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June 2, 2023

Dear friends and residents,

Monday, May 29th was Memorial Day, an American holiday that honors and mourns the U.S. military personnel who died in active military service. Old Tappan honored Memorial Day by hosting their annual parade which concluded with a solemn ceremony at Oakes Park. This Old Tappan time-honored tradition was enjoyed by many who viewed along the route and the many who joined us at the park. Among those marching were members of the military, governing body, clergy, the NVOT marching band and color guard, scouts, civic and social organizations, and the Charles DeWolf school marching band. And bringing up the stern of the parade were our First Aid corps, followed by our ambulances, firetrucks, DPW trucks and police cars. Thank you to everyone who helped us honor and remember those that gave their lives for our freedom!

On May 8th, the Mayor and Council held a Special Meeting to hear the appeal submitted regarding the Planning Board approval of the CSH Application. The end result was a reversal of the decision made by the Planning Board in February. The Planning Board approval passed on a 5-2 majority vote while the appeal heard by the Council, resulted in a reversal of a 5-1 majority vote. The applicant now has the right to file an appeal of the council's decision with the Superior Court of New Jersey.

At the May 15th Mayor & Council meeting I had the honor of swearing in Brian Puglisi and Andrew Kim as the newest members of our Police Department. Both come with valuable experience from previous departments and are replacing officers that have moved on from our department.

Many of you are aware of the severe damage of the footbridge connecting Haring Drive from the east and west during super storm Ida. Surface water flooded over the headwalls, eroding, and destroying the downstream headwall completely. Repairs are now underway with the cost being covered by FEMA funds.

Central Avenue from Old Tappan Road to Orangeburg Road is finally getting repaved. Milling and paving will take place during the week of June 26th, which is the week after the high school closes. Please watch for detours and delays.

We are still awaiting the addition of a Grocery Outlet market at Bi-State. Although the empty food store has been totally gutted from floor to ceiling, construction permits have not yet been applied for.

Have a happy and safe summer and don't forget our summer concerts at Oakes Park on the three last Wednesday evenings during the month of July.

Sincerely,

John M. Kramer

Mayor
Borough of Old Tappan