

**BOROUGH OF OLD TAPPAN**  
**MAYOR AND COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**  
**May 17, 2021**

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:            7:30 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	Absent
	Councilman Jin Yhu	Present

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

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

**PRAYER** – Councilman Jin Yhu

**PUBLIC’S OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK**

Motion to open the meeting to the public – Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

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

Motion to close the meeting to the public – Councilman Yhu

Second – Councilman Gallagher

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

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

### **Open Space Trust Fund Grant - Golf Course Irrigation System**

Councilman Boyce described the grant project and made a motion to open the meeting to the public.

Second – Councilman Binaghi

No Public Comment

Motion to close the meeting to the public – Councilman Boyce

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

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

### **Ordinance 1185-21 – Prohibit Cannabis Business Operation – Resolution of Adoption**

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

Second – Councilman Gallagher

No Public Comment

Motion to close the meeting to the public – Councilman Binaghi

Second – Councilman Gallagher

Discussion – None

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

Councilman Binaghi read the resolution

Second – Councilman Carnazza

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

## **Ordinance 1186-21 – Prohibit Electronic Vapor Business Operation – Resolution of Adoption**

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

Second – Councilman Carnazza

No Public Comment

Motion to close the meeting to the public – Councilman Binaghi

Second – Councilman Gallagher

Discussion – None

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

Councilman Binaghi read the resolution

Second – Councilman Gallagher

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

## **CONSENT RESOLUTION**

Councilman Carnazza read the Consent Resolution

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – Mayor Kramer inquired if the 2 grant applications for road work will be for paving to be done this year.

Mrs. Haverilla answered no, first we are doing drainage, then paving. The system has been changed and you can now only apply for 3 streets at a time.

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

## **COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

The Fire Department send their thanks for the service tonight.

He will have a proposed update to the Fire Department and Fire Prevention ordinances that will be sent out to the Mayor and Council. A lot of the changes just have to do with language. When we act on the ordinances he will ask the Fire Chief to be in attendance.

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

Read the Police Department report for April. In April there was 48 hours of overtime.

Councilman Gallagher asked about Suez donating an ATV to the Police Department. He asked if the older unit is no longer needed perhaps it could be repurposed for EMS & Fire Department use.

Councilman Binaghi will check with the Police Chief.

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

The Senior Advisory Committee had a campaign to get things restarted with the seniors. A banner was hung up on the Senior Center and a meet and greet was held. Two more meet and greets are scheduled. They are held at Stone Point Park under the pavilion. He reported that the former chairman, David Northrop, is not doing well and suggested that the Mayor do a proclamation for him sometime soon.

The Library had to cancel their last meeting due to lack of a quorum. It has been rescheduled for this Wednesday. They will be marching in the Memorial Day Parade.

The First Aid Corps thanks the Mayor for tonight's proclamation. He attended their installation dinner. It was a very nice event and gave some highlights of the night.

The elementary and middle schools started full time, in person learning, on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. No issues have been reported. The high school will be starting full day, in person learning tomorrow. At the next NVRHS board meeting on May 26<sup>th</sup> an anti-discrimination diversity consultant will be speaking to the board and the public will also have a chance to listen and ask questions.

Mayor Kramer noted that on Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduating class had a car wash.

Councilman Yhu described a birthday drive by that was done by members of the Police Department, First Aid Corps and Fire Department for a resident who turned 100.

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

The Planning Board heard an application for 2 Pine Grove Court. It will be voted on at the next meeting.

The Boy Scouts are organizing their annual car wash and bake sale on June 5<sup>th</sup>. The Girl Scouts went on a white water rafting and overnight camping trip this past weekend.

The Golf Commission is anxious to see if the grant for an irrigation system is approved. Currently the golf course is in terrific shape. They have more than 300 members and have started a waiting list until the true capacity of the course can be sorted out. The concessionaire is up to date on everything.

The Environmental Commission has been discussing a revision to the tree ordinance. He will send out the proposed changes to the Mayor and Council for discussion at an upcoming meeting.

Councilman Gallagher stated that it was upsetting that at the last Planning Board meeting there were only 5 eligible board members who could vote on the application before them and now the applicant needs to come back next month just for a vote.

Mrs. Haverilla explained that the Planning Board Secretary is going to send the Planning Board an email telling everyone that they need to attend the meeting.

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

The Recreation Commission discussed the Memorial Day Parade and they are going to try and have the baseball, softball and basketball teams participate. The Boy Scouts & Girls Scouts will also be marching.

The Board of Health will have their next meeting on Wednesday. He reported on the current COVID-19 numbers for the town.

Mrs. Haverilla explained that a non-profit organization wants to hold an event at Oakes Park on June 19<sup>th</sup>. There is nothing going on at the park that night. We would charge them the \$100 fee for non-profits and obtain a hold harmless agreement and certificate of insurance. It is a youth organization that has to do with climate change. They are going to have a small band and an open microphone for speakers and singers. She will send the information to the Mayor and Council and then they can decide.

Councilman Yhu asked how we are handling the senior citizen veterans at the parade.

Councilman Carnazza explained how it was handled in the past but many of them are now gone.

Mrs. Haverilla explained that many seniors are not going to participate in the parade, they will just go to the park for the ceremony.

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

None

## **ACTION ON MINUTES**

Councilman Carnazza made a motion to approve the following minutes:

- Regular Meeting, April 19, 2021
- Closed Meeting, May 3, 2021
- Regular & Executive Meetings, May 3, 2021

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

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

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Councilman Binaghi explained that the Police Chief has been inquiring about promotions and hirings. They are going to start the interview process soon because we have someone that could potentially be retiring after Labor Day. He told the chief that promotions will have to wait until a contract is signed with the PBA.

Councilman Yhu presented the Mayor & Council with a policy memorandum in regard to Borough Memorials that he received from a town in Connecticut. He is looking to adopt something similar to this with any changes that are recommended. It is by no means a final draft. This can be discussed at the next meeting after everyone has had a chance to review it.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Ordinance 1187-21 – Amend 2021 Salary Ordinance – Resolution of Introduction**

Councilman Gallagher read the resolution

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

Roll Call	Councilman Binaghi	Yes
	Councilman Boyce	Yes
	Councilman Carnazza	Yes

Councilman Gallagher	Yes
Councilman Yhu	Yes

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

Motion to open the meeting to the public – Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Gallagher

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

Discussion – Jaclyn Susino, 20 Kristin Place, has a concern with a resident on her street using his home as a religious institution instead of a residency. Every Saturday it is used for a gathering that seems to be of a religious nature. There are cars parked all the way up into the blind curve. It is dangerous for cars to be continuously parked there on Saturdays for hours at a time abutting up to Old Tappan Road. It now seems to be occurring more than once a week. Today there were a lot of cars parked up and down the street. There are also more than 5 cars parked in the driveway of the home as well so it's a significant sized gathering. There are rows of chairs and tents set up. She believes this will take place all week because on their website it says they will be holding a religious gathering daily this week. They are at a breaking point now. She realizes that it is a difficult issue and they do not want anyone's civil liberties violated but she feels that there are ordinances in place that are being ignored. They tried to be understanding during COVID but now it's being abusive. She has reached out to Assemblywoman Schepisi who told her she would speak to the Borough Attorney about what can be done to protect all the neighborhood residents.

Mr. Giblin explained that he has looked into this matter at length and presented his findings to the Mayor and Council about a year ago. It is a difficult issue, the NJ Supreme Court has discussed it, and there is always a line as to when it becomes a more habitual use. He will speak with the Zoning Officer and see what his take is on it.

Ms. Susino explained that they are looking for support and help. Perhaps parking ordinances need to be put in place.

Councilman Carnazza explained a Supreme Court decision on a situation similar to this one.

Councilman Binaghi will have the Police Chief take a look at the parking issues on Kristin Place.

Motion to close the meeting to the public – Councilman Binaghi

Second – Councilman Carnazza

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,

Jean M. Donch, RMC  
Borough Clerk

Reviewed & Approved: June 21, 2021