

**MINUTES - TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN OF BELVIDERE
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
691 Water Street
June 1, 2015**

Mayor Stettler opened the regular meeting of the Belvidere Town Council with the Pledge of Allegiance and 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 Stettler, Councilman Kennedy, Councilman Makatura, Councilwoman Miers, Councilwoman Napolitani, Councilman Petre, Councilman Sebold
Absent - None

Approval of Minutes:

A **motion** was made by Councilman Kennedy, seconded by Councilwoman Miers with Councilman Makatura abstaining and all others voting "yes" to adopt the May 18, 2015 regular and executive meeting minutes of the Belvidere Town Council.

Proclamation:

Mayor Stettler presented the following proclamation:

Town of Belvidere

Proclamation

Congratulating Raymond and Rheva Smickle on their induction into the Hackettstown Regional Medical Center Senior Hall of Fame

Whereas, Raymond and Rheva Smickle have distinguished themselves as citizens of the Town of Belvidere; and

Whereas, They have been actively involved in the community and have made positive contributions to the Town of Belvidere through their many efforts as volunteers and citizens; and

Whereas, The Hackettstown Regional Medical Center recently inducted Raymond and Rheva Smickle into the Senior Hall of Fame; and

Now, Therefore, Be it Proclaimed, that the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Belvidere hereby formally congratulates Raymond and Rheva Smickle on their induction into the Senior Hall of Fame and express our gratitude for their positive contributions to our community.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment at this time.

Committee Reports:

Councilman Petre - no report at this time

Councilman Kennedy - distributed budget trial balance. Will review first half expenditures for 2015 with Council in July. Reviewed DPW and PD S/W and O/E budgets. Mayor Stettler requested cost analysis of DPW doing PD carwashes verses using Steckel carwash.

Councilwoman Miers - attended Pool Commission meeting. There were over \$60,000 in local scholarships awarded to Belvidere High School students. Working with Sewer Clerk on conversion to sewer billing by water consumption.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Miers, seconded by Councilwoman Napolitani and carried approving Saturday, December 5th for the Christmas Tree lighting.

Councilman Sebold - no report at this time.

Councilwoman Napolitani - distributed report from Library meeting. Reviewed activities of DPW for streets and pool.

Councilman Makatura - reviewed call activity of PD. High call volume and several ongoing investigations. Did not yet purchase video equipment. All officials now have website email addresses.

Correspondence:

A request was made for an EDU reduction and reimbursement of previous charges for unoccupied building at 10 Greenwich Street. Council agreed that there would be no reimbursement of previous charges and the building must be inspected by John Snyder before any EDU reduction would be granted.

Previous Business:

Riverside Park - Town's deed to State has been executed. Waiting for State to execute deed to Town.

Victorian Days - Teresa Yeisley spoke with the Victorian Days chairwoman regarding liability coverage for the event. The Victorian Days Committee will discuss adding a liaison from Council to their committee.

Mayor Stettler initiated a discussion about BASF donating property to the Town. Councilman Makatura advised that he has been in touch regularly with Rich Krug from BASF and there has been little movement in the remediation efforts.

A motion was made by Councilman Kennedy, seconded by Councilman Sebold and carried to send a letter to BASF requesting that should they consider donating any portion of their property, that they consider Belvidere first.

New Business:

Mayor Stettler requested Council volunteers for a grant research ad-hoc committee. There were no volunteers. Mayor Stettler will head this committee with citizen volunteers.

Councilwoman Miers suggested that Council have only one meeting in July and one meeting in August. Discussion ensued. This matter will be addressed at the next Council meeting.

Resolution:

A motion was made by Councilman Kennedy, seconded by Councilwoman Miers and carried to adopt Resolution No. R2015x50.

RESOLUTION NO. R2015x50

TOWN OF BELVIDERE

WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF PREMIUM MONEYS (block 24, lot 3)

WHEREAS, Tax Sale Certificate 2013-017 dated October 16, 2013 on block 24, lot 3 was redeemed on May 27, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the premium paid at the sale in the amount of \$2,200.00 needs to be returned to FWDSL & ASSOCIATES LP, lienholder of the aforementioned certificate;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Belvidere hereby authorizes the CFO to make payment in the amount of \$2,200.00 representing

said refund.

FWDSL & ASSOCIATES LP
5 COLD HILL RD S, STE 11
MENDHAM, NJ 07945

Date: June 1, 2015
Teresa A. Yeisley, RMC/CPM
Municipal Clerk/Administrator

Appointments:

There were no appointments at this time.

A motion was made by Councilman Kennedy, seconded by Councilwoman Miers and carried to send a letter to all property owners adjacent to Budd Jones Park regarding the proposed dog park.

Approval of Purchase Orders:

A motion was made by Councilman Makatura, seconded by Councilman Sebold and carried to authorize the payment of the purchase orders in the amount of \$379,568.12.

Public Comment:

Dan Helm addressed Council regarding his employment as a teacher at Belvidere High School. Mr. Helm accused the school of creating a hostile work environment. Mr. Helm resigned his position but is now requesting reinstatement.

Executive Session:

A motion was made by Councilman Kennedy, seconded by Councilman Sebold and carried to adopt Resolution No. R2015x51.

RESOLUTION NO. R2015x51

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: Contract negotiations
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matter will be made public:
When Resolved.

Dated: June 1, 2015
Teresa A. Yeisley, R.M.C./C.P.M.
Municipal Clerk/Administrator

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

Katrina Campbell advised the public that Council was in executive session for approximately 20

minutes and discussed contractual matters for court, PBA, DPW, sewer agreement with White Township and COAH litigation.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Miers, seconded by Councilman Sebold and carried to join a consortium of municipalities to retain Dr. Robert Burchell to prepare updated calculations regarding COAH housing obligations. The cost not to exceed \$2,000 contingent on a reduction in the proposed engineering costs.

A motion was made by Councilman Kennedy, seconded by Councilwoman Miers and carried to adjourn the meeting of the Belvidere Town Council at 8:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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