

**BOROUGH OF BOUND BROOK
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY-OCTOBER 27, 2015**

Mayor Fazen called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
A reading of the Open Public Meetings Law Statement followed
by the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer given by Councilman Fiadino.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Robert P. Fazen	present
Councilman Vinnie Petti	present
Councilwoman Beverly Pranzatelli	present
Councilman Peter Lazzaro	present
Councilman Abel Gomez	present
Councilman Philip Fiadino	present
Councilman Anthony Pranzatelli	present

Also Present:

Gary Strathearn, Borough Administrator
Donna Marie Godleski, Borough Clerk
Frank Regan, Esq.-DeCotiis, Fitzpatrick, Cole, LLP, Attorney
Michael Jannone-Police Chief

Approval of Minutes: September 22, 2015 Regular;
October 13, 2015 Agenda

Motion: C. Fiadino Second: Councilman Pranzatelli

All in favor: Aye

Presentation of communications, petitions, etc. –None

Greetings for comments and invitation for discussion

Michele DeFazio -603 Church Street

She asked about the bond reduction for Queens Gate on the agenda.
Councilman Gomez replied that Queens Gate completed a portion of the
project so they have requested a reduction in their bond.

Hal Dietrich-639 Central Avenue

He advised November 8 there will be a Veterans Mass at St. Joseph's Church at 10 a.m.

On November 11 Veterans Days there will be a service at the Memorial on Route 28-Union Avenue @ 11 a.m. The Mayor and Council were invited to attend.

Sam Todaro - 302 West Maple Avenue

He opposed the stop signs that are going to be placed on West Maple and Livingston Street. He felt it was not necessary to appease one resident.

The speeding occurs during the evening. He feels with the stop signs cars will be backed up and it will be noisier.

He suggested other ways such as an electronic sign.

Councilman Pranzatelli discouraged traffic on Maple Avenue and use the Main Route 28.

Administrator advised that the engineer gave approval and how can a stop sign not be helpful.

Chief Jannone advised it is borough residents that are speeding, predominately high school drivers. We should give it a probationary period. The amount of students driving to school is very large.

Paul Strone – 135 West Maple Avenue

He complained that cars fly down the street morning and evening. He was sorry it seems to be inconvenience to other resident but he does not want an accident. He feels the multi stop signs will help.

Hal Dietrich -603 Central Avenue

He asked about placing a speed bump instead of stop signs.

Mayor Fazen replied that it was not recommended for the snow plows and fire trucks. It would slow them down.

John Buckley -215 West Main Street

He addressed to the Mayor that he was reading through a newsletter that his party put out stating that Meridia is not paying for parking in Billian Park. Councilman Pranzatelli advised that Meridia is paying \$30,000 for the first ten years.

Mr. Buckley stated that he was at the council meeting when the Mayor was censured for giving out the parking decals to teachers to park in the

municipal lot downtown. He asked if there was a vote on the parking permits.

C. Gomez replied there was not.

Mr. Buckley replied so the Democrats did not vote to endanger the children's playground.

He asked about the 4 extra parking permits beyond the 26 that were given out. Were they accounted for?

The borough administrator advised they were all returned.

Mr. Buckley asked where the 4 permits were going to.

Mayor replied his understanding was to those persons coming in to replace administrators, teachers; spares if teachers do not show up.

Mr. Buckley advised in the newsletter it stated that decisions were made behind closed doors without negotiating.

He asked the Mayor if you were allowed to negotiate with developers in public. Mayor replied no.

Mr. Buckley stated that this newsletter represents Mayor Fazen's campaign and these are falsehoods.

This is not ok because you are not representing the works of the council; 90% of information is not true.

Mayor stated that the information was not him putting it out and it does not represent him; it represents the campaign that was running.

Mr. Buckley reiterated it is your campaign but not representing you.

Mr. Buckley advised that he saw a picture in front of the Mayor's campaign headquarters with a statement that Meridia received an \$800,000 tax break this year alone. Just curious is that Meridia is under a 10 year pilot; now they are paying more money this year than they were before. He asked the Mayor where he got his math from.

Mayor state they should be paying 1.2 million in taxes and they are not.

Councilman Pranzatelli advised that in the newsletter it states that the democrats have been in control for the past 5 years. That is not true it has been 2 years.

Committee reports

Finance: C. Anthony Pranzatelli

Committee met with the fire department because they ran out of money to fix their vehicles. We met with Mr. Bahr CFO. We needed an estimate for the ladder truck which is not in commission right now. It will cost \$25,000 And we will find the money to fix it.

Public Works, Bldgs., Grounds & Utilities-C. Peter Lazzaro

He reported that the street sweeper is fixed and will resume the first full working week of month.

Public Works supervisor advised that the sweeper will go out after leaf season.

He received an e-mail from the labor lawyer and there is a determination of impasse and a request for a mediator by the union has been agreed to.

He provided a public school report which was requested at the last council meeting of the Mayor and a resident.

A copy of the budget was distributed to the governing body as well as a report consisting of 22 questions that he from his review.

A user friendly and advertised budget is on the school's website.

He provided a summary report advising that the total operating budget for the school is over 25 million dollars. The local tax levy is approx. 1.5 million dollars.

He did invite the superintendent to a council meeting but he declined.

He was willing to respond to his written questions on the budget.

They will be referred to the business manager.

C. Lazzaro will provide a copy of those results from the business manager.

He addressed that if you have questions on the budget he recommends attending a school board meeting. He noted that when he attends the board meetings there is no one from the public present. He identified five main points of interest. The number of students are increasing each year.

The budget does not show out of district costs for special education programs. He questioned why the students are not returned to the district and placed in the new community school. He noted that some programs are underfunded. He was concerned about the transfer of funds to charter schools. In his opinion it should be allocated strictly for use of our bound brook public schools. The taxpayers should not be funding charter schools.

C. Gomez asked if this is state mandated.

Michele DeFazio, Bound Brook Board of Education representative replied That the special education programs are mandated and the school is looking at all of this and does take time.

C. Lazzaro advised his final comment was on the school bond referendum. There was nothing in the budget on this. There is no public statement of accounting for the money that was raised.

He suggested creating a committee if the mayor and council wish to pursue any of these questions. This is beyond a reasonable expectation of a council liaison.

Public Safety (Police & Fire)- C. Vinnie Petti

Council read the police activity report into the record of minutes.

Personnel, Administration & Ordinances- C. Philip Fiadino

Council advised that the committee will be meeting before Finance meets. We will be looking at the salary ordinance in relation to salary requests received. The process for the ordinance is two readings. In the future we will be discussing in executive session police promotions.

Economic Development- C. Beverly Pranzatelli

The committee met with the borough planner to go over COAH rules. It was decided to ask developers to provide 5 – 10-% of units affordable. A recommendation was offered to hire an affordable housing manager on As needed basis. This would help with the transition which would Assure we have our share of units that are required by state law. There is an issue with flood control certification and remapping. We were told at the last council meeting by the engineer that May 2016 is a very difficult date. The residents and businesses re-up their flood insurance in April so we need to make sure it is done by April.

Zoning, Construction & Code Enforcement- C. Abel Gomez

Council had no written report but gave a summary. Over the last few months the department has been working on a few nuisances. There is an illegal cab company operating which we are in court with to remove them. We are continuing to clean up Main Street and Union Avenue signage. There were 58 satellite dishes removed from the circle of Main Street up to Bart's Glass on Talmage Avenue. C. Fiadino felt the signage of a new cafeteria that opened downtown is not in keeping with the signage downtown.

C. Gomez advised that there are guidelines to signage; you cannot regulate the taste of the sign.

He advised that he has worked on bringing back the Architectural Design Board for exactly that reason.

Introduction of ordinances -

Ordinance on Final Reading and Consideration: -

BOROUGH OF BOUND BROOK

ORDINANCE No. 2015-26-

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER VII, TRAFFIC, OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF BOUND BROOK

SUMMARY:

7-21 MULTI-WAY STOP INTERSECTIONS

Pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 39:4-140, the intersections herein described are designated as Multi-Way Stop Intersections. Stop signs shall be installed as provided herein.

Intersection

Stop sign(s) on:

West Maple Avenue and Livingston Street

**West Maple Avenue
(both directions)**

Motion to open public comment: C. Fiadino

Second: Councilman Pranzatelli

Public Comment: Tony Gaglia 513 Wahneta Drive- he was not in favor

And felt we would lose parking spaces-

Fred Nerger –Watchung Road –he had concerns about the placement of signs in that location.

Motion to close public comment: C. Gomez Second: C. Fiadino

Council comments- Councilman Pranzatelli advised that there is no perfect solution. We have rural east/west roads. Let us try and see how this works.

Roll Call:

C. Vinnie Petti _Y_ C. Beverly Pranzatelli _Y_

C. Peter Lazzaro _Y_ C. Abel Gomez _N_ C. Philip Fiadino _Y_

C. Anthony Pranzatelli _Y_

BOROUGH OF BOUND BROOK

ORDINANCE NO. 2015:27

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER VII, "TRAFFIC" OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF BOUND BROOK TO ADD HANDICAPPED PARKING

SUMMARY: SECTION 1. Section 7-39.1, "Handicapped Parking on Streets," is hereby supplemented:

7-39.1 Handicapped Parking on Streets.

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 39:4-197, the following on street locations are designated as handicapped parking spaces.

<i>Street</i>		<i>Location</i>
* * *	* * *	* * *
<u>East Second Street</u>	<u>South</u>	Beginning at a point 36 feet west of Maiden Lane and extending to a point 52 feet west of Maiden Lane

SECTION 2. Section 7-39.2, "Handicapped Parking on Streets for Private Residences," is hereby amended:

7-39.2 Handicapped Parking on Streets for Private Residences.

<u>John Street</u>	<u>East</u>	Beginning at a point 166 feet South of the protracted southeastern curb line of East Second Street and ending 182 south of same curb line.
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SECTION 3. Section 7-39.3, "Handicapped parking in Municipal Parking Lots and Board of Education Property," is hereby amended

7-39.3 Handicapped Parking in Municipal Parking Lots and Board of Education Property.

<i>Property</i>	<i>Number of</i>	<i>Location</i>
<i>***</i>	<i>Spaces</i>	<i>***</i>
<i>***</i>	<i>***</i>	<i>***</i>

Municipal Parking Lot#2 1 Space the first space to the East, facing south, located to the rear and between 212 East Main St. Block 1 Lot 49 and 204 East Main St. Block 1 Lot 46

Motion to open public comment: Councilman Pranzatelli

Second: C. Gomez

Public Comment:

Motion to close public comment: C. Fiadino

Second: Councilwoman Pranzatelli

Motion to adopt: Councilman Pranzatelli Second: C. Fiadino

Roll Call:

C. Vinnie Petti __Y__ C. Beverly Pranzatelli __Y__

C. Peter Lazzaro __Y__ C. Abel Gomez __Y__ C. Philip Fiadino __Y__

C. Anthony Pranzatelli __Y__

Resolutions for final reading and final consideration:

R2015: 155

Approve the reduction of the performance bond for Queens Gate Block 68 Lots 1.02

Motion: Councilman Pranzatelli Second: C. Lazzaro

All in favor: Aye

R2015: 156

Approve change order no. 2-Lucas Construction Group for the 2014 Road Reconstruction Program

Motion: Councilman Pranzatelli Second: Councilwoman Pranzatelli

All in favor: Aye

R2015:157

Approve the submission of a grant application to NJDOT for reconstruction of East Maple Avenue project

Motion: Councilman Pranzatelli Second: C. Fiadino All in favor: Aye

Unfinished Business-None

New Business

For Review/Discussion:

Best Practices Inventory Checklist- submission to the State

The borough administrator advised he reviewed the checklist prepared by Mr. Bahr Chief Financial Officer. He was impressed with the status of the borough. Mr. Bahr has submitted the list to the state. The state requires that the borough announce at a council meeting that the submission has been prepared and submitted.

The Bound Brook Historic Preservation Commission to hold a public hearing on November 5, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.- Borough Hall

The subject of the hearing is the review of the nominating report and documents for the designation of the Old Stone Arch Bridge Railroad Avenue as a Bound Brook Landmark.

Mayor Fazen advised if anyone is interested to please attend.

Property owners within 200 feet have been notified.

C. Fiadino hopes that this will begin to designate neighborhoods, streets And buildings to move forward with colors and signage.

Mayor Fazen announced that he attended a meeting on Complete Streets. We are a member of complete streets policy and received a grant from Rutgers University. We are receiving interns to conduct a survey of the neighborhood.

We received \$2,121 grant from the DOT Highway Safety and a \$5,000 grant for the Bound Brook/South Bound Brook Municipal Alliance/Youth Services Commission.

C. Gomez advised that under the Complete Streets we have 11 new bicycle racks which have been installed.

Mayor Fazen noted that the town of Hoboken which is 1.2 square miles has thousands of bike racks, rentals and zip cars.

One comment that sticks from the meeting is that ten years from now there will be no need for a car. You can call "UBER" now if you need a car.

You can use your "Smart Phone" to unlock bike rentals and pay for it on your phone.

Council Fiadino-

He thanked the Garden Club, Captain Rivenbark and the Boy Scouts who are already participating in beautifying the town.

He announced the Mayor and Council Decorating and Gardening Contest. It will be a town wide celebration of Christmas, Hanukah and Holiday Decorating and Summer Gardening. Prizes would be awarded but do not have those at this time. This will be launched as a town wide initiative to recognize businesses and homes. He is looking for someone to be the chairperson of the contest.

Mayor Fazen replied that he would sit with C. Fiadino to talk about it. A well-organized proposal will follow at a later time.

Approval of Vouchers

R2015: 158

Motion: Councilwoman Pranzatelli Second: C. Fiadino

All in favor: Aye

Open meeting to the public for comments

Tony Gaglia – 513 Wahnetah Drive

He asked if we could place homes on the developer for affordable housing as a condition of approval, instead of hiring a manager for this.

Councilwoman Pranzatelli replied that we could do that but a manager would come in to assist only when needed. This may be 2 to 3 times per year. We may get developers going someplace else.

Lynn Fazen- 571 Watchung Road

She complained that many of the windows downtown are dirty and vacant. Is there anything the SID can do to clean up such as cover up the windows with brown paper?

Councilman Pranzatelli advised that the SID can suggest it but this would fall on the code enforcement office.

Paul Strone -135 West Maple Avenue

He asked about the recent ordinance for vacant foreclosed properties that must register with the town. Who pays for this?

C. Gomez advised that the bank pays.

Council advised that we had our public works department going out there to take care of the properties. Right now we have 35 vacant properties. We are charging the banks that are holding on to these properties.

R2015: 159- None

Authorize executive session for (_____)

Motion to adjourn meeting at 9 p.m. moved by C. Gomez;
second by C. Fiadino

All in favor: Aye

Respectfully submitted by

Donna Marie Godleski, Borough Clerk