

# **BOROUGH OF BERNARDSVILLE**

## **Mayor & Borough Council Meeting Minutes**

January 8, 2018

Mayor Kevin Sooy called this meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Council Members Michael dePoortere, Thomas O'Dea, Jr., Chris Schmidt, Michael Sullivan, and Christine Zamarra. Also present were John Pidgeon, Borough Attorney, Ralph A. Maresca, Jr., Administrator/CMFO and Anthony Suriano, Acting Clerk. Council Member Jeffrey J. DeLeo was absent.

### **STATEMENT OF PRESIDING OFFICER**

Notice of this meeting was provided to the Bernardsville News, Courier News and the Star Ledger, filed with the Municipal Clerk and posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board on December 12, 2017.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **OPEN SESSION**

At this point in the meeting, the Mayor & Council welcome comments from any member of the public. To help facilitate an orderly meeting and to permit the opportunity for anyone who wishes to be heard, speakers shall limit their comments to 5 minutes. If reading from a prepared statement, please provide a copy and email a copy to the Clerk's Office after making your comments so it may be properly reflected in the minutes.

Hearing no comments from the public, Mayor Sooy closed the open session.

### **PRESENTATIONS - None**

### **ORDINANCES (None)**

### **RESOLUTIONS**

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| <b>#18-20</b> | <b>AUTHORIZING A REFUND FOR A DUPLICATE DECAL PAYMENT</b>             |
| <b>#18-21</b> | <b>APPOINTING TOM ANDERSON AS TEMPORARY FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTOR</b> |
| <b>#18-22</b> | <b>AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS</b>                                   |
| <b>#18-23</b> | <b>AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS RESERVES</b>                |

Mr. Sullivan suggested rehiring John Sabel, Fire Prevention Official, and seeing if he would be available to also help the Zoning/Housing department. Mayor Sooy said Mr. Sullivan could reach out to Mr. Sabel.

Mr. dePoortere moved to adopt Resolutions #18-20 to #18-23. Mr. Schmidt seconded and a call of the roll followed. Council Members DeLeo, dePoortere, O'Dea, Schmidt, Sullivan, and Zamarra voted yes.

Comcast

Mr. Pidgeon said the governing body may appoint a committee or have an informal discussion with Comcast. He said items such as rates are not negotiable as they are set by the Board of Public Utilities (BPU). Mayor Sooy said we would like a community access channel and to work with the school. Mayor Sooy said he and Mr. Maresca would follow up.

Downtown Revitalization Survey

A subcommittee has been formed to determine the goals and priorities of town residents for improvement of the downtown area. In order to receive input from residents, a postcard with a link to a survey is being requested to be sent to all residents. The cost of printing and mailing will be \$1,300 with another \$50 to \$100 for publishing in the Bernardsville News. Council consent was given to send the postcard to all residents and publish an article in the newspaper. Ms. Zamarra asked who to direct any questions to. Mayor Sooy said to Mr. Suriano, and he will forward them to the Mayor, Bonnie Sellers, or Michael Sullivan.

Ordinance Establishing a Construction Records Clearance Certificate

Mr. Pidgeon said Geoff Price and Renee Apuzzo from the Zoning department suggested this ordinance. Council will consider introducing this ordinance at the January 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

Correspondence (none)

**CLOSED SESSION**

It was moved to adjourn to an executive session to consider Contract Negotiations and that the time when and circumstances under which the matter can be disclosed to the public is when it is finally resolved. The motion was seconded and approved with five yes votes.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Sooy adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

  
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Anthony Suriano, Acting Clerk