

MINUTES - TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
TOWN OF BELVIDERE
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
691 Water Street
MARCH 7, 2016

Mayor Kennedy opened the workshop meeting of the Belvidere Town Council with the Pledge of Allegiance. 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, Councilwoman Miers, Councilman Miller, Councilwoman Napolitani, Councilman Tutka

Absent - None

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Napolitani, seconded by Councilwoman Miers and carried to adopt the February 16, 2016 regular meeting minutes of the Belvidere Town Council.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment at this time.

Workshop Matters:

Councilwoman Napolitani advised the following regarding the Department of Public Works garage project: Critical structural issues requiring replacement of the building; need to provide safe and secure facility; insufficient size for equipment; research on other municipal facilities; recommendation on type and size of building needed.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Napolitani, seconded by Councilwoman Miers and carried to authorize Councilwoman Napolitani to proceed with our municipal engineer for his recommendations regarding the replacement of the DPW garage.

Councilwoman Miers initiated a discussion regarding funding of the Free Public Library. Robert Benbrook advised on the process to close a municipal library and join the county library system.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Miers, seconded by Councilman Makatura and carried authorizing the municipal attorney to prepare the necessary library closure referendum ordinance and statement.

Councilman Miller advised the following regarding a revaluation: Remedy inequities with a revaluation or assessment; two companies that do work in Warren County; savings with reassessment verses revaluation. Robert Benbrook advised the Town will need to solicit bids for a revaluation and can solicit quotes for a reassessment from our tax assessor and others as well. Councilman Miller will seek some firm costs.

Councilman Makatura suggested that the Town have a non-binding referendum to see if the voters want to do a revaluation.

New Business:

A motion was made by Councilman Makatura, seconded by Councilwoman Miers and carried to approve the following raffle license applications: RA2016-04 and RA2016-05 BHS Project Graduation, RA2016-06 Woman's Club of Belvidere, RA2016-07 White Township Scholarship Fund, RA2016-08 Belvidere Lions Club, RA2016-09 Warren County American Legion

Approval of Purchase Orders:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Napolitani, seconded by Councilwoman Miers and carried to authorize the payment of the purchase orders in the amount of \$698,100.51.

Public Comment:

Eileen Scott - revaluation needed but no referendum to approve a revaluation.

A motion was made by Councilman Makatura, seconded by Councilwoman Miers and carried to adjourn the workshop meeting of the Belvidere Town Council.

Respectfully submitted,

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