

**BOROUGH OF PINE BEACH
REGULAR MEETING
October 8, 2014**

The Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pine Beach held a regular meeting on October 8, 2014. Mayor Cuneo called the meeting to order and read the STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE:

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE 'OPEN PUBLIC MEETING LAW' P.L. 1975 C 231 NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS SENT TO THE BERKELEY TIMES, RIVERSIDE SIGNAL AND THE ASBURY PARK PRESS, AND POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARDS OF THE PINE BEACH MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND THE PINE BEACH POST OFFICE. THIS STATEMENT SHALL BECOME A PART OF THE OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THIS MEETING

ROLL CALL: Present: Mr. Abatemarco, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Wieck
Absent: Mr. Budesca, Mr. Newman

Boy Scout Troop 114 presented the colors and lead in the flag salute.

Councilman Wieck presented Resolution 14-80, Recognition of Alex King for his Eagle project, to Alex King. Mr. Wieck has been involved with Alex's scouting for over ten years and is very proud of him.

A motion to approve Resolution 14-80 was made by Mrs. Coletti and seconded by Mr. Wieck

All were in favor

Mayor Cuneo offered Special Remembrance for recently deceased relatives and friends and for all those serving our country. Veterans Day is coming up and we should honor those who have served.

Mayor Cuneo announced that copies of all reports are on the front table

MOTION to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 10, 2014 was made by Mr. Abatemarco and seconded by Mrs. Coletti.

Roll Call: Yes, Mr. Abatemarco, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Wieck
Absent, Mr. Budesca, Mr. Newman

TREASURER'S REPORT was read by Mrs. Steib, and approved following a motion by Mr. Abatemarco with a second by Mr. Polhemus.

There were no questions or comments from Council or the public.

Roll Call: Yes, Mr. Abatemarco, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Wieck
Absent, Mr. Budesca, Mr. Newman

REVENUE REPORTS, both Tax Collector and Miscellaneous Revenue reports were read by Mrs. Steib and moved by motion of Mrs. Coletti and Mr. Polhemus provided a second.

There were no questions or comments from Council or the public.

Roll Call: Yes, Mr. Abatemarco, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Wieck
Absent, Mr. Budesca, Mr. Newman

BILLS RESOLUTION 2014-10 A, B, C, D, E was presented by Mrs. Steib.

Mayor Cuneo called for any questions or comments from the public or Council, and there were none.

Roll Call: Yes, Mr. Abatemarco, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Wieck
Absent, Mr. Budesca, Mr. Newman

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Abatemarco read the police report: Police Chief/Administrator Sgro reported that for the month of September the police department handled 144 calls for service.

School began September 3rd and the department was on hand to show an increased police presence in the school area during opening and closing times. During the first few days the parents need to become acclimated to the normal pick up and drop off procedures. Everything went without incident other than a few warnings to a few new parents.

On September 27th the department once again participated in “Operation Take Back”, a program sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Agency where local police departments open up to accept unwanted and unused medications from the public. The purpose of this program is to help keep these drugs out of the hands of others and to prevent pollution to our water supply by improper disposal. We did find that we collected far less this time around than in the past, and we believe that is partially due to the fact that these events have been held more frequently and also the fact that several local agencies have an arrangement with the DEA to be permanent drop off sites.

The fall weather appears to be coming and with it we will soon begin to have falling leaves. Please be mindful when driving that falling leaves and wet roads make for a slippery combination and please also be mindful that school is back in session, which places many of our children out walking along our roadways. Also, October 31st will be “Trick or Treat” so please use caution and watch out for our children.

Mrs. Coletti read the quarterly report from the Pine Beach Fire Company, with the Pine Beach Fire Company's activities. This third quarter report will cover July through September 2014.

Chief Wenteler reported that we had a total of 23 alarms in July, 22 alarms in August, and 18 alarms in September for a total of 63 alarms. The most notable of the alarms were the motor vehicle accident on Route 9 which involved the two Pine Beach Officers and two structure fires in Beachwood. Please note that our fire truck was in service shortly after the MVA on Route 9 and was finally released around 04:30 that morning. We also assisted in loading the injured officers aboard the medevac helicopters as well as supplying scene lighting and electric for the Sheriff's Department. The total time out on that call was five and a half hours. Chief Wenteler also stated that the total amount of training hours for the third quarter is 115 hours. When added to the first and second quarter, our total training hours for January through September totals 511 hours. Our three monthly drills were a vehicle fire live burn at the Ocean County Fire Academy in July, a SCBA air management usage in August, and an instructional usage of our new gas detectors and review of SOP's for September. We also approved and accepted 1 new membership application. Finally, the Chief informed the members that the emergency vests will now be worn at all non-fire incidents as per DOT Guidelines.

I am pleased to announce that our two newest members have moved from probationary status to active status. Congratulations to Raymond and Ryan Newman.

The fourth of July parade despite the rain out was a great success. It was great to get out there and walk the parade route with the rest of the membership. I was happy to see so many residents of our town that day. Hopefully, this will now become an annual tradition. Thank you again to the Mayor and Council for selecting the Fire Company as the Grand Marshalls for the 2014 parade.

Our coin toss held during the Saturday of Labor Day weekend was a great success. We more than doubled our profit which is second only to the town wide sale day. We again seemed to catch all the entrances and exits in town. Maybe that's why it was a great success again.

The 50/50 raffle tickets have been for sale and will be sold through December. Tickets are \$10.00 each and only 400 will be sold. Please see any member if you are interested in buying tickets.

Our two lots on Springfield Avenue have been sold and a contract has been signed with Rudy Rinderer. The closing on lot one was supposed to be in July and the closing on lot two will be in January 2015. We are still waiting to close on lot one. Again the money collected on these sales will be only used for the new building and will be deposited in the new building account. We are about to begin on the second phase with our engineer. More to come when it is available.

In closing, I would like to thank the Mayor and council again for your decision to purchase the new chief's vehicle. It is necessary and will only expedite our response time, size-up, and tactics. Again, thank you all very much and I look forward to our continued collaboration with future endeavors.

Mr. Abatemarco moved the Police, Fire Company, municipal court, water and sewer utility, building inspector, public works reports be approved as submitted and Mr. Wieck seconded.

Roll Call, Yes: Mr. Abatemarco, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Wieck
Absent: Mr. Budes, Mr. Newman

UNFINISHED BUSINESS, None

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS:

14-81 Official Trick or Treat Date of October 31, 2014 was moved by Mr. Polhemus and seconded by Mr. Wieck.

Roll Call, Yes: Mr. Abatemarco, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Wieck
Absent: Mr. Budes, Mr. Newman

14-82 Authorizing Mayor Cuneo to sign the Municipal Alliance Agreement for FY2015 was approved following a motion by Mr. Abatemarco and seconded by Mr. Wieck

Roll Call, Yes: Mr. Abatemarco, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Wieck
Absent: Mr. Budes, Mr. Newman

14-83 Review of Best Practices Inventory CY 2014/SFY 2015. Mr. Abatemarco made a motion to accept the Best Practices Inventory as presented and Mrs. Coletti provided the second.

There were no questions or comments from the public or council.

Roll Call, Yes: Mr. Abatemarco, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Wieck
Absent: Mr. Budes, Mr. Newman

14-84 Change Order #1 to Marbro, Inc. authorizing Belgium block curbing along a portion of Riverside Dr. was approved following a motion by Mr. Polhemus and seconded by Mr. Wieck.

There were no questions or comments from the public or council.

Roll Call, Yes: Mr. Abatemarco, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Wieck
Absent: Mr. Budes, Mr. Newman

14-85 Authorizing Mayor Cuneo to sign recycling center use & revenue sharing agreement with Ocean County was approved with Mr. Abatemarco moving the resolution and Mrs. Coletti seconding.

There were no questions or comments from the public.

Roll Call, Yes: Mr. Abatemarco, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Wieck

Absent: Mr. Budes, Mr. Newman

14-86 Authorizing the Utility Clerk to delete Sewer and water connection fees for 813 Radnor Ave. home being demolished was approved following a motion by Mr. Polhemus and second by Mrs. Coletti.

There were no questions or comments from the public

Roll Call, Yes: Mr. Abatemarco, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Wieck

Absent: Mr. Budes, Mr. Newman

14-87 Authorizing Mayor Cuneo to sign Agreements with the Ocean County Prosecutor for Driving While Intoxicated and Drug recognition programs was moved by Mr. Polhemus and seconded by Mrs. Coletti.

There were no questions or comments from the public

Roll Call, Yes: Mr. Abatemarco, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Wieck

Absent: Mr. Budes, Mr. Newman

14-88 Authorizing extension of time for Marbro Inc. to complete waterfront improvements to November 21, 2014. Mr. Wieck explained that the parts needed to secure the bulkhead have been on back order and hopefully will be in soon. The workers are very polite and hard workers.

There were no questions or comments from the public.

Roll Call, Yes: Mr. Abatemarco, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Wieck

Absent: Mr. Budes, Mr. Newman

14-89 Authorizing the Mayor to sign the DOT application for improvements to Pennsylvania Ave. Bikeway/walkway, Prospect Ave. to Elementary school was approved following a motion by Mr. Polhemus and a second by Mr. Wieck.

There were no questions or comments from the public.

Roll Call, Yes: Mr. Abatemarco, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Wieck

Absent: Mr. Budes, Mr. Newman

14-90 Authorizing the Mayor to sign the DOT application for roadway improvements to Pennsylvania Ave. and Monument Rd. was moved by Mr. Polhemus and seconded by Mr. Wieck

Mr. Polhemus is glad this part of the roadway will be repaired next year, since it is in front of the elementary school it is well-traveled and needs repair, with potholes and unevenness.

There were no questions or comments from the public.

Roll Call, Yes: Mr. Abatemarco, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Wieck
Absent: Mr. Budesas, Mr. Newman

14-91 Requesting Island Beach State Park be included in the Federal “Manasquan Inlet to Barnegat Inlet Storm Damage Reduction Project” to create and maintain dunes was approved by motion of Mr. Abatemarco and seconded by Mr. Wieck. There were no questions or comments from the public.

Roll Call, Yes: Mr. Abatemarco, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Wieck
Absent: Mr. Budesas, Mr. Newman

14-92 Naming the new waterfront pier and walkway “Admiral Farragut Point” was moved by Mr. Abatemarco and seconded by Mr. Wieck.

Mr. Wieck has contacted members of the alumni and they are very happy with the decision to name the waterfront park Admiral Farragut Point, and they are willing to work with the town on the project. Admiral Farragut Academy was a very important part of the history of the Borough, and Mr. Wieck appreciates the Council consideration in naming the park. Mr. Cuneo feels that even though the school is no longer in town, it is nice that Admiral Farragut will be honored as a part of our history. Two of the thirteen people who walked on the moon attended the school which is really inspiring.

There were no questions or comments from the public.

Roll Call, Yes: Mr. Abatemarco, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Wieck
Absent: Mr. Budesas, Mr. Newman

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Father Stravinskis, Buhler Court, had an issue with the Municipal Court and Borough employees. A warrant was issued for his arrest due to an unpaid fine for not getting a cat license. He left several telephone messages with the court that weren't returned. When he left the court, the office appeared closed and he received no notice until the warrant was issued. He feels he's being harassed.

Charles Byrnes, Hillside Ave., was the Municipal Court Prosecutor at the time of the court trial, and he explained that court rules are specific that trials are last on the court calendar, and Mr. Byrnes further explained that the Borough ordinance requires a cat to be licensed to Father Stravinskis at the time of his trial. He feels Father Stravinskis had full due process.

Mayor Cuneo explained that Father Stravinskis was before the judge and was found guilty, and suggested that the fine be paid.

Mr. Hanle, Avon Rd. asked about the purchase of a new container truck, that the proposed new truck does not work with the containers that we have. Mayor Cuneo explained that we are also getting new containers, and that the truck was heavy duty and has a dump truck attachment that can replace the dump truck instead of purchasing a second vehicle . Administrator Sgro explained that he has seen the truck in operation and there are several in the area. The containers we have are 18 years old and there are holes in the bottom. We'll have a versatile truck that will serve us for 18 to 20 years.

Mr. Paffendorf, Huntington Ave., asked if the new truck was compatible with neighboring towns, it is not but there are several at the County and Toms River.

Mr. Russo, Pennsylvania Ave. was concerned about the replacement of Chief Sgro. He understands that two applicants took the Chief's test, the perhaps they didn't score as high as Council wants, but he would like to have the position be filled by a Chief of Police and not a Public Safety Director. When there's a civilian doing the job there's a potential for political influence. He feels we have a good police department, and he really doesn't think testing is necessary, and the neighboring towns and Sheriff's Department help when necessary. We have a police officer, Sergeant Keith Brown, who has been on the department twelve years and in his opinion, is very capable of handling the department. He's handled several situations very well and is liked by the public and a credit to our community.

Mr. Byrnes, Hillside Ave., was concerned about the possibility of filling the police chief position from outside the department. He was the prosecutor for ten years, and we have really fine police officers. The decision you make will affect the town for the next 10 or 20 years. He has worked with Sgt. Keith Brown and found him to be professional and intelligence. He would like to see a promotion from within.

Juan Munoz is a retired state police officer and lives in town. He has offered to lead our department, and for Council to consider other options. Even though there's a small town things do happen and we need a well-qualified person to lead the police department.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Abatemarco appreciated listening to differences of opinion, and even though opinions vary, as soon as we walk out of this meeting we're all neighbors. We have done everything we can to reduce the tax burden; our employees work hard and have low salaries. We appreciate the efforts everyone puts forth and for the volunteers.

Mrs. Coletti thinks there's great pride in town, and we have volunteers who decorated the pavilions in town. People in town appreciate what happens in town and get involved.

Mr. Wieck mentioned that we have the flu shot on Oct. 18 from 10 to 1. There are many other shots you can get, pneumonia shots are also included. You can make an appointment and not have to wait in line. Regarding the police issue, we are investigating

several options at this time and we will explore those options. We do have the best interests of the police department and community in mind.

Mr. Polhemus announced that Trick or Treat is the 31st since the parade is now held the last Saturday in October. Also, we will have the time change soon and it will be dark early so be careful driving home from work. Mr. Abatemarco and Mr. Wieck expressed our interest in the police department accurately, and the town of Pine Beach is in our best interests. We are going to go ahead to fill the position with the person most suitable for that job.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Cuneo commented on the committee reports, that there are a large number of police and fire calls. He welcomed Officers King and Urban, noting that they are both back to work full duty before our police cars are here.

Members of the Alliance Committee have decorated the pavilions and Borough Hall.

Mayor Cuneo mentioned the public interest in the work at Admiral Farragut Point, and that he and his wife walked on the boardwalk last weekend. There's a phenomenal view. The company did a great job, and they are working at the Henley Ave. dock trying to get the job done.

Local sports are going on; the amateur athletes give their all and provide great competition.

Mr. Polhemus stated that today the Toms River South girl's tennis team beat Brick in the second round of the state tournament for the first time in TR South history.

Mayor Cuneo announced that the Council has been working on researching all possibilities for replacing the police chief. We are looking into what's right for the town. Not all decisions are popular but Council is working very diligently to do what's best for everyone.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM by motion of Mr. Wieck and a second by Mrs. Coletti.