

Minutes September 24, 2024

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 at Borough Hall at 7:00 p.m. on September 24, 2024.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Dominic Longo with the reading of the Open Public Meetings Law Statement followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following were recorded present:

Mayor Dominic Longo
C. Vinnie Petti
C. Linda Brnicevic
C. Kendall Lopez
C. Glen Rossi
C. Shawn Guerra
C. David Morris

Also in attendance:

Borough Clerk- Administrator, Jasmine D. McCoy
Borough Attorney, Erik C. Peterson, Esq

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Councilman David Morris, seconded by Councilman Vinnie Petti, the regular meeting minutes of September 24, 2024, were approved upon a roll call vote.

Roll Call: Aye: Vinnie Petti, Linda Brnicevic, Kendall Lopez, Glen Rossi, Shawn
 Guerra, David Morris
 Nay: None

ADVERTISED HEARING OR SPECIAL PRESENTATION

PRESENTATION OF COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, ETC.

GREETINGS FOR COMMENTS AND INVITATIONS FOR DISCUSSION

OPENING OF BIDS

No bid openings were held.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Director of Public Works, Dale Leubner reported on the status of the 2024 Road Program. The Bound Brook Library HVAC renovations are almost completed. An update on the pool

construction project was given. The bulk pick up program will begin the week of September 30. Refuse collection for the Board of Education continues to go smoothly.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chair of Finance, Councilman David Morris, reported the 2025 Budget requests are due by September 30 from departments. The finance committee continues to track the Police Department's salary budget. The finance department is converting vendors to ACH payments. Councilman Morris announced the tax sale is on November 22.

Chair of Public Works, Bldgs., Grounds & Utilities, Councilwoman Linda Brnicevic, reported contract negotiations for Public Works have started. A temporary location continues to be negotiated for the library. A site visit was held at Mariposa Park with the Community Garden Club to review upgrades. Riverfest will be held on October 6. America's Florist and Dunkin Donuts have applications before the Planning Board. The Arts Council has identified mural locations at the Voorhees Building, the Pocket Park and The Hopkinson.

Chair of Public Safety, Councilman Vinnie Petti, provided a detailed report of was provided for emergency services including total arrests, calls for service, violations, criminal disorder, parking violations and tavern complaints. The Fire Department Inspection will be held October 5.

Chair of Personnel, Administration & Ordinances, Councilman Kendall Lopez, reported a new hire for the Department of Public Works is on the agenda for approval, The Historic Preservation Commission continues their efforts on historic designations.

Chair of Economic Development, Councilman Glen Rossi, reported Meridia 10 Pilot is before the Economic Development Committee for review. Councilman Rossi announced Rhythm on the Rails continues on October 4.

Chair of Zoning, Construction & Code Enforcement, Councilman Shawn Guerra, reported inspectors earned their Lead Inspection Certification. The Municipal Remedy Ordinance was adopted. Councilman Guerra reported a Stormwater Ordinance for Tree removal is in discussion to be presented for the next meeting.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES – FIRST READING

ORDINANCE ON FINAL READING AND CONSIDERATION- SECOND READING

Ordinance 2024-26 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 7, Traffic, Section 7-2.1, Streets Closing, of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Bound Brook to Amend Hours of Operation for Vehicles on Certain Streets During School Hours

Upon a motion by Councilman Vinnie Petti, seconded by Councilman Glen Rossi, Ordinance 2024-26 the floor was opened to the public for comment. There were no comments from the public. Upon a motion by Councilman Shawn Guerra, seconded by Councilman Vinnie Petti,

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comments were closed to the public. Upon a motion by Councilman Kendall Lopez, Ordinance 2024-26 was approved upon roll call vote.

Roll Call: Aye: Vinnie Petti, Linda Brnicevic, Kendall Lopez, Glen Rossi, Shawn Guerra, David Morris
Nay: None

INTRODUCTION/DISCUSSION OF RESOLUTIONS

Upon a motion by Councilman David Morris, seconded by Councilman Kendall Lopez, Resolutions 2024-239 through 2024-241 were unanimously approved.

- 2024-239 Resolution Authorizing a Third-Party Collection Agency to Assist in Collection of Delinquent Payments for the Municipal Court
- 2024-240 Resolution Approving Relief of Moratorium on East Second Street for a Road Opening Permit
- 2024-241 Resolution Approving the Hire of Kimberly A. McNair to the Position of Part-Time Account Clerk in the Department of Public Works

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

- 2024-242 Resolution Approving Vouchers in the Amount of \$431,651.01

Upon a motion by Councilman Shawn Guerra, Resolution 2024-242 was unanimously approved upon a roll call vote.

Roll Call: Aye: Vinnie Petti, Linda Brnicevic, Kendall Lopez, Glen Rossi, Shawn Guerra, David Morris
Nay: None

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENT

Judith Bailey, Library Advisory Board Chair, asked if there were any updates for the library. Clerk-Administrator, Jasmine McCoy, advised a proposal was received from an Architect to draft plans for the library.

Joe Tweet expressed concerns of being able to grow grass at the front of his property due to a previous sewer line project.

Donna Ben, Library Advisory Board, expressed concerns of the lack of funding for addressing the asbestos at the library.

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Abel Gomez questioned the council about not addressing the library asbestos issue. Discussion was held. Mr. Gomez's concerns were addressed.

AUTHORIZE EXECUTIVE SESSION

2024-243 Resolution Approving Executive Session

Upon a motion by Councilman David Morris, seconded by Councilman Vinnie Petti, Resolution 2024-243 was unanimously approved upon a roll call vote.

Roll Call: Aye: Vinnie Petti, Linda Brnicevic, Kendall Lopez, Glen Rossi, Shawn Guerra, David Morris
 Nay: None

After executive session, the meeting was opened to the public. The Mayor and Council unanimously adopted Resolutions 2024-244 and 2024-245.

2024-244 Resolution to Retain Simon Law Group, LLC Special Counsel

2024-245 Resolution to Retain Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt, Cappelli & Tipton, LLC as Special Litigation Counsel Advance Bound Brook V. Bound Brook

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Jasmine D. McCoy
Borough Clerk