

**BOROUGH OF OLD TAPPAN
MAYOR AND COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
January 16, 2024**

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.

All meetings are videotaped and posted on the website.

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

Oath of Office Administered to Councilman Ronald Binaghi, Jr. by Mayor Thomas Gallagher

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

ROLL CALL:	Mayor Thomas Gallagher	Present
	Councilman Ronald Binaghi, Jr.	Present
	Councilman William Boyce	Present
	Councilman Guy Carnazza	Absent
	Councilman Cort Gwon	Present
	Councilwoman Christine Massaro	Absent
	Councilman Jin Yhu	Present

Also Present:	Borough Attorney Brian Giblin
	Borough Administrator Anna Haverilla

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

PRAYER – Councilman Binaghi

PUBLIC’S OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK

Motion to open the meeting to the public – Councilman Yhu

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

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

Motion to close the meeting to the public – Councilman Binaghi

Second – Councilman Yhu

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

STAFF APPOINTMENTS

Fire Prevention Inspectors (Per Diem)

- Brian Morgan
- Krystal Mockler
- Kyle Rusch

Motion to accept the appointment – Councilman Yhu

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

Roll Call	Councilman Binaghi	Yes
	Councilman Boyce	Yes
	Councilman Gwon	Yes
	Councilman Yhu	Yes

PUBLIC HEARING

Ordinance 1247-24 – 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 Yhu

No Public Comment

Motion to close the meeting to the public – Councilman Yhu

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

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

Councilman Boyce read the resolution

Second – Councilman Yhu

Roll Call	Councilman Binaghi	Yes
	Councilman Boyce	Yes

Councilman Gwon	Yes
Councilman Yhu	Yes

CONSENT RESOLUTION

Councilman Yhu read the Consent Resolution

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

Roll Call	Councilman Binaghi	Yes
	Councilman Boyce	Yes
	Councilman Gwon	Yes
	Councilman Yhu	Yes

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

COUNCILMAN GWON – FINANCE/LIBRARY

The Library is preparing for their 2024 budget meeting. Read their 2023 statistics. Read a positive and complimentary review submitted by one of our residents on Google.

Spoke to the CFO today and moving forward they will have a bi-weekly call to get an update on finances.

Spoke with the OEM Coordinator who will provide him with plans for town events and he will be included in the OEM meetings moving forward.

Read Councilwoman Massaro’s report:

There is a new head of baseball who has a lot of ideas for field improvements that will be discussed at the next Recreation Commission meeting.

The Youth Council is looking to put information on the town’s website so they will be reaching out to the Borough Administrator. They are also organizing their structure so that the group is sustainable.

COUNCILMAN BOYCE – GOLF/PLANNING BD/ENVIRONMENTAL

The Veterans Committee met last week and that included a new member. They are looking to put together a plan to improve the Memorial Park part of Oakes Park. They have some drawings and ideas and will be speaking with the DPW to get their input on how best to proceed.

Councilman Yhu asked if the Veterans have a budget for this project.

Councilman Boyce answered that this will be discussed at the upcoming budget meeting but they are thinking the project will cost around \$50,000. It is a capital project. They are also discussing having a fundraiser to help offset the cost as well as looking into available grants.

Mrs. Coward explained that there is already a dedicated line in the budget for the project.

The Golf Course has 218 members for the enrollment period of October - January. This includes 35 new members. They will be getting a dog to help with the geese problem. The placement of the kennel was discussed with the Borough Engineer and DPW. The town will own the dog. They will be re-bidding the pump house project.

The Planning Board has selected Charles Maggio to be the new Planning Board Chair and Nick Mamary as the Vice Chair. Tom Jung is a new member. Discussed the applications heard at the last meeting.

The Environmental Commission will be meeting tomorrow.

Councilman Binaghi asked why we are getting the dog. He thought Tyco was going to be handing the geese every morning.

Mrs. Haverilla explained that Tyco will train the dog because the chasing of the geese will need to happen throughout the day, not just once in the morning.

Mayor Gallagher asked if we are liable for any dog bites.

Mr. Giblin explained that as long as the person that it bit didn't provoke it then the town is liable.

COUNCILMAN BINAGHI - POLICE/ADMINISTRATION/GRANTS

Has meeting scheduled next week with the Police Chief to go over the budget. We need to focus this year on succession planning for when the Police Chief decides to retire.

Discussed his time on the Council and how it has been a rewarding experience. Especially impressed with Councilman Gwon's financial expertise.

A future meeting in regard to the Oakes House needs to happen soon.

COUNCILMAN YHU – FIRST AID/FIRE/SENIORS/SCHOOLS

The Seniors will be having a meeting Thursday to discuss the size of the committee.

Attended the CDW and TBD Professional Development Day. Helped him to appreciate the good work that our local schools are doing.

The First Aid Corps will be having their budget meeting soon. Listed the new line and administrative officers. An ad hoc meeting was held last week with the ambulance services in the

area to see what type of paid services they offer to municipalities. This will be discussed further during the budget meetings.

The Fire Department congratulated the new line officers. They will also be having their budget meeting soon. Their LOSAP ordinance needs to be amended to remove some language in regard to earning points. Their rescue truck is almost 30 years old and is no longer needed so we need to decide on what will be done with the truck. The process to auction the truck was discussed.

Councilman Yhu made a motion to begin the process of selling the fire truck.

Second – Councilman Gwon

Discussion – None

Roll Call	Councilman Binaghi	Yes
	Councilman Boyce	Yes
	Councilman Gwon	Yes
	Councilman Yhu	Yes

Mr. Giblin will prepare a resolution.

MAYOR’S COMMENTS

Attended the Bergen County League of Municipalities breakfast where 2 topics were discussed - overhauls to the State’s OPRA regulations and asking for a delay to the 4th round of affordable housing. We endorsed both of these topics already with resolutions last year.

Also attended the Pascack Valley Mayor’s dinner where flooding issues were discussed.

ACTION ON MINUTES

Councilman Yhu made a motion to approve the following minutes:

- Sine Die Meeting, January 2, 2024
- Reorganization Meeting, January 2, 2024

Second – Councilman Gwon

Discussion – None

Roll Call	Councilman Binaghi	Abstain
	Councilman Boyce	Yes
	Councilman Gwon	Yes
	Councilman Yhu	Yes

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Aida Old Tappan Street Name Request

Mrs. Haverilla explained that the Mayor and Council need to approve the street name that is being proposed by the Central Square complex owner which is Aida Lane.

Dean Stamos, attorney for Aida Old Tappan, explained that none of the plans listed an actual street name so they would like to change that with the Mayor and Council's approval. This is a private road that the owner will maintain.

Councilman Binaghi is in favor of the name change as long as it doesn't sound like any other street names in town to avoid confusion for the emergency services.

Mr. Giblin will look in to whether or not this name change needs to be done via ordinance. He does not believe it will because it is a private road.

Eddie Sujak, 30 Stonegate Road, owner of Aida Old Tappan, explained that they are having an issue with some of the utilities because they filed under Aida Lane but the post office does not recognize that as the address because the town has not confirmed it and notified them.

Councilman Binaghi made a motion to approve the name change to Aida Lane.

Second – Councilman Yhu

Discussion – None

Roll Call	Councilman Binaghi	Yes
	Councilman Boyce	Yes
	Councilman Gwon	Yes
	Councilman Yhu	Yes

Ordinance 1248-24 – Tree Preservation and Removal – Resolution of Introduction

Councilman Boyce read the resolution

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – Mayor Gallagher explained that this ordinance will now be sent to the Planning Board for their review to assure that it is consistent with the Master Plan. It will then come back to the Mayor and Council for their February 20th meeting for a public hearing and possible adoption.

Roll Call	Councilman Binaghi	Yes
	Councilman Boyce	Yes
	Councilman Gwon	Yes
	Councilman Yhu	Yes

PUBLIC’S OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK

Motion to open the meeting to the public – Councilman Binaghi

Second – Councilman Yhu

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

Discussion - None

Motion to close the meeting to the public – Councilman Binaghi

Second – Councilman Yhu

Discussion - None

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

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Binaghi

Second – Councilman Yhu

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

Respectfully submitted,

Jean M. Donch, RMC
Borough Clerk

Reviewed & Approved: February 20, 2024