

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Bound Brook, in the County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, held via Go To Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on January 25, 2022.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Robert P. Fazen with a reading of the Open Public Meetings Law Statement following by the Pledge of Allegiance and Opening Prayer given by Council President Jake Hardin.

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following were recorded present:

Mayor Robert Fazen
Councilman President Jake Hardin
Councilman Richard Jannuzzi
Councilman Abel Gomez
Councilman Vinnie Petti
Councilman Anthony Pranzatelli
Councilman Dominic Longo

Also in attendance:

Borough Administrator, Hector Herrera
Borough Clerk/ Assistant Administrator, Jasmine D. Mathis
Borough Attorney, Ryan Scerbo, Esq.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Council President Jake Hardin, seconded by Councilman Dominic Longo, the minutes of January 11, 2022 were approved upon a roll call vote.

Roll Call: Aye: Jake Hardin, Richard Jannuzzi, Abel Gomez, Dominic Longo
Nay: None
Abstain: Vinnie Petti, Anthony Pranzatelli

Upon a motion by Councilman Abel Gomez, seconded by Council President Jake Harding, the executive minutes of January 11, 2022 were approved upon a roll call vote.

Roll Call: Aye: Jake Hardin, Richard Jannuzzi, Abel Gomez, Dominic Longo
Nay: None
Abstain: Vinnie Petti, Anthony Pranzatelli

ADVERTISED HEARING OR SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Mayor Fazen reported on the decrease in covid-19 cases.

Mayor Fazen appointed Timothy Ludwig as an alternate member to the Recreation Commission with a term expiring in 2022. Danielle Jannuzzi was appointed as an alternate member to the

Recreation Commission with a term expiring in 2022. Kristi Colbert was appointed a regular member to the Shade Tree Commission with a term expiring in 2026.

PRESENTATION OF COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, ETC.

There weren't any communications or petitions for presentation.

GREETINGS FOR COMMENTS AND INVITATIONS FOR DISCUSSION

There were no comments from the public.

OPENING OF BIDS

The Bound Brook Train Station East Bound Waiting Room Renovation bids submissions will be opened on January 26, 2022, at 10 a.m.

ENGINEER'S REPORT- DALE LEUBNER, SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Dale Leubner, Superintendent of Public Works, stated negotiations are ongoing with Pennoni for the Train Station East Bound Waiting Room Renovation project. The 2020 Road Program is scheduled to tentatively start in February and a final walk through took place for the 2021 Road Program. DOT documents have been submitted for the Van Horne Project and a meeting was held with Public Service. Welsh Court, a part of the 2021 Resurfacing Program, is experiencing ponding and is being addressed. A proposal is being drafted for the Codrington Park Pool Rehabilitation project. Somerset County sent out the 2022 Resurfacing Program interest letter and the Borough will submit additional roads.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chair of Finance, Councilman Dominic Longo advised budget meetings will take place in the upcoming week. The vacancies for the Recreation Department have been filled and the reorganization meeting will be held Wednesday.

Chair of Public Works, Buildings, Grounds and Utilities, Councilman Vinnie Petti reported on the sewer back-ups, metal collection, filled potholes, collected yard debris, tree removal, tree trimming and garbage collection.

Chair of Public Safety (Police and Fire), Councilman Abel Gomez, reported additional grants will be obtained for the remaining breathing apparatuses of the Fire Department. Additional retirements were announced for the Police Department and steps will be taken to begin to fill the positions. The new body cameras are now in use. Richard Jannuzzi, Jr. was appointed the Chair of the Board of Education and discussion will be held to increase shared services. No updates were provided for OEM or the Rescue Squad. Councilman Gomez advised he plans to work with the Shade Tree Commission for their annual initiatives. An overall parking strategy will be discussed with the Parking Commission.

Chair of Personnel, Administration and Ordinances, Councilman Anthony Pranzatelli, stated the Deputy Clerk position remains vacant and the Court is actively interviewing for the Violations Clerk position. Jodi Schneider's successful passing of the Tax Collector's exam was announced. The Art's Council is planning to have a pop-up art exhibit at the Mosaic building.

Chair of Economic Development, Council President Jake Hardin, stated the second phase of Ridge Apartments are near completion along with Meridia Self Storage. Meridia Downtown is scheduled to removed the elevator towers and the Hamilton Street Urban Renewal project is scheduled to begin in the spring. The Planning Board reorganization meeting was held on January 13, 2022. The Special Improvement District began planning the Battle of Bound Brook and the reenactors will be hosted by the SID.

Chair of Zoning, Construction and Code Enforcement, Councilman Richard Jannuzzi, provided a year end revenue report for the department. A status of permits issued inspections and summons was provided. A Board of Health meeting wasn't held in December.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES – FIRST READING

Ordinance 2022-02 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 2, Administration, Article IV, Departments Established, Section 2-21.11, "Appointment of Chief of Police," of the General Revised Ordinances of the Borough of Bound Brook

Upon a motion by Councilman Abel Gomez, seconded by Council President Hardin, Ordinance 2022-02 was approved on first reading upon a roll call. The public hearing was scheduled for February 8, 2022.

Roll Call: Aye: Jake Hardin, Abel Gomez, Anthony Pranzatelli,
Dominic Longo

Nay: Richard Jannuzzi, Vinnie Petti

ORDINANCE ON FINAL READING AND CONSIDERATION- SECOND READING

There were no ordinances for final reading.

INTRODUCTION/DISCUSSION OF RESOLUTIONS

Upon a motion by Councilman Abel Gomez, seconded by Council President Jake Hardin, Resolutions 2022-024 through 2022-032 were unanimously approved upon a roll call.

Roll Call: Aye: Jake Hardin, Richard Jannuzzi, Abel Gomez, Vinnie Petti, Anthony Pranzatelli, Dominic Longo

Nay: None

2022-024 Resolution Authorizing a Refund to Marie Cassebaum for a Construction Permit Fee Related to Hurricane Ida

- 2022-025 Resolution Authorizing a Change Order to the Professional Services Contract with DeCotiis, Fitzpatrick & Cole, LLP for Municipal and Labor Attorney Services
- 2022-026 Resolution Authorizing a Change Order to the Non-Fair and Open Contract with Design Solutions for a Crowded Planet for Planning Services
- 2022-027 Resolution Approving the 2022 Temporary Budget for the Sewer Utility in the Amount of \$312,500.00
- 2022-028 Resolution Memorializing Confirmation of Acceptance of Jennifer Cespedes-Hernandez's NJ State Firemen's Association Application for Membership to the Bound Brook Fire Department
- 2022-029 Resolution Awarding 2022 Planning Board Professional Contracts
- 2022-030 Resolution Authorizing an Increase to the Change Fund for the Clerk's Office
- 2022-031 Resolution Amending Contract Award for Millennium Strategies
- 2022-032 Resolution Approving a Leave of Absence for Bound Brook Police Chief Vito Bet

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business was discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Upon a motion by Councilman Abel Gomez, seconded by Councilman Anthony Pranzatelli, Resolution 2022-033 was unanimously approved upon a roll call vote.

Roll Call: Aye: Jake Hardin, Richard Jannuzzi, Abel Gomez, Vinnie Petti, Anthony Pranzatelli

Nay: None

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENT

There were no comments from the public.

AUTHORIZE EXECUTIVE SESSION

No executive session was held.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.