BOROUGH OF BERNARDSVILLE

Mayor & Borough Council Meeting Minutes August 12, 2019

Mayor Canose called this meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Council Members John Donahue, Diane Greenfield, Jeff Hammond, Thomas O'Dea, Jr., Chris Schmidt, and Christine Zamarra. Also present were John Pidgeon, Borough Attorney, Ralph A. Maresca, Jr., Administrator/CMFO, and Anthony Suriano, Borough Clerk.

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 11, 2018.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENTATIONS

<u>Downtown Revitalization Committee – Update on Quimby Village, Update on Bus Service, and Design Standard Discussion</u>

Bonnie Sellers said in a recent survey of residents, 98% said they thought the downtown area needs redevelopment. She said we received three RFP's for the Quimby Village Revitalization project.

Phil Abramson and Chris Colley of Topology gave an update on RFP and showed pictures of each of the three RFP submissions from Advance Realty, AST, and Melillo Equities. All three submissions will be on the borough website for residents to view and give feedback.

Michael Sullivan said the committee will come back to an upcoming council meeting with recommendations after reviewing the three RFP submissions.

Sam Maddaluna said the committee has looked into a luxury bus in New York City and the company Boxcar is the best fit to accomplish providing that service. Connor Dolan of Boxcar explained how the bus service would work, and asked council if they could have a survey for commuters starting September 1st to see if this would work for Bernardsville. Ms. Zamarra moved approval of placing the survey on the borough website. Mr. Donahue seconded, and the motion was approved with six yes votes.

Keith Covington of Common Ground and Jeff Horowitz talked about possible changes to the zoning ordinance including changes to the sign ordinance. Mr. Covington distributed a draft of proposed changes to the zoning ordinances and said the main focus is to implement the town plan. This information will be posted on the borough website.

Paul Sedlak said the committee is looking to create an environment for sustained success. He said the information discussed tonight about the project and zoning proposals will be on the borough website and residents will be given an opportunity to provide feedback through September 13th.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Hammond said at the July 8th meeting there was a statement within the discussion of the marijuana ordinance that there were marijuana dispensaries in Morristown and Summit and at that time in the meeting, he corrected that statement and there are not currently dispensaries in those towns. Mr. Schmidt said the statement he had made that he believed Mr. Hammond was referring to was that there are proposals for dispensaries in both of those towns, and that is correct. Mr. Hammond said in the most recent round of approvals at the state, those two towns did not get the approval. Mr. Schmidt said he had said proposals. Mr. Hammond said when the next round comes up, that may be a correct statement. Mayor Canose said maybe we can change it to proposals, and Mr. Suriano said it can be changed to proposals for Morristown and Summit. Ms. Greenfield moved approval of minutes as amended from July 8, 2019 and July 29, 2019. Mr. Donahue seconded and the motion was approved with six yes votes.

OPEN SESSION

Steve Reynolds, Stevens Street, asked about the cost for soil testing. Mayor Canose said we entered into a contract with JM Sorge for an LSRP for \$15,000. Mr. Reynolds said Ferriero Engineering gave approval without a location and did so five months in advance of when the soil was brought into town. He said they also did not require an NJ Clean Soil letter and he felt this was negligence on the part of Ferriero Engineering. He asked why there are no consequence for Ferriero and there should be talk about removing them from their engineering contract with the borough. Mr. Schmidt said the Public Works Committee can review this topic at their next meeting when Mr. Macdowall returns from vacation. Mayor Canose said we are waiting for the test results from the LSRP. It was stated the Public Works Committee is meeting on Thursday and will discuss this topic. Mr. O'Dea said the borough was proactive in hiring an LSRP and Mr. Walker is notifying residents with status updates.

Janeene Crisbacher, Somerset Avenue, asked if soil tests would be done on Somerset, Chilton, and Passaic streets. Mr. Maresca said he was not sure if this will be done. The Public Works Committee will discuss.

Pat Wry, Anderson Hill Road, said a great job was done paving Anderson Hill Road. She mentioned there was a bad accident on that road last Friday and asked if speed calming methods could be looked into for that area and Mullens Lane.

Kathleen Williams, Round Top Road, regarding Ordinance #2019-1810, said she worked in the pharmaceutical field and wants to allow physicians to be able to dispense marijuana during clinical trials.

Karl Frederic, Anderson Hill Road, said he is in the pharmaceutical industry as outside counsel to the New Jersey Cannabusiness Association and spoke about cannabis and its therapeutic effects. He said the industry is not just about dispensing, it is about cultivation and processing.

Peter Birnbaum, Round Top Road, asked if council committee meetings were open to the public. It was stated there is no quorum at committee meetings. Mr. Pidgeon said council committee meetings do not have to be open to the public.

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

ORDINANCES (Public Hearing)

Mayor Canose asked for a motion to continue the public hearing on Ordinance #2019-1807, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING INSTALLATION OF A SPEED HUMP ON WESLEY AVENUE AND SUPPLEMENTING AND AMENDING CHAPTER VII OF THE BOROUGH CODE ENTITLED "TRAFFIC", to the September 9, 2019 meeting as we await the results of a traffic engineering study. Mr. Hammond moved to continue the public hearing, Mr. Donahue seconded and the motion passed with six yes votes. Mr. Pidgeon stated that no further notice would be given.

Mayor Canose opened the public hearing on #2019-1808, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CERTAIN BOROUGH OFFICES AND EMPLOYEES TO USE STANDARD ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER TECHNOLOGIES FOR ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFERS AND SUPPLEMENTING AND AMENDING CHAPTER II OF THE BOROUGH CODE ENTITLED "ADMINISTRATION". Hearing no comments from the public, Mayor Canose closed the public hearing. Ms. Zamarra moved to pass this ordinance on final reading and adopt as published. Ms. Greenfield seconded and a call of the roll followed. Council Members Donahue, Greenfield, Hammond, O'Dea, Schmidt, and Zamarra voted yes.

Mayor Canose opened the public hearing on Ordinance #2019-1809, AUTHORIZING THE LEASE OF THE DUNSTER-SQUIBB PROPERTY (BLOCK 80, LOTS 14 AND 14.1) TO THE FRIENDS OF HISTORIC BERNARDSVILLE, INC. Hearing no comments from the public, Mayor Canose closed the public hearing. Ms. Greenfield moved to pass this ordinance on final reading and adopt as published. Ms. Zamarra seconded and a call of the roll followed. Council Members Donahue, Greenfield, Hammond, O'Dea, Schmidt, and Zamarra voted yes.

Regarding Ordinance #2019-1810, AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING MARIJUANA FACILITIES AND SUPPLEMENTING AND AMENDING SECTION 12 OF THE BOROUGH LAND USE ORDINANCE ENTITLED "ZONING", Mr. Pidgeon stated that

amendments have been made to this ordinance. Mayor Canose opened the public hearing on Ordinance #2019-1810.

Cliff Lisman, Charlotte Hill Drive, said there is an application process for additional dispensaries, five in each area (north, central, and south jersey), and that application process closes on August 21st. He said delaying this ordinance eliminates Bernardsville from allowing dispensaries at this time. Mr. Lisman said the state allows 2% of the revenues from a dispensary to be taxed by a local community.

Bob Frawley, Carriage House Road, said if we are going to prohibit an activity, the ordinance should be specific and define marijuana.

Janeene Crisbacher, Somerset Avenue, said specific illnesses are allowed to be treated by physicians using marijuana and added that it is very controlled.

Hearing no further comments from the public, Mayor Canose closed the public hearing.

Mr. Schmidt move to amend Ordinance #2019-1810 as follows and to continue the public hearing to the September 9, 2019 meeting at 7:00pm.

- 1) Ordinance 2019-1810 entitled "An Ordinance Prohibiting Marijuana Facilities and Supplementing and Amending Section 12 of the Borough Land Use Ordinance Entitled 'Zoning'" is hereby amended as follows:
- a) A new introductory paragraph is added as paragraph "a".
- b) Paragraph "4" in Ordinance 1810 as introduced is renumbered as paragraph "A, iii." and is amended to read as follows:
 - "Businesses selling, distributing, cultivating <u>and/or growing and/or facilitating the sale and/or use of cither recreational and/or medicinal marijuana, including any ancillary or related paraphernalia."</u>
- 2) The public hearing on the ordinance, as amended, is hereby continued until the September 9 Council meeting.
- 3) In accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:49-2, the Clerk is directed to publish a notice of the continued public hearing on the ordinance as amended.

Ms. Greenfield seconded and a roll call vote followed. Council members Donahue, Greenfield, and Schmidt voted yes. Council members Hammond, O'Dea, and Zamarra voted no. Mayor Canose voted yes and the motion to amend and continue the public hearing to September 9, 2019 at 7:00pm was approved.

Mr. Hammond moved to strike the word "medicinal" from the ordinance. Mr. O'Dea seconded and a roll call vote followed. Council members Donahue, Greenfield, and Schmidt voted no. Council members Hammond, O'Dea, and Zamarra voted yes. Mayor Canose voted no and the motion to strike the word medicinal from the ordinance was rejected.

Ms. Greenfield moved to direct Mr. Pidgeon to amend the provision to accommodate clinical trials when coming from a physician's office. Mr. Donahue seconded and a call of the roll followed. Council Members Donahue, Greenfield, Hammond, O'Dea, Schmidt, and Zamarra voted yes.

Mayor Canose opened the public hearing on Ordinance #2019-1811, **ESTABLISHING CHAPTER 70 "THIRD-PARTY PAYROLL DISBURSEMENT".** Hearing no comments from the public, Mayor Canose closed the public hearing. Ms. Zamarra moved to pass this ordinance on final reading and adopt as published. Ms. Greenfield seconded and a call of the roll followed. Council Members Donahue, Greenfield, Hammond, O'Dea, Schmidt, and Zamarra voted yes.

Mr. O'Dea moved that Ordinance #2019-1812, AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$146,000 FROM THE BOROUGH OPEN SPACE TRUST FUND FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS TO EXISTING BOROUGH RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE FACILITIES (version without estimated costs), be introduced by title, passed on first reading, published according to law, and that a public hearing be scheduled for a meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m., September 9, 2019. It was stated the Public Works Committee would review this ordinance. Ms. Greenfield suggested a master plan. Mr. O'Dea said we are looking at a different time frame. Mr. Hammond seconded and the motion was approved with five yes votes. Ms. Greenfield voted no.

Mr. Schmidt moved that Ordinance #2019-1813, AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING THE BOROUGH PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE AND SUPPLEMENTING AND AMENDING CHAPTER XI OF THE BOROUGH CODE ENTITLED "PROPERTY MAINTENANCE", be introduced by title, passed on first reading, published according to law, and that a public hearing be scheduled for a meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m., September 9, 2019. Mr. Hammond seconded and the motion was approved with six yes votes.

Mr. O'Dea moved that Ordinance #2019-1814, APPROPRIATING \$630,000 FROM THE BOROUGH OPEN SPACE TRUST FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF 261 CLAREMONT ROAD, be introduced by title, passed on first reading, published according to law, and that a public hearing be scheduled for a meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m., September 9, 2019. Mr. Hammond seconded and the motion was approved with six yes votes.

Mr. Donahue recused himself from the next two ordinances and left the room.

Mr. O'Dea moved that Ordinance #2019-1815, APPROPRIATING \$1,550,000 FROM THE BOROUGH OPEN SPACE TRUST FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF 271 MINE BROOK ROAD, be introduced by title, passed on first reading, published according to law, and that a public hearing be scheduled for a meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m., September 9, 2019. Mr. Hammond seconded and the motion was approved with five yes votes.

Mr. O'Dea moved that Ordinance #2019-1816, BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 271 MINE BROOK ROAD (B81, L6) IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF BERNARDSVILLE, IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY, AND APPROPRIATING \$1,550,000 THEREFOR (INCLUSIVE OF \$50,000 FOR SOFT COSTS) AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,472,500 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH FOR FINANCING SUCH APPROPRIATION, be introduced by title, passed on first reading, published according to law, and that a public hearing be scheduled for a meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m., September 9, 2019. Mr. O'Dea explained that introducing this ordinance along with #2019-1815 allows council to either use open space funds or bonding for the purchase of 271 Mine Brook Road. Mr. Hammond seconded and the motion was approved with four yes votes. Ms. Zamarra abstained. Note that this ordinance was listed on the agenda by title only and at this time, council consent was given to allow bond counsel to prepare the ordinance.

Mr. Donahue returned to the meeting room.

RESOLUTIONS

#19-152	AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS
#19-153	AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF BONDS FOR STREET OPENING PERMITS
#19-154	AUTHORIZING REFUND OF STORMWATER ESCROW ACCOUNT 04-280-7000-0029 FOR MR. & MRS. KENNETH SILVERMAN FOR 1-2 CHAPIN ROAD
#19-155	AUTHORIZING REFUND OF STORMWATER ESCROW ACCOUNT 04-280-7000-0046 FOR MR. & MRS. GERALD NEGRI FOR 36 AMBAR PLACE
#19-156	AUTHORIZING REFUND OF STORMWATER ESCROW ACCOUNT 04-280-7000-0007 FOR MR. & MRS. MICHAEL LUCEK FOR 28-3 LLOYD ROAD

#19-157	AUTHORIZING REFUND OF STORMWATER ESCROW ACCOUNT 04-280-7000-0031 FOR MR. & MRS. MICHAEL
	GRIPPO FOR 131 MINE MOUNT ROAD
#19-158	ACCEPTING MONTHLY DEPARTMENT REPORTS
#19-159	AUTHORIZING A STIPEND FOR ALTERNATE REGISTRARS
#19-160	PROMOTING OFFICER DAN BUTTEL TO SERGEANT AND OFFICER MICHAEL PARADISO TO SERGEANT
#19-161	APPOINTING DAN CAMPBELL AS A PART-TIME SUBSTITUTE DISPATCHER
#19-162	AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE SOMERSET HILLS REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PROVIDE SPECIAL POLICE OFFICERS IN DISTRICT SCHOOLS
#19-163	GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION OF THE ANNUAL AUDIT (2018)

Regarding Resolution #19-162, Mayor Canose asked about the length of time of the agreement. Mr. Pidgeon said this resolution changes the timing to our fiscal year, which ends in December.

Mr. Schmidt moved to adopt Resolutions #19-152 to #19-163. Mr. Hammond seconded the motion and a roll call vote followed. Mr. Donahue, Ms. Greenfield, Mr. Hammond, Mr. O'Dea, Mr. Schmidt, and Ms. Zamarra voted yes.

Municipal Attorney's Report

There were no comments or questions from council on Mr. Pidgeon's report of August 6, 2019.

Council Committee Reports

Public Safety Committee, Mr. Schmidt said the committee met earlier tonight to interview five applicants for two openings in the police department. Chief Valentine said there will be one item for discussion in closed session and there will be an item of business later in the meeting regarding a project by PSE&G.

Finance Committee, there was nothing new to report.

Personnel Committee, there was nothing new to report.

Engineering, Technology & Public Works Committee, Mr. Schmidt said the committee is meeting on Thursday. He said some signs had incorrect dates for the work on Mendham Road. Chief Valentine said the work on Mendham Road will take place during the day from 9:00am to 4:00pm. He said storm drain repair has started and the paving will take place in about ten days.

Other committee/commission reports

There were none.

Council Liaison Reports

Shade Tree Committee, Mr. Hammond said the committee is working on revisions to the tree protection ordinance. This will be an item of business later in this meeting.

Board of Health, Ms. Greenfield said the Bernards Township Health Department is offering bone density screening on September 19th and pulmonary screening on September 25th. Flyers will be on the borough website.

Open Space Advisory Committee, Mr. O'Dea said the committee reviewed Ordinance #2019-1812 and finds it acceptable. They are moving forward on survey work for 251 Claremont Road.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Chamber of Commerce Request, Sounds Around Town/Classic Cars/Sidewalk Sales, Sept 6th -- Council consent was given to the Chamber of Commerce to hold this event.

Team Campbell Foundation Request for Signs and Ribbons for Childhood Cancer Awareness Month – Council consent was given for this request. It was noted that no signs will block the line of sight for any traffic, though they may need to place some signs in the right-of-way.

Green Acres Grant Funds – Mr. Pidgeon said it is too late for Green Acres Grant Funds to be used for 251 Claremont Road.

Shade Tree Ordinance, Amendments by Shade Tree Committee – Mr. Hammond explained the various changes to the tree protection ordinance as suggested by the committee. There was discussion on the exemption section of the ordinance. Mr. Pidgeon will prepare an ordinance for the September 9th meeting, but not amending the exemption section.

The Rebecca Collection Merchant Decal Refund Request – Council consent was given to refund \$390 to The Rebecca Collection for two decal fees paid before the merchant decal price was lower from \$200 to \$10.

Mayor's Update

Mayor Canose said she and Mr. Hammond attended the Downtown Bernardsville meeting headed by Olivia Manning. Ms. Manning is getting all the qualifications done to get Bernardsville to be a Main Street Program which will help us get grants. On July 16th, Mayor Canose attended the Chamber of Commerce meeting and they are getting new members. Mayor Canose said she and Ms. Zamarra attended a Somerset County Cultural and Heritage meeting on grant training. Mayor Canose, Ms. Zamarra, Ms. Manning, and the Art Teacher from Bernards High School met to work on applying for a grant to cover the cost of the mural on Mount Airy Road. The Cultural Arts Committee had their first meeting. August 6th was National Night Out and Mayor Canose thanked Chief Valentine and the Fire Company for their efforts. Mayor Canose thanked the Fire Company for their hard work on a recent call and handling it very well.

Correspondence

ANJEC Letter, NJ No Plastics -- Sample ordinance from other towns on regulating the use by retail establishments of single use plastic carry out bags and recyclable paper bags to promote the use of reusable bags were reviewed. Mayor Canose will send the ordinances to the Environmental Commission to get their input.

Tour de Summer Camps NJ Bike Ride – Council consent was given for the Tour de Summer Camps NJ Bike Ride on September 22nd. A certificate of insurance naming the Borough of Bernardsville an additional insured and a hold harmless agreement was provided.

Food Stock Update – It was stated that the borough staff donated 161.2 pounds of food for a recent food drive.

Letter from George Mellendick – Mayor Canose mentioned a letter was received from George Mellendick commending Christine Tseles, Alternate Registrar, for her kindness in coming in early to have his requested certified copies ready for pick up.

NJ League of Municipalities Audit – the NJ League of Municipalities Audit was distributed to council in their agenda file for their information. No discussion took place.

Unfinished Business

There was none.

New Business

Request from Ferreira Construction to Use Parking Area Across Borough Hall -- Ian Melhuish of Ferriera Construction was present. Ferriera Construction is starting a project in town working with PSE&G to install a new gas main on Mine Brook Road from Old Quarry Road to the Olcott Square/Mount Airy Road intersection. They requested use of the parking area across from Borough Hall for the length of the project, which would be approximately four to six weeks, to store machines that have wheels, a box truck, pipe material, and stock pile some material for the back fill. The start date has not been finalized as they are still working with NJDOT to pick a date. Council consent was given for this request subject to Mr. Macdowall's consent and for allowing time to access if we need the lot for the Somerset/Woodland soil contamination remediation. Mr. O'Dea asked about a charge to use the property. Mr. Maresca said that no fees have been charged in the past for this type of request. Mr. Melhuish said they always bring the property back to its original state after work has been completed.

PSE&G Natural Gas Line Reconstruction Project, Mine Brook Road -- Chief Valentine discussed the request and said a project such as a gas line reconstruction on Mine Brook Road would be disruptive. The NJDOT has not issued permits yet, so this may delay the project. Council indicated they are in favor of as much night work (starting at 8:00pm or 9:00pm) as possible. Council consent was given to ask NJDOT to not allow the contractor to leave a temporary patch and that NJDOT require them to mill and pave the entire roadway. Council also discussed the desire to ensure that police officers be present to supervise any police officers assigned to traffic control during day work to ensure traffic safety, pedestrian safety and deal with business concerns such as deliveries and parking during the construction. It was noted that PSE&G would first be responsible for police overtime or if not, Ferriera Construction.

OPEN SESSION

Steve Reynolds, Stevens Street, said the truck parked at 17 Stevens Street is still there since the last time he brought this topic up at a council meeting and asked for an update. Chief Valentine said summonses were issued but they were thrown out of court.

Mr. Reynolds said there is a truck with billboards on each side on Mine Mount Road. Chief Valentine said Mr. Reynolds should report that to the Police Department and they will report it to the Zoning Office. Mr. Reynolds said it has been already reported to Zoning. Chief Valentine will follow up.

Greg DeGrandpre, Flintlock Court, asked if a copy of Ordinance #2019-1812 is available and was informed it will be on the borough website. Mr. DeGrandpre said the parking situation on Old Quarry Road is dangerous for kids. Chief Valentine said the Police Department is dealing with that and will look into better signage.

Patricia Wry, Anderson Hill Road, asked when the traffic engineering study for Wesley Avenue would be done. Chief Valentine said a purchase order has been done and we are awaiting

completion of the study. He added the study is not a speed study and for location only for potential speed humps.

Dan Lincoln, Olcott Avenue, thanked council for authorizing the lease of the Dunster Squibb property to Friends of Historic Bernardsville earlier in the meeting in Ordinance #2019-1809. He said Ridge Painting is going to paint the barn at the Dunster Squibb property. Mr. Lincoln said on October 13th, there will be a lecture on famous architects in Somerset Hills. He said that the entire building at 271 Mine Brook Road is historic and said it is best to subdivide. He added that he knows of a potential client who could maintain the house.

Kathleen Williams, Round Top Road, thanked Chief Valentine for evaluating the curves on Round Top Road. She asked about a piece of property that had been mentioned in the past to be taken off the hunting plan and Mr. Pidgeon said that had been done.

Glenn Miller, Fire Chief, asked for an ordinance for Planning Board and/or Board of Adjustment review for installing communication towers to better communication during fires in areas that have poor reception. He said on two recent fire calls, communication was bad. The Public Safety Committee could review such an ordinance.

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

CLOSED SESSION

It was moved to adjourn to an executive session to consider Personnel Matters, Property Acquisition, Contract Negotiations, and Borough Attorney Report, 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 six yes votes.

REOPEN

It was moved and seconded to reopen the meeting to the public. The motion passed with five yes votes.

It was moved and seconded to adopt Resolution #19-164, **APPOINTING PETER ARCHIBALD AS A PROBATIONARY POLICE OFFICER UPON SATISFACTION OF CONDITIONS**. Council Members Greenfield, Hammond, O'Dea, Schmidt, and Zamarra voted yes.

It was moved and seconded to adopt Resolution #19-165, **TERMINATING THE EMPLOYMENT OF TOM KENNEDY**. Council Members Greenfield, Hammond, O'Dea, Schmidt, and Zamarra voted yes.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 a.m.	