

BOROUGH OF OLD TAPPAN
MAYOR & COUNCIL SPECIAL & EXECUTIVE MEETING
September 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	Present

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

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

POLICE SERGEANT APPOINTMENTS

Eugene Wilkins and Charles DiMaria

Motion to accept the appointment – Councilman Gallagher

Second – Councilman Nalbandian

Discussion – None

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

Mayor Kramer administered the Oath of Office to Police Sergeant Eugene Wilkins.

Mayor Kramer administered the Oath of Office to Police Sergeant Charles DiMaria.

PATROL OFFICER APPOINTMENT

Jacob Ramos

Motion to accept the appointment – Councilman Gallagher

Second – Councilman Yhu

Discussion – None

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

Mayor Kramer administered the Oath of Office to Patrol Officer Jacob Ramos.

APPOINTMENT

Class III Special Law Enforcement Officer (SLEO III) - Michael Foti

Motion to accept the appointment – Councilman Gallagher

Second – Councilman Nalbandian

Discussion – None

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

BOARD APPOINTMENT

Recreation Commission - Christine Massaro - Unexpired 5 Year Term Ending 12/31/24

Motion to accept the appointment – Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Gallagher

Discussion – None

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Ordinance 1219-22 – Amend Mechanical Fees – Resolution of Adoption

Councilman Yhu described the ordinance and made a motion to open the meeting to the public.

Second – Councilman Binaghi

No Public Comment

Motion to close the meeting to the public – Councilman Nalbandian

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

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

Councilman Yhu 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 1220-22 – Amend Golf Course Fees – Resolution of Adoption

Councilman Boyce described the ordinance and made a motion to open the meeting to the public.

Second – Councilman Gallagher

No Public Comment

Motion to close the meeting to the public – Councilman Nalbandian

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

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

Councilman Boyce 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
	Councilman Yhu	Yes

CONSENT RESOLUTION

Councilman Nalbandian read the Consent 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

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance 1221-22 – Amend Soil Moving Permit Application – Resolution of Introduction

Councilman Yhu read the resolution

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – Councilman Nalbandian thinks it is helpful for the Mayor and Council to know what soil moving permits are going.

Councilman Yhu explained that he will report on it each month under her committee report.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Police Department Salary Increases

Councilman Gallagher read the following statement:

On the advice of Labor Counsel, and the fact that the PBA has refused to meet again since May, we will not be moving forward with the backpay raises discussed last month. We are also more than willing to meet again, soon than later, with the PBA to hammer out some of the finer points of the contract that has been going on for a long time.

Proposed Tree Ordinance Amendments

Councilman Boyce explained that the revisions to this ordinance are long overdue. The Environmental Commission has reviewed and rewritten quite a bit of it. He would like to invite the 2nd and 3rd Mayor and Council Environmental Commission liaisons to sit with him and go over the changes and then report back at the next meeting.

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.

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 Carnazza

Second – Councilman Binaghi

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

Councilman Carnazza left the meeting to attend the Recreation Commission meeting.

EXECUTIVE MEETING

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MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

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

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

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Skrable reported that the 2022 Road Paving Program is ready to begin. They are looking to start milling next Friday, September 16th and continue through the next week subject to the weather. He read the list of streets to be paved. The residents will be notified the beginning of next week. The Perry Street drainage project should begin in October, they are still waiting on the pipe.

Councilman Yhu questioned the elevations of the 2 buildings being constructed at the corner of Old Tappan Road and Washington Avenue because they seem to be different.

Mr. Skrable explained that they meet all the height requirements. The height is all based on the access point and they will be accessed from different streets.

Councilman Binaghi inquired about the drainage issues at The Enclave. He is concerned with how it will affect the properties surrounding it.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE

COUNCILMAN BOYCE – GOLF/PLANNING BOARD/ENVIRONMENTAL

A member at the golf course was injured and can no longer golf so he has requested that the balance of this year's membership fee be applied to 2023. He has been a member in good standing for the last 8 years.

The Mayor and Council were in favor of this.

The Golf Committee will have a meeting this fall to discuss a small increase in membership fees to keep up with the cost of expenses. They will work with the CFO to see how the golf course is fairing financially.

A common practice at the golf course has been to take in membership fees between September and January for the next year and then allowing these people to play for the balance of the year that they paid in. They would like to continue with this provided the Mayor and Council are in favor of this. He feels it is a good idea.

The Mayor and Council were in favor of this.

The Environmental Commission is working with a landscape architect/arborist for the 244 Old Tappan Road Planning Board application. A tree survey is being conducted and a report will be provided to the Environmental Commission who will then make a recommendation to the Planning Board weighing in on the impact of removing those trees. It is a report in progress right now. He explained the status of the 244 Old Tappan Road application and what still needs to happen before the Planning Board votes. It will probably take another 3 to 4 meetings.

He received a letter from the Environmental Commission Chairman in regard to a development in Orangetown, NY that abuts the Waters Edge development in Old Tappan. A data center is being built.

Mrs. Haverilla explained that the Environmental Commission could send the Orangetown Planning Board a letter. There are a lot of people, including Senator Schepisi, working on this project on behalf of the Old Tappan residents right now. In the past they have not been receptive to our input. One of the neighbors contacted her and she told them that she

will send them anything the Borough receives from Orangetown.

Mayor Kramer suggested having the Borough Attorney draft a resolution that can then be sent to Orangetown.

Councilman Boyce stated that at the next Environmental Commission meeting they will review the Orangetown application and speak with the Borough Attorney so a letter can be drafted and sent.

COUNCILMAN GALLAGHER – POLICE/GRANTS

It is encouraging to see our new grant consultants starting to look for opportunities for the Borough.

COUNCILMAN BINAGHI – FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION

The Tax Collector reports that the Tax Sale is scheduled for October 14th. Gave the current number of tax and sewer account delinquencies. Final 2022/preliminary 2023 tax bills are being processed and will be mailed the week of September 12th.

COUNCILMAN YHU – DPW/CONSTRUCTION/FIRST AID

The Seniors will be having a Lunch and Learn on September 29th, an International Luncheon on October 27th, the Christmas Luncheon December 15th and they will be participating in Town Day.

The First Aid Corps has reached out to the grant consultants for opportunities. To help alleviate some of the load on our volunteers he would like to meet with the committee to discuss the plausibility of enacting an ordinance to require nursing homes and other group homes to provide their own modes of transportation for non-emergencies.

The Construction Department remains busy. Some of the inspectors have begun using the Borough vehicle they were allocated. During budget season we can discuss getting them a new car.

The DPW has continued with ash tree removal and stump grindings. They painted all stop lines, crosswalks, curbs and parking spots throughout the town as well as doing work at the Community Garden and performed maintenance on all of the parks and playgrounds. All the playgrounds passed the required safety inspections.

COUNCILMAN NALBANDIAN - FIRE/LIBRARY/SCHOOLS

The Fire Department will have their Inspection Dinner on September 30th. The Chief and Deputy Chief attended a symposium in New York run by the FDNY on lithium ion battery training.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Was at a meeting of the Police Chief's Association and it was reported that car thefts continue at a very high rate. One of the biggest problems is that most of these cars are being stolen by juveniles and there is no action being taken against them. The legislature needs to do something about the bail reform measures that were adopted. The Chairman of the association suggested that Mayor and Council's begin adopting resolutions to put pressure on the legislature to amend the bail reform measures.

He received an email from former Mayor Victor Polce informing him that his father has passed away and gave the service details.

Motion to adjourn – Councilman Binaghi

Second – Councilman Gallagher

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: September 19, 2022