

BOROUGH OF BUENA
 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
 MINUTES
 SEPTEMBER 27, 2021
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Anyone wishing to address Mayor and Council please step forward and state your name for the record.

Genna Talarico, a resident of Minotola asked when Borough of Buena Hall would be open to the public and when Borough of Buena public meetings would resume in person.

Mayor Zappareillo replied it would be approximately a couple of weeks for Borough of Buena Hall to re-open to the public. He stated there were still some upgrades to specific offices to be completed before opening the building to the public.

Mayor Zappareillo called on Borough of Buena Engineer, Bob Smith to review drainage issue updates in relationship to Flower Street. Smith stated he and the State of NJDOT are working together on this and the Central Ave. manholes. The Boro is waiting on State and County responses.

The Engineer also reviewed Kimberley Lane issues and SJ Gas was sending information to move forward on this project.

MOTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC PORTION:

Council Member	By	2nd	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	Recuse
WALKER		X	X				
D'ALESSANDRO			X				
BAKER	X		X				
MANCUSO			X				
ALVAREZ			X				



RESOLUTION 86-21 A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION 70-21 APPROVING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSES FOR THE 2021-2022 TERM, REMOVING LICENSE NO. 0104-33-001-003.

Council Member	By	2nd	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	Recuse
WALKER			X				
D'ALESSANDRO			X				
BAKER	X		X				
MANCUSO		X	X				
ALVAREZ			X				

WHEREAS, Council approved Resolution 70-21 approving alcoholic beverage licenses for the 2021-2022 licensing term on June 28, 2021; and

WHEREAS, License No. 0104-33-001-003 requires 12.39 relief by the Director of the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

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- a. 5,649,038 residents are fully vaccinated.
- b. 11,606,740 total doses administered
- c. Borough of Buena — 52% of residents fully vaccinated (100% of 65 and older have been)
 - i. 58% have received at least one dose

3. Borough of Buena Cases: 526

April 26	May 24	June 28	August 9	September 27
44	21	1	8	29

- a. Borough of Buena Deaths: 10
- b. Atlantic County Cases: 32,744
- c. Atlantic County Deaths: 709
- d. New Cases: PCR Test 1315 Probable Cases 224
- e. NJ Transmission Rate: 1.01
- f. United States: ~~13,075,083~~ (4,040,070 last 28 Days)
- g. United States Deaths: 690,027 (50,003 last 28 days)
- h. Global Cases: 232,215,290

i. Global Deaths: 4,754,551

4. NJ total hospitalizations are at 1,047 South: 364

5. Ventilators 135 South: 36

6. Intensive/Critical Care Beds 232 South: 88

7. Long-term Care Facilities Statewide:

- a. Facilities with Active Outbreaks: 151
- b. Active Resident Cases: 674
- c. Active Staff Cases: 539
- d. Cumulative Resident Deaths: 8,532
- e. Cumulative Staff Deaths: 145

8. Buena OEM continues to review Emergency Operations Plan to confirm compliance.

9. Buena OEM has been operating the Emergency Operations Center in Borough Hall both remotely.

10. Buena OEM has been updating Borough residents through social media outlets and website.

11. Maintaining COVID-19 webpage for Borough's website

12. Maintaining up-to-date inventory of PPE

Borough of Buena Office of Emergency Management

Governing Body Update — July 12, 2021

13. Daily Calls with Chief Ciraolo to stay updated on EMS call volume, PPE levels, readiness and personnel.

14. Franklin PD June 2021 Report Update

a. Stolen Property: \$700.00 reported in August 2021 YTD: \$53,886.00

Arrests	Tickets	MV Stops	DWI	MVC	CDS	DV	GP
15	36	66	0	16	7	3	12

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15. Buena EMS — August 98 Calls for Service

a. Location of Calls

- i. 66 Borough ii. 7 BVT iii. 17
Vineland iv. 8 Dorothy

b. Types of Calls

- i. 3 Cardiac Emergencies ii. 2 Overdoses iii. 5
Respiratory iv. 6 Psychological
v. 7 MVCs vi. 6 Unconscious Person

16. Minotola Fire Company

a. Operations

- i. The Minotola FC has had 114 calls for service year to date.
 - 1. In August MFC had 8 calls for service
 - a. Service assignments - 1
 - b. Alarm systems - 5
 - c. Pedestrian MVC - 1
 - d. CO Alarm -1

17. Fire District #2 Report

a. Update on transition 9/27/2021

Drafted by J. D'Alessandro, To: Joseph D'Alessandro, Director of Public Safety

From: Board of Fire Commissioners — Fire District #2

RE: Buena Borough Board of Fire Commissioners - Fire District #2

Public Safety Report of 09.27.2021

Since dissolution, Fire District #2 has:

Accessed Arbor Ave property on 7.29.2021, escorted by several Franklin Township police officers.

- Upon a comprehensive inspection of the property, items of concern were noted. Secured open gas valves and adjusted temperatures within building to conserve energy for an unoccupied space. – Over the next few days, Fire District #2 was successful in changing the locks on the building, transferring ownership of financial accounts, and spent countless hours reviewing paper and computer files to determine the scope of this transition. We continue to have a weekly presence performing tasks needed to maintain the property. Next, we intend to procure estimates to address the many leaks within the roofing system.
- We noted four (4) 800 MHz portables on the counters. Inventory of serial numbers were recorded. After contacting the Gloucester County Communications Center, they stated that former Fire District #1 had five (5) portable radios registered to them within the Gloucester County system; with each one having its own ID number. One portable was discovered to be missing from the building and has since been reported to the police and entered into the NCIC system as a lost/stolen item. – Filing cabinets, known to be existing from former

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members, were removed from the office (three filing cabinets) prior to our arrival. These filing cabinets, reportedly include all personnel files, training records of members, vehicle service files, etc, are missing. Landisville Volunteer Fire Company has acknowledged the missing files are in their possession.

- Inspection of the filing cabinet in the former Commissioners office revealed titles for three of the vehicles listed as vehicles/assets of the former Fire District #1. Titles for the Mini-Attack and Tender cannot be located as they have either been removed or destroyed. Fire District #2 received correspondence that indicated the titles were stored in the safe. We were not provided with the combination at that time. Fire District #2 again requested the combination which was received days later with no directions of how to use the combination to access the contents. With the assistance of a locksmith, we were able to finally gain access, only to discover the safe was empty.

We have been approached by several former members who are requesting their personnel files. Our response has been consistent that we cannot provide something we have no access to. Also of note, any progress on the disposition of the apparatus has been delayed due to oil samples taken and analyzed showing service neglect and a lack of maintenance on two of the apparatus. We will be sending one of the apparatus to Delaware for further review and evaluation.

- Upon our initial tour, it was noted that the antique bell on the exterior sign was missing and apparently stolen. We also noted the precast panels were witnessing water damage and previous repairs were susceptible to additional damage. A decision was made to remove the historic precast panels as soon as possible to conserve their integrity and avoid further vandalism. Discussions internally are in favor of donating the sign to the Owner of the original Fire House on Nixon St. for reinstallation at its former home. If the owner does not want the sign, we intend to donate it to the historic society of Buena Borough. Over the weekend of September 18th and 19th, there was quite a public uproar on Social Media based on assumptions and misinformation. We received verbal threats from bystanders instigated by the social media frenzy, during the time while we volunteered on preserving their historical item.

- Upon our initial inspection of the building, it was noted that the Antique Fire truck was missing upon our entering the building. After weeks of research, it was discovered that the former Fire District had listed this as an asset (vehicle) of the former Fire District for the past 6 years of their DCA budget submission. We have also discovered that the former Fire District #1 has paid for repairs and insurance costs over the past many years; most recently the current insurance policy was paid from the Commissioners general checking account. Based upon the use of taxpayer funds to furnish, maintain, and insure, this clearly establishes that the Autocar, is property of Fire District #2, not the Landisville Volunteer Fire Company.

- Upon receiving the signed Ordinance, it was delivered to the Landisville Post Office to gain access to the Post Office Box to retrieve any invoices due to their creditors. We initially received a key to access the box and originally retrieved some utility invoices and some other correspondence. A few days later, Landisville Fire Company member Ken Barbagli, confronted the Postmaster and demanded that access be restricted to only the Landisville Volunteer Fire Company. To calm the situation, the Postmaster agreed and informed us we will no longer have access. We have no reliable means to retrieve future invoices to ensure timely payment. We have been

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unsuccessful in transferring some utility accounts to our name and mailing address. The Utility companies are hesitant about doing this without disconnecting service. There is documentation that clearly delineates that the Post Office box rent was paid for with Commissioners funds of the former Fire District #1. Here again, if the Post Office box is in fact the property of the members of Landisville Volunteer Fire Company; why in fact did the Commissioners of the former Fire District #1 pay the Post Office box rent with taxpayer money? Which is it, misappropriation of taxpayer funds or the Commissioners of former Fire District #1 property? It appears that they would like to have it both ways.

- Several former members have begun to request withdraw of their LOSAP funds since the Fire District is now officially dissolved. We have been consistent with our response to all members. Without access to membership rosters, personnel files, related documentation and previous yearly run sheets that would allow our Commissioners to accurately verify the members meeting their LOSAP point eligibility, we cannot complete a verification audit.

We will continue to evaluate and incorporate the assets and property of former Fire District #1 and completing the transition of the expanded Fire District #2. We anticipate the full transition of all items within the next 12 — 18 months. This timetable is fluid and dynamic and may extend beyond the 18-months if we continue to receive fragmented information.

Respectively submitted on behalf of the Board of Fire Commissioners — Fire District #2,

Steven LaPorta Chairman

BLDGS/GROUNDS/IMPROVEMENTS CHAIRMAN, JOSEPH MANCUSO

2021 Buildings and Grounds Report for September 13, 2021

Occupancy Inspector

6 New tenant inspections during the months of August and September.

- 107 North Harding Highway Unit A
- 108 South Harding Highway Units A and B
- 114 West Atlantic Ave. Units 218, 301, 308
- 309 South West Ave.-House Unit
- 901 South Central
- 264 Wheat Road

Code Enforcement Officer:

214 Buena Vista-sanitation 9/3 spoke with the property owner at 10:30 am-Summons issued, Court date set-October 21st.

201 West Flower Street-Summons issued for vehicle in disrepair, Court date set -October 21st.

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Grass violations will be sent during the growing season.

- 103 North Harding Highway
- 106 North Harding Highway
- 114 North Harding Highway
- 201 North Harding Highway
- 211 South Harding Highway
- 304 West Arbor Avenue
- 108 North Franklin St.
- 110 North Franklin St.
- 208 South Franklin St.

ROADS/RECYCLING.....CHAIRMAN, MATTHEW WALKER

Boro Hall

1. Daily Cleaning
2. Inspections by State complete, all ok.

LOUIS BASILE CENTER

1. Inspections by State complete, all ok.
2. Alarm System checked out, struck by lightning, panel was changed.
3. Getting prices for canopy at entrance of the building.

PARK

1. Normal grass and weed whacking.
2. 5 trees and 7 stumps were removed, possibly more in the future.
3. Talked to recreation chairperson about installing a new toy for children and adults together on one swing. Information will be given to me shortly.

RECYCLING

1. Received \$683.20 from American Recycling for the container that we have at the convenience center.

FOREST GROVE ROAD

1. Punch list is almost complete, 3 aprons remain to be done.
2. Residents are happy that the Boro and R&V were persistent about getting this job done properly.

SOUTH BLVD. PROJECT

1. SJ Gas has been contacted
 - a. requesting a meeting for gas lines and drainage pipe layout.

