

**BOROUGH OF BOUND BROOK
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 23, 2016**

Council President Abel Gomez called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM with a reading of the Open Public Meetings Law Statement followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and an opening prayer.

Roll Call

Mayor Robert Fazen	absent
C. Vinnie Petti	present
C. President Abel Gomez	present
C. Philip Fiadino	present
C. David Rosario	present
C. John Buckley	present
C. Anthony Pranzatelli	present

Also Present:

Hector Herrera-Borough Administrator
Borough Clerk – Donna Marie Godleski
Borough Attorney- Judy Verrone, Esq.
Police Chief Michael Jannone

Approval of Minutes: August 9, 2016 Agenda Meeting;
Motion: Rosario Second: Fiadino All in favor: Aye

Presentation of communications, petitions, etc. –None

Greetings for comments and invitation for discussion –open to public

Bruce Gorski –Assistant Fire Chief

He advised that the Fire Department will be conducting training in several buildings this Sunday between 10 and 10:30 a.m. The training will provide insight for the community on what the fire department does.

Committee reports

Finance: C. Vinnie Petti

Council advised he had nothing to report.

Councilman Pranzatelli reported that the Borough had a phone conversation recently with a company “Moody’s “that does our credit. We were informed last year’s credit rating was dropping; this is the first year in a long time that it has stabilized. We will have surplus; revenues are slightly higher than anticipated and expenditures lower than anticipated. We have been very frugal with all departments. Also the state allows municipalities to raise taxes by 2%. If you do not use it, you can bank it. We have 13% banked. To the creditors this looks good. If we were in any trouble, we could raise it. C. Gomez advised a meeting was held with the borough tax assessor.

The tax rate dropped last year; this year held to the number; fluctuations in home pricing; plus 10 to 30% appreciation and depreciation of the value of homes. A goal for next year is to get a handle on the market. A complete full cycle of appraisals; possibly getting rid of yearly quarterly appraisals of the town.

C. Pranzatelli advised we were shown 20 recent sales which were right on with the valuations.

Public Works, Bldgs., Grounds & Utilities-C. John Buckley

Council read the report reviewing brush cleanup, metal; sewer jobs; pothole fill; trees trimmed and removed; general work; equipment and maintenance.

He thanked Vinnie Orofino, foreman for organizing the activity work list including the time spent in every job.

Public Safety (Police & Fire)- C. David Rosario

Council read the activity report into record of minutes.

The social media postings from the police department are great. He has been receiving so many compliments on the postings.

C. Gomez stated that the community policing is refreshing. The residents feel very good.

A thank you was extended to Police Chief Jannone.

Personnel, Administration & Ordinances- C. Philip Fiadino

Council advised that the committee continues to look into the personnel handbook. We are looking at workplace environment harassment and violence. There is nothing in the personnel handbook which there should be, so we are addressing this.

Council reported as personnel chair I told all departments that I would take them out to lunch so the employees can get to know me and I get to know them. There is no money from the town to do this so I will continue to pursue this with the employees over coffee.

Economic Development- C. Anthony Pranzatelli

Council reported that we are waiting on demolition permits for Meridia II. The Mercorem project where the Bound Brook Hotel is waiting on a response for a series of properties the redeveloper will purchase from the borough. Then we will move forward with a redevelopment agreement. Our redevelopment attorney is in final review of the redevelopment agreement for the Lou Reynolds project located where the establishment Ooh La La is on West Main Street.

Zoning, Construction & Code Enforcement- C. Abel Gomez

Council reported the department continues its effort to inspect all units in town. For the month of July there were 105 inspections. The efforts of code enforcement are visible. The properties and streets look much better. C. Fiadino stated the signage is starting to come together and looks very good. There is unity. The clean-up is a work in progress and is noticeable.

Introduction of ordinances - None

Ordinance on Final Reading and Consideration: -

Ordinance No. 2016:18

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BOUND BROOK AMENDING THE AMENDED REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR REDEVELOPMENT AREA 1 PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1ET SEQ.

SUMMARY: Amendments to Sub-Areas – bulk requirements; permitted uses; permits “Rail lines and rail-related uses on properties owned or controlled by rail companies or rail operators.”

Council President announced have not received comments from Planning Board.

Motion to carry over to September 13, 2016 council meeting moved by

C. Fiadino; second by C. Pranzatelli; All in favor: Aye

Attorney advised that the Planning Board has not yet provided comments to the governing body.

Ordinance No. 2016:19

Mayor: AN ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BOUND BROOK AMENDING THE AMENDED REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR REDEVELOPMENT AREA 2 PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1ET SEQ.

Summary: Amendments to sub-areas- permitted uses; bulk requirements; parking requirements.

Planning Board reviewed ordinance for consideration.

Motion to open public comment: Rosario Second: Fiadino

Public comment: Bev Pranzatelli 108 East Maple Avenue

She asked for an explanation of the ordinance. C. Gomez provided a summary.

Motion to close public comment: Rosario Second: Petti

Motion to adopt: Pranzatelli Second: Rosario

Roll Call:

C. Vinnie Petti __Y__ C. Abel Gomez __Y__ C. Philip Fiadino __Y__

C. David Rosario __Y__ C. John Buckley __Y__

C. Anthony Pranzatelli __Y__

Mayor: Ordinance will be published according to law.

Resolutions for final reading and final consideration:

R2016:130

Authorizing an amendment to Section 5 “Reimbursement in lieu of borough cell phone” of agreement for Business Administrator

Motion: Buckley Second: Fiadino All in favor: Aye

R2016:131

Authorize finance officer to issue a reimbursement of swimming lesson funds

Motion: Buckley Second: Rosario All in favor: Aye

R2016:132

Authorize Tax Collector to participate in electronic tax sale program

Motion: Buckley Second: Rosario All in favor: Aye

Unfinished Business

New Business

Special Event Permit

Bocce Ball Court Ribbon Cutting

Organization: Bound Brook Revitalization Partnership

Date: August 28, 2016

Time: 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Location: Talmadge Ave. & Tea Street

Motion: Fiadino Second: Pranzatelli All in favor: Aye

Costa Rican Independence Festival

Organization: Café Imperial, Inc.

Date: September 17, 2016

Time: 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Location: Parking Lot of Café Imperial, 200 Talmage Avenue

Motion: Buckley Second: All in favor: Aye

Approval of Vouchers

R2016: 133

Motion: Fiadino Second: Rosario All in favor: Aye

Open meeting to the public for comments

No public comment.

R2016: 134

Authorize executive session @ 8 p.m. for (contract negotiations)

Motion: Fiadino Second: Rosario All in favor: Aye

Adjournment @ 8:20 p.m.

Motion: Fiadino Second: Rosario

Respectfully submitted by,

Donna Marie Godleski, Borough Clerk