

**BOROUGH OF OLD TAPPAN  
MAYOR & COUNCIL SPECIAL & EXECUTIVE MEETING  
March 6, 2023**

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.

|                   |                                |         |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|---------|
| <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 Cort Gwon           | Absent  |
|                   | Councilman Jin Yhu             | Present |

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

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

**PROCLAMATION**

**5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Soccer Team**

Mayor Kramer read the proclamation honoring the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Soccer Team.

**BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

**Recreation Commission**

- Katherine Chang - Alternate #1 - Unexpired 3 Year Term Ending 12/31/23
- Karen Rhee - Alternate #2 - Unexpired 3 Year Term Ending 12/31/24

Motion to accept the appointment – Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Gallagher

Discussion – None

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

## **CONSENT RESOLUTION**

Councilman Gallagher 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 |

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Contractual - Police**

Councilman Gallagher made a motion to authorize the Borough to enter into a contractual agreement with the PBA on the points that were discussed in tonight's closed session meeting.

Second – Councilman Carnazza

Discussion – None

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

Mayor Kramer thanked Councilmen Gallagher and Boyce for the efforts put forth in getting this contract finalized. This is a fair contract for both the Borough and PBA.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

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

Motion to open the meeting to the public – Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

Motion to close meeting to the public – Councilman Binaghi

Second – Councilman Gallagher

Discussion – None

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

### **PROCLAMATION**

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Soccer Team**

Mayor Kramer read the proclamation honoring the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Soccer Team.

Motion to adjourn Regular Meeting – Councilman Binaghi

Second – Councilman Gallagher

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.

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**

#### **ROLL CALL:**

|                                |         |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| Mayor John Kramer              | Present |
| Councilman Ronald Binaghi, Jr. | Present |
| Councilman William Boyce       | Present |
| Councilman Guy Carnazza        | Present |
| Councilman Thomas Gallagher    | Present |
| Councilman Cort Gwon           | Absent  |
| Councilman Jin Yhu             | Present |

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

## **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Mayor Kramer inquired about the Perry Street sewer line project status.

Mr. Skrable explained that he is working with the Northvale engineer. He feels that our argument is sound but he is not sure what the end game is from their perspective. We have already agreed to do extra work. Hoping that this last round of correspondence will be the end.

Councilman Carnazza inquired about that Central Avenue paving status.

Mr. Skrable explained that the paving is on the County's schedule but the handicap ramps need to be completed first. He was contacted by the County in regard to the ramps so it sounds like the project is in motion.

Mayor Kramer stated that there are residents present that might want to speak at tonight's meeting so he asked that the meeting be reopened to the public.

Motion to reopen the meeting to the public – Councilman Binaghi

Second – Councilman Gallagher

Discussion – Johan Bager, 6 Klein Court, explained that he has attended the Planning Board meetings over the last 6 months in regard to 244 Old Tappan Road. He is not in favor of this project and does not understand how it benefits the town.

Mr. Giblin explained that the decision of the Planning Board has been appealed to the Mayor and Council. The Mayor and Council now have jurisdiction over this matter and cannot speak to the public about the application. They will be decided the case anew in the near future. All are free to make comments but the Mayor and Council cannot respond.

Neil Strickett, 33 Lakeview Drive, asked for an outline of the appeals process.

Mr. Giblin explained that there is opportunity for the 2 different appellants to present their position, either in writing, orally or both at a meeting to be deciding by the Mayor and Council sometime before May 15, 2023. The meeting will be noticed and opened to the public.

Motion to close meeting to the public – Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

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

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

### **COUNCILMAN BINAGHI – GRANTS/HISTORICAL**

The Historical Committee hosted a speaker on March 1<sup>st</sup> in regard to the Battle of Gettysburg. It was very interesting and well attended.

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

The Seniors are participating in all of the Borough's social and exercise programs. They are receiving a lot of compliments from new members.

Read the February 2023 First Aid Corps activity report. There is a meeting setup with their attorney to speak about potential billing options to a patient's insurance company. The homeowner will never receive a bill, it is strictly through insurance. This is done by other organizations throughout the county and state.

The DPW Committee met and interviewed 4 candidates for the road foremen position. Read the February 2023 DPW activity report.

### **COUNCILMAN CARNAZZA – POLICE/ADMINISTRATION/HEALTH**

Glad that we voted tonight on the new contract with the PBA. We found a new police car in Cherry Hill that we will be purchasing.

Read Councilman Gwon's report:

Recreation indoor sports are winding down and spring sports are preparing for their season. Opening day is April 22<sup>nd</sup>. April 2<sup>nd</sup> is the Easter Egg Hunt.

The Library has received 6 bids for the HVAC repair.

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

The golf cart path extension is almost complete. We will be looking to do bunker and sprinkler improvements next.

He will be speaking to our Tax Assessor to find more Veterans in town so they can participate in various activities.

Attended the Environmental Commission meeting and they are currently working on a pollinator grant. Family Camping Night will be returning this year.

Mayor Kramer explained that several former and current golf club members would like to come before the Golf Committee to hear about the improvements being done and what they can expect from them.

Councilman Binaghi has a friend who grew up in town but is now retired and runs a fishing boat. He is with a group of other fishing charter boats that take Veterans out to fish for free. He will give Councilman Boyce his contact information to pass along at the next Veteran's meeting.

#### **COUNCILMAN GALLAGHER – FINANCE/CONSTRUCTION/ENVIRONMENTAL**

The Building Department is receiving quotes for a digital filing system.

This Thursday will be our final budget meeting before meeting with the Borough Auditor to review it. Gave an overview of the budget process.

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

Received and distributed an email from a resident complaining about a building in town that is operating without a Certificate of Occupancy. He asked Councilman Gallagher to follow up with the Construction Official.

Motion to adjourn – Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Binaghi

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: March 20, 2023