

**BOROUGH OF OLD TAPPAN
MAYOR AND COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
March 20, 2023**

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	Absent
	Councilman Thomas Gallagher	Present
	Councilman Cort Gwon	Present
	Councilman Jin Yhu	Present

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

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

PRAYER – Councilman Boyce

PUBLIC’S OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK

Motion to open the meeting to the public – Councilman Yhu

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – Lynn MacIntosh, 293 Orangeburg Road, is concerned with the pathway leading from the Borough Hall parking lot to the fire house. It is in disrepair and unsafe for the senior citizens that attend exercise classes and other events at the fire house. Hand rails need to be added.

Mayor Kramer explained that there have been discussions with the DPW about upgrading that path.

Mrs. Haverilla explained that the DPW wants to upgrade the whole front area there.

Discussion ensued on the potential upgrades.

Councilman Yhu will speak to the DPW Superintendent and report back at the next meeting.

Ms. MacIntosh stated that she would encourage the Mayor and Council to deny the application for 244 Old Tappan Road and listed her reasons why.

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

Motion to close the meeting to the public – Councilman Binaghi

Second – Councilman Yhu

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

STAFF APPOINTMENTS

DPW Foreman - Robert McQuade

Motion to accept the appointment – Councilman Yhu

Second – Councilman Gallagher

Discussion – None

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

OEM Coordinator - Andrew Brackenbury - 3 Year Appointment Ending 4/1/26

Motion to accept the appointment – Councilman Gallagher

Second – Councilman Yhu

Discussion – None

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

OEM Deputy Coordinator - Anna Haverilla - 3 Year Appointment Ending 4/1/26

Motion to accept the appointment – Councilman Gallagher

Second – Councilman Boyce

Discussion – None

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

CONSENT RESOLUTION

Councilman Gallagher read the Consent Resolution

Second – Councilman Yhu

Discussion – Councilman Gallagher recommends that the resolution for the PBA collective bargaining agreements be moved to another meeting date. The agreements are currently in the attorney's hands and still need to be finalized.

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

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

COUNCILMAN BINAGHI – GRANTS/HISTORICAL

Attended the Historical Committee meeting. The sycamore tree at Bonnabel Park has now become an officially designated Heritage Tree. A plaque will be placed near the tree. Read the narrative that was submitted to achieve the designation.

COUNCILMAN GWON - RECREATION/LIBRARY/SCHOOLS

Pickle ball has at least 150 sign-ups. Half of these people are from Old Tappan. The evening sessions are full but there is still availability in the day sessions. Bids are being received for the paving of the courts. The Recreation Commission voted in favor of starting the process with the DPW once all the bids and grants are received and reviewed. The town camp will be using St. Pius for their indoor rain site. Reported on the indoor soccer and basketball teams.

The high school's musical took place this weekend and testing also took place last week. He will be attending the next local school board meeting. Met the Northvale liaison to the schools and

they will coordinate if either of them misses a high school meeting.

COUNCILMAN YHU – DPW/SENIORS/FIRST AID

The Seniors will be hosting a meet and greet on May 4th at the Senior Center. Later this month they will begin their weekly Walks in the Park program at Stone Point Park at noon.

The First Aid Corps has one rig out of service for repairs. The water leak outside their building is not from them, it is from one their neighbors. Veolia will repair this soon. The Captain reports that the Corps returned \$10,000 to the Borough because they have decided to not purchase the trailer that was budgeted for last year.

Congratulated our new DPW Road Foreman. The DPW Superintendent is working on a new shared services agreement with Harrington Park for mechanic services and gasoline. The Superintendent will also be meeting with the County Road Department to discuss the scope and timing of paving for Central Avenue.

Mayor Kramer inquired about the paving of Kristin Place.

Mrs. Haverilla explained that Veolia will be paving all of Kristin Place and Cheryl Lane once the project is completed.

COUNCILMAN BOYCE – GOLF/PLANNING BOARD/FIRE

The Golf Course Superintendent has a full staff to tend to the course grounds this year. The new General Manager has begun. The cart paths are almost complete. The pump and panel, which is part of the irrigation improvements, will likely happen this fall. The club house awning is being repaired.

The Fire Department has received their new inflatable boat. This was paid for by money generated from the Super Hero 5K.

The Planning Board heard an application to subdivide a piece of property at the corner of Herbst and Old Tappan Roads.

He, along with Councilman Carnazza, met with the gentleman who attended one of our previous Mayor and Council meetings to try and help with his drainage installation issues due to a problem with the contractor. They drew up a plan that was then given to the Borough Engineer to put the drainage in the front yard to limit the amount of disturbance to the already completed work in the backyard. The Borough Engineer was ok with the plan. A few other errors were also found that should be corrected.

There will be an Eagle Scout Court of Honor on April 22nd at noon at the Trinity Reformed Church.

There is a list of about 10 Veterans who are interested in pursuing the construction of an

additional memorial in town. They are looking at memorials in surrounding towns to get an idea of what they would like to do.

He will be passing all of his Environmental Commission notes on pollinator plants and the tree ordinance to Councilman Gallagher.

Councilman Yhu described the boat that was received by the Fire Department and its uses.

Councilman Gallagher reported that the new Fire Department truck is currently in construction and will be received sometime early fall.

COUNCILMAN GALLAGHER – FINANCE/CONSTRUCTION/ENVIRONMENTAL

The Construction Official is eager to begin the scanning of all their files and plans. Bids have been received and now need to be reviewed.

The 2023 budget will hopefully be introduced at the April 3rd meeting.

Read Councilman Carnazza's report:

Gave the Police Department activity report for February 2023. The final accreditation hearing took place and they passed. They are just waiting on their documentation.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Attended a crossing over ceremony and Pinewood Derby for the Cub Scouts, the Old Tappan Safety Meeting, a Bergen County League of Municipalities (BCLM) meeting. The speaker at the BCLM meeting was the President of the NJ League of Municipalities who informed them that all elected officials are now required to take an emergency management course. He also hosted a Pascack Valley Mayor's Association meeting. Met with a junior from NVOT who is the president of the Asian American Club. He is requesting permission to place a bin in the Borough Hall lobby for donations to aid the earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria.

Our former Mayor, Victor Polce's mother passed away this week. A donation was sent on behalf of the Borough.

ACTION ON MINUTES

Councilman Gallagher made a motion to approve the following minutes:

- Closed Meeting, February 21, 2023
- Regular Meeting, February 21, 2023
- Closed Meeting, March 6, 2023
- Regular & Executive Meetings, March 6, 2023

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

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

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Yhu attended a grant meeting given by Congressman Gottheimer last week. Every year there is a window of opportunity to apply for Congressional grants. It is for 2 weeks in the middle of March. He is hoping to take advantage of this next year. Listed potential projects we can apply for. There are also opportunities through the Bergen County Trust Funds and explained the application process. These expire on April 14th.

Councilman Yhu would like to identify and discuss properties in town that are able to be purchased. He gave 11 DeWolf Road as an example. Perhaps this is in the Master Plan.

Mrs. Haverilla has heard that there are some people who wish to purchase this property and keep it historic. But there is no commitment yet.

Councilman Binaghi feels that purchasing this property would be advantageous for the Borough. If we could get a grant to purchase the home then community gardens could be added and we could store all of our historic items there.

Mrs. Haverilla described the various types of grants that could be applied for. She explained that the Master Plan can be reviewed prior to 2025 but this would need to be decided by the Planning Board.

Councilman Gallagher feels that it is not a bad idea to begin identifying certain properties to see what we could do with them.

Mrs. Haverilla will circulate the list of properties from the last Master Plan.

PUBLIC’S OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK

Motion to open 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 close the meeting to the public – Councilman Gallagher

Second – Councilman Binaghi

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

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Yhu

Second – Councilman Gallagher

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

Respectfully submitted,

Jean M. Donch, RMC
Borough Clerk

Reviewed & Approved: April 17, 2023