

**MINUTES  
WORKSHOP MEETING  
BOROUGH OF SEA BRIGHT**

**MAY 12, 2021 (Wednesday)**

**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/952432005>

United States: +1 (872) 240-3412

Access Code: 952-432-005

**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 4, 2021. 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, Jefferey M. Booker, Sr.,  
Samuel A. Catalano (arrived late), William J. Keeler,  
John M. Lamia, Jr., Marc A. Leckstein

**OTHERS:** Administrator Joseph L. Verruni, Attorney Richard Shaklee,  
Engineer William White, Borough 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 contractors have officially started completing the punch list items for the Pavilion and said he anticipates getting everything completed soon. The video conferencing system in the beach pavilion is installed and we should be up and running by the May 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mayor Kelly reiterated that we are on track for our hybrid meetings.

**\*8:40 am Councilman Catalano joined the meeting.**

**SUBJECT:** Public Safety Update (Chiefs of Police and Fire)  
**ACTION:** Chief Friedman reported as the weather is getting nicer, the police department has received over 320 calls for service and multiple arrests. Resident parking passes are now available. Paid parking begins May 15<sup>th</sup> – the signage is up and they are expecting everything to run smoothly. Chief Friedman reported there have been issues regarding feral cats and requested this discussion be held in closed session. The Chief reported the Police Academy graduation is June 11<sup>th</sup> so we will have more specials and we are moving forward with the body worn camera grant. Administrator Verruni commented that he was in Belmar recently and there are no more parking kiosks – it is mobile app only.

Fire Chief Murphy reported the department has received 75 calls for service so far this year and continue to have a response time of 4 minutes and 39 seconds from dispatch to the arrival of the firetruck. Chief Murphy reported that he is happy with the seasonal staffing. Today begins the first day of training of the Fire Department with the lifeguards. Councilman Booker extended his condolences to the Chief for the loss of his German Shepard Rika. Chief Murphy stated that the support he received has been overwhelming and greatly appreciated.

**SUBJECT:** Restaurant/Business Trash Pick-up Cost Analysis  
**ACTION:** Mr. Verruni explained Deputy Director of Public Works, Shawn Thomas, put together a cost analysis for garbage pick-up for businesses since most municipalities do not provide this service for their business because of the volume. Mr. Verruni will put together a savings analysis for Council to review as they need to decide whether to continue this service when we renew the contract – and will need to give the businesses sufficient time to make other arrangements.

**SUBJECT:** Cannabis draft ordinance

**ACTION:** Mayor Kelly explained that time is of the essence concerning this ordinance and recommended Council carefully consider the Attorney's comments and the items brought up by the Zoning Officer, Mary Tangolics. Councilman Leckstein is pleased with the ordinance and believes it includes everything previously discussed, including limiting the number of establishments. Councilman Booker thinks what we have is solid but feels that the questions/concerns from our Zoning Officer are valid. Attorney Shaklee does not feel that any of her concerns/questions require any changes in the draft – they deal more with implementation and administration. Councilman Leckstein suggested adding that there is no customer seating permitted in the establishments and recommends introducing this ordinance at the next meeting on May 18<sup>th</sup> – Council agreed.

**SUBJECT:** Establishing Procedures and Standards Regarding Deployment of Small Wireless Facilities in Public Rights-of-Way in the Borough

**ACTION:** Mr. Verruni explained this is an updated draft ordinance, provided by our consultant, Declan O'Scanlon, which establishes regulations for the co-locating of wireless facilities as we continue to get calls from Verizon and other carriers for Council consideration. Mr. Verruni asked Senator O'Scanlon if he anticipates the temporary cell tower being removed according to the agreed upon timeline of May 30 – due to the Planning Board's recommendations for the generator he is concerned that they may not hit the May 30 deadline as they want the generator in place before they remove the other tower. Councilman Leckstein requested Attorney Shaklee and Council review the ordinance and bring it back for discussion at the next Workshop in June.

**SUBJECT:** Parking – 2021 Summer Season

**ACTION:** Administrator Verruni explained we may be able to have permit parking for Ocean Avenue residents and Borough employees in the former Dunkin Donuts parking lot. With Council's approval he will generate a letter to the County requesting authorization – Council agreed. Councilman Leckstein suggested that we focus on parking for the Ocean Avenue residents. Councilman Booker questioned if we will be increasing parking fines for the 2021 season. Borough Clerk, Christine Pfeiffer stated the Police Department just redesigned the parking ordinance and it will be listed on the next workshop for discussion – specifically the fines.

**SUBJECT:** Beach Club Lifeguard Contract

**ACTION:** Mayor Kelly explained we will be expanding our lifeguarding services to Surf Rider Beach Club. Mr. Verruni said we are using our standard contract that we use with Highlands and Edgewater Beach Club – this addition will beef up our ocean rescue operations further north.

**\*9:18 am Mayor Kelly left the meeting.**

**SUBJECT:** Utility Wires in Alleyway behind downtown businesses

**ACTION:** Mr. Verruni reported Rob Clifton (Comcast) was very receptive to his call and immediately sent a crew to look at the wires in question and they will be taking down the old Comcast wires no longer in use. They identified that a great majority of the wires are Verizon so Mr. Verruni said he will be contacting them next.

**SUBJECT:** Violation Penalty for Certificate of Occupancy non-compliance

**ACTION:** Mr. Verruni stated that our Code Enforcement Officer Tom Haege took a property owner to court for not filing certificates of occupancy for rentals and the penalty was only \$50. Mr. Haege recommends increasing the penalty and Council agreed. Attorney Shaklee will prepare an amendment for the June meeting.

**SUBJECT:** Feral Cats/Cat Licensing

**ACTION:** Administrator Verruni stated that the Mayor received a letter from a resident regarding our policy on feral cats in Sea Bright. The resident is very unhappy that the Borough feeds and essentially takes care of these cats. Chief Friedman has met with the SPCA and they think that most of the cats downtown are spayed but there are residents who are keeping cat colonies which creates a nuisance. The Chief requested that this discussion be continued in closed session. Regarding licensing, Mr. Verruni stated that we only have one or two people who annually license their indoor cats and one was late and had to pay a late fee – which penalized the only resident who complies with the licensing regulations. Since cat licensing is not a state requirement and not many towns license cats, Mr. Verruni recommended eliminating the requirement. Councilman Leckstein recommends introducing an ordinance removing the cat licensing requirement – Council agreed.

**SUBJECT:** Enforcing Plastic and Bulkhead Ordinances

**ACTION:** Councilman Leckstein explained that the upcoming State regulations on plastics are going to take precedence over municipal ordinances beginning in November. Councilman Booker asked if we have a major issue in town? Councilman Leckstein said we do have an issue, especially with plastic straws and suggested we start enforcing our ordinance now as it is already on the books and was ready just before the pandemic. He suggested July 1<sup>st</sup> should be the new enforcement date to give the businesses time to prepare. Councilman Lamia asked how this will be enforced? Chief Friedman stated that he previously met with all the businesses owners and they are all aware of the plastics ordinance – if they don't comply they will get a summons. Councilman Catalano and Councilman Keeler agreed that July 1<sup>st</sup> gives everyone a little time and want to make sure we give all the businesses a heads up. Chief Friedman will notify all the businesses that the new effective date will be July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Verruni explained that we were waiting for the budget to be adopted prior to awarding a proposal to an engineer for the inspections/analysis of bulkheads. We will have a resolution for the award of contract for engineering services for bulkhead inspections at the May 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**SUBJECT:** Annual Employee Increases

**ACTION:** Mr. Verruni explained that we always hold off on salary increases until the budget passes and recommends Council provide for a 2.5% increase for all non-collective bargaining agreement employees – Council agreed to have a resolution prepared for the May 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**SUBJECT:** Resolutions

- 1. MOA US Coast Guard and Borough of Sea Bright
- 2. SSA County for MODIV Property Assessment Computer Services
- 3. Authorizing the Execution of a Grant Agreement with the Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services for Local Efficiency Achievement Program School Implementation Grant Funding

**ACTION:** The above resolutions will be prepared for the May 18<sup>th</sup> meeting for approval.

Councilman Leckstein announced that the Planning Board approved the parking for Lucky Dog Surf School instructors in North Beach along the seawall.

Councilman Keeler questioned the reason for the resolution for the MOA between the US Coast Guard and Sea Bright. Fire Chief Murphy explained that the agreement is to provide fire prevention to the Coast Guard base which is something that we have already been doing for years and opens up funding opportunities.

Administrator Verruni said Chris Wood, Woody’s Ocean Grille, who coordinated the landscaping along the side of the firehouse would like to donate a check for the cost of the landscaping to the Borough and have the Borough pay the contractor directly since we are tax exempt. Mr. Verruni spoke to CFO Michael Bascom and he said we need a resolution accepting the donation for that specific purpose.

Councilman Leckstein announced that the next meeting on May 18<sup>th</sup> will be in person but the public can also access the meeting remotely.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Councilmember Keeler offered the following resolution and moved its adoption; seconded by Councilmember Birdsall:

**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 longer 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.

<b>Roll Call:</b>	Birdsall	Booker	Catalano	Keeler	Lamia	Leckstein
	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilmember Booker offered a motion to Adjourn the Workshop meeting; seconded by Councilmember Birdsall:

<b>Roll Call:</b>	Birdsall	Booker	Catalano	Keeler	Lamia	Leckstein
	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Prepared by,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christine Pfeiffer, Borough Clerk