

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

Mayor Kennedy opened the regular 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.

Mayor Kennedy requested that an executive session be added to the agenda.

Roll Call:

Present - Mayor Kennedy, Councilman Fitzgerald, Councilman Makatura, Councilman McAleer, Councilwoman Miers, Councilwoman Napolitani, Councilman Tutka

Absent - None

Public Comment:

There was no public comment at this time.

Committee Reports:

Councilman McAleer - the Belvidere Ambulance Corps had 91 calls in September with 255 man hours, 34 missed calls with 28 in Belvidere and 45 in White Township. October had 116 calls with 257 man hours, 38 missed calls with 47 calls in Belvidere and 48 in White Township. The Good Will Fire Company had 18 calls in October with 199 man hours.

Councilman Makatura - the PD had 313 calls in October. A letter was read from Chief Scott stating that unauthorized persons are not permitted at the firing range. Prior approval from the Chief and an escort is required for anyone wanting to visit the firing range. The Warren County Prosecutor's Office will construct a "shoot building" at the range, at their expense for training purposes. Council agreed to allow this project to move forward with a contract to be reviewed by Kevin Benbrook. A trailer has been set on the property for academic training. The DPW will continue to clear the property to accommodate parking. Chief Scott has requested that Dennis Riley be appointed as a Class 2 SLEO. Chief Scott received a quote for a lease of a vehicle with the first payment being charged to the PD 2017 budget.

A motion was made by Councilman Makatura and seconded by Councilman Fitzgerald authorizing the purchase of a 2018 Ford Police Interceptor Utility for \$40,638.00 with certification of funds provided by the CFO.

Roll call:

Ayes - Councilman Fitzgerald, Councilman Makatura, Councilman McAleer, Councilwoman Miers, Councilwoman Napolitani, Mayor Kennedy

Nays - None

Abstentions - Councilman Tutka

Absent - None

Membership has increased for the Belvidere Ambulance Corps. They are not yet certified to do their own billing. A meeting has been scheduled with Harmony Township for their input regarding a paid day service.

Councilwoman Napolitani - report on DPW activities. Leaf pick up has been extended but once street has been cleaned, leaves must be bagged. Town-wide clean-up successful. Next year will do Saturday only. Wreaths being put up this week. Per a decision by John Snyder, DPW will take down flags but will not put them up next year. A letter was read from John Snyder regarding equipment obtained through the GSA program and the costs incurred in delivery of this equipment. Mr. Snyder respectfully asked for a "bond of trust" between Council and his department that through his tenure and his training he can fully manage his department and budget.

A motion was made by Councilman Fitzgerald to have the DPW put up the flags in 2018.
Motion rescinded.

Councilwoman Miers - department heads received their budget balance statements and have been asked to be sure all encumbrances have been given to the finance department. Finance will be focusing on the engineering budget.

Councilman Tutka - Christmas tree lighting is scheduled for December 2nd from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at Riverside Park.

The BOE is beginning contract negotiations with the teachers.

Elizabethtown Gas received a response from the Warren County Engineer's Office regarding Greenwich Street. The engineer's office had many requirements and comments and the application will need to be resubmitted and reviewed again by the engineer's office.

The pole at 706 Franklin Street will be addressed soon and JCP&L is still working on the guide wire issue at 626/628 Water Street.

Mayor Kennedy commended Councilman Tutka for his work with Elizabethtown Gas.

Councilman Fitzgerald - the last meeting of the year for the Pool Commission is scheduled for November 28th.

Mayor Kennedy - asked Council if they wished to advertise for RFP's for professional services. Council indicated that they did not. The Mayor addressed a parking issue wherein the parking area was blocked off for a delivery.

A request was received for an additional handicapped parking space on Adams Street. Council will look at the area and make a determination.

Correspondence:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Miers, seconded by Councilwoman Napolitani and carried approving a request from the Belvidere Scout Home Association to install wifi at the Scout Home at their expense.

New Business:

A motion was made by Councilman Fitzgerald, seconded by Councilwoman Napolitani and carried to move forward with the NJ Direct Install Program through Donnelly Energy to upgrade all lights at Town Hall to LED.

Appointments:

A motion was made by Councilman Makatura, seconded by Councilman McAleer and carried to appoint Dennis Riley as a Class 2 SLEO to the Belvidere Police Department.

Approval of Purchase Orders:

Councilwoman Miers reviewed the amended bill list.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Miers, seconded by Councilman Makatura and carried to authorize payment of the purchase orders in the amount of \$338,059.83.

Public Comment:

Peter Coop - thanked the DPW for picking up leaves and appreciates the extension of time to put leaves out and the consideration of dumping your own leaves at the pool.

Susan Beale - rumor of Council considering contract for garbage pick-up. Mayor Kennedy advised that Council discussed having one garbage handler in Town but found it would not work. LMR is trying to expand their customer base by offering incentives.

Desmond Fitzgerald - asked about the financing of the fire truck. Councilwoman Miers advised that, after discussion with our finance professionals, it was determined that neither Belvidere nor White Township currently has a financial vehicle in place with which to spend funds for the fire truck. This can be accomplished, but not before the end of the year. Mayor Kennedy advised that the Council approved the purchase of the truck with the certification of funds. The Mayor also requested that Council people please advise at the start of the meeting if they have any additions to the agenda.

Councilman Fitzgerald again asked about the use of the library funds to offset the 2017 budget.

Mayor Kennedy advised that he spoke with the auditor and CFO and both stated that this matter was discussed at a public meeting. Councilman Fitzgerald suggested that the library funds be used to do something that's tangible like the DPW building.

Executive Session:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Miers, seconded by Councilwoman Napolitani and carried to adopt Resolution No. R2017x75.

**RESOLUTION NO. R2017x75
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: Contracts
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matter will be made public:
When Resolved.

Dated: November 27, 2017
Teresa A. Yeisley, R.M.C./C.P.M.
Municipal Clerk/Administrator

A motion was made by Councilman Makatura, seconded by Councilwoman Napolitani to return to regular session.

Kevin Benbrook advised the public that Council discussed the DPW and PD contracts in executive session.

Mayor Kennedy recognized Good Will Fire Company Chief Delmont Cole and Vice-President Dennis Riley. Kevin Benbrook advised Mr. Cole and Mr. Riley about the financing dilemma with the fire truck but assured them that the Town will continue to work with our auditor to find a solution.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Miers, seconded by Councilman Fitzgerald and carried to adjourn the meeting of the Belvidere Town Council at 8:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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