

BOROUGH OF OLD TAPPAN
MAYOR AND COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
April 17, 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	Present
	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 Carnazza

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 Binaghi

Second – Councilman Yhu

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

BOARD APPOINTMENT

Environmental Commission - Nora Mann - Unexpired 3 Year Term Ending 12/31/23

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 Gwon	Yes
	Councilman Yhu	Yes

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Ordinance 1226-23 – 2023 Salary Ordinance – Resolution of Adoption

Councilman Gallagher 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 Binaghi

Second – Councilman Yhu

Discussion – None

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

Councilman Gallagher read the resolution

Second – Councilman Binaghi

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

Ordinance 1227-23 – Exceed Municipal Budget Appropriations Limits & Establish a Cap

Bank – Resolution of Adoption

Councilman Gallagher 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 Binaghi

Second – Councilman Yhu

Discussion – None

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

Councilman Gallagher read the resolution

Second – Councilman Binaghi

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

CONSENT RESOLUTION

Councilman Gallagher read the Consent Resolution

Second – Councilman Yhu

Discussion – None

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

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

COUNCILMAN BINAGHI – GRANTS/HISTORICAL

The town has applied for 2 environmental grants from ANJEC and a letter of intent was sent in for the golf course bunkers project. A resident wanted to apply for a grant for 244 Old Tappan Road but was told that we cannot apply for grants for property that the Borough does not own.

COUNCILMAN GWON - RECREATION/LIBRARY/SCHOOLS

2 girls indoor soccer teams won championships so we will honor them at a future meeting. Pickle ball has 220 registrants. Asked Councilman Carnazza to give an update on the pickle ball courts.

Councilman Carnazza explained that he is waiting for the Borough Administrator and CFO to let him know when the money is available to move forward.

Mrs. Haverilla explained that the grant for the courts was approved. We can move forward after the budget is adopted on May 1st.

COUNCILMAN YHU – DPW/SENIORS/FIRST AID

On Thursday, April 20th at 6:00pm at the fire house a cardiologist will be speaking to the Seniors. On April 27th from 5:00pm-7:00pm Northern Valley Magazine is sponsoring a dinner seminar at the fire house. All seniors are invited to attend. On May 1st at 12:00pm they will be hosting their annual meet and greet at the Senior Center.

The DPW reports that branch chipping and mulch delivery requests have begun. Residents can order mulch via an online form on the Borough's website. The DPW is accepting applications for a full-time laborer position. They are looking to hire at the beginning of June. They are also looking to hire a part-time mechanic.

The First Aid Corps will be participating in the Health Fair on April 29th. Discussed the idea of creating a hybrid agency where full-time, paid EMTs would serve during the day and volunteers would cover evenings and overnights. This would come at a cost to the Borough but part of the cost should be defrayed by potential medical insurance billings. This is something that the Mayor and Council need to talk about and budget for. He has asked the First Aid Corps to come up with a proposal over the next few months so it can be discussed. The County has also come online with ambulance services that they are trying to expand which could be helpful.

Councilman Gallagher explained that this is a sensitive issue. A lot of the membership does not know these discussions are going on and like the First Aid Corps the way it is. The First Aid Corps membership numbers were discussed.

COUNCILMAN CARNAZZA – POLICE/ADMINISTRATION/HEALTH

Read the March 2023 Police Activity Report.

Councilman Gallagher asked about the status of the high school gate.

Councilman Carnazza showed a picture sent to him by the Police Chief showing the gate wide open last Thursday at approximately 5:00pm. Discussed who at the school has a key to the gate and that they need to figure out who is leaving it open. There has been miscommunication among the school staff.

Discussion ensued on school events and when the gate should be opened and closed, parking issues and the placement of cameras in that area.

COUNCILMAN BOYCE – GOLF/PLANNING BOARD/FIRE

There was a house fire in town last weekend and the house sustained significant damage. Mutual aid was called and one firefighter was injured but is doing fine. This past Sunday our ladder truck responded to a mutual aid fire in Blauvelt.

The golf course is doing well. We are already up 17% from where we were last year in terms of gross revenue. They are still looking for a suitable solution for the geese droppings. The golf cart path on hole 3 is now complete.

The Planning Board had an applicant cancel for their last meeting.

Mayor Kramer attempted to contact the homeowner who lost his house in the fire but still has not heard from them. Has anyone from the Borough spoken to them? He received an email from a resident asking what the community can do for this family.

Councilman Gallagher explained that the homeowners stopped by the fire house last Monday night to thank the membership. He spoke to them and gave them his contact information.

Councilman Yhu inquired about agreements with the mutual aid fire departments in Rockland County.

Mrs. Haverilla explained that we have some in place and will be approving one with Orangeburg at the May 1st meeting once the Borough Attorney reviews it.

COUNCILMAN GALLAGHER – FINANCE/CONSTRUCTION/ENVIRONMENTAL

The Environmental Commission meeting scheduled for tomorrow night has been cancelled due to lack of a quorum.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

This afternoon the contracts with the PBA were signed. He is happy that this is now over and thanked the committee and Borough Administrator for their efforts.

Councilman Gallagher added that the PBA representatives shared with the committee that the entire force is appreciative of everything that went into these contracts. He is looking forward to working as a team moving forward.

A Senate Bill has been introduced in regard to delaying the 4th round of COAH obligations until July 1, 2028. The Pascack Valley Mayor's Association supports this bill and have contacted our Assemblyman to introduce it as well. He will keep everyone posted.

The Pascack Valley Mayor's Association has been addressing flooding issues in Hillsdale, Westwood, Washington Township, part of Woodcliff Lake and various other areas. An engineer spoke at the most recent meeting in regard to a drone study that had been conducted for Washington Township. The association is looking to get input on what a drone study might cost to study the waterways throughout the various Pascack Valley towns and whether a grant can be applied for. Veolia is interested in sharing in the cost for the study. This could definitely help with our flooding issues. He will keep everyone updated.

ACTION ON MINUTES

Councilman Gallagher made a motion to approve the following minutes:

- Closed Meeting, March 20, 2023
- Regular Meeting, March 20, 2023
- Closed Meeting, April 3, 2023
- Regular & Executive Meetings, April 3, 2023

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

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

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Giblin explained that in regard to the 244 Old Tappan Road appeal the attorney for Lakeview is asking what the Mayor and Council's preference is for written submissions. Explained what the statute says. Do you want it ahead of time or that night?

The Mayor and Council decided that they would like the written submissions ahead of time.

Mr. Giblin will tell both parties that any written submissions will have to be received a week before the hearing and that they can argue whatever they want at the hearing. Explained the format of the appeal hearing and the Mayor and Council's decision-making process.

A discussion ensued on the appeal hearing format, the public's right to speak at the hearing and how the Mayor and Council go about making their decision.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Boyce noticed that at the DPW we have piles of electronic equipment and he was speaking to someone who has the capability of harvesting the precious metals out of this equipment. This is a good opportunity for the town to try this and he would like to make a connection between that company and the DPW. Thinks this could be a good thing for both the environment and for the town to make some money.

All were in favor of this plan.

PUBLIC'S OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK

Motion to open the meeting to the public – Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Gallagher

Discussion – None

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

Motion to close the meeting to the public – Councilman Binaghi

Second – Councilman Gallagher

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: May 15, 2023