

*PINE VALLEY BOROUGH
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at 4:00 pm
Mayor Michael Kennedy presiding
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CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Kennedy called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm with a Salute to the Flag.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT – Adequate notice of this meeting was given by emailing The Retrospect and Courier Post on January 6, 2020 and posting on the bulletin board at Borough Hall.

ROLL CALL – Recorded as present was Mayor Kennedy, Commissioner Clark and Commissioner Kennedy

MATTERS REQUIRING OFFICIAL ACTION:

Minutes

Borough Meeting of January 21, 2020 – motion to approve by Commissioner Clark was seconded by Commissioner Kennedy, with Mayor Kennedy, Commissioner Clark and Commissioner Kennedy in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

Ordinances – First Reading and Introduction

- 2020-01-AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2019-03 ADOPTING ANNUAL FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE BOROUGH OF PINE VALLEY
 - Mayor Kennedy read the Ordinance by Title, explaining that this was an outgrowth of the budget review of revenues and costs. This was selected as one way to increase revenues, and it has been reviewed with the Club.
 - Motion to Introduce by Commissioner Kennedy, was seconded by Commissioner Clark with all in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.
 - Second Reading, Public Hearing and Adoption is scheduled for Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at Pine Valley Borough Hall, #1 Club Road, Pine Valley, NJ 08021

Resolutions

- #24-2020 - SUPPORTING THE PROGRAMS OF THE JOINT INSURANCE FUND AND THE SAFETY INCENTIVE PROGRAM OF THE BOROUGH OF PINE VALLEY

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough of Pine Valley recognize the important role an effective safety program plays in lowering employee injury rates, reducing lost time accidents, and cutting insurance costs, all of which contribute to greater employee safety and lower tax rates, and that health and safety must never be compromised. Providing quality services is our number one priority, and we do so making every effort to ensure employee and public safety; and WHEREAS, we applaud the JIF's initiative in providing many of the safety resources needed to enhance our local safety efforts, and we hereby declare our support of the JIF's safety programs; and WHEREAS, the Borough of Pine Valley desires to achieve an accident free environment through a health a safety culture built on TRUST – we respect each other's opinions and decisions and will follow through on all health and safety concerns – CARE – we approach each day with the determination to care for ourselves, coworkers and the community we serve – KNOWLEDGE – we seek the education and skills to properly fulfill our responsibilities – COMMUNICATION – we communicate with each other in a clear, open and honest manner; and WHEREAS, the Borough of Pine Valley educates its employees with regard to appropriate conduct in the workplace and encourages employees to report workplace harassment or discrimination in all of its forms;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governing Body of the Borough of Pine Valley applaud the JIF's initiative in providing many of the safety resources needed to enhance its local safety efforts by declaring its support of the JIF'S safety program, Pine Valley Safety Incentive Program and Safety Coordinator, Dawn T. Amadio.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following operational criteria is endorsed for the Borough of Pine Valley:

The Borough Safety Committee will meet four times per year in the months of March, June, September and December.

Putting Safety on Our Agenda” by including safety and risk management on the Governing Body Agenda on a regular basis.

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Keeping regulatory training and written programs current.
Conducting periodic hazard inspection surveys and Job Site Observations.
Encouraging supervisors and crew leaders to make a "daily safety contact" with employees
Managing our claims, reporting all claims in a timely manner, offering transitional duty and investigating incidents and near misses

Actively promoting and supporting health and wellness activities

- The motion to approve Commissioner Clark, was seconded by Commissioner Kennedy, with Mayor Kennedy, Commissioner Clark and Commissioner Kennedy in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

- **#025-2020 - RESCINDING RESOLUTION #007-2020 AND APPOINTING MUNICIPAL PUBLIC DEFENDER**

WHEREAS, the appointment of a Municipal Public Defender is necessary and required by the Borough of Pine Valley in its Municipal Court arrangement with the Borough of Berlin; and WHEREAS, the name of Glen J. Leary, was mistakenly submitted to serve as Municipal Public Defender, but was only an interim appointment; and

WHEREAS, Municipal Public Defender for the Borough of Berlin is currently Brian Herman, who is a person authorized by law to practice this recognized profession in the state of New Jersey;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Pine Valley, County of Camden, State of New Jersey, that Resolution 007-2020 hereby is rescinded and Brian Herman, 1702 Haddonfield Road, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003 is hereby appointed as the Municipal Public Defender for the Borough of Pine Valley, County of Camden and State of New Jersey for the year 2020.

- The motion to approve Commissioner Kennedy, was seconded by Commissioner Clark, with Mayor Kennedy, Commissioner Clark and Commissioner Kennedy in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

- **#026-2020 - APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Pine Valley, that payment for the annexed bill list dated February 18, 2020 in the amounts indicated below is hereby approved:

Current Account	\$158,340.37
Payroll Account	\$ 7,933.57
TOTAL	\$166,273.94

- The motion to approve Commissioner Clark, was seconded by Commissioner Kennedy, with Mayor Kennedy, Commissioner Clark and Commissioner Kennedy in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

- **#027-2020 - PROVIDING AUTHORIZATION FOR CLERK TO ARRANGE FOR PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF MUNICIPAL LEVY AND APPROPRIATION CAP REFERNDUM TO BE HELD ON THE ELECTION DATE OF APRIL 21, 2020 AND A "NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF MAIL-IN-BALLOTS" FOR A MUNICIPAL LEVY AND APPROPRIATION CAP REFERNDUM TO BE HELD ON THE ELECTION DATE OF APRIL 21, 2020**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Pine Valley is planning to proceed with a referendum to exceed the Two (2) percent municipal property tax levy cap pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.45 et seq. and the Two and one-half (2.5) percent appropriation cap pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.3 et seq. at an election to be held on April 21, 2020; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 19:63-6 requires "Notice of Availability of Mail-In-Ballots" for that election;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governing Body of the Borough of Pine Valley hereby authorizes the Clerk to advertise the Notice of the Levy and Appropriation Cap referendum at an election to be held on April 21, 2020 as well as a "Notice of Availability of Mail-In-Ballots" for that referendum in the Borough's Official Newspapers on or before February 25, 2020 as prescribed by the state statute.

- Mayor Kennedy said a plan has been worked on for several months with an in-depth review of the Budget, with budget projections that found significant amount of revenue declining because of the

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Security Contract changes and the cost of the Civil Rights attorney. They reviewed revenues and disbursements and after review the only way to have a balanced budget is to raise taxes. They have spoken to the DLGS and seen that it is best to have a voter referendum. Local Finance Notice 02-2020 gives guidance. There is historical precedence for voter referendum in Pine Valley to increase budget over the cap once for the Police contract once and the second for a law suit that came back at that time frame with Mayor Kennedy offering historical context for those incidents. The legal noticing must be placed by February 25th the referendum will be held on April 25th. The Borough will continue to proceed on focusing on cost containment. CFO working on the budget numbers to be inserted with the wording in the referendum advertisement.

- The motion to approve Commissioner Kennedy, was seconded by Commissioner Clark, with Mayor Kennedy, Commissioner Clark and Commissioner Kennedy in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

OFFICIAL REPORTS

- Finance Reports – CFO Dean Ciminera reported that the Annual Financial Statement and Annual Debt Statement were filed yesterday. There will be a Note Sale, as the debt will be rolled over one more year. A rate of 2.74 was received from PNC with \$10,600 paid down. With regard to the Audit Mayor Kennedy said he was available to meet to which the CFO said we are not there yet, but he will network when it is time to do that.
- Police Report – Captain Rauer said that all is well with police. There were some issues with shift changes but they have been resolved. Pine Hill help out temporarily and the communication with Pine Hill is being left open.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

- **2018 Financial Disclosure Statement Error** – there was conversation about whether anything had been heard regarding this issue. The Local Finance Board said they would take the matter of the error under consideration, and word is being awaited.
- **Animal Shelter** - A quote of \$150 per month was received from Voorhees Animal Orphanage which is their minimum municipal contract. Captain Rauer assisted in getting that quote, which seemed high for a service that is never utilized. He did reach out the Karen Gregor the ACO for suggestions. Her suggestion was to reach out to the county shelter and see if they would offer a per animal rate, which Captain Rauer will do. Animal Welfare responded that they no longer engage in municipal contracts.
- **Budget matters** – were previously discussed.
- **Body Armor Grant** – The money has been received and Captain Rauer is going to see which Officer is next in need of a new vest.
- **File Storage** – There was discussion of getting quotes from other storage facilities
- **Civil Rights Matter** – there has been not response in any sense. Perhaps there will be a response in the Springs. Right now the focus is on the Budget.

FLOOR OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – Mayor Kennedy opened the meeting to the public, but not hearing any comments or questions, closed the meeting to the public.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – The next Borough Meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Pine Valley will be held on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 4 pm at the Borough Hall.

MOTION TO ADJOURN - The motion to adjourn at 4:30 pm by Commissioner Clark, was seconded by Commissioner Kennedy with all in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn T. Amadio, RMC, Municipal Clerk

