

**BOROUGH OF PINE BEACH  
REGULAR MEETING  
DECEMBER 8, 2021**

A meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pine Beach took place on December 8, 2021 in the Municipal Building, 599 Pennsylvania Ave. and electronically through ZOOM at 7:30 PM. 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 ASBURY PARK PRESS AND THE STAR-LEDGER, 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. Newman, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Wieck  
Mr. Saxton (late, Via Zoom)  
Absent: Mr. Budesza, Mrs. Coletti

THE FLAG SALUTE was led by Council President Wieck

The Mayor called for a moment of silence in remembrance of recently deceased resident Jerry Barnett and former resident Donald Scala Jr.

RESOLUTION 2021-119 Appointing Joseph Maffia as a full-time patrolman in the Pine Beach Police Department was approved following a motion by Mr. Wieck and Mr. Newman provided the second. Mr. Newman welcomed Officer Maffia aboard, and Mr. Wieck congratulated him.

**SWEARING IN OF PATROLMAN MAFFIA**

Mayor Cuneo swore Ptl. Maffia in while his very proud father held the bible.

Ptl. Maffia thanked the Council for his appointment and stated he was looking forward to a long career in Pine Beach.

The Council took a brief break in the meeting allowing the members of the Maffia family and the police department to leave the room.

Mayor Cuneo called the meeting back to order and announced that copies of all of the reports and resolutions were available on the front desk.

A MOTION to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 10, 2021 was made by Mr. Newman and seconded by Mr. Polhemus.

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

The Mayor called for a vote: 3 Ayes, 0 Opposed, 3 Absent (Mr. Budes, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Saxton)

A MOTION to accept the work meeting minutes, both open and closed of November 8, 2021 was made by Mr. Wieck and seconded by Mr. Polhemus.

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

The Mayor called for a vote: 3 Ayes, 0 Opposed, 3 Absent (Mr. Budes, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Saxton)

A MOTION to accept the work meeting minutes of November 22, 2021 was made by Mr. Newman and seconded by Mr. Wieck.

There were no questions from members of the public or council.

The Mayor called for a vote: 2 Ayes, 0 Opposed, 1 Abstain (Mr. Polhemus), 3 Absent (Mr. Budes, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Saxton)

MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE AND TAX COLLECTOR REPORTS were approved following a motion by Mr. Newman and a second provided by Mr. Wieck.

There were no questions or comments concerning the reports from members of the public or council.

The Mayor called for a vote: 3 Ayes, 0 Opposed, 3 Absent (Mr. Budes, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Saxton)

BILLS RESOLUTION 2021-112 Payment of Borough Bills in the amount of \$700,007.30 was approved following a motion by Mr. Polhemus and a second by Mr. Newman

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

The Mayor called for a vote: 3 Ayes, 0 Opposed, 3 Absent (Mr. Budes, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Saxton)

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Public Works, water and sewer utility, and building inspector reports were approved as submitted following a motion by Mr. Newman and a second by Mr. Polhemus.

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

The Mayor called for a vote: 3 Ayes, 0 Opposed, 3 Absent (Mr. Budes, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Saxton)

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

#### NEW BUSINESS

#### RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 2021-113, Special Item of Revenue, Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over grant was approved following a motion by Mr. Polhemus and seconded by Mr. Newman.

Mr. Newman was very glad to see the Borough receive this grant to get drunk drivers off the road. There were no other questions or comments from members of the public or council.

The Mayor called for a vote: 3 Ayes, 0 Opposed, 3 Absent (Mr. Budes, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Saxton)

Resolution 2021-114, Support of the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over year- end Holiday crackdown was approved following a motion by Mr. Newman and a second by Mr. Wieck

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

The Mayor called for a vote: 3 Ayes, 0 Opposed, 3 Absent (Mr. Budes, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Saxton)

Resolution 2021-115, Authorizing the Mayor to sign a shared services agreement with Ocean County for use of Truck Wash facilities was approved following a motion by Mr. Newman and seconded by Mr. Polhemus

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

The Mayor called for a vote: 3 Ayes, 0 Opposed, 3 Absent (Mr. Budes, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Saxton)

Resolution 2021-116, Authorizing the Mayor to sign an agreement with Ocean County for a shared service agreement for the Prosecutors Driving While Intoxicated Enforcement program was approved following a motion by Mr. Newman and a second by Mr. Wieck.

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

The Mayor called for a vote: 3 Ayes, 0 Opposed, 3 Absent (Mr. Budes, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Saxton)

At this time Mr. Saxton joined the meeting via ZOOM.

Resolution 2021-117, Authorizing the Mayor to sign the final quantities change order for NJ DOT FY 2021 Municipal Aid Program, Improvements to Cedar Ave. and Monmouth Ave. was approved following a motion by Mr. Newman and a second by Mr. Wieck.

Mr. Newman commented that Earle Asphalt Company employees were very professional and did a great job. They fixed the road surface and storm drains.

There were no other questions or comments from members of the public or council.

The Mayor called for a vote: 4 Ayes, 0 Oppose and 2 Absent (Mr. Budes, Mrs. Coletti)

Resolution 2021-118, Authorizing the Mayor to sign an employment contract with Chief Brown was approved following a motion by Mr. Newman and Mr. Wieck provided a second.

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

The Mayor called for a vote: 4 Ayes, 0 Oppose and 2 Absent (Mr. Budesca, Mrs. Coletti)

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Cuneo thanked the public for attending the meeting and welcomed their public comments. The Mayor explained the new water billing system, that the new water rate sends bills with excess usage two times a year, and residents don't receive the third billing for excess usage.

Jack Healy, 302 Station Ave. asked about the water bill calculation, and the Mayor explained that each bill includes the flat fee and excess usage per 1,000 gallons used. The new meters are efficient and accurate.

Susan Washington, 709 Riverside Dr. stated that she was happy to see the container at 717 Riverside Drive and is looking forward to the contractor cleaning up the property. She also commented that the occupant at 717 Riverside Dr. was driving in a reckless manner and the police were present but did not do anything about it. She is also concerned that the yard will be cleaned out but the occupant brings items to scrap into the property at night. The Mayor suggested the neighbors call the police department if they see anything new coming in.

Ms. Washington asked if the property will be inspected on a regular basis and the question was echoed by Jennifer Smith, 721 Riverside Dr. The Mayor stated that this is an area of concern and will be passed by the Code enforcement officer as he inspects other properties in town.

The Mayor will bring the concerns for the reckless driving to the Police Chief's attention.

Ms. Washington is concerned about the constant harassment to the neighbors by the occupant

Bill Bateman, 729 Riverside Dr. stated that he has witnessed the occupant's careless driving and speeding and he is concerned someone will be hurt. The Mayor repeated that he will speak to the police regarding traffic. Mr. Bateman also asked if soil samples will be done along with the property cleanup, and yes they will be taken.

Jennifer Smith, 721 Riverside Dr. suggested putting a camera at the stop sign or park area to help enforcement.

Mr. Newman understands the resident concerns regarding the driving threat. Perhaps the sheriff will provide cameras to check for speeding. He asked Mr. Wieck to speak to the Police Chief. Mr. Newman urged all to call the police if they see signs of the occupant of 717 Riverside Dr. bringing scrap on to the property.

Mr. Saxton hopes that this clean-up process will work, we have come to a point of cleaning the property up following the judge's orders. Please call the police with any complaints.

Robert Runyon, 707 Lincoln Ave. (on ZOOM) suggested that the police should be prepared for action.

Mr. Healy added that he has complained to the police about the occupant at 717 Riverside Drives dangerous driving.

Mr. Newman commented that it is good for people to come to the town meetings; it brings the situation to the attention of the council. He appreciates the residents coming to the meeting.

Kathleen Anen, 729 Riverside Dr. has witnessed the occupant's temper tantrums. He threatens neighbors, screams and yells. He has even threatened to kill someone. Mr. Saxton added that he blew up in front of the Judge when he was sentenced to probation. The judge only knows if residents sign complaints.

Bill Smith, 729 Riverside Dr. stated that the occupant made threats against the code enforcement officer, The incidents are very concerning, the police come out but when they leave he becomes violent again. There are complaints pending, both verbal abuse and harassment have been signed. Tomorrow's cleanup is a good step in the right direction. Lately the occupant has been coming in at night, unloading the truck to the garage and making scrapping noises.

Mr. Runyon added that the Judge stipulated that the yard must be cleaned up and there will be ongoing supervision after the cleanup. The Mayor added that the illegal activity must stop. Once the property is cleaned up there will be a base line as to the condition of the property. It will be helpful if the neighbors call to let Code Enforcement or the police know any activities on the property.

Mrs. Smith asked if the green fence will come down and that is a question for code enforcement.

There were no further public comments.

#### COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Newman thanked everyone involved with the Tree Lighting on Sunday. It was well attended and everyone had a good time. He wished al Happy Holidays.

Mr. Polhemus echoed the successful night for the tree lighting. There were almost 100 people there, and he thanked the staff and fire company for coming. He wished all Happy Holidays.

It is important that people continue to come to the meetings, the residents are the heartbeat of Pine Beach and their comments will be considered by Council. We will attempt to bring a better quality of life. He will discuss extra police presence in the areas with the Chief. Cameras at the park and certain key places could provide minimum deterrence.

Mr. Wieck commented that the Pine Beach School PTO sponsored horse and carriage rides on Monday, and on December 18<sup>th</sup> the Fire Company will sponsor a Santa Run so listen for the Fire Truck to come around with Santa.

Mr. Wieck thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting and welcomes their participation. Our hands are tied in certain instances with following the law but we are going in the right direction.

#### MAYOR'S COMMENTS

The Mayor wished all to have safe and happy holidays.

It was a pleasure to swear in a new full time officer, Patrolman Maffia comes from a long line of law enforcement. It is always nice to see our police officers support a new officer.

Sadly Jerry Barnett, former Commodore of the Pine Beach Yacht Club, has passed. He is at peace now.

Our Public Defender Donna Conoshenti has also passed away this week; she was an Ocean Gate resident with a pleasant outgoing personality and served Pine Beach well.

We had wonderful Holiday activities this past week, the Annual Tree Lighting was very successful, the Pine Beach School sponsored the carriage rides, and Santa will be coming around on a fire truck December 18.

The Mayor appreciates people coming to the meetings and mentioned that it is also on ZOOM so people can still be involved from home.

The Mayor proudly announced that resident Chris Higham was named Student of the Month at High School South. Winter sports are going on, swimming, track, basketball, hockey and wrestling are all at full schedule. These young athletes really enjoy what they are doing.

Mayor Cuneo wished all a very safe and healthy holiday season.

There was no further business to discuss, and the meeting was adjourned following a motion by Mr. Newman and a second by Mr. Wieck. All were in favor.