

Mayor & Borough Council Meeting Minutes
Community Center – 22 Snug Harbor – Highlands
Wednesday, October 4th 2017
8:00pm

As per requirement of Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, notice is hereby given that this is a Regular Meeting of the Borough of Highlands Mayor and Council and all requirements have been met. Notice has been transmitted to the Asbury Park Press and the Two River Times. Notice has been posted on the public bulletin board. Formal Action will be taken.

Call to Order
Meeting Statement
Roll Call
Executive Session Resolution

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 7:00PM

Personnel: Acting Payroll Clerk
Administrator
Litigation: 171 Bay Avenue
Housing Element & Fair Share Plan
Contract Negotiations: Architect Primary Report

REGULAR MEETING: 8:00PM

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call

Approval of Minutes
September 20th 2017

Public Comment on Resolutions

Consent Agenda

R-17-167 Authorize Payment of the Bills
R-17-168 Authorize Refund of Tax Overpayment
R-17-169 Accept Resignation of Administrator

Resolutions

R-17-165 Person to Person Transfer of Liquor License

Ordinances: Introduction

O-17-18 Regulation of Retail Food Establishments – Grease Trap Regulations
O-17-19 Sidewalk Cafes
O-17-20 Inspections by the Department of Public Works

Other Business:

Best Practices Checklist
Architect Preliminary Report
Borough Hall Trailer
Administrator's Update

Public Comments:

Adjourn

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The Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

As per requirement of Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, notice is hereby given that this is a Regular Meeting of the Borough of Highlands Mayor and Council and all requirements have been met. Notice has been transmitted to the Asbury Park Press and the Two River Times. Notice has been posted on the public bulletin board. Formal Action will be taken.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmembers Broullon, D'Arrigo, Kane-Wells & Mayor O'Neil
Absent: Councilmember Card
Also Present: Bonnie Brookes, Deputy Borough Clerk
Brian Chabarek, Borough Attorney
Patrick DeBlasio, CFO

Resolution to enter into Executive Session

A motion to enter into Executive Session was offered by Councilmember Kane-Wells and seconded by Councilmember Broullon.

ROLL CALL:

AYE: Councilmembers Broullon, Card, D'Arrigo, Kane-Wells & Mayor O'Neil (5)
NAY: None (0)
ABSENT: None (0)
ABSTAIN: None (0)

The Resolution to enter into Executive Session was properly approved.

Executive Session was entered into at 7:03pm.

REGULAR MEETING: 8:00PM

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor O'Neil called for a moment of silence for the victims of the Las Vegas mass shooting on October 1st 2017.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmembers Broullon, Card, D'Arrigo, Kane-Wells & Mayor O'Neil
Absent: None
Also Present: Bonnie Brookes, Deputy Borough Clerk
Brian Chabarek, Borough Attorney
Patrick DeBlasio, CFO

Approval of Minutes

September 20th 2017 - Regular Meeting

A motion to approve these meeting minutes was offered by Councilmember Broullon and seconded by Councilmember Kane-Wells.

ROLL CALL:

AYE: Councilmembers Broullon, D'Arrigo, Kane-Wells & Mayor O'Neil (4)
NAY: None (0)
ABSENT: None (0)
ABSTAIN: Councilmember Card (1)

The September 20th 2017 meeting minutes have been properly approved.

Public Comment on Resolutions:

Mayor O'Neil opened the meeting to public comments.

Seeing no one from the public wishing to speak, Mayor O'Neil closed the meeting for public comments.

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Consent Agenda

- R-17-167 Authorize Payment of the Bills**
R-17-168 Authorize Refund of Tax Overpayment
R-17-169 Accept Resignation of Administrator

Councilmember Broullon offered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda and was seconded by Councilmember Card.

ROLL CALL:

AYE: Councilmembers Broullon, Card, D'Arrigo, Kane-Wells & Mayor O'Neil (5)
NAY: None (0)
ABSENT: None (0)
ABSTAIN: None (0)

The consent agenda has been properly approved.

Resolutions

R-17-165 Person to Person Transfer of Liquor License

Ms. Brookes stated that the application was complete and would be effective on October 5th 2017. Councilmember Kane-Wells offered a motion to approve R-17-165 and was seconded by Mayor O'Neil.

ROLL CALL:

AYE: Councilmembers Broullon, Card, D'Arrigo, Kane-Wells & Mayor O'Neil (5)
NAY: None (0)
ABSENT: None (0)
ABSTAIN: None (0)

Resolution 17-165 has been properly approved.

Ordinances: Introduction

O-17-18 Regulation of Retail Food Establishments – Grease Trap Regulations

Mr. Chabarek briefly explained the proposed ordinance along with O-17-18. A motion to introduce O-17-18 was offered by Mayor O'Neil and seconded by Councilmember Broullon.

ROLL CALL:

AYE: Councilmembers Broullon, Card, D'Arrigo, Kane-Wells & Mayor O'Neil (5)
NAY: None (0)
ABSENT: None (0)
ABSTAIN: None (0)

Ordinance 17-18 was properly introduced.

O-17-19 Sidewalk Cafes

Mr. Chabarek explained the proposed ordinance and the regulations it would impose. Councilmember Card explained why he was opposed to the ordinance which the Council discussed. A motion to table O-17-19 indefinitely was offered by Councilmember Card and seconded by Mayor O'Neil.

ROLL CALL:

AYE: Councilmembers Broullon, Card, D'Arrigo, Kane-Wells & Mayor O'Neil (5)
NAY: None (0)
ABSENT: None (0)
ABSTAIN: None (0)

Ordinance 17-19 was properly tabled.

O-17-20 Inspections by the Department of Public Works

A motion to introduce O-17-18 was offered by Mayor O'Neil and seconded by Councilmember Kane-Wells.

ROLL CALL:

AYE: Councilmembers Broullon, Card, D'Arrigo, Kane-Wells & Mayor O'Neil (5)
NAY: None (0)
ABSENT: None (0)
ABSTAIN: None (0)

Ordinance 17-20 was properly introduced.

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Other Business:

Best Practices Checklist

Mr. DeBlasio explained what the Best Practices Checklist was and how it impacts the Borough. He noted the Borough passed and reviewed some of the questions including the one regarding the review of Borough Authorities. Mr. DeBlasio stated that in regards to the Highlands Housing Authority that “we (the Borough) did an agreement back in November, November 2nd of 2016, and in that was a cooperation agreement”.

Primary Architect Report

Councilmember Broullon provided the public with an update on the status of the new Borough Hall plans. Council encouraged the public to provide them with comments throughout this process.

Borough Hall Trailer

Councilmember Broullon provided an update on the status of moving the Borough offices to the new trailer. Council discussed having the new trailer painted navy blue by the Monmouth County Inmate Labor Program.

Lamp Post Banners

Councilmember Kane-Wells informed the public that she was working on ordering holiday banners for the decorative lamp posts on Bay Avenue.

Meeting Absence

Councilmember Card apologized for missing the recent meeting due to working with FEMA in Florida to restore power.

Police Chief's Report

Chief Burton addressed several public safety complaints that were on social media. He asked in the future residents reach out directly to the Police Department. Chief Burton also informed the public of upcoming events sponsored by the police.

Public Comments:

Mayor O'Neil opened the meeting to the public for comment.

Dan Shields, Windansea, thanked the Council for all the support over the years and introduced the new owners the business.

Bill Iler, Various Proerties, expressed his frustration with the Borough's response to the Highlands Business Partnership's (HBP) request to turn off the JCP&L street lights on Bay Avenue to enhance the look of the decorative lights. He explained the ease of turning off JCP&L lights siting his personal history with the process. Mr. Iler reviewed the aesthetic, financial, and environmental benefits of turning off the duplicate JCP&L lights and asked the Borough to reconsider their position.

Mr. Iler questioned why the Borough could rebuild the Borough Hall at the current location with mixed use space to anchor the downtown or turn to shared services for everything so there would be no need for a new building.

Mr. Chabarek addressed Mr. Iler's comments on the decorative lighting citing many concerns from insurance and statues which impacted the Borough's decision. He advised that technical questions would have to be addressed with the Borough Engineer. Council discussed the topic and advised Mr. Iler that they would take his information under advisement and look further into the situation.

Frank Nolan, Sung Harbor Avenue, explained that he was there on behalf of the residents of Locust Street who are having parking issues due to local businesses and provided the Clerk with a petition from the residents requesting permit parking come back. He explained that there used to be resident permit parking on that street and requested that it again be enforced. Mayor O'Neil explained that the Borough would look for solutions. Chief Burton stated that he was aware of the situation and explained the process to have the permits reinstated.

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Carol Bucco, Shore Drive, commented on Mr. Iler's remarks concerning the decorative lights. She informed the Council that the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish supplied its members with a letter updating them on the Borough's purchase of the parking lot property and inquired if the details were accurate. Mr. Chabarek addressed Ms. Bucco's questions.

Ms. Bucco remarked on her satisfaction with Mr. Geoghegan's job performance as Administrator and made suggestions to Council on moving forward. Ms. Bucco questioned if Councilmember Broullon followed through with sponsoring children for the summer recreation program. Councilmember Broullon confirmed she had.

Steve Solop, Bay Avenue, asked for a member of Council to be on his taskforce to look at the HBP. Councilmember D'Arrigo volunteered.

Joanne Niceforo, Oceanview Terrance, requested an update on Hillside Avenue and the dead trees she commented on previously. Mayor O'Neil noted that the RFP was delayed and will get her a full update the following day.

Kim Scoka, Shore Drive, praised Mr. Geoghegan's job performance. She asked for an update on the pocket meadow initiative which Councilwomen D'Arrigo provided.

Ms. Scoka addressed the traffic issue on Shore Drive and requested the Borough install flashing pedestrian signs which the Chief stated he would review. Ms. Scoka requested an update on flood mitigation. Councilmember Kane-Wells stated that the engineer was working on it and Mayor O'Neil noted that the duck bills had been ordered.

Carla Cefalo, Gravelly Point Road, addressed some comments made earlier in the evening concerning the proposed sidewalk café ordinance. She also provided the Council a history of the HBP's participation with the sidewalk café ordinance.

Scott Keller, Huddy Ave, brought to the attention of the Council a section of Marina Bay Court that was caving in.

Mayor O'Neil thanked Dan Shields for all he has done for the community and wished him the best.

Mayor O'Neil closed the meeting to the public.

Adjourn:

Mayor O'Neil motioned to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Councilmember Broullon. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

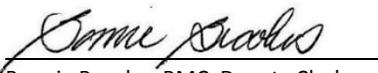
Approval of the Minutes

A motion to approve the Minutes of October 4th 2017 was made by Councilmember Kane-Wells and seconded by Councilmember Broullon.

AYE: Councilmembers Broullon, Kane-Wells & Mayor O'Neil (3)
NAY: None (0)
ABSENT: Councilmember Card & D'Arrigo (2)
ABSTAIN: None (0)

I, Bonnie Brookes, Deputy Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Highlands, in the County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, hereby certify this to be the action of the Governing Body at its meeting held October 18th 2017.

Approve: 
Richard W. O'Neil, Mayor

Attest: 
Bonnie Brookes RMC, Deputy Clerk