

**MINUTES - TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
TOWN OF BELVIDERE
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
691 Water Street
MAY 8, 2023**

Mayor Miers opened the workshop meeting of the Belvidere Town Council with the Pledge of Allegiance and the following notice was read in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act: In accordance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, notice of this meeting was given by way of notice filed with the Express Times NJ Zone and/or the Express-Times or Newark Star Ledger, filed in the Municipal Clerk's Office and posted in Belvidere Town Hall, 691 Water Street, Belvidere NJ. Councilwoman Koop requested that discussion of a Stormwater proposal from Paul Sterbenz be added to the agenda.

Roll Call:

Present - Mayor Miers, Councilwoman Koop, Councilman Matlock, Councilman Mitchell, Councilwoman Napolitani, Councilman Roth
Absent - Councilman Zmigrodski

Adoption of Minutes:

A **motion** was made by Councilman Roth, seconded by Councilman Mitchell with Councilman Matlock abstaining and all others voting "yes" to adopt the April 24, 2023 regular meeting minutes of the Belvidere Town Council.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment at this time.

Matters to be Addressed:

A status report from Bruno was distributed to the Council. Mayor Miers advised that we will be requesting the status of active grants.

Councilman Roth advised that the State NPP notified the Town just recently about a grant opportunity. This grant is up to \$700,000 with a 10% match with only five awards throughout the State. Suggestion of renovations to Third Street playground with a rough estimate of \$125,000 to \$150,000 with the school putting up the 10% match. Another suggestion was removal of the red barn at Riverside Park with replacement of storage shed and observation platform at approximately \$140,000 to \$150,000. The filing deadline for this grant is May 25th.

The Mayor and all Council members received an invitation to participate in the Memorial Day Parade.

Councilwoman Koop advised that a portion of the grant funds for the mandatory Tier B to Ties A Stormwater work has been received.

A **motion** was made by Councilwoman Koop, seconded by Councilman Matlock and carried authorizing Paul Sterbenz to proceed with the Pollution Prevention Preparation Plan at a cost of \$4,500.

Mayor Miers advised that the Belvidere Lions Club has requested that they be permitted to display their award plaques at Town Hall. All agreed.

The summer Council meeting scheduled will be determined on a monthly, as-needed, basis as the season progresses.

A **motion** was made by Councilwoman Napolitani, seconded by Councilwoman Koop to authorize the administrative staff to swap the November 7, 2023 Election Day holiday for July 3, 2023.

Resolutions:

No resolutions were addressed at this time.

Ordinances:

No ordinances were addressed at time.

Appointments:

A motion was made by Councilman Roth, seconded by Councilwoman Koop and carried approving the following appointment by Mayor Miers:

Gynise Gotto - Tree Lighting Committee

Authorization to Pay Purchase Orders:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Koop, seconded by Councilwoman Napolitani and carried to authorize the payment of the purchase orders, as submitted, in the amount of \$359,814.53.

Public Comment:

Ray Smickle - Lions Club considering funding a pickle ball court and extending water and electric to the poll barn at Hriczak Field. Red barn area could be used as a band shell.

Rheva Smickle -Volunteer event was wonderful. Christopher Allen volunteered for the Squad coin toss.

Linda Stettler - Volunteer event was very successful for the National Night Out committee and Neighborhood Watch. They received ten new members through the event.

Sue Beale - thought NPP wanted to keep the red barn. Dams are a draw to the downtown area.

Nancy Mason - dam removal will make Pequest more navigable for kyackers, fisherman and other water activities.

Mayor Miers advised that the Nature Conservancy will be at Riverside Park on June 17th to meet with anyone interested in the dam removal process.

Christopher Allen - Volunteer event was phenomenal. County is considering a similar event.

Made inquiries to the State regarding businesses in the Town. Still waiting for a response.

Council requested that the addresses be added to the Zoning Official's report and that he add some more detail.

Mayor Miers advised that there will be a school tax increase. The School Board did not vote on the budget at their last meeting. Currently they are anticipating an increase of \$159 per the average assessment of \$240,000.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Napolitani to adjourn the meeting of the Belvidere Town Council at 7:43 PM.

Teresa A. Yeisley, RMC/CPM
Municipal Clerk/Administrator