

BOROUGH OF OLD TAPPAN
MAYOR AND COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
September 18, 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 Gallagher

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Recreation Commission

- Katherine Chang - Unexpired 5 Year Term Ending 12/31/27
- Craig Mahler - Alternate #1 - Unexpired 3 Year Term Ending 12/31/23

Motion to accept the appointment – Councilman Gwon

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

STAFF APPOINTMENT

DPW Mechanic - John McCormick

Motion to accept the appointment – Councilman Yhu

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’S OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK

Motion to open the meeting to the public – Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

Motion to close the meeting to the public – Councilman Binaghi

Second – Councilman Yhu

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Ordinance 1239-23 – Amend Recreation Fees – Resolution of Adoption

Councilman Gwon 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 Binaghi

Second – Councilman Gallagher

Discussion – None

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

Councilman Gwon read the resolution

Second – Councilman Yhu

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

Ordinance 1240-23 – Amend 2023 Salary Ordinance – Resolution of Adoption

Councilman Carnazza 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 Gallagher

Discussion – None

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

Councilman Carnazza read the resolution

Second – Councilman Yhu

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 – Councilman Binaghi inquired about the grant cancellation resolution and why it is necessary.

Councilman Yhu explained that it was a grant for the Senior Expressive Arts Program and they could not find a reason to use the money so we have to cancel it.

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

Town Day was postponed but the Historical Committee is still planning on having a presentation on the new date of October 28th.

COUNCILMAN GWON - RECREATION/LIBRARY/SCHOOLS

The Library Board reports that they are on budget. Circulation for the year is up quite a bit from last year. The River Vale library will be closing for about a month or 2 so they anticipate more people coming to Old Tappan. They had a leak in the Children’s Room and have hired a structural engineer to find out what is causing it. They are working on the 2024 budget.

At the NVRHS board meeting potential renovations to the NVOT weight room were discussed as well as the budget. Roof repairs will be occurring over the next few years. The gate on Howard Drive was also discussed.

Discussion ensued on the NVOT gate near the football field and when it is opened and locked.

Soccer season has begun, the new head of that sport is doing well. The pickle ball courts opening has been delayed due to the weather. The vendor is hoping to continue work at the end of this week.

Discussion ensued on the pickle ball courts completion time frame and the vendor.

COUNCILMAN YHU – DPW/SENIORS/FIRST AID

The Seniors have a trip coming up on October 5th.

The DPW hired a new mechanic who was appointed earlier this evening.

The First Aid Corps has submitted their proposed LOSAP amendments. He will present this to the Borough's LOSAP Coordinator tomorrow. Their officers plan to attend the next meeting to speak about the future of the Corps.

COUNCILMAN CARNAZZA – POLICE/ADMINISTRATION/HEALTH

Read a letter from a resident complimenting Sergeant Reilly for a job well done. Read the August 2023 Police Activity Report.

COUNCILMAN BOYCE – GOLF/PLANNING BOARD/FIRE

Kemper has decided to place cards in each of the golf carts in regard to golf course etiquette. He met with the golf course manager and superintendent last week along with an architect to try and come up with a structural design for the \$80,000 we have budgeted for the cover over the terrace. During this meeting they also discussed a larger strategic plan to incorporate a virtual reality driving range in association with the upstairs dining area. This would help the golf course stay open in the winter and add another benefit for town residents. They are also thinking about all the different pieces of equipment they will need in the future. The Golf Committee chair, Tom Corcoran, has requested a refund of his membership due to an injury that has prevented him from playing this season. He will have Mr. Corcoran submit a letter to the Mayor and Council requesting the refund.

A price was received for the golf course fence that was presented to the Sheridan's today. Hopefully by our next meeting we will know what the Sheridan's have decided to do.

A discussion ensued on the various types of proposed fencing for the golf course.

Councilman Yhu inquired about alcohol on the golf course.

Mayor Kramer explained the history of the prohibition of alcohol at Borough parks and recreation facilities.

The Planning Board had 2 applications on their most recent agenda but both were adjourned to the November meeting.

The new truck for the Fire Department should be delivered in about a month. LOSAP has been discussed and the parameters will be forwarded to the LOSAP Coordinator. They will be collaborating with the First Aid Corps.

The Veterans had a good turn out at their last meeting. There are about 100 veterans in town and we are trying to reach out to all of them. At their next meeting they will be trying to figure out how to disseminate any information to all the veterans.

COUNCILMAN GALLAGHER – FINANCE/CONSTRUCTION/ENVIRONMENTAL

He was approached by the Construction Official looking to tighten up our fence ordinance. He has invited him to attend the October Planning Board meeting to present his ideas.

MAYOR’S COMMENTS

Attended the audit exit interview where the Auditor gave the Borough a glowing report. There were only a few comments, no recommendations. The Auditor was very complimentary about the Borough’s all around standing.

ACTION ON MINUTES

Councilman Gallagher made a motion to approve the following minutes:

- Regular Meeting, Closed Meeting, August 21, 2023
- Regular Meeting, August 21, 2023
- Regular & Executive Meetings, September 5, 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

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance 1241-23 – Stormwater Control Ordinance – 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 Gwon	Yes

OLD BUSINESS

Tree Ordinance Amendments

Councilman Gallagher feels that this proposed ordinance is a balance between the homeowners who feel that they should not be told what to do on their property and the benefits of trees to our community and the environment as a whole. He hopes that everyone has had a chance to read through it and feels the same way. This is for discussion only tonight. The plan is to introduce it at the next meeting.

Councilman Boyce explained that he has worked on this ordinance with input from both the Environmental Commission and Borough Attorney. He feels that this version of the ordinance is the best it has been.

Mr. Giblin described the regulations and processes that a resident would need to follow to take down a tree on their property.

Councilman Boyce explained that there is relief in the ordinance for residents who are building new homes.

Councilman Binaghi is not in favor of this ordinance. Does not like telling residents what they can do on their property.

PUBLIC'S OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK

Motion to open the meeting to the public – Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – Christine Massaro, 19 Haring Drive, asked for an update on the Haring Drive bridge project. The students from the east side of town who use it to walk back and forth to school have not been able to go that way and it's a little more dangerous to walk on Old Tappan Road.

Councilman Binaghi will get in touch with the Borough Engineer and let he know tomorrow.

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.

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Binaghi

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

Respectfully submitted,

Jean M. Donch, RMC
Borough Clerk

Reviewed & Approved: October 16, 2023