

**MINUTES - TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
TOWN OF BELVIDERE  
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
691 Water Street  
MAY 16, 2016**

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, Councilwoman Miers, Councilman Miller, Councilwoman Napolitani, Councilman Tutka

Absent - None

**Approval of Minutes:**

**A motion** was made by Councilwoman Miers, seconded by Councilman Makatura and carried to adopt the May 2, 2016 workshop meeting minutes of the Belvidere Town Council.

**A motion** was made by Councilwoman Miers, seconded by Councilwoman Napolitani and carried to amend the March 3, 2016 Town Council meeting minutes regarding the "library tax" verbiage on page 1.

**Public Comment:**

Linda Stettler requested that the library referendum ordinance be read in its entirety.

**Committee Reports:**

Councilman Makatura - PD 423 calls for service in April. Began municipal parking lot two-hour parking enforcement. Reminded all to lock their vehicles due to recent break-ins.

Councilwoman Napolitani - Tennis courts will be painted at the end of May. Pool has been cleaned and filled. Working on municipal parks. Establishing tree removal list with Gordon Meyer. Establishing grading system for road repairs. Planning phase two of the sewer cameraing project. Scheduled street sweeping.

Councilman Miller - Shade Tree reviewed trimming and removal schedule. They have scheduled spraying and fertilizing. Historic approved three applications. Planning approved amendment to the Master Plan.

Councilwoman Miers - Planning fireworks display in memory of Howard Thompson. Fire Company, insurance, PD and DPW all on board. Will be paid for through donations. School budget adopted. Attended Library meeting and toured storage area on upper floor.

Councilman Fitzgerald - Economic Development has started meeting. Attended Warren County Economic Development meeting. Working on ordinance amendments to update enforcement.

Councilman Tutka - Good Will Fire Chicken and Ribs fund-raiser on June 8<sup>th</sup>. Squad reviewing call stats. Attended presentation from St. Lukes at Knowlton Township.

Mayor Kennedy - Elizabethtown Gas completed work on Hardwick and Second Streets. Proceeding on Greenwich Street. Garden Club refurbishing the "Welcome to Belvidere" sign.

**Correspondence:**

There was no correspondence discussed at this time.

**Previous Business:**

Councilman Makatura advised that Harmony will join the Belvidere Court on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Liberty

will be joining in July or August. Roger Skoog, attorney for Liberty has requested additional revisions to the agreement after the AOC review so the agreement will need to be sent back to the AOC for a second review.

**A motion** was made by Councilman Makatura, seconded by Councilwoman Napolitani and carried authorizing Kevin Benbrook to proceed with the Liberty Township shared court agreement as discussed.

**A motion** was made by Councilman Makatura and seconded by Councilwoman Napolitani to raise the annual salary of the Court Administrator by \$2,000 and the Judge and Prosecutor by \$1,000 each effective and prorated to June 1, 2016.

**Roll call:**

**Ayes - Councilman Fitzgerald, Councilman Makatura, Councilwoman Miers, Councilman Miller, Councilwoman Napolitani, Councilman Tutka, Mayor Kennedy**

**Nays - None**

**Abstentions - None**

**Absent - None**

Kevin Benbrook advised Council on the COAH litigation.

**A motion** was made by Councilwoman Miers, seconded by Councilman Fitzgerald and carried authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to execute the Vicinage 13 Agreement and submit payment of \$1,500 to Katrina Campbell in trust.

**Ordinances:**

Councilwoman Miers read Ordinance No. O2016x03 in full.

**A motion** was made by Councilwoman Miers, seconded by Councilwoman Napolitani and carried to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. O2016x03.

Robert Blum - facts and calculations in developing ordinance.

Benjamin Ritter - read prepared statement, no referendum

John Clemmer - provided copies of original will and comparison of Warren County towns.

Statements in ordinance incorrect. Don't know what we will be paying for County library tax.

Clifford Ghetti - new County library location not convenient. No sidewalks. Will there be a savings? Library provides intellectual property.

Anne Tan - doesn't drive. Will be paying for service that she cannot use. No public transportation.

Nick Ritter - Nothing on ballot question telling voter the cost to join the County library. Kevin Benbrook responded that the ballot question is limited by statute to have no monetary information.

Mayor Kenedy advised that there will be a town-hall meeting to present the facts regarding the costs of keeping the municipal library versus joining the county library.

Jeff Drelich - doesn't drive and municipal library convenient. Praised work of Teresa Aicher.

Harry Brown - ordinance language pointing public in a certain direction.

Linda Stettler - commented on the verbiage used in the ordinance. Not all Council had a hard copy of the document prior to introduction.

Kenneth Sanders - commented on the referendum question language. Again, Mr. Benbrook explained that the referendum question language is statutory.

Teresa Aicher - funding has consistently decreased over the last several years and is now less than in 2001. Important for young people to be able to walk to the library.

Nellie Rinehart - review of library funds utilized. Done their share when it comes to finances.

**A motion** was made by Councilwoman Napolitani, seconded by Councilman Fitzgerald and carried to close the public hearing on Ordinance No. O2016x03.

Mayor Kennedy read an article published in the Express/Times in 2012 wherein then current Mayor Linda Stettler and Councilman John Clemmer were in favor of the library using their bequeathment funds and paying all expenses incurred by the library.

Discussion ensued among the Council members regarding the language in the ordinance. Kevin Benbrook advised that removing the fourth "whereas" paragraph would not change the overall meaning of the ordinance nor would it effect the Council's ability to adopt the ordinance at this time if they so choose.

**A motion** was made by Councilwoman Miers and seconded by Councilman Miller to adopt Ordinance No. O2016x03 striking the fourth "whereas" paragraph.

**ORDINANCE NO. O2016x03**

**TOWN OF BELVIDERE  
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
AN ORDINANCE TO PLACE A REFERENDUM QUESTION ON THE NOVEMBER  
BALLOT TO DISSOLVE THE TOWN'S FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY AND JOIN THE  
COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, the Town of Belvidere maintains a free public library and assesses a property tax levy upon the residents to provide the funds for the operational costs of the library; and

WHEREAS, the operational costs of the library are increasing, its hours of operation pursuant to which it is open to the public are limited, and its financial reserves depleted such that the ability to meet the library's future operational budgets without increasing the property tax burden upon the residents is in doubt; and

WHEREAS, the County of Warren maintains a County library system and has recently completed and opened a new, modern public library facility within a few miles of the Town of Belvidere, making the same convenient and accessible for the residents of the Town; and

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

I. Pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40:54-7.1, a question shall be placed on the ballot of the next general election seeking a vote by the legal voters of the Town whether they approve or disapprove of the dissolution of the Town's public library.

II. Pursuant to the foregoing statute, the question to be placed on the ballot shall be in the following form:

“Shall the free public library established pursuant to R.S. 40:54-1 et seq. in the Town of Belvidere be dissolved effective December 31, 2016 and provision made for assessing, levying, and collecting the special tax assessed, levied and collected to support the County library system entitling the residents of the Town of Belvidere to receive the same County library assistance services as are received by other municipalities within the County library system?”

[ ] YES

[ ] NO

III. In accordance with the statute, the following interpretive statement shall be included on the ballot:

“If the voters approve this question, the Town's free public library will be dissolved, and the Town will become part of the Warren County library system.”

IV. Upon adoption, a copy of this ordinance shall be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs and with the State Librarian.

V. If the dissolution of the Town's library is approved by a majority of the voters, pursuant to statute, the Town shall assume the assets and liabilities of the library, effective upon the date of dissolution. The Mayor and Town Council shall hold a joint meeting with the library board of trustees and the County library governing body as soon as practical for the purpose of implementing discontinuance of the use of the library facilities, the adjustment, the apportionment and accounting of all of the rights and liabilities and property of the Town library and arriving at an agreement with respect thereto. Pursuant to statute, in the absence of a mutually acceptable agreement, the Director of the Division of Local Government Services shall resolve the same.

3. This ordinance shall become effective after final passage and publication according to law and filing with the County of Warren as may be applicable.

NOTICE

The foregoing ordinance was introduced at a meeting of the Belvidere Town Council held on March 21, 2016 and was read for the first time. This ordinance will be further considered for final adoption by the Belvidere Town Council at a meeting to be held on May 16, 2016 at Belvidere Town Hall, 691 Water Street, Belvidere, NJ at 7:00 P.M. or at any time and place to which said meeting may be adjourned. All interested persons will be given the opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance at that time. Any member of the general public can obtain a copy of said ordinance at no cost at the Municipal Clerk's Office, 691 Water Street, Belvidere, Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

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

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the foregoing ordinance was approved for final adoption by the Belvidere Town Council at a regular meeting held on May 16, 2016.

**Roll call:**

**Ayes - Councilman Makatura, Councilwoman Miers, Councilman Miller, Councilwoman Napolitani, Mayor Kennedy**

**Nays - Councilman Fitzgerald, Councilman Tutka**

**Abstentions - None**

**Absent - None**

**Resolutions:**

A **motion** was made by Councilwoman Miers, seconded by Councilman Makatura and carried to adopt Resolution No. R2016x23.

**RESOLUTION NO. R2016x23**

**TOWN OF BELVIDERE**

**WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**A RESOLUTION TO HIRE AND PAY**

**EMPLOYEES FOR THE BELVIDERE POOL**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Belvidere, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, that the following be paid to Pool Utility employees of the Town of Belvidere, and that salaries/hourly wages be effective for the 2016 Pool Utility Season unless otherwise noted:

Section 6

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Salary/Hourly</u>
Gilbert, Tim	Lifeguard	9.50
Bienes, Rowan	Lifeguard	9.25
Simone, Olivia	Lifeguard	10.00
Simone, Vivian	Lifeguard	9.75
Rader, Blake	Lifeguard	10.00
Martinez, Danielle	Lifeguard	9.50
Kelley, Jenna	Lifeguard	9.25
Beaney, Emma	Lifeguard	9.25
Keennan, Braden	Lifeguard	9.25
Harvath, Mark	Lifeguard	9.50
Green, Matt	Lifeguard	9.75
Young, Noah	Lifeguard	9.25
Mikialiunas, Danielle	Lifeguard	9.25
Geier, James	Lifeguard	9.25
Burton, Molly	Lifeguard	9.25
Liccese, Marguerite	Lifeguard	9.25
Hubert, Angela	Lifeguard/Swim Lessons	10.00
Farley, Logan	Front Desk/Snack Bar	8.40

Jean, Payton	Front Desk/Snack Bar	8.90
Kornegay, Cooper	Front Desk/Snack Bar	8.90
Keenan, Mallory	Front Desk/Snack Bar	8.40
Pedraza, Gabby	Front Desk/Snack Bar	8.40
Murphy, Angela	Front Desk/Snack Bar	8.40
Orsini, Hannah	Front Desk/Snack Bar	8.40
Haupin, Teddy	Front Desk/Snack Bar	8.40
Moore, Brittany	Front Desk/Snack Bar	8.40
Hubert, Peter	Certified Pool Operator	3,000 per season
Hubert, Peter	General Maintenance	*20.00
	*(not to exceed 100 hrs or \$2000)	
Fields, Alyssa	Manager	13.00
Hubert, Angela	Manager	13.00
Rader, Blake	Assistant Manager	11.50
Duckworth, George	Maintenance	8.40
Matt Green	Maintenance	9.00

Dated: May 16, 2016

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

**Appointments:**

There were no appointments at this time.

**Approval of Purchase Orders:**

**A motion** was made by Councilman Makatura, seconded by Councilwoman Napolitani and carried to authorize the payment of the purchase orders in the amount of \$36,500.16.

**Public Comment:**

Robert Blum - sewer charges. Some paying less than they should, some paying more.  
Linda Stettler - concerned about the library referendum ordinance language and the fact that not all Council members had a copy at the time of introduction. Council has met several times without having an attorney present.

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

Respectfully submitted,

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