

**BOROUGH OF OLD TAPPAN**  
**MAYOR AND COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**  
**June 15, 2020**

In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law, notification of this meeting has been sent to our official newspapers and other publications circulated in the Borough of Old Tappan, and notice posted on the bulletin board at Borough Hall.

Please note fire exits located at the main entrance to the Council Chambers and in the rear of the Council Chambers.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:            7:30 p.m.**

<b>ROLL CALL:</b>	Mayor John Kramer	Present
	Councilman Ronald Binaghi, Jr.	Present
	Councilman William Boyce	Present
	Councilman Guy Carnazza	Present
	Councilman Thomas Gallagher	Present
	Councilman Matthew Nalbandian	Present
	Councilman Jin Yhu	Present

Also Present:	Borough Attorney Brian Giblin
	Borough Jean M. Donch, RMC

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

**PRAYER** – Councilman Thomas Gallagher

**PUBLIC’S OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK**

Motion to open the meeting to the public – Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

On voice vote, all in favor, none opposed, the motion carried.

Councilman Binaghi recused himself and left the dais.

Jeanine Binaghi, 31 DeWolf Road, reported that she sent a letter to the Borough Administrator about bamboo encroaching onto her property from property at 15 DeWolf Road. The bamboo is planted on the fence line and right on the property line. Bamboo is invasive and she is concerned with her water and gas lines in the area. She referred to the Borough’s ordinance pertaining to bamboo and read it in part. The Construction Official was made aware of the situation and felt that most of the bamboo was set back and behind the property line. Councilman Boyce, with

knowledge of bamboo, stated that it spreads underground and he has dealt with it; there are ways to eradicate it.

Councilman Nalbandian will follow up on the matter with the Construction Official.

Motion to close the meeting to the public – Councilman Gallagher

Second – Councilman Carnazza

On voice vote, all in favor, none opposed, the motion carried.

Councilman Binaghi returned to the dais.

## **CONSENT RESOLUTION**

Councilman Gallagher read the Consent Resolution

Second – Councilman Nalbandian

Discussion – DPW Collective Bargaining Agreement – Councilman Nalbandian asked that the corrections discussed on the agreement this evening be made.

Resolution Requesting the Governor Reopen Businesses & Non-Profits Closed by Executive and Public Health Orders. Councilman Gallagher asked that this resolution be discussed; he agrees but added that the Governor is slow to react to the medical field.

Councilman Nalbandian advised that he receives emails from hospitals containing their statistics. He commented on the number of patients in hospitals today and the coronavirus. Councilman Nalbandian felt that our Governor is acting independently and has no firm plan; he is not looking at detrimental effects on businesses; a lot of businesses are not coming back. He feels that a business owner or a consumer should be able to decide if they want to take a risk opening their business and entering as a consumer.

Councilman Yhu supports the resolution but disagrees with the policy of keeping things shut down too long.

Roll Call	Councilman Binaghi	Yes
	Councilman Boyce	Yes
	Councilman Carnazza	Yes
	Councilman Gallagher	Yes
	Councilman Nalbandian	Yes
	Councilman Yhu	Yes

## **COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

COUNCILMAN CARNAZZA – RECREATION / HEALTH

Board of Health meets on Wednesday. He will obtain an update on the coronavirus numbers. Recreation – registrations have been refunded, summer basketball and camp have been cancelled. Discussion is being held on holding an outdoor movie in Stone Point Park. Town Day is being discussed however it will not be like in the past, if anything. Not sure about fireworks yet.

Mayor Kramer asked that the committee consider not spending a considerable amount of money on fireworks due to the pandemic and people being out of work; it may not look good.

Councilman Binaghi received an inquiry about the walking path in Stone Point Park not being completely paved.

Councilman Carnazza responded that three-quarters of the path is paved; the decision came from the Borough Engineer who is handling the project.

#### COUNCILMAN YHU – SCHOOLS / SENIORS

The Northern Valley Regional District Board of Education will have their meeting on June 22<sup>nd</sup>; the local school board will meet on June 29<sup>th</sup>. High School Graduation – photographs were taken in front of the High School of students with their lawn signs. There is a planned car parade for June 19<sup>th</sup>. There is a planned diploma presentation for the graduating students on July 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. The library will have curb side pickup and drop off on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. They have received bids to install glass partitions and are looking into an air filtering system for safety. Senior activities are suspended. Local Assistance Board – our pantry is well stocked thanks to many donations. Technology – virtual meetings work well for emergencies.

#### COUNCILMAN BINAGHI – POLICE / AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Police Chief reported that there will be COVID-19 testing at NVOT on June 29<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Kramer has sworn in our new police lieutenant and patrol officer. We have advertised for two police sergeants; interviews will begin soon. The police handled protesters well last week.

#### COUNCILMAN BOYCE – GOLF / PLANNING BOARD / ENVIRONMENTAL

The Golf Course has an estimated 300 members, including 66 new members. The superintendent and golf professional are doing an excellent job. Environmental Commission meets tomorrow evening. Earth Fair was cancelled, Walk to School Week is scheduled for October, Family Camp Night & Movie in November, Eco Lectures are on hold. The deadline for the photo contest is today; five photographs have been submitted. Councilman Boyce reviewed two applications that were before the Planning Board. Four Scouts are going for their Eagle rank; Councilman Boyce described their projects. He received information pertaining to Veterans from the state Chamber of Commerce that Old Tappan can become a veteran designated friendly municipality, however there is criteria which he reviewed.

Mayor Kramer commented that Old Tappan has a World War II Veteran who will be turning 96 years of age; we will be preparing a proclamation honoring him.

## **COUNCILMAN NALBANDIAN – DPW / CONSTRUCTION**

Councilman Nalbandian spoke with the Construction Official and advised that we will have a Code Enforcement Officer in place beginning in August. DPW – we passed their contract this evening, he thanked the committee and Borough Attorney. We resumed mulch deliveries. We will be conducting new hire interviews for the DPW.

Councilman Yhu suggested hiring someone with plumbing, electric and possibly a volunteer fireman allowing him to be on call during the day.

## **COUNCILMAN GALLAGHER – FINANCE / FIRE / FIRST AID**

Councilman Gallagher is thankful to the Borough staff and emergency services for their efforts during this pandemic. The Fire Department has a drill this evening.

## **MAYOR’S COMMENTS - None**

## **ACTION ON MINUTES**

Councilman Gallagher made a motion to approve the following minutes:

- Closed Meeting, May 18, 2020
- Regular Meeting, May 18, 2020
- Closed Meeting, June 1, 2020
- Regular & Executive Meetings, June 1, 2020

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

Roll Call	Councilman Binaghi	Yes
	Councilman Boyce	Yes
	Councilman Carnazza	Yes
	Councilman Gallagher	Yes
	Councilman Nalbandian	Yes
	Councilman Yhu	Yes

## **OLD BUSINESS - None**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

## **National Overdose Awareness Event**

Councilman Yhu reported that August is National Overdose Awareness Month. The Municipal Alliance and Alumni in Recovery groups would like to hold a Black Poster Project in Oakes Park in August to pay tribute to those who have lost their lives. They are looking for permission from the Council. The consensus of the Council was good.

**Ordinance 1167-20 – Code Enforcement Officer – Resolution of Introduction**

Councilman Nalbandian read the resolution.

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

Roll Call	Councilman Binaghi	Yes
	Councilman Boyce	Yes
	Councilman Carnazza	Yes
	Councilman Gallagher	Yes
	Councilman Nalbandian	Yes
	Councilman Yhu	Yes

**Ordinance 1168-20 – Amend 2020 Salary Ordinance – Resolution of Introduction**

Councilman Nalbandian read the resolution.

Second – Councilman Carnazza

Discussion – None

Roll Call	Councilman Binaghi	Yes
	Councilman Boyce	Yes
	Councilman Carnazza	Yes
	Councilman Gallagher	Yes
	Councilman Nalbandian	Yes
	Councilman Yhu	Yes

**PUBLIC’S OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK**

Motion to open the meeting to the public – Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Nalbandian

Discussion - None

On voice vote, all in favor, none opposed, the motion carried

No Public Comment

Motion to close the meeting to the public – Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion - None

On voice vote, all in favor, none opposed, the motion carried.

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Binaghi

On voice vote, all in favor, none opposed, the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed and approved:

Sylvia Kokowski, Recording Secretary

Jean M. Donch  
Borough Clerk

cc: Mayor and Council  
Brian Giblin, Esq.

Date Approved: July 20, 2020