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**Room Borough of Neptune City  
Special Meeting  
August 6, 2018**  
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The Regular Council Meeting of the Mayor and Council was called to order by Mayor Brown at 6:00 p.m.

Borough Clerk Brown took roll call.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Pryor, Zajack, Wardell, Renee, Kocsis and Mayor Brown.

ABSENT: Councilmember Tallman.

Mayor Brown asked everyone to join in on the Flag Salute.

Mayor Brown 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.

**Correspondence:**

Borough Clerk Brown read into record the email received July 25, 2018 containing a letter of resignation from Councilmember Alexander Tallman dated for July 24, 2018.

Motion made by C/Pryor to accept with regret the letter of resignation from Councilmember Alexander Tallman and seconded by C/Renee. All in favor to receive and file.

C/Wardell asked to comment on C/ Tallman's letter. He expressed his disappointment and disgust in his fellow colleague C/Renee and her actions of texting C/Tallman with clear intent of threat of a lawsuit regarding the manner in which his resignation was handled. C/Renee denied the allegations and commented she praised the work by Mr. Tallman while he was a councilman.

C/Wardell explained he spoke with Mr. Tallman regarding this text and he expressed how upsetting and intimidating Ms. Renee's questioning of his resignation was. Ms. Renee denied the allegation of a lawsuit naming him if he didn't send in his resignation to the Clerk ASAP with a copy sent to her and stated she had the utmost respect for Mr. Tallman.

Mayor Brown asked C/Wardell to respectfully end the dispute as it now was going nowhere and C/Renee was clearly denying what was told to him from Mr. Tallman whom he referred to as a respected colleague and friend.

C/Pryor commented on his time working with Mr. Tallman and how disgusted he was by threatening emails sent by Ms. Renee.

C/Zajack praised Mr. Tallman and his family.

C/Renee praised Mr. Tallman and denied the threats.

C/ Kocsis praised Tallman and them working together.

Borough Clerk Brown read into record a letter received from Neptune City Republican Municipal Chair Brian Thomas: In accordance with statutory requirements pertaining to the fulfillment of vacant municipal elected officials positions following resignation of a governing body member – below please find the names of three individuals for consideration of Councilman Alexander Tallman’s seat on the Borough of Neptune City’s Council:

1. Craig W. Morcom
2. Danielle Pappas
3. Brian Thomas

C/Wardell offered a motion to appoint Danielle Pappas to fill the unexpired seat. Seconded by C/Pryor.

**Roll Call -** AYE: Councilmembers Pryor, Zajack, Wardell, Renee and Kocsis.

Mayor Brown declared the motion carried.

**Public Comment:**

Chris Tallman 85 Avondale Avenue expressed his disappointment in how his son, Councilman Tallman’s resignation was questioned. He stated his son always put Neptune City first and was honored to serve his town. He explained his son was in California and had some health concerns that required him to do additional traveling. While he was in China on business he received the text messages from Ms. Renee and did take them as a threat.

Jacqueline Vanaman 155 Prospect Street stated what a great job C/Tallman did for Neptune City and San Diego’s gain is Neptune City’s loss. She also inquired what the rules are for holding office in Neptune City. Attorney Aikins stated the rules. Ms. Vanaman clarified that in order to be a Neptune City Councilmember that you needed to be a Neptune City resident and Attorney Aikins stated yes. She asked if she could ask each member of council if they were a resident. All members of council stated yes as they were asked individually. Mayor Brown, C/Pryor and J/Zajack stated their addresses. Ms. Vanaman expressed her concern that one of the Councilmembers was not telling the truth and no longer lived in Neptune City. She then asked what the next step was to addressing her concerns. Attorney Aikins explained there was a process and advised her to put her concern in writing.

Ted Wardell 9 Tucker Drive commented on the nature of Neptune City Government becoming negative due to politics rather than service. He expressed his disappointment and asked that it all stop. He also stated court cases cost tax dollars.

Christine Kocsis Bennett Avenue stated that she felt C/Renee was being bullied. She stated to C/Wardell he was bullying this poor woman. C/Wardell commented to Ms. Kocsis that C/Renee was his colleague on the dais and that her remark about the poor woman was in this day and age considered sexist and he no way was ganging up on C/Renee and was in fact expressing his disappointment, disgust and questioning why she would intimidate their colleague on her own and question and threaten him. Ms. Kocsis continued stating there was more going on and she wasn’t going to get into a public fight but she knows there is more to the story. C/Renee stated that yes there was a lot more to the story and commented to Mayor Brown that their tactic was to “steal” the council seat that Mr. Tallman left behind and that he missed 2 regular meetings already and his resignation was not read or announced. Mr. Chris Tallman then shouted from the audience that he did not miss 2 regular meetings.

C/Kocsis commented he also contacted Mr. Tallman who he also respected and they were getting along very well and were putting party affiliation aside and were going to work together for the good of the town. Mayor Brown told /Kocsis that he believed that and know they would work together well and he reached out with good intentions to C/Tallman.

Mayor Brown commented that something very shady went on and that it would be addressed at a future time. He also stated that sending threats is a very low and underhanded thing to do. That he has seen the text messages and there is no question that Mr. Tallman was threatened with legal action. Ms. Renee stated she did not make threats. She also stated that Administrator Underhill had told her that we would be delaying filling of the seat so they didn't have to go on the ballot for November. Mr. Underhill denied the allegations.

**ADJOURN 6:30 p.m.**

Motion to adjourn by C/Wardell. Seconded by C/Kocsis.

**Voice Vote -** AYE: Councilmembers Pryor, Zajack, Wardell, Renee and Kocsis.

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Mayor Robert Brown

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Tamara Brown, Municipal Clerk