# MINUTES WORKSHOP MEETING BOROUGH OF SEA BRIGHT

**JULY 16, 2020 (Thursday)** 

**SEA BRIGHT, NEW JERSEY** 

DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS AND THE NEED FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING, THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD REMOTELY
AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC BY
FOLLOWING THE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW.

PUBLIC ACCESS LINK

https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/712996605

DIAL-IN

United States (Toll Free): 877-309-2073 United States: 646-749-3129 Access Code: 712-996-605

**Mayor Kelly** called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and requested those present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Mayor Kelly** read the following Compliance Statement:

#### **COMPLIANCE STATEMENT (N.J.S.A. 10:4-18)**

Good Morning Ladies and Gentlemen. This Meeting Is Now Called To Order: In Line With The Borough Of Sea Bright's Longstanding Policy Of Open Government, And In Compliance With The "Open Public Meetings Act" I Wish To Advise You That Adequate Notice Of This Regularly Scheduled Meeting Was Sent to the Asbury Park Press and other local newspapers on January 6, 2020. In each instance, the Date, Time, And Location Of This Meeting Were Provided In The Notice. This Meeting Is Open To The Public."

**PRESENT:** Mayor Brian P. Kelly

Councilmember's Kevin Birdsall, Samuel A. Catalano, William J. Keeler,

Marc A. Leckstein, Charles H. Rooney, Jon Schwartz

**OTHERS:** Attorney Roger McLaughlin, Administrator Joseph L. Verruni,

Engineer William White, Clerk Christine Pfeiffer

## **REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE:** (limited to 3 minutes)

The Public Comment portion of this meeting allows members of the audience to bring their concerns or comments to the Mayor and Council's attention. Pursuant to Borough Ordinance 3-2011, a member of the public who wishes to speak shall give his/her name and address for the record and may have up to three minutes to state his/her comments to the Mayor and Council as a Body. If additional time or information is requested, an appointment can be made with the Administrator's office during regular business hours.

No one wished to be heard.

## **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

**SUBJECT:** Capital Projects Update

**ACTION:** Administrator Verruni reported that the final delivery of furniture for the municipal complex has been received and said he met with the Department of Corrections two weeks ago and believes we will soon be receiving their final approval for the holding areas. Mr. Verruni commended all borough staff for keeping operations running during these unprecedented times. Regarding the Pavilion, Administrator Verruni reported Attorney Roger McLaughlin has negotiated a final settlement with the bonding company and Frank Lawrence is in the process of putting together a final punch list for the bond company's contractor to complete when the building opens back up to the public. Councilman Catalano was instrumental in obtaining the new fencing for Anchorage Park which should be installed within the next couple of weeks.

**SUBJECT:** Public Safety Update

**ACTION:** Chief Friedman stated we have issued over 1,000 tickets and will most likely have a record year. There are five Special Officers that will be completing the Police Academy at the end of July which will provide additional manpower to the Department. We have been moving a massive volume of traffic and the Chief hopes to get assistance from the Department of Transportation for the traffic issues to/from Sandy Hook. Captain Arias has been maintaining the parking kiosks and reported that we have made about \$300,000 in revenue so far. Mayor Kelly thanked the Chief for the outstanding job the department is doing. The Fire Chief was not present.

**SUBJECT:** Road Program

**ACTION:** Mr. Verruni explained that we are ready to award a contract for the implementation of the FY2020 road program and we have received one proposal for construction management from Maser. Borough Engineer William White explained that the Borough has two years from the date of award to award a contract without losing the funding. Administrator Verruni instructed Borough Clerk Christine Pfeiffer to prepare a resolution awarding Maser Consulting the contract for the implementation of the road program project.

**SUBJECT:** Street-end Elevated Platforms

**ACTION:** Mayor Kelly explained that a few years ago we had six bulkheads elevated from a grant we received as part of the flood mitigation project. The plan for phase two of the project is to build decking on the bulkheads in order to maintain public access. The Borough has received

additional grant funding for one ADA compliant bulkhead platform but have not yet chosen a location. Three of the bulkheads will fall under the riverfront development project – which leaves three to choose from – Osborne Place, Center and Beach Streets. Mayor Kelly asked for Council's thoughts on using the ADA grant funding for Center or Beach Streets as the bulkhead on Osborne is lower to the ground. Councilman Birdsall thinks there would be a problem for an ADA ramp on Center and Beach because the streets are narrow – Osborne is much wider. Mr. Verruni said the grant application would have to be modified as the grant was awarded specifically for Osborne. Engineer White said he would have to take some measurements to determine if an ADA ramp is doable on Center or Beach Streets. Councilman Leckstein asked if we anticipate the engineer or the Borough Inspectors to inspect the project – the proposal we received from T&M includes inspections in their fee and the Maser proposal does not. Council asked the Administrator to reach out to T&M and ask them to revise their proposal without construction inspection costs.

**SUBJECT:** Bulkhead Issues

**ACTION:** Councilman Schwartz stated there are a number of bulkheads throughout the Borough that are dilapidated and creating a real problem especially in the downtown and would like to have an ordinance in place that would require property owners to maintain their bulkheads. Council agreed the Borough needs a stronger bulkhead ordinance to enforce proper maintenance. Attorney McLaughlin will work with Engineer William White to compile a draft ordinance for the next meeting. Mayor Kelly said the Borough will need to have a bulkhead inspector and Councilman Leckstein suggested a shared service with another town. Councilman Rooney suggested anyone who wants to look at the bulkheads to do so today (at 12:15 pm) during the low tide cycle from the Rumson side of the river.

**SUBJECT:** Ask DOT to temporarily eliminate west side Ocean Avenue

parking/Sidewalk Cafes

**ACTION:** Mayor Kelly explained that we have had some issues over the past few weeks with the overcrowding on the sidewalks from restaurants making it difficult for people to pass through. The Borough has talked about temporarily eliminating the short-term parking on the west side of Ocean Avenue to allow for businesses/restaurants to expand into the street to open up the sidewalks for pedestrians to walk. Mr. Verruni has been in touch with the Department of Transportation regarding filing a permit to eliminate parking from Peninsula Avenue to River Street and from Church Street to Surf Street – if Council wants to proceed, we need to move quickly. After a lengthy discussion, Council agreed to move forward - Borough Engineer William White will submit the permit application. Councilman Birdsall will speak to DPW Deputy Director Shawn Thomas about the possibility of temporarily relocating the trash cans and benches along the sidewalk to allow more room for outside dining tables and pedestrians.

**SUBJECT:** Council Stipend

**ACTION:** Councilman Rooney explained that Council stipends are absolutely necessary, at least 90% of towns do it; this would only apply to newly elected officials. Borough Clerk Christine Pfeiffer stated that there is already a provision in our salary ordinance that covers stipend ranges. Attorney McLaughlin said he will prepare an amendment to the Code to provide for Council stipend and explained that Sea Bright is the first town that he worked for that does not provide a stipend for elected officials - he will prepare an ordinance.

**SUBJECT:** Pavilion Room Rental Fees and Regulations

**ACTION:** Councilman Birdsall commented that it will be difficult to make any money on this taking into account the cost of cleaning (before and after events), staffing and other utilities and isn't sure it is worth it. Mayor Kelly explained that it was never anticipated to be a large revenue maker, but wants to make the room available for people given its great location overlooking the beach. Mayor Kelly said we need to get it done and can always make revisions the following year. Administrator Verruni reported Public Works put together some pricing and he will put together a proposal for the next workshop meeting.

**SUBJECT:** Landowner agreement with the USFWS

**ACTION:** Councilman Leckstein explained that our landowner agreement with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, which allows them to maintain habitat suitability for beach species on the Borough's beaches has expired. Todd Pover, Senior Wildlife Specialist, on behalf of USFWS, would like to get a new agreement signed so they can continue their work. Council had no objection. The Administrator will contact Mr. Pover and ask him to send over a new agreement for review and execution.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

C1. 2020-2021 Umbrella and Chair Rental Bid Award

Councilman Leckstein explained that the winner of the bid for the umbrella and chair rentals has requested that his contract be amended from 2020/2021 to 2021/2022. Attorney McLaughlin explained that he is not allowed to amend the bid in that way – he will have to rebid 2022.

C2. CBI Group proposal

Councilman Keeler questioned if this is something that we are interested in. Councilman Birdsall will speak with Shawn Thomas, Deputy Director of Public Works, to see if this is something that the department would like to do.

C3. Letter from Monmouth Beach Police Dept.

**SUBJECT:** Resolutions

- R1. Authorizing Hiring of Police Officer Designation of SLEO Class II, Special Officer
- R2. Approving the Submittal of a Grant Application and Execution of a Grant Contract with The New Jersey Department of Transportation for the 2021 Roadway Improvements Project for Peninsula Avenue and New Street
- R3. Approving the Submittal of a Grant Application and Execution of a Grant Contract with The New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Ocean Avenue Crosswalk Safety Enhancements Phase 1 Project
- R4. Authorizing Second Amendment to the Temporary Cell Tower Lease Agreement with T-Mobile Northeast LLC
- R5. Authorizing a Refund for a Person-To-Person Transfer Fee of Liquor License #1343-33-008
- R6. Donation of 2020 Beach Badges
- R7. Authorizing Display of Fireworks at Sands Beach Club- August 25, 2020
- R8. Hiring Volunteer Firefighters

**ACTION:** Councilman Leckstein questioned R4 and asked if we had any idea of when the temporary tower will be removed. Mr. Verruni stated that we have been told they are not going to work during the summer and are planning to begin right after Labor Day. Councilman Leckstein does not want to see the temporary tower get taller once AT&T equipment is installed and asked that language stating such be added to the resolution to ensure the tower remains the same height. All resolutions will be prepared for the July 21st meeting agenda for approval.

Councilman Leckstein explained that Verizon has reached out to him to go over the potential locations of nodes they would like to install throughout the town. They are trying to set up a meeting next week and he will inform Council of the meeting details.

Councilman Rooney announced that the Andy Rooney 1-mile Swim is this Saturday at 8:00 am. The finish line will be at the Beach Pavilion – first swimmers should come across around 8:20 am.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Councilmember Leckstein offered a motion to enter in to Closed Session; second by Councilmember Keeler:

**WHEREAS,** Section 8 of the Open Public Meeting Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, it is recommended by the Borough Attorney and Administrator that the Borough Council go into executive session to discuss matters set forth hereinafter which are permissible for discussion in executive session.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Borough Council of the Borough of Sea Bright, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, that they meet in closed session to discuss the issues as herein set forth:

1. The general nature of the subject matters to be discussed are as follows:

A. Contracts

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, minutes will be kept and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no long requires that confidentiality, then the minutes can be made public; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Mayor and Council may come back into Regular Session to conduct additional business.

Roll Call: Birdsall Catalano Keeler Leckstein Rooney Schwartz
Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes

There being no further business to discuss a motion to go back into the regular meeting was made by Councilman Leckstein and seconded by Councilman Keeler with unanimous voice vote approval.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilmember Leckstein offered a motion to Adjourn the Workshop meeting; seconded by Councilmember Keeler:

Roll Call: Birdsall Catalano Keeler Leckstein Rooney Schwartz
Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes

Time: 10:00am Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Pfeiffer Borough Clerk