

**MINUTES - TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN OF BELVIDERE
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
691 Water Street
JULY 6, 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

Absent - Councilman Sebold

Approval of Minutes:

A **motion** was made by Councilman Kennedy, seconded by Councilwoman Napolitani with Councilman Petre abstaining and all others voting "yes" to adopt the June 15, 2015 regular meeting minutes of the Belvidere Town Council.

Proclamation:

Mayor Stettler presented the following proclamation to Sara Shoemaker representing the Warren County Department of Health.

Town of Belvidere

Proclamation

Supporting the Mayors Wellness Campaign

Whereas, The Mayors Wellness Campaign supports Mayors as champions of community health; and

Whereas, The goal of the campaign is to improve community health, reduce health care costs and make New Jersey a national leader in community-based health interventions by providing communities the structures and resources to implement healthy community initiatives;

Now, Therefore, Be it Proclaimed, that the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Belvidere hereby supports the Mayors Wellness Campaign and pledges to implement a program of outreach and education.

Dated this 6th day of July, 2015

Presentation:

Christine Hodde, American Red Cross Interim Regional CEO advised Council that the Red Cross will be selling their building on Greenwich Street. There will no longer be a local office but there will be no change in services.

Public Comment:

Dawn Piazza, secretary for the Belvidere Shade Tree Commission commented regarding the request from downtown business owners to remove the planters on Market Street. Mrs. Piazza advised Council that the planters were installed through a federally funded business stimulus grant. The planters are ADA compliant and Council and business owners approved the plan at the time of installation. She added that the grant may have to be repaid if the planters were removed. The Shade Tree Commission intends to replace the dead tree in the fall. A letter will be sent in response to the business owners and Councilman Petre will reach out to them to

discuss alternative actions.

Committee Reports:

Councilman Makatura - review of PD activity

Councilwoman Napolitani - reported on the activities of the DPW. The leaf machine motor is on hold. John Snyder is researching alternatives. The Councilwoman provided written reports on the Library, Pool and Recreation.

Councilwoman Miers - thanked Councilwoman Napolitani for covering her committee meetings

Councilman Kennedy - review of the budget trial balance

Councilman Petre - Shade Tree Commission working on grant and requests Council's consideration on a "heritage tree" ordinance. Historic Commission request to put historic district map on website. Environmental Commission working on Sustainable Jersey initiatives.

Mayor Stettler - presented proclamation at Rolling Thunder event on July 5th. National Night Out scheduled for August 4th from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

Correspondence:

A **motion** was made by Councilwoman Miers, seconded by Councilman Petre and carried approving a street closure for Sprint for Special Services 5K on August 8th.

Previous Business:

A **motion** was made by Councilman Kennedy, seconded by Councilwoman Miers and carried authorizing that the Town of Belvidere join in the Regional Warren/Hunterdon County FEMA FMA Acquisitions grant to acquire severe repetitive loss properties and agree to maintain said properties in perpetuity as open space.

The Howell Street topographical map will be reviewed at the next Council meeting.

Councilwoman Napolitani advised that she had no update at this time on the DPW building. The committee is still gathering information.

New Business:

A **motion** was made by Councilman Kennedy, seconded by Councilwoman Miers and carried authorizing the necessary street opening for gas installation at 735 Oxford Street.

A **motion** was made by Councilwoman Napolitani, seconded by Councilman Makatura approving a Good Will Fire Company membership application for Michael Ennis.

Appointments:

There were no appointments at this time.

Approval of Purchase Orders:

A **motion** was made by Councilman Kennedy, seconded by Councilman Makatura and carried authorizing the payment of the purchase orders in the amount of \$75,916.58.

Public Comment:

Eileen Scott - Red Cross building, sidewalk ownership

Des Fitzgerald - condition of Mill Street, tree trimming, historic home photos

Rheva Smickle - electricity charges for Victorian Days event

A **motion** was made by Councilman Makatura, seconded by Councilwoman Miers and carried to send a letter inviting Marianne Meyer-Garcia to the next Council meeting to discuss what the Town can do to assist during the Victorian Days event and their non-profit status.

Bob Piazza - agenda content

A **motion** was made by Councilman Makatura, seconded by Councilman Petre and carried to

recess the Council meeting.

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

Executive Session:

Katrina Campbell advised the public the Council would be entering executive session to discuss the PBA contract and a shared services contract.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Miers, seconded by Councilwoman Napolitani and carried to adopt Resolution No. R2015x57.

RESOLUTION NO. R2015x57

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: July 6, 2015

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

Municipal Clerk/Administrator

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

Katrina Campbell advised the public that Council was in executive session for 52 minutes and discussed the PBA contract and a shared services agreement for the municipal court.

A motion was made by Councilman Makatura, seconded by Councilwoman Miers and carried authorizing Teresa Yeisley to draft the shared services agreement for the municipal court and send to Katrina Campbell for review and then forward same to Liberty Township.

A motion was made by Councilman Kennedy, seconded by Councilwoman Miers and carried to adjourn the meeting of the Belvidere Town Council at 9:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa A. Yeisley, RMC/CPM

Municipal Clerk/Administrator