

**BOROUGH OF OLD TAPPAN
MAYOR AND COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
September 20, 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.

ROLL CALL:	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 Guy Carnazza

PUBLIC’S OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK

Motion to open the meeting to the public – Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – Joe Fernandez, 10 Leonard Drive, explained that he read the RFP for the golf course management company. He felt that it was well thought out. He asked if tee times would be assigned on Saturdays and Sundays for the Men’s Club because it was not mentioned in the RFP.

Mrs. Haverilla explained that it does not have to be in the RFP, it can be negotiated with the company. We will make sure that Old Tappan members are a priority. This is competitive contracting so we do not have to accept anything we do not want to. It is what the Mayor & Council want.

Councilman Carnazza explained that the Men’s Club, Women’s Club and Old Tappan residents are going to have some sort of preferential treatment.

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

Motion to close the meeting to the public – Councilman Gallagher

Second – Councilman Yhu

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

PUBLIC HEARING

Ordinance 1191-21 – Amend Police Department Ordinance – 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 Gallagher

Second – Councilman Binaghi

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

STAFF APPOINTMENT

Joseph C. Derienzo - Fire Prevention Inspector

Motion to accept the appointment – Councilman Gallagher

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

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 – None

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 Finance Department has put out to bid bond anticipation notes.

The Fire Department has returned from the State Firemen’s Convention in Wildwood this past weekend. Tonight, they will be doing a walk through of the new Pearson property.

COUNCILMAN BINAGHI – POLICE/AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Police Activity Report was read. He has had several questions directed to him in regard to hours that contractors and homeowners can do work on their homes. He has directed them to the website to read the Borough Code.

COUNCILMAN YHU – FIRST AID/SCHOOLS/SENIORS

The Library and First Aid Corps postponed their meetings due to the holiday last week.

He is working with the local and regional school PTOs on a fundraiser for the First Aid Corps for their ballistics gear. They both seem very receptive to it.

The Seniors are having a Lunch & Learn this Friday.

There was a great turnout for Town Day this past weekend.

He organized a concert for residents of Old Tappan. It is at 6:30pm this Saturday at the Syrian Church.

COUNCILMAN BOYCE – GOLF/PLANNING BOARD/ENVIRONMENTAL

The Golf Commission is anticipating the receipt of a matching grant for irrigation system upgrades from Bergen County Open Space. A walk through at the Golf Course will be happening this Thursday with companies that have picked up RFPs.

We discussed previously adding another veteran's memorial at Oakes Park and thought it would be nice to include the high school and middle school. We can hold a design competition and have different branches of service represented as judges, along with members from the DPW, Planning Board, Environmental Commission and any other boards that would have some input on this so that we can come up with some really clever ideas from the town to kick this off. He would like to be a judge as well. Asked if the Mayor & Council are in favor of this.

All were in favor of this proposal.

The Environmental Commission will be meeting tomorrow to discuss in more depth the tree ordinance.

Councilman Gallagher inquired about the posting of Planning Board minutes to the website. He had a resident contact him about this.

Mrs. Haverilla explained that they will all be posted this week.

The Planning Board will be meeting on October 13th to discuss an application submitted for the property next to the Syrian Church. The developer is proposing a 100-bed assisted living facility. The entire application will be reviewed in depth by the Planning Board and Borough Engineer.

COUNCILMAN CARNAZZA – RECREATION/HEALTH

He has a new member for the Board of Health that will be appointed as an alternate at our next meeting.

The Recreation Commission did a great job with Town Day and the fireworks. He thanked the DPW, First Aid Corps and Fire Department for all their help.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Thanked Councilman Carnazza and the Town Day Committee. It was a wonderful day and was so well attended.

He attended a Bergen County Mayor's meeting this past week. They had an Assistant Prosecutor and

the Chief of Detectives from the Bergen County Prosecutor's Office there. They went over a very comprehensive program that every police officer in New Jersey has to submit to. It is a 4 day, 8 hours a day de-escalation program that also deals with officer suicides. The program puts a tremendous financial burden on the towns.

He assisted a number of residents with questions in regard to FEMA. He thanked Mrs. Haverilla for hosting a FEMA site here at the Borough Hall that was well attended. Two homes on Lindy Place were seriously affected.

Fielded several phone calls in regard to the golf course and attended a Safety Meeting.

Spoke about the Borough Newsletter and that it needs to be addressed during budget time so we can keep residents better informed. Feels that it would help minimize the amount of misinformation that is out there right now.

ACTION ON MINUTES

Councilman Carnazza made a motion to approve the following minutes:

- Regular Meeting, August 16, 2021
- Closed Meeting, August 16, 2021
- Regular & Executive Meetings, September 7, 2021
- Closed Meeting, September 7, 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

Borough Memorials

Councilman Boyce has nothing to present tonight. He will email the renderings to the Governing Body once he completes them.

Mrs. Haverilla spoke with the DPW Superintendent today who told her that the signs for Ani Nalbandian Park have been ordered.

Mayor Kramer explained that he remains opposed to the 3 signs at Ani Nalbandian Park, he feels

it is overkill. Asked if the Binaghi's would consider a bronze plaque similar to the ones at Stone Point Park.

Councilman Binaghi likes the idea of a bronze plaque. He will speak with his mother since she requested the memorial to get her thoughts.

Mayor Kramer explained that another request came in from Mr. DeEsposito who would like to provide a plaque in memory of his wife for her contributions to the recreation programs in town. Suggested asking Mr. DeEsposito to present us a proposal of what he would like written on a plaque for Stone Point Park.

Councilman Binaghi received another request about parking at Foxwood. Did we ever definitively come up with an answer about this?

Mrs. Haverilla explained that the Home Owner's Association has never adopted Title 39. Once they do then our Police Department can enforce Title 39.

Councilman Binaghi feels that the parking on Howard Drive needs to be addressed. There is parking on both sides during events at the high school's field and you can't get up the street. We need to make one side of the street parking. The field entrance in that area needs to be locked by the school. The school needs to communicate better with the Police Department when events are occurring on their fields.

Councilman Yhu will speak to the high school and try and get the schedule of events or try and convince them to close the gate during events.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance 1194-21 – Capital Ordinance - Fire Department Radios – 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

Ordinance 1195-21 – Amend Traffic Ordinance – Resolution of Introduction

Councilman Binaghi read the resolution

Second – Councilman Gallagher

Discussion – Mayor Kramer suggested changing the wording under Section A to say “no left turn”.

The Borough Attorney will amend the wording as suggested.

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 Binaghi

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

George Lanzaro, 10 Demarest Lane, is here tonight to discuss his concerns with a project going on at the DPW on the entrance/exit area. He is asking that Demarest Lane not be opened up to commercial traffic. He has a special needs child and feels that this would be detrimental to him and would also create many safety hazards for those who live and walk on Demarest Lane every day. Feels that the zoning laws are not being brought into consideration for the project.

Councilman Carnazza explained that the DPW entrance and exit have been there for years. The only commercial vehicles that are using Demarest Lane are Borough owned vehicles, not private companies.

Councilman Binaghi explained that it is hard for a large firetruck to backup in the DPW parking lot as it is laid out now. There have been a few accidents with the current layout so we consulted the Joint Insurance Fund (JIF) and they have approved this project.

Mr. Lanzaro feels that there is more than enough room for a fire truck to turn around in the parking lot and for the employees to park their cars safely. The parking lot is very active with cars going in and out for gas. Many trees have been clear cut in the buffer zone. Feels the nature of the street is being changed and alternatives should be looked in to.

Councilman Gallagher disagrees with Mr. Lanzaro. As someone who drives fire trucks he does not want to have to back the fire truck out anymore, it is not safe. Feels that these renovations are the safer alternative for that area.

Mr. Giblin explained what a buffer zone is and how what Mr. Lanzaro is calling a buffer zone is in fact not one. Buffer zones do not apply to streets. Despite the zoning a Borough can do whatever it wants in an area.

Mayor Kramer explained that the Borough and JIF feel that this is creating a safer situation and will continue with the project.

Motion to close the meeting to the public – Councilman Gallagher

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion - None

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

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Gallagher

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

Respectfully submitted,

Jean M. Donch, RMC
Borough Clerk

Reviewed & Approved: October 18, 2021