

**TOWNSHIP OF BERKELEY HEIGHTS
UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
COUNCIL MEETING HELD MARCH 5, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER

At 7:01 p.m. Council President Medeiros called the meeting to order.

The Township Clerk stated that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by posting the same on the bulletin board of Town Hall and forwarding a copy to the Courier News and Star Ledger at least forty-eight hours prior to this meeting, all in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

ROLL CALL

The following Council members were present:

Mr. Bavoso
Mr. Couto
Mrs. Kingsley
Mr. Medeiros
Mrs. Poage
Mr. Yellin

The following Council members were absent:

Mayor Devanney

Also present were:

Township Attorney: Kraig Dowd
Township Administrator: Liza Viana
Township Clerk: Ana Minkoff

FLAG SALUTE

Mr. Medeiros asked everyone present to stand for the Flag Salute.

CONFERENCE SESSION

Recreation Department

Mr. Medeiros announced that the Recreation Department will be coming at a later date.

Berkeley Heights Senior Citizens Club

Mr. Yellin provided a report on his meeting with Ms. Luciano, president of the Berkeley Heights Senior Citizens Club. There was a brief discussion following the report.

TOWNSHIP COUNCIL REPORTS

Mr. Yellin reported on the following topics:

- Communications Committee
- Warren Redevelopment Project

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Mrs. Poage reported on the following topics:

- Diversity Council Black History Month Event
- Rescue Squad
- Electronics Recycling
- Planning Board
- Proposed Grants Committee Ordinance

Mrs. Kingsley reported on the following topics:

- League Budget Planning Class
- Commuter Parking
- Downtown Beautification Committee
- New Municipal Complex

Mr. Bavoso reported on the following topics:

- Communications Committee

Mr. Couto reported on the following topics:

- Recycling Task Force
- Warren Redevelopment Project
- Diversity Council
- BHEF Wizards Event
- Commuter Parking

Mr. Medeiros reported on the following topics:

- Diversity Council Black History Month Event
- Budget Meetings
- Rescue Squad
- Recycling Task Force

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Ms. Viana provided updates from the following departments:

- Public Works
- Construction
- Engineering
- Wastewater Treatment
- Recreation
- Zoning

Approval of Township Council and Administration Reports

Mover: Mr. Couto

Seconder: Mrs. Kingsley

Ayes: Mr. Bavoso, Mr. Couto, Mrs. Kingsley, Mr. Medeiros, Mrs. Poage and Mr. Yellin

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Result: Approved

HEARING ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Opening of the Hearing on Agenda Items Only

Mover: Mr. Bavoso
Seconder: Mrs. Kingsley
Ayes: Mr. Bavoso, Mr. Couto, Mrs. Kingsley, Mr. Medeiros, Mrs. Poage and Mr. Yellin
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Mr. Foregger of 14 Dorset Road asked for clarification on Agenda item #2. Ms. Poulos explained its purpose.

Mr. Sincaglia of 22 Robbins Avenue complimented DPW on their work during the recent snow. He referenced Agenda item #3 and asked about the services sought and the bid response. Council responded.

Closing of the Hearing on Agenda Items Only

Mover: Mr. Bavoso
Seconder: Mrs. Kingsley
Ayes: Mr. Bavoso, Mr. Couto, Mrs. Kingsley, Mr. Medeiros, Mrs. Poage and Mr. Yellin
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution authorizing transfers within the 2018 Municipal Budget and Reserves.

Approval of Resolution

Mover: Mr. Yellin
Seconder: Mr. Couto
Ayes: Mr. Bavoso, Mr. Couto, Mrs. Kingsley, Mr. Medeiros, Mrs. Poage and Mr. Yellin
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Result: Approved

2. Resolution amending the 2019 Temporary Appropriations.

Approval of Resolution

Mover: Mrs. Poage
Seconder: Mr. Yellin
Ayes: Mr. Bavoso, Mr. Couto, Mrs. Kingsley, Mr. Medeiros, Mrs. Poage and Mr. Yellin
Nays: None

Abstain: None
Absent: None

Result: Approved

3. Resolution rejecting the “Snow Removal Services & Equipment” bid as non-responsive and exceeding the cost estimates for the services.

Approval of Resolution

Mover: Mr. Couto
Secunder: Mrs. Kingsley
Ayes: Mr. Bavoso, Mr. Couto, Mrs. Kingsley, Mr. Medeiros, Mrs. Poage and Mr. Yellin
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Result: Approved

4. Resolution approving Bill List dated March 5, 2019 in the amount of \$1,054,806.61.

Council discussed and explained why the bill list is so large.

Approval of Resolution

Mover: Mrs. Kingsley
Secunder: Mr. Couto
Ayes: Mr. Bavoso, Mr. Couto, Mrs. Kingsley, Mr. Medeiros, Mrs. Poage and Mr. Yellin
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Result: Approved

CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under Consent Agenda are considered routine by the Township Council and will be enacted upon by one motion; there will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

5. Consent Agenda Resolutions (a-b)

- a. Resolution consenting to the release of a cash bond in the amount of \$2,000.00 for work performed at 6 Putnam Avenue.
- b. Resolution removing Joe Demicco from the active Junior Fire Division roster.

Approval of Consent Agenda Resolutions #5 a-b

Mover: Mr. Bavoso
Secunder: Mr. Couto

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Ayes: Mr. Bavoso, Mr. Couto, Mrs. Kingsley, Mr. Medeiros, Mrs. Poage and Mr. Yellin
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Result: Approved

CITIZENS HEARING

Opening of the Citizens Hearing

Mover: Mr. Yellin
Secunder: Mrs. Kingsley
Ayes: Mr. Bavoso, Mrs. Kingsley, Mr. Medeiros and Mrs. Poage
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Mr. Couto and Mr. Yellin

Mr. Foregger asked if there was an estimate of the hotel tax revenue for the budget. Council and Ms. Poulos responded and a brief discussion followed.

Mr. Pratt of 45 Park Avenue complimented the town on the electronics recycling initiative. He spoke about the nationally recognized Columbia Middle School team that worked on a project on electronics recycling almost 20 years ago.

Mr. D'Aquila of 85 Whitney Drive advised Council that they may want to rethink the idea of paving Plainfield Avenue in the near future given all the traffic and the heavy trucks that will be using that road to get to the new developments in town.

Mr. Maciejewski of 40 Ralph Place asked about the status of the issue regarding a conflict of interest with Mr. Yellin. Council responded and a brief discussion followed on the topic.

Closing of the Citizens Hearing

Mover: Mr. Yellin
Secunder: Mrs. Kingsley
Ayes: Mr. Bavoso, Mr. Couto, Mrs. Kingsley, Mr. Medeiros, Mrs. Poage and Mr. Yellin
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Attorney Client Privilege/Contract Negotiations - Shared Service County of Union - Certified Public Works Manager

Mr. Yellin recused himself and left the meeting.

Move to go into Executive Session
(7:55 p.m.)

Mover: Mrs. Poage
Secunder: Mrs. Kingsley

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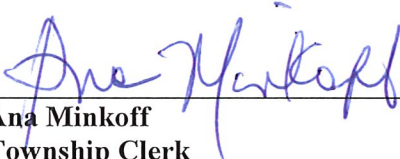
Ayes: Mr. Bavoso, Mr. Couto, Mrs. Kingsley, Mr. Medeiros and Mrs. Poage
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Mr. Medeiros reminded all that they would be coming out of Executive Session, only to adjourn.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mrs. Kingsley to adjourn and all were in favor.
(8:29 p.m.)

Approved: June 25, 2019



Ana Minkoff
Township Clerk