

Council Room Borough of Neptune City
April 12, 2021

The Regular Council Meeting of the Mayor and Council was held at the Neptune City Community Center called to order by Mayor Wardell at 7:06 p.m.

Borough Clerk Brown took roll call.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Calhoun, Pappas, Pietrunti, Renee, Thomas, and Mayor Wardell

ABSENT: Councilman Kocsis

Mayor Wardell announced that the Notice Requirements of Chapter 231 P.L. 1975 have been satisfied by the publication of said notice in the Asbury Park Press, and the Coaster and by filing a copy with the Municipal Clerk. Mayor Wardell also noted that the 48 hour notice was advertised and posted as required

FLAG SALUTE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 22, 2021 Minutes Motion to receive and file offered by C/Calhoun. Seconded by C/Pietrunti

Voice Vote: Councilmembers Calhoun, Pappas, Renee, Thomas

COMUNICATIONS

March 2021 Police Report

PRESENTATIONS

NONE

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT:

NONE

MAYORS REPORT: Mayor Andrew Wardell

Mayor Wardell reported on the following:

I.Covid-19:

- A. Today there are 160 new cases being reported.
 - 1. County 63,991 since March 2020
 - 2. Neptune City 488 since March 2020
- B. Hospitalizations

1. As of April 12, there are 298 hospitalized, 51 in intensive care (ICU) and 31 on ventilators in Monmouth County due to COVID-19.
- C. Testing
1. Monmouth County will offer free COVID-19 testing for County residents on Tuesday, April 13 in Long Branch from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Bucky James Community Center located at 231 Wilbur Ray Ave. Residents should note the clinic has 200 tests and once those are administered, the clinic will close for the day.
- D. Vaccinations
1. County is offering 500 vaccines a day. People can sign up at www.visitmonmouth.com/health. No one will be vaccinated without an appointment.
 2. We are approaching 50% of all NJ adults being fully vaccinated.

II. Memorial Park/Summer events

- A. Gazebo foundation has been poured
- B. Movie in the park dates have been set and will be made available soon.
- C. The Board of Rec has also planned family friendly events for the summer as well.
- D. I would like to explore the possibility of creating a position to plan and coordinate events here in town.
- E. I have a meeting planned for next week to see if we can schedule the Neptune City Fall Festival. This was something we had planned in early 2020 for the fall of 2020 until Covid-19 hit. We have been reluctant to set a date, but as more and more people are being vaccinated I am more optimistic.

III. Mayor's Council

- A. I recently had a meeting with Mayor Fox of Bradley Beach to discuss the upcoming plans to renovate Memorial Ave.
- B. I have been floating an idea to create a local Mayor's Conference for our local Mayors to discuss more local issues.

IV. Land Use Board

- A. Tomorrow night's LUB meeting will be held in person at the Community Center.
- B. Land Use Board will vote to approve the findings of our planner that Blocks 18 and 13 Lot 1 is in need of non-condemnation redevelopment.
 1. Block 13 is the old East Coast Ice property. The area is in need a remediation and under this redevelopment this undertaking will not be done with public monies.

ADMINISTRATORS REPORT:

Administrator Kane reported:

BOROUGH OF NEPTUNE CITY

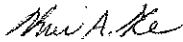
ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

FOR THE COUNCIL MEETING OF: April 12, 2021

Thank you, Mayor. Just a few quick updates:

1. 2021 Municipal Budget
 - We just completed a council workshop meeting to discuss this year's municipal budget. Thank you to our CFO, Bill Antonides, for preparing the budget.
 - The presentation dates are as follows:
 - Introduction tonight, April 12, 2021
 - Public Hearing on May 24, 2021
 - Adoption upon receiving final numbers from the State.
2. Road Improvements to Steiner Avenue
 - Ben Matlack (CME Engineering) and I met with representatives from Monmouth County Engineering Department on Friday to discuss coordinating our efforts for the road improvement projects on Steiner Ave. We have a grant through the County CDBG Program for curb, sidewalk and ADA ramp improvements and the county will be implementing a traffic calming initiative. We were notified the County Commissioners adopted a resolution at their April 8th meeting to reduce the speed limit from 35 to 30 mph on Steiner Ave. as part of their traffic calming plan. New speed limit signs should be going up this week.
3. Grant Opportunities
 - We have received information regarding potential grant opportunities.
 - New Grant - NJ Local Recreation Improvement Grant (LRIG) through DCA (due 5/24/21)
 - Monmouth County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) through Community Development Committee (due 7/23/21)

Respectfully submitted:



Kevin A. Kane
Borough Administrator
April 12, 2021

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE- John Pietrunti

C/Pietrunti had no report.

PUBLIC WORKS- Pamela Renee

C/Renee reported clean up week began today 4/12/2021. DPW is doing repairs on the park restrooms. C/Renee reminded everyone when putting out brush and leaves that they should leave room at the curb for the machine to pick up as well as to let water flow if it rains. No grass clippings. County will be addressing the trees on Memorial Drive backing up to Laird Ave.

LAW & ORDINANCE – Brian Thomas

C/Thomas reported he will have a meeting with the PD to discuss Ordinance revisions and cameras at Memorial Park. Blood Drive will be May 28th at Community Center

ADMINISTRATION & JUSTICE-Glen Kocsis

C/Kocsis was absent

SPECIAL SERVICES-Danielle Pappas

C/Pappas thanked the Borough Hall and DPW employees for the work at the Rabies Clinic. It was a big success. C/Renee, C/Thomas, herself and Mayor Wardell had a good time helping out. She reminded everyone that the Pet Food Drive is April 24 at Adams Field. The pet food pantry will be established. Also, you can drop off at Borough Hall. Arbor Day event will take place on April 30 at 10:00 at Memorial Park.

MAN SERVICES- Dave Calhoun

C/Calhoun had no report

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY) -

NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

C/Pappas asked to move Resolution 21-77 to new business from the Consent agenda for further discussion.

CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Mayor and Council and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a Council member (s) so request it, in which case the item (s) will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda. The one motion signifies and

adoption of all resolutions received and file letters, correspondence, reports and approval of applications and minutes.

C/Renee offered the following resolutions and moved their adoption. Seconded by C/Pietrunti

Resolution 21-72 Authorizing payment of bills

RESOLUTION 21-72

AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF THE BILLS

BE IT RESOLVED that the bills as presented, all have been certified and approved as complete as to form, goods having been delivered, and/or services performed and sufficient funds being available for payment for said bills, be paid in the amount of **\$79,632.00**

Resolution 21-73 Appointment of CDBG Representative Alternate

BOROUGH OF NEPTUNE CITY

RESOLUTION 2021-73

Appointment of Representative to Monmouth County Block Grant Committee

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council approved Andrew Wardell and Kevin A. Kane as representatives to the Block Grant Committee on April 12, 2021, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council approve Mayor Andrew Wardell as delegate and Kevin A. Kane as alternate delegate to the Monmouth County Block Grant Committee effective immediately.

Resolution 21-74 Budget Introduction

RESOLUTION 21-74

**BOROUGH OF NEPTUNE CITY COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
APPROVING INTRODUCTION OF MUNICIPAL BUDGET
FOR THE YEAR 2021**

BE IT RESOLVED that the following statements of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the municipal budget for the year 2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said budget be published in The Coaster in the issue of April 22, 2021. The Mayor and Council of the Borough of Neptune City does hereby approve the following as the budget for the year 2021.

Notice is hereby given that the Budget and Tax Resolution was approved by the Council Member of the Borough of Neptune City, County of Monmouth, April 12, 2021.

A hearing on the Budget and Tax Resolution will be held at Borough Hall on May 24, 2021 at 7:00pm at which time and place objections to said Budget and Tax resolution for the year 2021 may be presented by taxpayers or other interested persons.

Resolution 21-75 Declaring April as Autism Awareness Month

RESOLUTION NUMBER 21-75 Autism Awareness Month April 2021

WHEREAS; autism is a pervasive developmental disorder affecting the social, learning, and behavioral skills of those affected by it and,

WHEREAS; autism was once thought to be a relatively rare disorder affecting only 1 in 1,000 people and,

WHEREAS; more and more health professionals become proficient in diagnosing autism, more children are being diagnosed on the autism spectrum, resulting in rates as high as 1 in 150 children nationally and 1 in 94 in New Jersey.

WHEREAS; while there is no cure for autism, it is well-documented that if individuals with autism receive treatment in their lives, it often is possible for those individuals to lead significantly improved lives.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Neptune City, do hereby proclaim April as **AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH**.

Resolution 21-76 Refund tax overpayment

RESOLUTION NUMBER 21-76 RESOLUTION TO REFUND TAX OVERPAYMENT

WHEREAS, it has been determined by the Tax Collector that the taxpayers indicated below are entitled to tax overpayment refunds, and;

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Governing Body to have these overpayments returned to the respective taxpayers;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Neptune City, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, that:

1. The Tax Collector is hereby authorized to make overpayment refunds in the amount shown to the tax payers listed below subject to the funds being received by the State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector and Finance Officer.

Block 91 Lot 24 in the amount of \$422.37 to Ronald Pappas

Aye: Councilmembers Calhoun, Pappas, Pietrunti, Renee, Thomas
Absent: Councilman Kocsis

Mayor Wardell declared the resolutions adopted

C/Pietrunti offered the following resolutions and moved their adoption. Seconded by C/Calhoun

Resolution 21-77 Certification of Compliance with US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

RESOLUTION 2021-77

**GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE
UNITED STATES EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION'S
"Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in
Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964"**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 as amended by P.L. 2017, c.183 requires the governing body of each municipality and county to certify that their local unit's hiring practices comply with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's "Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964," *as amended*, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e *et seq.*, (April 25, 2012) before submitting its approved annual budget to the Division of Local Government Services in the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs; and

WHEREAS, the members of the governing body have familiarized themselves with the contents of the above-referenced enforcement guidance and with their local unit's hiring practices as they pertain to the consideration of an individual's criminal history, as evidenced by the group affidavit form of the governing body attached hereto.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the *Mayor and Council* of the *Borough of Neptune City*), hereby states that it has complied with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5, as amended by P.L. 2017, c.183, by certifying that the local unit's hiring practices comply with the above-referenced enforcement guidance and hereby directs the Clerk to cause to be maintained and available for inspection a certified copy of this resolution and the required affidavit to show evidence of said compliance.

C/Pappas stated she was not comfortable with signing the Equal Opportunity Compliance form with her concerns that have not been answered about the hiring practice of the Council. Attorney Berlen explained the purpose of this form.

Aye: Councilmembers Calhoun, Pappas, Pietrunti, Renee, Thomas

Absent: Councilman Kocsis

Mayor Wardell declared the resolutions adopted

Ted Wardell Tucker Drive commented on his concerns with the Council's compliance with the Equal Opportunity Commission.

Larry Scott Third Avenue asked why there was a change in the setup of the Administration Office. Mayor explained the reasoning behind the office set up. Mr. Scott clarified that appointments may be made with the Borough Administrator for the residents. Mayor Wardell reassured him they can.

Motion to adjourn at 7:52 offered by C/Renee. Seconded by C/Thomas.
Voice Vote: Councilmembers Calhoun, Pappas, Renee, Thomas

Tamara Brown, Municipal Clerk