

**BOROUGH OF OLD TAPPAN
MAYOR AND COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
February 20, 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	Present
	Councilman Cort Gwon	Present
	Councilwoman Christine Massaro	Present
	Councilman Jin Yhu	Absent

Also Present:	Borough Attorney Brian Giblin
	Borough Administrator Anna Haverilla

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

PRAYER – Councilman Boyce

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.

Motion to close the meeting to the public – Councilman Binaghi

Second – Councilman Boyce

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

STAFF APPOINTMENTS

Fire Marshal - Evan Kutzin - 2 Year Reappointment

Motion to accept the appointment – Councilman Boyce

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Discussion – None

Roll Call	Councilman Binaghi	Yes
	Councilman Boyce	Yes
	Councilman Carnazza	Yes
	Councilman Gwon	Yes
	Councilwoman Massaro	Yes

PUBLIC HEARING

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

Councilman Boyce explained that the Planning Board has suggested amendments to this ordinance. He suggests tabling until the next meeting to give the Borough Attorney and Environmental Commission time to review the suggested amendments.

Motion to table the ordinance – Councilman Boyce

Second – Councilman Binaghi

Roll Call	Councilman Binaghi	Yes
	Councilman Boyce	Yes
	Councilman Carnazza	Yes
	Councilman Gwon	Yes
	Councilwoman Massaro	Yes

CONSENT RESOLUTION

Councilman Binaghi read the Consent Resolution

Second – Councilman Carnazza

Discussion – None

Roll Call	Councilman Binaghi	Yes
	Councilman Boyce	Yes

Councilman Carnazza	Yes
Councilman Gwon	Yes
Councilwoman Massaro	Yes

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

COUNCILMAN GWON – FINANCE/LIBRARY

The budget meetings went smoothly.

There was an OEM meeting last week where communication systems were discussed. Want to make sure that all our emergency services and DPW can communicate with each other. Everyone is now on the same page.

At the Library Board meeting he explained to the members that they need to come up with some new ideas and initiatives and not just focus on cost savings. Fundraisers, by-laws and succession planning were also discussed.

COUNCILMAN BOYCE – GOLF/PLANNING BD/ENVIRONMENTAL

The Planning Board discussed the tree ordinance at their last meeting. One detail they were concerned with was the language in regard to how many trees can be taken down because it was conflicting in one of the sections. He spoke with the Borough Attorney about this and it will be reviewed and amended for the next meeting.

The Veterans Committee met last week. They continue to work on the Veteran's Memorial additions in Oakes Park.

COUNCILMAN CARNAZZA – DPW/CONSTRUCTION

Read the DPW activity report.

Read the Construction Department activity report.

COUNCILMAN BINAGHI - POLICE/ADMINISTRATION/GRANTS

Read a letter received from a resident praising the Police Department on their response to a medical emergency at their house. Read the Police Department January 2024 activity report. The Police Chief reports that one of their cars is out of service.

COUNCILWOMAN MASSARO - RECREATION/HEALTH/HISTORICAL

Opening day for spring sports is April 27th. Stefan Wiklinski will throw out the first pitch for baseball and Mayor Gallagher is invited to throw out the first pitch for softball. Worked out a

new payment system for officials and coaches with the CFO and Recreation Director. The commission discussed potential dates for Town Day.

The Mental Health Book Club will be meeting on February 29th at 7pm at the Library and would like the information posted on the Borough sign. Submitted their application for NJ Healthy Towns as part of the Mayor's Wellness Campaign.

The Historical Committee will be meeting on February 29th and are looking forward to new members and ongoing activities.

Councilman Gwon explained that the Library Board is losing their youth board member so they are requesting another student to sit on the board and thought the Youth Council might help with this.

Councilwoman Massaro will discuss this at the next Youth Council meeting in March.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Gallagher reported that the Fire Department had their annual hazmat awareness refresher course.

The Borough Administrator attended the ribbon cutting for the United Way's new 4-unit home on Grace Avenue. The County Executive presented the Borough with a certificate in honor of the new supportive/affordable housing development.

Hosted the monthly meeting of the Pascack Valley Mayors Association. They spoke about budget processes and affordable housing.

Attended the Bergen County League of Municipalities meeting where affordable housing was discussed.

ACTION ON MINUTES

Councilman Binaghi made a motion to approve the following minutes:

- Closed Meeting, January 16, 2024
- Regular Meeting, January 16, 2024
- Special Meeting, January 25, 2024
- Regular & Executive Meetings, February 5, 2024

Second – Councilman Carnazza

Discussion – None

Roll Call	Councilman Binaghi	Yes
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Councilman Boyce	Yes
Councilman Carnazza	Yes
Councilman Gwon	Yes
Councilwoman Massaro	Yes

OLD BUSINESS

COAH Updates

Mayor Gallagher explained that there has been a lot of discussion on challenging Assembly Bill 4/Senate Bill 50. The Borough Attorney has drawn up a resolution for our next meeting opposing these bills. Discussed what changes are being discussed in these bills and how they will negatively affect our town. We need to push back against this legislation.

Discussion ensued on the proposed bills and other COAH related legislation, rules and regulations.

Councilman Binaghi explained how the Farmland Preservation Plan through the state works.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance 1249-24 – Amend LOSAP Ordinance - Fire Department – Resolution of Introduction

Councilman Boyce read the resolution

Second – Councilman Carnazza

Discussion – Councilman Binaghi asked what is being changed in the ordinance.

Mr. Giblin explained that it takes away the mandatory 10 point minimum.

Roll Call	Councilman Binaghi	Yes
	Councilman Boyce	Yes
	Councilman Carnazza	Yes
	Councilman Gwon	Yes
	Councilwoman Massaro	Yes

PUBLIC’S OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK

Motion to open the meeting to the public – Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Binaghi

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 Gwon

Discussion - None

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

Mayor Gallagher would like to get a date on the calendar to continue discussions on the EMS options.

A discussion ensued about the various options and what other towns are doing.

This subject will be placed on the March 4th agenda for further discussion.

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Carnazza

Second – Councilman Binaghi

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

Respectfully submitted,

Jean M. Donch, RMC
Borough Clerk

Reviewed & Approved: March 18, 2024