

**BOROUGH OF OLD TAPPAN
MAYOR & COUNCIL SPECIAL & EXECUTIVE MEETING
October 2, 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.

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 Administrator Anna Haverilla
	Borough Attorney Michael Gannaio

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Ordinance 1241-23 – Stormwater Control Ordinance – Resolution of Adoption

Councilman Gallagher described the ordinance 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 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 Binaghi

Discussion – Mayor Kramer inquired about the bid advertisement resolution. He thought that Howard Drive was complete.

Mr. Skrable answered that it was just the way the project was named when we made the application so even though Howard is complete we needed to use the original project name.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Golf Membership Reimbursement Request

Councilman Boyce explained that Tom Corcoran has requested a reimbursement of his 2023 membership fees. He has been injured since May 6th and only played twice in Old Tappan this year. Mr. Corcoran has been a member for over 20 years and has been chairman of the Golf Commission/Committee for the last few years. Has been an integral part in transitioning to the new management company. He recommends reimbursing the fee because an indispensable asset to the Golf Committee.

Mayor Kramer explained that Mr. Corcoran has an ailment that may not permit him to play next year as well which is why he is asking for the reimbursement and not a credit.

Councilman Boyce made a motion to reimburse Mr. Corcoran's 2023 golf course membership fees

Second - Councilman Carnazza

Discussion - None

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

Ordinance 1242-23 – Tree Preservation & Removal Ordinance – Resolution of Introduction

Councilman Gallagher read the resolution

Second – Councilman Boyce

Discussion – Councilman Gallagher explained that our Stormwater Control Plan requires that we have a tree ordinance adopted to align us with NJDEP.

Councilman Gwon inquired about the violation and fines section of the ordinance.

Mr. Gannaio explained that the Zoning Official would issue a summons and it would then go to the Municipal Court.

Councilman Boyce explained that we need to also update our fee schedule to include a provision for enforcement. The fines still need to be discussed so that will be done through a separate ordinance.

Councilman Gallagher feels that this ordinance is a good balance between the needs of the residents and the environment.

Councilman Boyce explained that the surrounding towns also have tree ordinances that are equal to or stricter than the one we are looking to adopt. Asked for the Borough Engineer's input on the ordinance.

Mr. Skrable explained that he has not seen this current ordinance but will review it and give his thoughts and suggestions.

Discussion ensued on the various definitions and provisions listed in the ordinance.

Mayor Kramer suggested tabling the ordinance until Mr. Giblin is present and can

explain his reasoning behind certain portions of the ordinance. We could also then get the Borough Engineer's input as well.

Motion to table Ordinance 1242-23 - Councilman Gallagher

Second - Councilman Binaghi

Discussion - None

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

OLD BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC'S OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK

Motion to open the meeting to the public – Councilman Yhu

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

Motion to close meeting to the public – Councilman Binaghi

Second – Councilman Yhu

Discussion – None

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

Motion to adjourn Regular Meeting – Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Binaghi

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.

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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	Present
	Councilman Jin Yhu	Present

Also Present: Borough Administrator Anna Haverilla
Borough Attorney Michael Gannaio

ENGINEER'S REPORT

The Haring Drive Bridge project does not have a lot of work left so it should be done in a few days. He is hoping for early next week.

Described what the Howard/Russell/Irving Paving project will consist of. The bids will be received next Thursday. He believes that some of the work can be completed this year but will need to meet with the contractor to know for sure once the bid is awarded.

The Golf Course Pump Station bids will need to be rejected and re-bid.

Mayor Kramer asked about the on-going flooding situation on Perry Street. The residents have submitted pictures from the recent storm. Is there an issue with the work that was recently done?

Mr. Skrable explained that there are a few separate issues. The house at 4 Perry Street has an issue that is the subject of a current DOT grant application and will be completed once the grant is awarded. The resident is trying to mix the issues so we act quicker but they are completely separate. The project that was recently completed on Perry Street has nothing to do with their property because the water is flowing in a completely different direction.

Mr. Skrable explained that in regard to the issues with the trees on Perry Street the DPW Superintendent has aerial drone footage from before and after the project which shows that the contractor took out more debris than he should have so there is clearly less material on the properties than there was before the project. The owners are not happy about that but the contractor did what they were supposed to do. He feels that we should show the neighbors the drone footage.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE

COUNCILMAN BINAGHI – GRANTS/HISTORICAL

The Historical Committee will have a booth at Town Day.

COUNCILMAN GWON - RECREATION/LIBRARY/SCHOOLS

Asked Mr. Skrable if he could take a look at the leak occurring at the library in the kid's program room and the mechanical room. Perhaps he can recommend a solution or at least figure out what the source of the problem is.

Mr. Skrable will get in touch with the library and take a look.

The pickle ball courts were lined today. The nets will be installed in the next couple of days. There will need to be a 48-hour drying period. Reservations will begin once all of this is completed.

The rain has caused problems with the soccer schedule. Some teams have not even played one game yet. The league is trying to coordinate and add more games to the schedule. There was an issue with the closing of playing fields in which the recreation sports did not play but the club sports did and caused \$500 worth of damage for which we will be reimbursed. Better communication and coordination need to occur between the recreation sports heads, club heads and the DPW when it comes to field closures.

We have learned from our Risk Manager that the hayride and dunk tank are no longer insured by the JIF.

Mrs. Haverilla explained that all the rides we use at Town Day have to be done by an insured vendor, the town cannot do it. This includes the hayrides and employees or town officials cannot be in the dunk tank. The Recreation Director is trying to come up with alternatives.

COUNCILMAN YHU – DPW/SENIORS/FIRST AID

On October 5th the Seniors will be going on a bus trip. This trip is free of charge.

The First Aid Corps will be participating in the annual Safety Night on October 10th. They will be at the next meeting to make a presentation.

Read the September 2023 DPW Activity Report. Branch pickup has concluded and leaf pickup will begin on or around October 10th. There will be a shredding event at the DPW on October 14th from 9am-1pm.

COUNCILMAN CARNAZZA – POLICE/ADMINISTRATION/HEALTH

Attended a meeting at the high school with the Borough Administrator, Police Chief, School Superintendent, Principal and Athletic Director to discuss the gate on Howard Drive. We explained to the school that leaving the gate open is a safety issue. The school would like us to recommend that the west side of Howard Drive be made no parking at

all times, the other side of Howard Drive will be no parking during certain instances. The Police Department will put up temporary no parking signs during school and recreation events. The gate will remain locked but the walk through will stay open. They also discussed putting a light and camera in the area on the school's property.

Mrs. Haverilla explained that the Police Chief believes that the best solution for this situation is to have permanent no parking in the spur and on the west side of Howard Drive. The police will continue putting signs up on the streets in the surrounding area. The school is also looking to upgrade the existing lights. The school feels that it is dangerous to have the walk way locked because then everyone would have to exit through the same place in the case of an emergency.

Councilman Gallagher stated that they are probably going to have to do the same permanent no parking restrictions on the streets near Howard Drive as well.

Councilman Yhu is in favor of the permanent no parking. He has spoken to the Howard Drive residents and they are in favor of it as well. They are inconvenienced during all these school events.

Mayor Kramer asked if all were in favor of enacting an ordinance to prohibit parking on the west side of Howard Drive and the spur.

All but Councilman Gallagher were in favor of the ordinance.

Councilman Gallagher feels that it is an inconvenience to the Howard Drive residents. We should let the residents know about these potential parking changes and give them an opportunity to come in and speak.

The Borough Attorney will prepare an ordinance for the next meeting.

Mayor Kramer does not believe that whether or not the school locks the gate or the walk through is in our purview since it's their property.

It was decided that the Borough Administrator will send a letter to the NVOT Board of Education in regard to the Mayor & Council's concerns with the locking of the gate and walk through on Howard Drive.

COUNCILMAN BOYCE – GOLF/PLANNING BOARD/FIRE

One bid was received for creating the architectural work for the back-terrace structure at the golf course. This will provide year-round rain and sun protection. The bid was high so they will continue to seek additional bids.

The Fire Department's new truck should be delivered this month. One of the other truck's suffered damage and requires repairs. He is working on the LOSAP requirements for the Fire Department and would like to review them with Councilman Yhu so they can

coordinate with the First Aid Corps.

The Planning Board will be meeting on October 11th to review 2 applications. The Construction Official will be giving a presentation on corner lot fences.

The Boy Scouts will now be meeting at the Fire House.

The Veterans are working on having another meeting.

COUNCILMAN GALLAGHER – FINANCE/CONSTRUCTION/ENVIRONMENTAL

Reported that Councilman Boyce will be receiving an award from the Association of NJ Environmental Commissions. Read a letter describing the Councilman's professional and personal accomplishments.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Read a letter he received from the Academy of the Holy Angels commending Cara Boyce on her participation in the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Seminar which helped inspire her Girl Scout Gold Award project of teaching American Sign Language (ASL) at the Old Tappan Library. She also launched a You Tube channel where she posts videos in regard to ASL and deaf culture. She has also joined with other students to create a non-profit that works toward cleaner water by finding alternatives to every day pollutants.

Councilman Boyce reports that Cara would also like to teach sign language to the Old Tappan First Aid Corps and Fire Department.

Councilman Binaghi explained that learning and using sign language can also help with those with autism.

Mayor Kramer received an email from Gary Mascolo, a current Environmental Commission member, stating that he will not be seeking reappointment next year but thanked the Mayor and Council for all of their hard work and dedication to the town.

Asked what the status is of trying to clear the town's intersections of overgrowth. He has noticed that some of the places that were on the list have not been addressed. One being the intersection of O'Connors Lane and DeWolf Road and the other is at Pine Hill Road.

Mrs. Haverilla explained that the Code Enforcement Officer was given a list, that has gotten much shorter, but the one on O'Connors is very difficult because the resident does not want to do the work. He is trying to get it done without having to issue summonses. Most people are being very accommodating and taking care of it.

Mayor Kramer stated that we might have to take enforcement action because it is a hazard.

Councilman Boyce stated that both sides of O'Connors Lane need to be addressed.

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: October 16, 2023