

**BOROUGH OF BUENA  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES  
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**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 7:01 P.M.**

**MEETING ADJOURNED: 7:29 P.M.**

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER: FLAG SALUTE**

**ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE:**

| <b>Council Member</b> | <b>Present</b> | <b>Absent</b> |
|-----------------------|----------------|---------------|
| WALKER                | <b>X</b>       |               |
| D'ALESSANDRO          | <b>X</b>       |               |
| BAKER                 | <b>X</b>       |               |
| MANCUSO               | <b>X</b>       |               |
| ALVAREZ               | <b>X</b>       |               |
| PALMIERI              | <b>X</b>       |               |

**SUNSHINE LAW:**

THIS MEETING IS BEING HELD VIA TELE-CONFERENCING IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT AND NOTICES OF THIS MEETING HAVE BEEN PROVIDED, VIA EMAIL, TO THE PRESS OF ATLANTIC CITY, THE DAILY JOURNAL AND THE ATLANTIC COUNTY RECORD ON DECEMBER 1, 2020, AS WELL AS HAVING BEEN POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD AT BOROUGH HALL.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS.

Mayor Zappariello opened the meeting with a moment of silence for those affected by COVID-19.

Mayor Zappariello called on Engineer Robert Smith for an update on drainage issues. Engineer Smith met with Department of Transportation representatives and provided them with additional information. Brian Fatcher of Kimberly Lane requested Central Avenue paving dates. Engineer Smith contacted the inspector and was informed that there is no schedule available at this time. Further, Mr. Smith stated he will forward the schedule once it is available.

**PUBLIC PORTION OF THE MEETING:**

William Coltri of Forest Grove Road asked when the municipal building will be opening to the public for business and in-person meetings. Mayor Zappariello thanked Mr. Coltri for his question and stated the matters are being actively discussed. Factors such as occupancy limits, social distancing, and masking are all under consideration.

Toni Mattioli of Edwards Avenue requested information on the Brunini Pool. Ms. Mattioli stated the pool is filled with water and mosquitos are present. Road Supervisor Nimohay stated that lot cleaning process has commenced and he will fill in the pool if necessary. Solicitor Costigan stated to foreclose on the property, service must occur and she is in the process of determining who owns the property and lien. Mayor Zappariello encouraged Ms. Mattioli to check in at our next meeting, or reach out to him directly, for updates.

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Susan Romeo of Harding Highway requested an update on the meeting between the governing body and members of the Landisville Volunteer Fire Company. Ms. Romeo referenced comments made by Mayor Zappariello and by others on social media alluding to violations of law involving the Department. Ms. Romeo cautioned against withholding information from the general public and vote fixing. Ms. Romeo further stated that there were two fires recently and two companies arrived on the scene prior to Minotola Volunteer Fire Company. Ms. Romeo stated she understands the companies are manned by volunteers and all have varied response times. Lastly, Ms. Romeo expressed her disappointment in Mayor Zappariello and members of council. Mayor Zappariello stated the meeting between the governing body and members of the fire department will be a public meeting where all members of the public and fire department representatives will have the opportunity to ask questions.

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**PUBLIC HEARING OPENED:**

**2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

| Council Member | By | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Aye | Nay | Abstain | Absent | Recuse |
|----------------|----|-----------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|--------|
| WALKER         |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| D'ALESSANDRO   |    | X               | X   |     |         |        |        |
| BAKER          | X  |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| MANCUSO        |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| ALVAREZ        |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| PALMIERI       |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |

**DISCUSSION:**

Mayor Zappariello stated that taxes will not increase for the fourth consecutive year.

**PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED:**

| Council Member | By | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Aye | Nay | Abstain | Absent | Recuse |
|----------------|----|-----------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|--------|
| WALKER         |    | X               | X   |     |         |        |        |
| D'ALESSANDRO   |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| BAKER          | X  |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| MANCUSO        |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| ALVAREZ        |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| PALMIERI       |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |

**RESOLUTION 57-21      A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT 2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

| Council Member | By | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Aye | Nay | Abstain | Absent | Recuse |
|----------------|----|-----------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|--------|
| WALKER         |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| D'ALESSANDRO   |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| BAKER          | X  |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| MANCUSO        |    | X               | X   |     |         |        |        |
| ALVAREZ        |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| PALMIERI       |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |

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**RESOLUTION 58-21 SELF-EXAMINATION OF BUDGET**

| Council Member | By | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Aye | Nay | Abstain | Absent | Recuse |
|----------------|----|-----------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|--------|
| WALKER         |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| D'ALESSANDRO   |    | X               | X   |     |         |        |        |
| BAKER          | X  |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| MANCUSO        |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| ALVAREZ        |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| PALMIERI       |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-78b has authorized the Local Finance Board to adopt rules that permit municipalities in sound fiscal condition to assume the responsibility, normally granted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, of conducting the annual budget examination; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.A.C. 5:30-7 was adopted by the Local Finance Board on February 11, 1997; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.2 through 7.5, the Borough of Buena has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of Local government Services, and the Chief Financial Officer has determined that the local government meets the necessary conditions to participate in the program for the 2021 budget year.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the governing body of the Borough of Buena that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.6a & 7.6b and based upon the Chief Financial Officer's certification, the governing body has found the budget has met the following requirements:

1. That with reference to the following items, the amounts have been calculated pursuant to law ad appropriated as such in the budget:
  - a. Payment of interest and debt redemption charges
  - b. Deferred charges and statutory expenditures
  - c. Cash deficit of preceding year
  - d. Reserve for uncollected taxes
  - e. Other reserves and non-disbursement items
  - f. Any inclusions of amounts required for school purposes.
2. That the provisions relating to limitation on increases of appropriations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.2 and appropriations for exceptions to limits on appropriations found at N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.3 et seq., are fully met (complies with CAP law).
3. That the budget is in such form, arrangement, and content as required by the Local Budget Law and N.J.A.C. 5:30-4 and 5:30-5.
4. That pursuant to the Local Budget Law:
  - a. All estimates of revenue are reasonable, accurate and correctly stated,
  - b. Items of appropriation are properly set forth
  - c. In itemization, form, arrangement and content, the budget will permit the exercise of the comptroller function within the municipality.

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5. The budget and associated amendments have been introduced and publicly advertised in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Budget Law, except that failure to meet the deadlines of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 shall not prevent such certification.
6. That all other applicable statutory requirements have been fulfilled.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution will be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services upon adoption.

**RESOLUTION 59-21 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CFO TO DONATE \$1,000.00 FROM THE RECREATION COMMITTEE TO THE SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE FOR VETERANS PICNIC TO BE HELD JUNE 5, 2021.**

| Council Member | By | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Aye | Nay | Abstain | Absent | Recuse |
|----------------|----|-----------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|--------|
| WALKER         |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| D'ALESSANDRO   |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| BAKER          | X  |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| MANCUSO        |    | X               | X   |     |         |        |        |
| ALVAREZ        |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| PALMIERI       |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |

**WHEREAS**, the Recreation Committee has authorized a donation of \$1,000.00 to be made to the Special Events Committee for their Veterans Picnic on June 5, 2021; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by Mayor and Council of Buena Borough that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to release a check in the amount of \$1,000.00 from the Recreation account to the Special Events account.

**RESOLUTION 60-21 BOROUGH OF BUENA, COUNTY OF ATLANTIC GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE.**

| Council Member | By | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Aye | Nay | Abstain | Absent | Recuse |
|----------------|----|-----------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|--------|
| WALKER         |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| D'ALESSANDRO   |    | X               | X   |     |         |        |        |
| BAKER          | X  |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| MANCUSO        |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| ALVAREZ        |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| PALMIERI       |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |

**WHEREAS**, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Buena Council of the Borough of Buena, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious

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problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore, has an established Municipal Drug Committee; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Buena Council further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Buena has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Atlantic;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough of Buena, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Borough of Buena Council does hereby authorize submission of a Strategic plan for the BVT/Buena Borough/Weymouth Twp. Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2022 in the amount of:

|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| DEDR       | \$9,219.61 |
| Cash Match | \$2,304.90 |
| In Kind    | \$6,914.71 |

The Borough of Buena Council acknowledges the terms for administering the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

**ENGINEER' S REPORT :**

**FY2018 NJDOT Municipal Aid Project – Reconstruction of Forest Grove Road**

- Our office is coordinating the remedial work plan with the contractor.

**FY2020 NJDOT Municipal Aid Project – Reconstruction of South Boulevard**

- The project has been closed out. We are preparing the reimbursement package for submission to the NJDOT.

**FY2021 NJDOT Municipal Aid Project – Reconstruction of South Boulevard**

- Design of the project is essentially complete. Our office met with Mr. Nimohay to review the plans. We are currently coordinating with South Jersey Gas to resolve a conflict with the gas main.

**Expansion of the Commerce Center Redevelopment Area**

- The public hearing is being scheduled in coordination with the new Board Solicitor.

**Madison Estates Major Subdivision – Lauren Court**

- The contractor was on site on April 9, 2021 working on the punchlist. The repairs will be evaluated after the next rain event.

**NJDEP MS4 Compliance Work**

- The Stormwater Outfall Mapping is complete and was submitted to the NJDEP. Updating of the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SPPP) is complete. A final draft will be provided to Mr. Nimohay for his review.

**SOLICITOR' S REPORT :**

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- UPDATE ON CODE BOOK

**CLERK'S REPORT:**

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 26, 2021 IF NO CORRECTIONS OR ADDITIONS, ENTERTAIN A MOTION TO APPROVE:

| Council Member | By | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Aye | Nay | Abstain | Absent | Recuse |
|----------------|----|-----------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|--------|
| WALKER         |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| D'ALESSANDRO   |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| BAKER          | X  |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| MANCUSO        |    | X               | X   |     |         |        |        |
| ALVAREZ        |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| PALMIERI       |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Councilman Palmieri stated that is with deep regret that he must resign from Council and the Land Use Board. Although the Councilman found this decision to be a difficult one, personal commitments will hinder his ability to effectively carry out his duties. Councilman Palmieri thanked Mayor Zappariello, members of Council, and the employees for their assistance throughout the years. Mayor Zappariello and members of Council thanked Mr. Palmieri for his service and stated he will be missed.

**BILLS PAID AS LISTED:**

| Council Member | By | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Aye | Nay | Abstain | Absent | Recuse |
|----------------|----|-----------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|--------|
| WALKER         |    | X               | X   |     |         |        |        |
| D'ALESSANDRO   |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| BAKER          | X  |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| MANCUSO        |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| ALVAREZ        |    |                 | X   |     |         |        |        |
| PALMIERI       |    |                 |     |     |         |        |        |

**NEXT MEETING: May 24, 2021**

**MEETING ADJOURNED: M/Baker S/Mancuso All in favor? Any opposed? RCVU**

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Pamela Johnston

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