

BOROUGH OF OLD TAPPAN
MAYOR & COUNCIL SPECIAL & EXECUTIVE MEETING
June 6, 2022

In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law, notice 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.

REGULAR MEETING

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

ROLL CALL:	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	Absent

Also Present:	Borough Administrator Anna Haverilla
	Borough Attorney Brian Giblin

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

PRESENTATION

Grant Consultants

Joe DeFranco, Senior Director at Bruno Associates, a grant writing and consulting firm based out of Clifton, NJ. They help municipalities get grant money from a variety of sources. Conduct research and write grants along with walking the municipalities through the entire grant process. The company has been in business for over 40 years and he has been doing this for 6 years.

Councilman Binaghi asked how they are paid.

Mr. DeFranco explained that they work on a monthly retainer. This is based on the demographics of the community. It would be \$2,500.00 per month for Old Tappan.

Councilman Boyce asked about how much in grant monies have been awarded on a yearly basis to the towns they have helped.

Mr. DeFranco answered that, at a minimum, \$300,000 annually.

Councilman Carnazza explained that our current grant consultant only gets paid when a grant is awarded.

Mayor Kramer asked Mr. DeFranco to describe the types of grants that he can get for us.

Mr. DeFranco answered NJDOT, Assistance to Firefighters and FEMA grants are the typical ones.

Councilman Gallagher explained that the town may have needs that we are not even aware of. Will he work with us to see what is out there and what we can get?

Mr. DeFranco answered yes. One of the first things they do is schedule a meeting with the municipality to preform a needs assessment so they can build a foundation and relationship with the town.

Councilman Nalbandian asked how many municipalities do they represent? What is the biggest challenge to getting a grant?

Mr. DeFranco answered that the entire firm represents 45 municipalities. A lot of the times the willingness of the client to provide the necessary information is a challenge.

STAFF APPOINTMENT

Recycling Coordinator - Thomas Jung

Motion to accept the appointment – Councilman Boyce

Second – Councilman Nalbandian

Discussion – None

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

PUBLIC HEARING

Open Space Trust Fund Grant - Golf Course Irrigation System

Councilman Boyce made a motion to open the meeting to the public.

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

On voice vote, all in favor, the motion carried.

No Public Comment

Motion to close the meeting to the public – Councilman Binaghi

Second – Councilman Nalbandian

Discussion – None

On voice vote, all in favor, the motion carried.

CONSENT RESOLUTION

Councilman Nalbandian read the Consent Resolution

Second – Councilman Gallagher

Discussion – None

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

*Councilmen Boyce and Binaghi abstained on Soil Moving Permit - St. Pius X Church - 268 Old Tappan Road - Block 1702, Lot 7

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance 1210-22 – Amend Traffic Ordinance - Foxwood Estates – Resolution of Introduction

Councilman Gallagher 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

Ordinance 1211-22 – Amend Recreation Fees – Resolution of Introduction

Councilman Carnazza 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

Ordinance 1212-22 – Amend Capital Ordinance - Fire Department Radios – Resolution of Introduction

Councilman Nalbandian read the resolution

Second – Councilman Gallagher

Discussion – None

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

Ordinance 1213-22 – Amend Capital Ordinance - Police Department Equipment – Resolution of Introduction

Councilman Gallagher read the resolution

Second – Councilman Nalbandian

Discussion – None

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

Ordinance 1214-22 – Special Emergency - Terminal Pay – Resolution of Introduction

Councilman Binaghi read the resolution

Second – Councilman Nalbandian

Discussion – None

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

Ordinance 1215-22 – Amend Stormwater Control Ordinance – Resolution of Introduction

Councilman Boyce 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

OLD BUSINESS

None

Mayor Kramer read a statement explaining that at the most recent Planning Board meeting it was reported to him that the Chairman of the Planning Board indicated that the Mayor and Council were not in favor of saving the historic building at 244 Old Tappan Road which is currently under review by the Planning Board. He wanted to make clear that this Mayor and Council has not discussed any such matter and have come to no conclusions on it. They have no right to discuss anything of this nature at this point and time. He invited the public to speak tonight on whatever matters they would like however the Mayor and Council will not be responding to anything having to do with 244 Old Tappan Road.

PUBLIC’S OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK

Motion to open the meeting to the public – Councilman Gallagher

Second – Councilman Nalbandian

Discussion – None

On voice vote, all in favor, the motion carried.

Cherie Fonorow, 256 Old Tappan Road, inquired about work being done at St. Pius X Church for both herself and on behalf of her neighbors. The lights seem very bright and she would like to know the wattage of the bulbs and the hours that they will be on. She is also concerned with the construction of a playground and basketball court at the church. What hours will the court be open? They are concerned that this will become a hangout.

Councilman Boyce explained that the church is installing these things to instill a sense of community. Father Kevin is trying to reinvigorate the church. There are plans to install signs with the hours and a chain will be hung with a sign saying no use after certain hours. If the lights do not meet the requirements that will be addressed.

Angeline Sheridan, 31 Edith Street, asked about stormwater management and who oversees it for the town. We are getting a lot of flooding and stormwater runoff from the recent rains. Most especially along Old Tappan Road with the additional construction going on. The schools took on some water during the most recent storm. What is being done to identify areas that are experiencing flooding.

Councilman Binaghi explained that the DPW has to file a plan with the State and the Borough Engineer for stormwater management which includes identifying every catch basin in town, cleaning them out, disposing of the debris in a proper manner and showing proof of that. The DPW Superintendent is in charge of the streets and roads so he has to make sure that curbing and other things are in place so water travels the way it is supposed to. The Borough Engineer is also involved in this, especially when we do a paving project. The rains lately have been very intense. We have been approved by the State for a number of years.

Ms. Sheridan asked if there was any data to suggest that our water table is rising? Her block is experiencing more flooding then when she moved in 6 years ago. They have installed seepage pits. They get pooling in areas that they have never had before. Who is tracking where the flooded areas are and how often are they happening?

The Borough Engineer explained that the water table in town, in general, is regulated by the reservoir which has a controlled outlet structure. The water table in Old Tappan, in his opinion, is not varying significantly. It varies seasonally, but it is not changing over the long term. The intensity of the storms is changing which means you are getting more rain more quickly which overwhelms some of the infrastructure. What they are doing is identifying the problem areas and improving the infrastructure. As far as the construction

on Old Tappan Road, the new, larger developments have to meet State standards once they are complete, during construction is a different story but once they are done there is supposed to be a net decrease in runoff for the community as a whole. During construction there are temporary basins on the sites and outlet control structures to filter the water before it leaves the property. This is monitored by the County.

Mayor Kramer explained that they have received grants to address flooding issues on Perry Street and Fred Street.

Councilman Binaghi explained that the Bergen County Soil Conservation District is very strict about their regulations and explained what the builder needs to submit and how it is approved and inspected.

The Borough Attorney explained that the Borough cannot adopt stricter regulations than those of the State and County.

Councilman Boyce explained the erosion control measures that are implemented at the onset of construction.

Kathy Ferdinand, 15 Autumn Lane, appreciates the Mayor's statement about the Haring House at 244 Old Tappan Road but would like to express her concern. She hopes the Mayor & Council pursue grants for the preservation of this property.

Ms. Fonorow inquired about the status of the tree preservation ordinance.

Councilman Nalbandian answered that it has not come before the Mayor & Council yet.

Councilman Boyce invited Ms. Fonorow to the next Environmental Commission to discuss the ordinance. It is currently being worked on by the commission.

Motion to close meeting to the public – Councilman Nalbandian

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

On voice vote, all in favor, the motion carried.

Motion to adjourn Regular Meeting – Councilman Binaghi

Second – Councilman Nalbandian

On voice vote, all in favor, the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE MEETING

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Also Present:	Borough Administrator Anna Haverilla
	Borough Attorney Brian Giblin

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Skrable read the list of streets for this year's paving program. We will receive the bids and award in July so the work can begin in August.

300 Orangeburg Road Drainage

Mr. Skrable explained that the house was built over 10 years ago. Seepage pits were installed and it appears that either during or after the construction the roof leaders were never connected to the seepage pit, they were just directed to an existing swale between the new house and their neighbor. Because of this, trees have been lost and the neighbors are concerned and looking for assistance. The house is vacant so it is tough connecting with the owner.

Mr. Giblin explained that we can make them comply with any of the conditions of the permits issued.

Mr. Skrable explained that there are options for taking the drainage elsewhere and listed them.

Mrs. Haverilla stated that our Code Enforcement Officer is following all the rules and putting in the warning notices.

Councilman Binaghi inquired about drainage on DeWolf Road.

Mr. Skrable explained that we still have the money. It will probably be bid in the fall.

Councilman Carnazza inquired about the Pearson property. There is a hole at the traffic light that is starting to dip and needs to be repaired again.

Mr. Skrable will take a look at it.

Councilman Boyce asked Mr. Skrable to look at the silt at Stanaland Park.

Mr. Skrable explained that he gave the developer a week to come up with a solution so he will follow up.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE

COUNCILMAN CARNAZZA – RECREATION/HEALTH

A Town Day Committee meeting was held.

Recreation Commission will meet this week. Pickle Ball will begin this month.

Two Board of Health members have taken charge of the Mayor's Wellness Campaign. They would like to get it started again. They will go over the handbook at their next meeting and will be in contact with the Mayor and Borough Administrator to go over their ideas and see when they can do them.

COUNCILMAN BINAGHI – FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION

No report

COUNCILMAN GALLAGHER – POLICE/GRANTS

The process to promote 2 additional Sergeants continues. Testing has been completed and interviews will be setup for July. They also have a goal to hire a new officer in September. There is a surplus military program that we previously applied to. They reached out to us and have 2 jet skis with a trailer available. No one has any use for these items but if we take possession and hold on to them for 1 year we can then sell them. We are going to accept these items. The Norwood Police Chief and Mayor have requested a meeting to review the Active Shooter Protocols.

Read Councilman Yhu's report:

The First Aid Corps participated in the Borough's Touch a Truck event along with the Fire Department and DPW this past weekend. There was a great turn out. The Corps will be participating in a joint drill tonight with the Fire Department.

The Seniors are going to begin their social programs again. There will be a Lunch & Learn on June 9th. They will then be hosting a commemoration for former Chairman

David Northrop with a tree planting ceremony and proclamation in front of the Senior Center.

Read the DPW May activity report. Took delivery of their new utility truck.

Read the Construction Department activity report.

COUNCILMAN BOYCE – GOLF/PLANNING BOARD/ENVIRONMENTAL

The Golf Course has requested that Veolia mark out the property line that runs parallel with the fence along the reservoir so they can implement the cart path installation. The Golf Committee met and inspected the Club House and all looks good. We currently have 250 members. The NVOT Golf Coach is pleased with the management company. A tournament was recently held. They will be meeting with the DPW to go over some items. More carts are needed so a bid will be going out for those. They would like to move operations from the garage in the front to the shed so a golf simulator can be installed. The Environmental Commission would like to change the plants in the course's detention pond to more native and pollinator plants.

The Planning Board has a meeting this Wednesday where testimony on 244 Old Tappan Road will continue. The public will have the opportunity to question the professionals. He has received letters in support of retaining the Haring House that he will bring to the attention of the Planning Board Chairman.

The Environmental Commission is moving forward with the tree preservation ordinance. A new Salem oak tree will be planted at Oakes Park. Hooked on Fishing was a success this past weekend. Discussed the power lines that run through Old Tappan and surrounding towns that are no longer electrified and should be removed. The commission discussed solar power and battery technology as well as potential grant programs to help the town with this. Water is being installed at the new Community Garden and a fence will be installed by an Eagle Scout candidate.

Mayor Kramer explained that a letter was sent from the Borough asking that the power lines be taken down and the power company has said that they will remove them.

COUNCILMAN NALBANDIAN - FIRE/LIBRARY/SCHOOLS

The Library meeting will be held next week. They are adjusting their budget based on the appropriation that they were given.

The Fire Department responded to an incident at the Pearson property that also required the Police Department and EMS. After the incident the Fire Chief had a meeting with Council Members and the County to review our procedures to see what can be improved. It was a productive meeting.

Councilman Gallagher explained that he met with the Police Chief today to review this

incident. All the departments involved understand that they come from different angles on these types of calls and they have a good working relationship.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

The Mayor read a letter from a resident praising the Library staff and stating how vital it is to our community.

Motion to adjourn – Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Binaghi

On voice vote, all in favor, the motion carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Jean M. Donch, RMC
Borough Clerk

Reviewed & Approved: June 20, 2022