

**MINUTES - TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN OF BELVIDERE
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
691 Water Street
FEBRUARY 27, 2017**

Mayor Kennedy opened the regular meeting of the Belvidere Town Council with the Pledge of Allegiance and Teresa Yeisley read the following notice 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 Star Gazette and/or the Express-Times, filed in the Municipal Clerk's Office and posted in the Belvidere Town Hall, 691 Water Street, Belvidere NJ.

Roll Call:

Present - Mayor Kennedy, Councilman Fitzgerald, Councilman Makatura, Councilman McAleer, Councilwoman Miers, Councilwoman Napolitani, Councilman Tutka,
Absent - None

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Miers, seconded by Councilwoman Napolitani with Councilman Makatura abstaining and all others voting "yes" to adopt the February 13, 2017 workshop meeting minutes of the Belvidere Town Council.

Public Comment:

Linda Stettler asked about the proposed "junk car" ordinance and executive session matters for discussion.

Committee Reports:

Councilman Makatura - PD had 324 calls for service in January. Eleven summons and 20 warnings were given for parking. Working on the PD budget. Thank you to Councilman Tutka for working on the replacement of the light in the center of Garret D. Wall Park.

Councilwoman Napolitani - working on DPW budget. DPW responded to nine storms, two that required plowing. GMC truck being repaired.

Councilwoman Miers - working with all departments on their budgets. Will be meeting with CFO. Covered Recreation Committee meeting where they now have a few new members.

Councilman Fitzgerald - Economic Development Committee met on February 23rd. Claudia Howard will be working on BASF. Searching for grant sources to purchase BASF property. Councilman Makatura has been in contact with Rich Krug from BASF and will be meeting with him to discuss the property. Claudia Howard advised that she spoke with the broker for the BASF property and was informed that there was a problem with the possible sale to Green Acres and there were no other interested buyers at this time. Kevin Benbrook advised that re-zoning of the property should be the immediate focus.

Victorian Days will be celebrating their 30th year. Event needs to be taken in a new direction. Has great value to the Town. Decisions need to be made by May. Belvidere in Bloom is taking a one-year hiatus.

Shade Tree Commission will be planting several heritage trees.

Councilman Tutka - Offered review of Board of Education meeting. Looking at a 2% increase in their budget. Pool advertising for 2017 staff. Provided Ambulance Corps activity report for January. Update on removal of double poles. Attended JCP&L open house. Provided information on energy audit grant. Elizabethtown Gas will be distributing fliers on Greenwich Street this week.

Mayor Kennedy introduced Stan Prater, JCP&L representative.

Councilman McAleer - reviewed Good Will Fire Company activity report for January.

Mayor Kennedy - met with Floris Fooij, Site Director for DSM. The Mayor toured the facility and spoke with Mr. Fooij about some of the needs of the Town.

Correspondence:

Teresa Yeisley advised Council to review the correspondence regarding the annual MEL training.

Previous Business:

There was discussion regarding the proposed “junk car” ordinance. Councilwoman Miers suggested that there needs to be a demonstrable benefit to the Town in order to consider this ordinance. Kevin Benbrook will review the proposed ordinance with Chief Scott for his input.

New Business:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Napolitani, seconded by Councilwoman Miers and carried to approve raffle license applications RA2017-07 through RA2017-09.

Appointments:

There were no appointments at this time.

Public Comment:

Linda Stettler - proposed “junk car” ordinance needs a common sense approach.

Ann Skoog - video recording of meetings

Peter Koop - street sweeping

Executive Session:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Miers, seconded by Councilman Fitzgerald and carried to adopt Resolution No. R2017x19.

RESOLUTION NO. R2017x19

TOWN OF BELVIDERE

WARREN COUNTY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

A RESOLUTION FOR AN EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings act, Chapter 231,P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Belvidere, County of Warren and State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matter; and
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is:
Subject: Personnel, Contracts and Litigation
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matter will be made public:
When Resolved.

Dated: February 27, 2017

Teresa A. Yeisley, R.M.C./C.P.M.

Municipal Clerk/Administrator

A motion was made by Councilwoman Miers, seconded by Councilman Makatura and carried to return to regular session.

Kevin Benbrook advised that Council discussed a letter received from Roger Skoog regarding his position as Municipal Prosecutor and general contractual matters.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Miers, seconded by Councilman Fitzgerald and carried to adjourn the meeting of the Belvidere Town Council at 8:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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