

**MINUTES - TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN OF BELVIDERE
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
691 Water Street
JANUARY 25, 2021**

Mayor Kennedy opened the regular meeting of the Belvidere Town Council with the Pledge of Allegiance and 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 Express Times Warren County NJ Zone and/or the Express-Times or Newark Star Ledger, filed in the Municipal Clerk's Office and posted in the Belvidere Town Hall, 691 Water Street, Belvidere NJ. This meeting was also advertised in accordance with the law as a virtual ZOOM meeting with instructions to the public for attendance and comment.

An executive session will be added to the agenda to discuss personnel.

Roll Call:

Present - Mayor Kennedy, Councilman Matlock, Councilwoman Miers, Councilman Mitchell, Councilwoman Napolitani, Councilman Roth, Councilman Zmigrodski

Absent - None

Adoption of Minutes:

A **motion** was made by Councilman Roth, seconded by Councilwoman Napolitani and carried to adopt the January 6, 2021 reorganization meeting minutes of the Belvidere Town Council.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment at this time.

Committee Reports:

Councilman Roth - Good Will Fire had 165 calls in 2020. A new fire truck was purchased. All active members recently received their CPR recertification. All training had halted due to the pandemic but they are now starting back up. The Belvidere Ambulance Corps has 1,100 calls in 2020 and the Belvidere Emergency Services began responding to calls on December 1, 2020. Elizabethtown Gas work was halted due to the pandemic but they are starting back up and will be working on Parker Street. The LED conversion on Manaunkachunk Road was successful. There has been discussion of continuing conversion in the business district. Each conversion would cost \$200 but there may be a chance that this would fit into their grant.

Councilman Mitchell - The Recreation Committee had to halt all activities in 2020 due to the pandemic. They hope to resume activities in 2021. The Pool Commission prepared for and opened the pool and added swim teams which really helped with their 2020 revenue.

Councilwoman Napolitani - The Police Department had 3,913 calls in 2020. All computers have been upgraded. Firearms permits have increased. The Chief's Association made a blanket COVID 19 plan for all Warren County police departments. Belvidere's back-up coverage is Washington Township and the Warren County Sheriff's Department. Chief Scott is working on the mandated addition to the building. The department acquired a new vehicle and operated within budget. Overtime was kept to a minimum but a spike in health issues caused some overtime at the end of the year. In 2020 the Belvidere Municipal Court processed 810 traffic tickets, 61 criminal complaints and turned over a total of \$131,299.94. Since the pandemic, the violations office has been closed to the public and all court sessions are being held virtually. Worked progressed on readying for Franklin and Frelinghuysen to join our shared court as of January 1, 2021. Renovations to the violations office were completed and interviews began for a full-time Deputy Court Administrator.

Councilman Matlock - The Environmental Commission and Shade Tree Commission only had a few meetings in 2020 before they were shut down due to the pandemic. The Historic Commission only met to review applications and the Planning Board met virtually when needed.

Councilman Zmigrodski - The Department of Public Works stayed on track to complete their planned tasks for 2020 while staying within budget. They have also been disinfecting their department and Town Hall on a regular basis.

Councilwoman Miers - Thank you to all departments for staying within budget in 2020. Foreclosures will continue in 2021. Amendment to the sewer ordinance is to have the same grace period for payment as we have for taxes.

Correspondence:

There was no correspondence to address at this time.

Previous Business:

Letter went out to BOE regarding ad-hoc committee. Mayor met with Councilman Mitchell and the school Superintendent.

New Business:

There was no new business to address at this time.

Resolutions:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Miers, seconded by Councilman Mitchell and carried to adopt Resolution No. R2021x14.

RESOLUTION NO. R2021x14

TOWN OF BELVIDERE

WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH THE SEWER USER CHARGE FOR YEAR 2021

WHEREAS, Ordinance O2004x16 allows the Belvidere Sewer Utility user rate to be established annually by resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the sewer user charge for the year 2021 shall be \$560.00 per equivalent dwelling unit.

Dated: January 25, 2021

Teresa A. Yeisley, RMC/CPM

Municipal Clerk/Administrator

A motion was made by Councilman Roth, seconded by Councilwoman Miers and carried to adopt Resolution No. R2021x15.

RESOLUTION NO. R2021x15

TOWN OF BELVIDERE

WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

A RESOLUTION IMPOSING A LIEN FOR MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR 400 GREENWICH STREET, BLOCK 38/LOT 18

WHEREAS, the listed owner of 400 Greenwich Street, Block 38/Lot 18 in the Town of Belvidere is as follows: Quinn, Dennis M. & Anna C.; and

WHEREAS, there are unpaid charges outstanding on said block and lot, representing the costs incurred by the Town of Belvidere to remedy violations occurring on said property which the Town Council has examined and found in the amount of:

\$5,295.00

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Belvidere Town Council does hereby place a lien on the premises listed in the amount listed for the purpose of collecting unpaid charges due to the Town of Belvidere.

Certification

I, Teresa A. Yeisley, Municipal Clerk/Administrator, Town of Belvidere do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Belvidere Town Council at a meeting held on January 25, 2021.

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

Ordinances:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Napolitani and seconded by Councilwoman Miers to introduce Ordinance No. O2021x03.

ORDINANCE NO. O2021x03

TOWN OF BELVIDERE

WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 130 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF BELVIDERE ENTITLED "SEWERS"

BE IT ORDAINED that the Belvidere Town Council hereby authorizes an amendment to the Code of the Town of Belvidere, Chapter 130 entitled "Sewers" as follows:

§ 130-20 User charge system.

G. Payment of User Charge

(3) Time and Method of payment. Should any bill or part thereof rendered for sewer usage remain unpaid for a period of ten (10) days, said bill or part thereof should be considered delinquent and subject to payment of interest at the prevailing rate fixed for interest on delinquent real estate taxes from the due date until such time as the bill is paid in full. Whenever service shall commence after the first day of any quarterly period, sanitary sewer charges for said quarterly period should be prorated accordingly.

NOTICE

The foregoing ordinance was introduced at a regular meeting of the Belvidere Town Council held on January 25, 2021 and was read for the first time. This ordinance will be further considered for final adoption by the Belvidere Town Council on February 22, 2021 via a virtual meeting held on the Zoom platform at 7:00 PM. or at any time and place to which said meeting may be adjourned. Instructions for attendance and comment can be viewed on the municipal website, belviderenj.net prior to the meeting. All interested persons will be given the opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance at that time. If you choose not to use this technology, you can mail your comments to the Municipal Clerk at the address below or email your comments to clerk@belvidere-nj.org by 12:00 PM the day of the meeting. Any member of the general public can obtain a copy of said ordinance at no cost at the Municipal Clerk's Office, 691 Water Street, Belvidere, NJ 07823, Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. The ordinance is also available on the municipal website.

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

Roll call:

Ayes - Councilman Matlock, Councilwoman Miers, Councilman Mitchell, Councilwoman Napolitani, Councilman Roth, Councilman Zmigrodski

Nays - None

Abstentions - None

Recusal - None

Absent - None

Appointments:

There were no appointments at this time.

Authorization to Pay Purchase Orders:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Miers, seconded by Councilman Zmigrodski and carried authorizing the payment of the purchase orders in the amount of \$905,623.23.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment at this time.

Executive Session:

A **motion** was made by Councilwoman Napolitani, seconded by Councilwoman Miers and carried to adopt Resolution No. R2021x16.

RESOLUTION NO. R2021x16

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: Personnel
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matter will be made public:
When Resolved.

Date: January 25, 2021
Teresa A. Yeisley, R.M.C./C.P.M.
Municipal Clerk/Administrator

A **motion** was made by Councilwoman Napolitani, seconded by Councilman Matlock and carried to return to regular session.

Kevin Benbrook advised that Council discussed the process for interviews for the Deputy Court Administrator position.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Zmigrodski to adjourn the meeting of the Belvidere Town Council at 7:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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