilman Gallagher asked if we can reach out to the homeowners about this.

Mr. Giblin answered yes, the problem is going to be that if we don't know where their property is and where the right of way ends we're not going to know how much of their property might be affected.

Mr. Skrable explained that we can provide the homeowners with a sketch of what we want to do.

Mr. Giblin explained that he would like to see this done as possibly a license instead of a deed of easement. He will look into it.

Mr. Skrable will prepare the sketches and then we can approach the homeowners. They are hoping to pave this summer and these ramps have to go in prior to the paving. We can try and delay a little if necessary.

Councilman Nalbandian suggested getting a release from the County for any potential future issues with the County's easements.

Mr. Giblin said that could be done.

Mayor Kramer came across a patch done by the water company on Greenwoods Road which had been paved last year.

Mr. Skrable explained that the patch should be temporary and the builder will come in at the end of the project and repave it curb to curb.

Councilman Nalbandian commented on the poor condition of O'Conner's Lane. The sink hole just moves further down the street every time they patch and repair it. There is something clearly wrong there.

Mr. Skrable did meet with the DPW Superintendent about this issue. He will follow up with him.

PROPOSED CANNABIS ORDINANCE

Mr. Giblin explained that he borrowed much of the wording from the League of Municipalities template. Under the new law you have up until August to restrict marijuana sales within your community and if you don't do it before then it is a 5-year period that you have to wait before doing it and then it is only open for another 6 months. The League is advising every municipality to enact the strictest regulations they can and then you can lessen the restrictions at some point if wanted. This ordinance restricts everything but deliveries within Old Tappan. Similar to what we already had.

Councilman Gallagher is in favor of adopting this ordinance but he found the results from the November election interesting because the majority of Old Tappan voters were in favor of legalizing marijuana.

Mr. Giblin explained that the ordinance that was invalidated also contains a prohibition against vape shops, which is not contained in this new ordinance. He can draft that as a stand-alone ordinance.

All were in favor of both the marijuana and vape shop ordinances.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE

COUNCILMAN YHU – FIRST AID/SCHOOLS/SENIORS

Both the local and regional schools have decided to move on to the next phase of reopening. The high school will immediately allow for in-person learning with a 12pm dismissal. Beginning May 3rd all schools are planning for a return to all day instruction, 5 days a week. Council liaisons from the 7 sending towns met with the Superintendent and Board President. It was a very informative and productive meeting.

The Library has been reopened for browse and borrow 6 days a week. Our Library Director, Susan Meeske, was highlighted on News 12 to promote her Pen Pal Program.

Our food pantry is well stocked and distributions continue to be made.

Looking forward to holding the first Senior Advisory Board meeting in over a year on April 15th. It will be outdoors and socially distanced.

The First Aid Corps continues to do great work providing medical aide to our residents.

He will be arranging a meeting with the Technology Committee to assess our current situation and future needs.

COUNCILMAN NALBANDIAN – DPW/CONSTRUCTION

The DPW is getting ready for mulch season; forms will be available April 15th online. Deliveries will start May 3rd. Pump stations 3 and 6 were both upgraded to the new systems. All of the pump stations are now fully automated. They are looking for seasonal help. Interviews have been taking place for the new maintenance position that's coming up. They have chosen 4 candidates for a 2nd interview with the DPW Committee.

He had a meeting with the Construction Code Official today who had some concerns with the everyday town inspections being compromised by the Pearson Project due to lack of inspectors. He wanted to make sure we have enough money in the budget for these additional inspectors. It appears that we have budgeted enough for this and explained how the individuals will be paid.

COUNCILMAN BOYCE – GOLF/PLANNING BOARD/ENVIRONMENTAL

There are open space funds available from the County for parkland preservation. He

would like to request a matching grant for the Golf Course. He laid out a 5-year plan which was distributed to the Mayor & Council. The irrigation system needs to be upgraded, which can be quite expensive, and they would also like to create a new outdoor pavilion to service the Club House. We would like to submit a letter of intent to the County for the grant.

Councilman Gallagher asked if the Club House upgrades can wait and we focus on the irrigation system.

Councilman Boyce explained that the representative they spoke to from the County stated that they like phased approaches for the grants. She also said to suggest lots of different things because they may gravitate more towards one then another.

Mrs. Haverilla explained that the irrigation system seems more like a project that they will cover. The pavilion is questionable. Would they prefer to split the irrigation system into 2 years?

All were in favor of doing the irrigation system over 2 years.

The Golf Course has 175 members so far, 25 new members. There is a new marketing initiative being done in collaboration with the high school.

The Mayor has asked him about treating the ash trees in town with a systemic form of treatment in order to reduce the emerald ash borer. It is 85-95% successful so it may make some sense. He has a call into an arborist at Bartlett Tree to get a price.

The Mayor explained that this issue came up at a Pascack Valley Mayor's Association meeting. One of the surrounding towns Shade Tree Commission is pushing for this.

Councilman Nalbandian suggested putting together a consortium if other towns are interested.

COUNCILMAN GALLAGHER – FINANCE/FIRE

The Borough Hall employees attended a staff meeting, he read details of what was discussed at the meeting.

The Fire Department and First Aid Corps had a joint hazmat training session. The Fire Department was involved in a tribute to a Spring Valley firefighter who passed away in the line of duty.

Being a year into the pandemic he suggested doing something to support and thank the first responders. EMS is week is held in May and he would like to see us have a quick ceremony outside before our May 17th meeting honoring the first responders.

All were in favor of this.

COUNCILMAN CARNAZZA – RECREATION/HEALTH

The Recreation Commission had an issue with parents not wanting their son's temperature being taken on the forehead. They are concerned it could affect him medically. They also don't want him to wear a mask. The league has told them that the CDC is requiring temperatures and mask wearing. He contacted the Borough Attorney in regard to this. They have communicated to the family that they are required to do these things and the family is going to comply. They will bring their own thermometer.

He read the latest COVID-19 numbers from the Board of Health. The last count was 364 cases since the start of the pandemic.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

None

Motion to adjourn – Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Nalbandian

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Jean M. Donch, RMC
Borough Clerk

Reviewed & Approved: April 19, 2021