

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL – BOROUGH OF RED BANK
November 10, 2020
6:30 P.M.**

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Menna and Council Members Yassin, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

ALSO PRESENT: Administrator Shehady, Borough Clerk Borghi and Attorney Sobel.

*Meeting held via video/telephone conference due to Governor's Executive Order.

SUNSHINE STATEMENT

Mayor Menna requested the minutes reflect that, in compliance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231 (Open Public Meetings Act), notice of this meeting has been provided by notifying the Asbury Park Press, the Two River Times and the Star Ledger and by placing a notice on the bulletin board and filing same with the Borough Clerk on December 11, 2019.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Menna asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of Mary Harrison. He said Ms. Harrison was the former Director of the Red Bank Housing Authority and a Board member. He said she was also a volunteer at the Red Bank Senior Center.

Councilman Zipprich commented on her contributions to the community.

Councilman Ballard said he wanted to echo the Mayor's sentiments.

Councilwoman Horgan said she had known Ms. Harrison for years and said she was a great supporter of the town.

PROCLAMATIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS

Announcements

Veterans Day Ceremony – 11/11/2020, 11 am, 51 Monmouth Street

Mayor Menna noted the Borough would be hosting a Veteran's Day Ceremony the following day at 11 am to be held at 51 Monmouth Street.

Councilman Yngstrom said the ceremony would be cancelled in the event of bad weather as they would not be able to move the function indoors as they had done in previous years. He said a cancellation notice would be posted on the Parks & Recreation website and its Facebook page.

Presentations

Resolution 20-254: Resolution Recognizing Red Bank Patrolmen Cevin Albert and Milton Gray And Sergeant Matthew Ehrenreich With The Life Saving Award

Councilwoman Triggiano reviewed the life saving measures employed by the Police Officers.

Chief McConnell offered more details on the incident and noted the numerous hours of training taken by officers never knowing if they will ever use it. He said when they went on the call, it took an unexpected turn and the officers were able to save a young man's life.

Councilman Zipprich commended their actions.

Councilwoman Horgan said they were in the right place at the right time and congratulated the officers.

Mayor Menna read the resolution to honor the police officers.

Councilwoman Triggiano offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Zipprich.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None.

There being six ayes and no nays, the motion was declared approved.

Councilwoman Triggiano said she looked forward to more training being offered to Borough Officials and Staff citing the Police Chief's comment that you never know when you will be called upon to use it.

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

No one appearing Councilman Zipprich offered a motion to close the public comment, seconded by Councilwoman Horgan.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

There being six ayes and no nays, the motion was declared approved.

MINUTES & REPORTS

Regular Meeting minutes of 9/23/2020

Councilwoman Horgan offered a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilman Zipprich.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None.

There being six ayes, no nays and one abstention, the motion was declared approved.

Workshop Meeting minutes of 10/7/2020

Councilman Zipprich offered a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilwoman Horgan.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: Yassin

There being five ayes, no nays and one abstention, the motion was declared approved.

ORDINANCES - Public Hearing/Adoption:

None.

ORDINANCES – First Reading:

None.

RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Menna noted that resolution 20-258 was being amended to reflect “not to exceed 25 hours”. He called for a motion to approve the following resolution en masse:

- Resolution 20-255: Resolution for Payment of Bills Amounting to \$3,374,059.54.
- Resolution 20-256: Resolution Authorizing Tax Credits/Refunds Totaling \$2,548.98 due to Judgments of the Tax Court of New Jersey
- Resolution 20-257: Resolution Urging the State of New Jersey to Hold Fossil Fuel Companies Accountable for Climate Change Resilience Costs
- Resolution 20-258: Resolution Ratifying and Confirming the Appointment of a Part-Time Acting Building Subcode Official

Councilman Yassin offered a motion to approve the resolutions, seconded by Councilman Zipprich.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None.

There being six ayes and no nays, the motion was declared approved.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Ballard said he would like to get some closure on what they were doing with the Senior Center. He said it has been brought up at multiple meetings but there was no clear sense on what they wanted to do. He noted the beautiful view from the property for the seniors and said it was a wonderful facility. He said they needed to go on record and state what they were going to do with the building. He called for a vote at this meeting to allocate the money to repair the building.

Mayor Menna asked Councilman Ballard if he, as Finance Chair, had done any exploratory work regarding bonding ability or payments to be made so that a resolution could be ready for this meeting.

Councilman Ballard said he had and that the Borough was flush and well leveraged. He said they had discussed bonding for many other things recently such as fire trucks and park renovations. He said he believed they had bonded \$300,000 for the repairs but the estimates had come in high. He said that meant there was money in the bank for the repairs. He said they would just need to add an additional \$400,000.

Mayor Menna asked Councilman Ballard to prepare a resolution with the proper financial analysis and they could talk about it at the next meeting.

Councilwoman Triggiano asked if the matter had not been recently covered in an Executive Session discussion.

Mayor Menna said he was just noting that they could not add a resolution at this meeting as they had received no information on it.

Councilman Ballard said he had asked about it months back and had not received anything.

Councilwoman Triggiano said she was concerned that they were entering into a mischaracterization and watering down of a much more complicated situation.

Councilman Zipprich asked what she meant by that.

Councilwoman Triggiano said there had been multiple previous meetings where this had been discussed and she felt this was a mischaracterization of where they had been and what had been discussed.

Councilman Zipprich asked for further clarification.

Councilwoman Triggiano said that to say it was simple to reopen the Senior Center was a mischaracterization.

Councilman Zipprich said he did not think that that was what Councilman Ballard had said. He said he thought Councilman Ballard was urging the Council to make a decision as to whether they were going to finance the repairs and the reconstruction of the damage done two years ago. He said many of the seniors who were talking publicly have said it was their understanding that the Senior Center was for sale and that there were entities who were looking to purchase it.

Councilwoman Triggiano said a decision couldn't be made today.

Councilman Zipprich said he felt it warranted a discussion. He said, as Councilman Ballard had noted, they just bonded \$1,000,000 for two fire trucks and asked why they couldn't bond \$500,000 for the Senior Center.

Councilwoman Triggiano said the money for the fire trucks was bonded in 2019 and said she did not understand why it kept being referenced as a recent decision. She said having the discussion as a workshop meeting would make sense but again objected to the mischaracterization that there was anyone in the meeting that did not care immensely for the Borough's seniors.

Councilman Zipprich asked Councilwoman Triggiano if she would state that she was in favor of repairing the Senior Center to support the seniors.

Mayor Menna called for an end to the discussion and said that was what workshop was for. He said when these items came up at workshop, very little was said.

Councilman Ballard said he had two comments. He said at a prior meeting he had asked that the Senior Center repairs be put on workshop and it had not been done. He said that was the second time that he had asked for something to be put on the agenda and it had been ignored. He said his second comment was that he felt they kept "kicking the can." He said it had been two years and they kept saying they had to wait and said he didn't understand why. He noted that Councilman Zipprich has alluded to some kind of deal in the works to sell the building.

Councilwoman Triggiano said that exact issue had been discussed in two Executive Sessions and asked how he could say it had not been discussed.

Councilman Ballard said that was his point. He said they kept discussion it and nothing got done.

Councilwoman Triggiano said that was a mischaracterization.

Councilman Zipprich said it had not been added to an agenda after the Council President had asked for it. He said it keeps being ignored by the Administration.

Councilwoman Horgan said Councilman Ballard and Councilman Zipprich were both on the Finance Committee and suggested they should work with the CFO to find the money.

Councilman Ballard said the money was there.

Councilwoman Triggiano said she agreed that this should be covered in a workshop meeting. She said she felt it was a mischaracterization that anyone was kicking it down the road or ignoring the issue then it had been discussed in the last two Executive Sessions.

Councilman Zipprich disagreed and said in February it would be two years that it had been kicked down the road. He noted there were Redevelopment Agency discussions to building a Community Center but said, in the meantime, the seniors had been left without a facility that would meet their needs.

Mayor Menna said the point that he was ignoring was the fact that, for about six of those months, they couldn't use the facility anyway. Mayor Menna said it should be discussed in workshop and asked Councilman Ballard to come up with a plan.

Councilman Ballard again said he kept asking that it be put on an agenda and it continued to be ignored.

Councilwoman Triggiano said that it had been stated at this meeting that it could and would be put on the workshop agenda. She said she did not remember a previous time where it had been ignored. She also noted the matter had been discussed in the last two Executive Session meetings. She said they had been discussion the subject and had been moving forward. She said they should discuss it at the workshop meeting and not during Mayor and Council comments.

Councilman Ballard said it was his comment time and he wanted to discuss it. He asked her to state what had been done and said she kept alluding to things that had been done.

Mayor Menna said as Councilman Ballard had stated, it was his comment period and asked him to make his comments and move on.

Councilman Ballard said he wanted to ask what had been done and again said Councilwoman Triggiano had stated such.

Mayor Menna said it was not an argument between Council people and noted it was time for Councilman Ballard's report. He asked him to make that report rather than ask questions.

Councilman Ballard said his report was that they were ignoring the Senior Center and needed to "get off their butts."

Triggiano reported that she had the opportunity earlier that date to meet with the Red Bank Regional High School Dreamers Club. She said she wanted to commend them on their ability to organize and have such a strong high school club. She said she wanted to thank them for inviting her and allowing her to participate in their Zoom call. She said she had no report for Police or Fire. She said the Environmental Commission had a talk available on their Facebook page and about energy saving and ways to save money.

Councilwoman Horgan reported that the Library would be closed for Veteran's Day and said they were also engaged in two very helpful activities for the community. She said they have a "give what you can, take what you want" perishable food box on the front porch of their building. She said they were also working with Lunch Break to gather personal hygiene products. She said those items could be left in a box inside the Library. She said they would also have a program available on Monday, November 16 called "Birth, Death and Rebirth of the Cocktail." She reviewed the program and gave details on the presenter. She commended the Library staff for all of their efforts.

Councilman Yngstrom offered details on the Parks & Recreation sponsored Veteran's Day program. He thanked the veterans for their service.

Councilman Yassin had no report.

Councilman Zipprich also reviewed the service of veterans. He thanked Director Hoffmann and the Parks & Recreation Department for putting the program together. He reported that RiverCenter had been awarded a COVID19 relief grant through Main Street New Jersey program for \$85,000. He said the grant would help the Special Improvement District and its businesses to recover from the COVID19 pandemic.

DISCUSSION & ACTION

Referral of Threshold Conformance Analysis Report to Planning Board

Mayor Menna noted this matter had been discussed in Workshop.

Councilman Yassin made a motion to refer the report to the Planning Board, seconded by Councilman Ballard

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None.

There being six ayes and no nays, the motion was declared approved.

Special Events Requests (all items subject to final plan review by the Special Events Committee):

Mayor Menna read the following requests:

1. Request from RiverCenter for approval of holiday events
 - a. Holiday Town Lighting – Friday, November 27
 - b. Artists Sunday – Sunday, November 29 (new)
 - c. Holiday Harmonies – Every Saturday & Sunday - November 28 – December 20
 - d. Barbizon Holiday Mannequins – Sunday, November 29
 - e. Weekends in Red Bank – Saturdays & Sundays (December 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20)
2. Request from Streetfairs.org for approval to reserve the dates for their 2021 events which will be Sunday, April 11, 2021 and Sunday, September 12, 2021.

Councilman Zipprich made a motion to approve the requests, seconded by Councilwoman Horgan.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

There being six ayes and no nays, the motion was declared approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Governmental Issues, 5 Minute Limit)

No one appearing, Councilman Zipprich made a motion to close the Public Comment period, Councilwoman Horgan seconded.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None.

There being six ayes and no nays, the motion was declared approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

20-259 The Borough Attorney read a resolution to adjourn to executive session to discuss Personnel (Director of Community Development) and Contract Negotiation (Bodman Place Pump Station).

Councilman Yassin offered a motion to adjourn to Executive Session, seconded by Councilman Triggiano.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

There being six ayes and no nays, the motion was declared approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Zipprich offered a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Horgan.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

There being six ayes and no nays, the motion was declared approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Borghi