

**BOROUGH OF PINE BEACH**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**May 11, 2022**

The Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pine Beach held a public meeting on May 11, 2022 in the Municipal Building, 599 Pennsylvania Ave. 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: Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Newman, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Wieck  
Late: Mr. Saxton, electronically late  
Absent: Mr. Keesling

THE FLAG SALUTE was led by Council President Wieck

A MOMENT OF SILENCE was called for by Mayor Cuneo especially remembering those near and dear to us.

The Mayor announced that copies of all reports are available on the front desk.

A MOTION to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 13, 2022 was made by Mr. Polhemus and seconded by Mr. Wieck

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

The Mayor called for a vote: 4 Ayes, 0 Oppose, 2 Absent (Mr. Keesling, Mr. Saxton)

A MOTION to accept the work meeting minutes, both open and closed of April 11, 2022 was made by Mrs. Coletti and seconded by Mr. Polhemus

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

The Mayor called for a vote: 4 Ayes, 0 Oppose, 2 Absent (Mr. Keesling, Mr. Saxton)

A MOTION to accept the work meeting minutes of April 25, 2022 was made by Mr. Polhemus and Mrs. Coletti provided the second

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

The Mayor called for a vote: 4 Ayes, 0 Oppose, 2 Absent (Mr. Keesling, Mr. Saxton)

MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE AND TAX COLLECTOR REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL were moved by Mr. Newman and seconded by Mr. Polhemus.

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

The Mayor called for a vote: 4 Ayes, 0 Oppose, 2 Absent (Mr. Keesling, Mr. Saxton)

BILLS RESOLUTION 2022-51 Payment of Borough Bills in the amount of \$823,404.87 was approved following a motion by Mr. Wieck and seconded by Mrs. Coletti

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

Roll Call: Yes, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Newman, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Wieck  
Absent, Mr. Keesling, Mr. Saxton

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Municipal Court, Water and Sewer utility, Public Works and Building Inspector reports were approved as submitted following a motion by Mrs. Coletti and a second by Mr. Polhemus

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

The Mayor called for a vote: 4 Ayes, 0 Oppose, 2 Absent (Mr. Keesling, Mr. Saxton)

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

#### NEW BUSINESS

#### RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 2022-44, Restricting water use from June 19 through September 21 utilizing the “Odd-Even” method for outside watering was approved following a motion by Mr. Polhemus and a second by Mr. Wieck.

Mr. Polhemus stated that it is good that Pine Beach supports water conservation.

Brian Clouser, 606 Buhler Court, asked why this is done as a yearly resolution and why not an ordinance and Mayor Cuneo explained that this helps keep conservation in the public mind. Jennifer Smith, 721 Riverside Drive asked if the restriction included private well water use, and the Mayor explained it does not, there should be a sign on the property indicating the use of well water for irrigation.

Councilman Polhemus explained that the Borough has a water allocation from the state and there would be a fine if we exceed our allocation. Mr. Clouser asked if the Borough has made an effort to increase the allocation and was told that yes, we have requested it and this resolution shows the Borough’s efforts in water conservation.

There was no further discussion on the resolution and the Mayor called for a vote:

4 Ayes, 0 Oppose, 2 Absent (Mr. Keesling, Mr. Saxton)

Resolution 2022-45, Allowing the Fire Company to sell beer and wine at two fund raisers at Vista Park, June 18 and Sept 24 was approved following a motion by Mr. Newman and a second by Mrs. Coletti.

Mr. Clouser asked if there is a rain date scheduled for Fire Fest and there is not.

There were no further questions or comments.

The Mayor called for a vote: 4 Ayes, 0 Oppose, 2 Absent (Mr. Keesling, Mr. Saxton)

Resolution 2022-46, Naming the Grand Marshal for the July 4 parade honoring Local Law Enforcement and their families was approved following a motion by Mr. Newman and seconded by Mr. Wieck

Mr. Newman stated that it is great to support the Local Law Enforcement officers, honoring our own Borough employees. There are available 24 hours a day and have been here for the residents. We also support their families for their sacrifices with the 24/7 job. There are other forms of law enforcement such as code and zoning officers and support staff.

John Healy, 302 Station Ave. mentioned that the police do more than enforcement, he recently left his garage door open and the police were checking the house at 2 AM.

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

The Mayor called for a vote: 4 Ayes, 0 Oppose, 2 Absent (Mr. Keesling, Mr. Saxton)

Resolution 2022-47, Compliance with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission guidance was approved following a motion by Mr. Polhemus and seconded by Mrs. Coletti.

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

The Mayor called for a vote: 4 Ayes, 0 Oppose, 2 Absent (Mr. Keesling, Mr. Saxton)

Resolution 2022-48, Deferred School Tax was moved by Mr. Newman and seconded by Mr. Wieck.

The Mayor explained that this is a roll over from 2021. Ms. Picaro-Covello, Chief Finance Officer was available for questions and mentioned that this is an accounting mechanism.

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

The Mayor called for a vote: 4 Ayes, 0 Oppose, 2 Absent (Mr. Keesling, Mr. Saxton)

Resolution 2022-49, In compliance with the Local Finance Board regulations the 2022 Municipal Budget will be subject to self-exam review was approved following a motion by Mrs. Coletti and seconded by Mr. Wieck.

Mr. Newman stated that we were able to do the self-exam review because our last audit had no comments or recommendations for the first time in many years and he thanked Ms. Picaro-Covello for her good work.

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

The Mayor called for a vote: 4 Ayes, 0 Oppose, 2 Absent (Mr. Keesling, Mr. Saxton)

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION:

Mayor Cuneo announced the following ordinance introductions:

ORDINANCE 2022-02-789

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF PINE BEACH, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 26 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF PINE BEACH ENTITLED "POLICE DEPARTMENT"

This Ordinance will be published in the Asbury Park Press on May 18 and have a public hearing on June 8 at 7:30 PM in the Municipal Building.

This being the introduction of the ordinance there was no public discussion

The ordinance was approved for introduction following a motion by Mr. Newman and a second by Mr. Wieck.

Roll Call: Yes, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Newman, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Wieck  
Absent, Mr. Keesling, Mr. Saxton

At this time Mr. Saxton joined the meeting electronically.

ORDINANCE 2022-03-790

CALENDAR YEAR 2022 ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

This Ordinance will be published in the Asbury Park Press on May 18 and have a public hearing on June 8 at 7:30 PM in the Municipal Building.

The ordinance was approved following a motion by Mrs. Coletti and seconded by Mr. Polhemus

Roll Call: Yes, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Newman, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Saxton (VIA ZOOM), Mr. Wieck  
Absent, Mr. Keesling

RESOLUTION 2022-50, Introduction of the 2022 Municipal Budget, was approved following a motion by Mr. Polhemus and seconded by Mr. Wieck

Mr. Wieck asked the finance officer if this budget includes replacement of playground equipment and Ms. Picaro-Covello explained that following accounting principles the operating expense reserve can be used the first three months of the following year. This playground equipment is from the capital section and it can be used for the needed playground replacements.

Mr. Newman asked about the school tax in the amount of \$3.1 million and the Mayor explained the money comes directly to us as people pay their taxes and we forward it to the Toms River Schools as well as the library and county taxes.

Mr. Newman mentioned that the schools aren't providing transportation for the athletes to get to sports during the week.

Mr. Newman mentioned his pleasure in seeing an increase in the Fire Company donation.

The Mayor explained that our local budget is tight yet provides for all services with a modest increase.

Ms. Picaro-Covello mentioned that on our local budget, sheet 5, the energy receipts are the same most years.

Mr. Newman was concerned with Sheet 17 for the fuel, oil and gas expenses and considering the huge cost increases and how it can be controlled. Ms. Picaro-Covello mentioned that during the last two months of the year money can be transferred into the account if necessary.

The budget includes purchase of one police car. There is a decrease in the health insurance since some employees have left.

Mr. Newman asked about the purchase of the leaf vacuum and it will be used on Borough property not the entire town. Ms. Picaro-Covello explained that it would normally be included in a bond. Mr. Newman feels it will save on manpower. He thanked Ms. Picaro-Covello for doing such a great job.

Mr. Saxton thanked Ms. Picaro-Covello for the update on sheet 16.

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

Roll Call: Yes, Mrs. Coletti, Mr. Newman, Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Saxton (Via ZOOM), Mr. Wieck

Absent: Mr. Keesling

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Healy asked if the Borough will be arranging for residents to pay taxes on line and the Mayor explained that not at present because of the cost factor. You can pay on line through your bank.

Mr. Clouser spoke about the school bus situation for sports; it is due to the lack of drivers. The Mayor feels the schedules were arranged early last year and the school had adequate time to make them available. He mentioned that many school districts have the same situation. The appropriate place to ask the bus question is at a School Board meeting.

Mr. Clouser asked who determines the amount of the school tax Pine Beach pays and the Mayor responded that the percentage paid is based on the equalized assessment.

Mr. Walters, 333 Wayne Ave. asked about the painting of the water tower and the Mayor replied that one cell phone company is not responding to our request about removing their antenna so the job can be done. We have awarded the contract and some preliminary work has been done.

Mr. Clouser remarked that since Ocean County has taken over Riverside Drive it has been lined but there seems that more commercial activity is on the road. Mr. Newman is familiar with the road department work and explained that the County will regularly check for pot holes and damaged signs. This will help the Borough during the winter time for improved snow removal. Mr. Walters asked if Riverside Drive will be paved and the Mayor replied not at this time.

There were no further questions from the public and the Mayor called for Council Comments

## COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilwoman Coletti urged all to drive slow as with the nice spring weather more children are out on bikes and people are out walking pets.

Councilman Saxton thanked Ms. Picaro-Covello for her great job in putting the budget together. He announced that it was golf weather and to enjoy walking 18 holes.

Councilman Polhemus thanked Ms. Picaro-Covello for the amazing job on the budget and the fact that the state is allowing the self-exam is remarkable.

The Annual Memorial Day Service will take place on May 30 on the bluff at Vista Park. It is time to celebrate veterans and remember what they have done for us.

Work will be done to prepare the beaches for a successful summer.

Councilman Newman thanked Ms. Picaro-Covello for a job well done. He also mentioned that our zoning/code enforcement officer has done a very thorough job and we appreciate his hard work. He urged all to thank a veteran.

Council President Wieck joined in thanking Ms. Picaro-Covello and stated that it was such a pleasure to read a clean audit; she is doing a fantastic job.

We are looking for lifeguards, they need tidal water certification. Please contact the office if you know of someone interested in the position.

The next July 4 committee meeting will be May 18 at 6:30 at Vista Park. We want to check the equipment for the games there.

Once the July 4 Celebration is complete we will be starting a committee to celebrate the town's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

There will be a Beach Cleanup on June 4 from 9 to 1 pm. Volunteers are asked to report to Borough Hall at 9 and bring shovels and rakes. The Surf Rider Club will be cleaning the Avon Rd. beach. There will be dumpsters at Avon Rd. beach and one at the Station Ave. beach.

The Memorial Day service will be at 2 PM on the bluff. We will celebrate our freedom and think of those who have lost their lives defending our great country.

## MAYORS COMMENTS:

The Mayor wished the Clerk a Happy Birthday and council joined in the greeting.

Mayor Cuneo mentioned that the local budget is going up a small percentage and yet providing the services to the town.

It's the end of the school year and he urged all to support the young athletes, they play for the love of the game. It is amazing how many people go to the games just for fun.

The Mayor urged all to pause on Memorial Day and think of those who have given the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

We have applied for several grants; one is the Ocean Wind Grantor Trust which will help with the erosion along the river.

There were no further comments, and the Mayor called for a motion to close the meeting.

Mr. Newman made a motion to close the meeting and Mr. Polhemus followed with a second. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

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MAYOR'S COMMENTS