

**MAY 17, 2021**

Mayor Susan R. Marshall called the regular meeting of the Tuckerton Borough Council to order on May 17, 2021 at 7:00 pm in the Borough Complex.

Provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act were complied with as notice was published to the *Beacon* and the *Asbury Park Press* stating the time, date and place of this meeting.

The following members of Council were in attendance: Keith Vreeland, Sam Colangelo, Brian Martin, Frank D'Amore, Suzanne Taylor, Ron Peterson and Mayor Marshall.

Mayor Marshall led the salute to the flag.

Marty Volz, from ReClam the Bay gave the governing body an update on the upweller that is being installed at South Green Street Park. He also stated that once that is up and running there will be education presentation every Friday from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

Mr. Vreeland stated he will be working with the Land Use Board on legislation for bulkheads.

**RESOLUTION #97-21**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF  
TUCKERTON, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF  
NEW JERSEY APPOINTING THE FIRM OF DEBRA  
RUMPF, ESQ. AS CHIEF MUNICIPAL PUBLIC  
DEFENDER FOR THE BOROUGH OF  
TUCKERTON**

Mr. Vreeland moved, second by Mr. Colangelo that Resolution #97-21 be approved as read. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of Council.

Mr. Martin moved, second by Mr. Vreeland that the meeting be opened to the public for the 2021 Municipal Budget Hearing. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of Council.

Peter Gioello, 358 Kingfisher Rd, asked what were some of the cost savings the Borough looked at for this budget, was there increases in salaries in this budget, and is the budget able to be changed after this hearing.

**MAY 17, 2021**

Mr. Colangelo explained he has looked into shared services for garbage collection and at first there may be a savings but it does not stay that way. The companies know they have towns stuck so they will take advantage of them. He also explained the advantage of having in house services and if there was ever an emergency like Sandy we still need the department.

Mr. Loesch explained that the budget was very difficult this year and we tried to keep all costs down, the increases were typically 2% because of contracts that are already in place, but for an average assessed home the Borough portion would see about a \$50.00 increase annually. He continued that the Borough participates now in shared services and we receive revenue from those services, but allowing for trash collection to be outsourced, the town would need to see a substantial amount of savings because our budget is bare bones to begin with.

Mrs. Gleghorn explained that if you were to compare some of the salary and wages line items from last year to this year you will see decreases from 2020 or they stayed the exact same

Mr. Gioello asked about the Verizon wireless tower and where the town is with that.

Mr. Vreeland explained it is held up right now in the New Jersey Department review.

Paul Solomani, 20 Edgewater Drive, asked why there is no line item for dredging specifically in this year's budget.

Mr. Loesch and Mrs. Gleghorn explained the state of New Jersey does not allow for line items that acts as a savings account for future issues and it will not allow for that much of an increase in the budget/taxes for a future project.

Jim Martinelli, 350 Kingfisher Road, doesn't understand why the town council fights the state about the rules and regulations to allow for things to be put into the budget, all of the members should be fighting legislature instead of saying that nothing can be done. He also wants to know what the town is going to do about the looming Covid recession.

Mrs. Gleghorn explained taxes will get collected just not the interest even if there is a recession.

Chuck Watson, 90 Curlew Road, stated the town did a trust for dredging at one time and maybe that is the way the Council should continue to look towards for the maintenance of the dredging like they do for snow plowing.

**MAY 17, 2021**

Dave Schlick, 81 Dolphin Road, asked if the Borough has open space tax and can the dredging be treated like that with a referendum on the ballot; he then asked if there was any COVID payouts to anyone that works for the town, how many police officers and public works employees are there in the Borough and is anyone else looking into the shared services other than Councilman Colangelo.

Mrs. Gleghorn explained open space tax is something governed and regulated differently and dredging cannot be treated like that; there were no covid payouts to anyone; and there are 13 Police Officers including ranks and 11 Public Works/Water Sewer employees and that includes the department heads. She explained that if you would have trash collection sourced out you would still need to keep those 11 employees because every one of them work both sides they are all crossed trained to help in both departments so there would not be any cost savings. Our guys operate an awesome department on a tight budget that no one could beat.

Mr. D'Amore stated there was a whole committee looking at the shared services or private trash collection and every town we talked to said it was not worth the savings in the long run and the committee decided to make a recommendation to keep what we have and the Council agreed.

Mr. Martin moved, second by Mrs. Taylor that the hearing for the 2021 Municipal Budget be closed. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of Council.

**RESOLUTION #98-21**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF  
TUCKERTON, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF  
NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF  
CLAIMS**

Mr. Martin moved, second by Mr. Vreeland that Resolution #98-21 be approved authorizing payment of claims in the amount of \$1,496,474.80. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of Council

**RESOLUTION #99-21**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF  
TUCKERTON, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF  
NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE TAX  
COLLECTOR TO CANCEL TAXES BILLED**

Mr. Martin moved, second by Mr. Vreeland that Resolution #99-21 be approved as read. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of Council.

**MAY 17, 2021**

Mrs. Taylor moved, second by Mr. Vreeland that the minutes of the meeting of May 3, 2021 be approved with a correction. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of Council.

**RESOLUTION #100-21**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF  
TUCKERTON, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF  
NEW JERSEY, APPOINTING DEBORAH TETRO  
AN ALTERNATE CROSSING GUARD IN THE  
BOROUGH OF TUCKERTON**

Mr. Peterson moved, second by Mr. D'Amore that Resolution #100-21 be approved as read. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of Council.

Mayor Marshall asked Council to consider one meeting a month for the months of June, July and August, Mr. Colangelo moved, second by Mr. D'Amore that the governing body approve advertisement of one meeting a month for June, July and August 2021. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of Council.

Mr. Martin moved, second by Mr. Vreeland that the governing body deny a request from Trinity Solar for the extension of hours for soliciting solar passed the hours of operation established in the Borough Code. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of Council.

Mr. Vreeland moved, second by Mr. Colangelo that the governing body approve Frank DiBona and Cynthia Salmons as drivers for the Main Street Taxi License. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of Council.

Mrs. Taylor stated the Environmental Commission will be doing the Adopt-A-Highway clean up on June 19, 2021 at 8 am starting at the Borough Complex; if anyone would like to help there is a short film you must watch before you can clean up along route 9.

Mr. Martin stated there will be town wide yard sale on June 12, 2021 the Pride and Celebration Committee is sponsoring it and there will be a map for those who participate in the yard sale. If you would like to join please call 609-296-2937. Also the Fireworks will be held on July 3, 2021 this year. Applications for the parade will be on the website shortly.

Mr. Colangelo moved, second by Mr. Vreeland that the meeting be opened to the public.

**MAY 17, 2021**

Paul Solmani, 20 Edgewater Dr, stated the governing body should make the residents of the town pay to get rid of the trash/recycling.

Carolyn Keen, 84 Curlew Rd., asked if the form for voting needed to be returned or can people just email their vote and is the yard still collecting shrink wrap from the residents.

Mrs. Gleghorn stated the form is not needed - a simple email will work and Mr. Colangelo stated that the yard does accept shrink wrap.

Chuck Watson, 90 Curlew Road, felt that Council changing the meetings to once a month in the summer months is unfair to the residents that are seasonal, he then asked what the plan for dredging in the future is. He also stated that Medford has private trash collection and it saved the town lots of money.

Mr. Martin explained the town is looking to continue preventative maintenance by way of grants for shore line restoration, beach replenishment etc, but at this point the town cannot guarantee anything will be in the budget for the future of dredging.

Dave Schlick, 81 Dolphin Road, asked if there was a fee to be in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade, as for the resolution excusing the taxes for a property on South Green Street how much is that and what is happening with renting out the old Borough Hall at 140 East Main Street.

Mrs. Gleghorn explained the amount of taxes being excused is \$4,000 but that is for all the schools and county, the property is the one the County took on as open space.

Mr. Peterson explained there is situations with oil tanks in the ground that cause a liability to the town and the possible revenue that would be seen from the renting of the building does not exceed the amount of liable the town would have to put out. So at this state of the game the town will utilize it for storage and not cause a greater liability to the town.

Peter Gioello, 358 Kingfisher Road, asked how the one meeting a month would affect the dredging special assessment and does the town have a timeline on the Lanyard Lagoon project.

Mrs. Gleghorn explained she doesn't believe one meeting a month would delay the special assessment but will check with bond counsel.

Mr. Martin stated there is no timeline yet because today was the first time Virginia Rettig from National Fish and Wildlife saw the concept plans, but we came away from the meeting feeling good.

**MAY 17, 2021**

Jim Martinelli, 350 Kingfisher Rd., asked if the permit for dredging the Borough currently has would include up to the properties bulkheads.

Mrs. Gleghorn explained the permit is for 50 feet wide of the lagoon so no it does not include the portion next to the properties bulkhead.

Nancy Peterson, 86 Curlew Rd., asked when Curlew will be fixed because the road is becoming dangerous.

Mrs. Gleghorn stated the Borough is accepting bids for that project on Wednesday May 19<sup>th</sup> and the starting of the project will be after Labor Day.

Jamie Gross, 115 Curlew Rd., asked if anything was mentioned at meet the candidates night about the waterways and dredging and if the house was in the original permit to be dredged who would the person reach out to, to get right behind their house dredged.

Mrs. Gleghorn explained it would be the contractor once that is determined.

Mike DeFelice, 196 Little Egg Harbor Blvd., stated he feels it is unfair that he will have to pay the special assessment because back in the 1990s when the lagoons were drenched the material was placed at the end of Heron Lagoon, so the town should be responsible to cleaning that up not the residents.

There being no further comments or questions, Mr. Colangelo moved, second by Mr. Vreeland that the public portion of the meeting be closed. It was so moved.

Mr. Colangelo moved, second by Mr. Vreeland that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was unanimously approved at 8:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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**JENNY GLEGHORN, RMC  
BOROUGH CLERK**

Approved:

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**SUSAN R. MARSHALL  
MAYOR**