

Borough of Tenafly

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

MINUTES

TUESDAY, JUNE 28, 2022

PRESENT: Councilmembers, Jeffrey Grossman, Lauren Dayton, Venugopal Menon, Julie O' Connor and Daniel Park

ABSENT: Mayor Zinna and Councilmember Adam Michaels

ALSO PRESENT: Borough Administrator Jimmy Homsi
Borough Clerk Omar Stovall
Chief Financial Officer Susan Corrado
Human Resources Manager Alisha Dawkins
Borough Attorney Wendy Rubinstein

At 8:07p.m. Council President Grossman read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement: "IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, P.L. 1975, chapter 231, THE NOTICE REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN SATISFIED. THE MEETING DATES FOR THE YEAR ARE CONFIRMED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING, ARE POSTED ON THE PUBLIC BULLETIN BOARD IN THE LOBBY OF THE MUNICIPAL CENTER, AND PUBLISHED IN THE RECORD WITHIN THE FIRST 10 DAYS OF THE NEW YEAR."

The Salute to the Flag was led by Council President Grossman.

REVISIONS TO AGENDA:

Mrs. Rubinstein advised that there are no revisions.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

#R22-201/ Approve Expenditures as of June 23, 2022

#R22-202/ Authorize Refunds – Recreation Trust – Various

#R22-203/ Authorize Renewal of Liquor Licenses – 2022-2023

#R22-204/ Authorize Renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption License Pursuant to Special Ruling – Forge of Tenafly

#R22-205/ Authorize Renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption License Pursuant to Special Ruling – R Square & R Square Corporation

#R22-206/ Authorize Renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption License Pursuant to Special Ruling – The Sidebar (2014-2015)

#R22-207/ Authorize Renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption License Pursuant to Special Ruling – The Sidebar (2015-2016)

#R22-208/ Authorize Renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption License Pursuant to Special Ruling – The Sidebar (2016-2017)

#R22-209/ Authorize Renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption License Pursuant to Special Ruling – The Sidebar (2017-2018)

- #R22-210/ Authorize Renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption License Pursuant to Special Ruling – The Sidebar (2018-2019)
- #R22-211/ Authorize Renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption License Pursuant to Special Ruling – The Sidebar (2019-2020)
- #R22-212/ Authorize Renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption License Pursuant to Special Ruling – The Sidebar (2020-2021)
- #R22-213/ Authorize Renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption License Pursuant to Special Ruling – The Sidebar (2021-2022)
- #R22-214/ Approve Raffle Application – RA1258 – RA1259
- #R22-215/ Approve Tree Mitigation Escrow Refund and Transfer to the Tree Replacement Trust Fund – 43 Buff Road
- #R22-216/ Authorize Tree Mitigation Escrow Refund – 188 Hickory Avenue
- #R22-217/ Approve Engineering Escrow Refund – 15 Woodhill Road
- #R22-218/ Authorize Tree Mitigation Escrow Refund – 104 Walnut Drive
- #R22-219/ Authorize Tree Mitigation Escrow Refund – 225 Jefferson Avenue
- #R22-220/ Authorize Tree Mitigation Escrow Refund – 107 Westervelt Avenue
- #R22-221/ Approve Tree Mitigation Escrow Refund and Transfer to the Shade Tree Trust Account – 79 Columbus Drive
- #R22-222/ Approve Engineering Escrow Refund – 140 Thatcher Road
- #R22-223/ Approve Engineering Escrow Refund – 110 Hudson Avenue
- #R22-224/ Authorize Additional Professional Engineering Services – 2023 NJDOT Municipal Aid Grant Application - Engle Street
- #R22-225/ Authorize Tree Mitigation Escrow Refund – 36 Dorain Place
- #R22-226/ Authorize Tree Mitigation Escrow Refund – 100 Churchill Road
- #R22-227/ Authorize Tree Mitigation Escrow Refund – 235 Churchill Road
- #R22-228/ Authorize Person-to-Person Transfer of Plenary Retail Consumption License
- #R22-229/ Impose Cost Due to Incurred Expense - Block 403, Lot 3

Motion by C. Park second by C. Dayton that the Consent Agenda be approved.

On a roll call, the vote on the Consent Agenda was recorded as follows:

C. Dayton:	aye	C. Michaels:	absent
C. Grossman:	aye	C. O'Connor:	aye
C. Menon:	aye	C. Park:	aye

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. 2022 Local Municipal Budget

#R22-230/Adopt 2022 Local Municipal Budget

Public Comments on Adopt 2022 Local Municipal Budget
None.

Motion by C. Dayton, second by C. Park that the reading of **#R22-230/Adopt 2022 Local Municipal Budget** be approved.

C. Grossman explained that he would be voting no on resolution #R22-230/Adopt 2022 Local Municipal Budget because although receiving 1.5 million dollars which was a nice gift and went to the maximum of taking out of surplus. He added that that the Borough has roughly \$70,000 more than last year in tax property taxes. He added that with this budget the red pen treatment was not

used and that taxes are going up somewhere around 3%. He continued that he believed that the Governing Body had failed thus the reasoning of his vote.

On a roll call, the vote on **#R22-230/Adopt 2022 Local Municipal Budget** was recorded as follows:

C. Dayton:	aye	C. Michaels:	absent
C. Grossman:	nay	C. O'Connor:	aye
C. Menon:	aye	C. Park:	aye

Committee Reports

C. Park no report.

C. Dayton thanked the Tenafly Nature Center for their efforts on Tenafly Nature Day, which was held on June 12th. C. Dayton thanked the Welcome Committee who have been holding events and gearing up for the new residents throughout the year. She expressed that their events should be better attended going forward after the pandemic. C. Dayton expressed that she is excited about the selection of Senior Services Coordinator and asked the Clerk to work on the Senior Services website.

C. Menon reported that the Board of Adjustment is planning to continue with virtual meetings. C. Menon reported that the Senior Center is off for the summer. C. Menon that the Senior Center will continue with activities throughout the summer.

C. O' Connor reported that the Board of Health would like the Mayor to promote masking wearing due to an up surge in COVID in his Mayor's message. She added that The Board of Health asked for more enforcement around dumpsters. C. O' Connor asked for a time frame for the RFP for EV. Ms. Rubinstein expressed that she will be able have around next week. C. O' Connor expressed at the last Trash –a – ton that 250lbs. of garbage was collected. C. O'Connor urged for more awareness about keeling the community clean. She continued that 40 tree were planted from the tree fund in 34 locations around the Borough. C. O' Connor encouraged that residents read articles from the Environmental Commission on website.

C. Park added from Green Team meeting a discussion was had regarding wear and tear on the flowerbeds in the Community Garden. He added that the Boy Scouts were contact who will help with the repairs of the flowerbeds.

C. Grossman reported in the month of May TVAC responded to 80 calls an average of three calls a day. He expressed that TVAC response time average is 8 minutes and to attend a call is 43 minutes. He added that TVAC lends themselves to all Borough events. He added that TVAC is looking into starting a new initiative to provide supplies to all public buildings and schools. C. Grossman reported that the Fireworks and concert was successful. He thanked Tenafly Presents, DPW, Police Department, Fire Department and Borough employees. C. Grossman announced on July 5th the kickoff for the summer concert.

NEW BUSINESS

#R22-231/ Authorize Selection of Senior Services Coordinator

Motion by C. Dayton, second by C. Park that **#R22-231/Authorize Selection of Senior Services Coordinator** be approved.

On a roll call, the vote on **R22-231**/Authorize Selection of Senior Services Coordinator was recorded as follows:

C. Dayton:	aye	C. Michaels:	absent
C. Grossman:	aye	C. O'Connor:	aye
C. Menon:	aye	C. Park:	aye

#R22-232/ Authorize Use of Public Right of Way for Temporary Outdoor Dining – (7 West Railroad Ave, 10 West Railroad Ave, 4 Washington Street, 6 Washington Street, 11 Washington Street, and 24 Washington Street)

Mr. Homs expressed that the most appropriate recommendation is to allow one spot per establishment. He believed that this would put the establishment on an equal playing field and would not encroach on neighboring businesses to limit contention amongst the businesses.

C. O' Connor asked when would the resolution expire? Ms. Rubinstein expressed November 30th. C. O' Connor asked if truly one space provided to the applying business. Ms. Rubinstein answered it would be one space as marked.

Mr. Homs expressed that the recommendation would prevent one parking space between barriers, which could present a safety issue.

C. O' Connor asked if Mr. Homs consult with business owners. Ms. Rubinstein expressed with the original applications that some businesses had asked for two spots. She added that once more applications came in that the fairest way was to provide one spot.

C. O' Connor asked if passed tonight when would the barricades be moved. Mr. Homs expressed that he will inform the business the next step of the change.

Ms. Rubinstein added that business that did not provide an application will have to have barricades removed. Ms. Rubinstein added that there is a business that submitted an application but do not qualify due to non-compliance to zoning.

C. Dayton expressed that businesses along Railroad Avenue requested if that particular business could use tables and an umbrellas and if it is possible.

Mr. Homs replied yes. Ms. Rubinstein added that the business does not qualify for an outdoor dining permits thus the reason the application was not brought before the Governing Body.

C. Menon believed that the Governing Body should not be authorizing parking spots for business and believes it is unnecessary.

C. Dayton expressed that businesses along railroad request are smaller in stature and jeopardize residents ability to enjoy outdoor dining.

Motion by C. Park, second by C. Dayton that **#R22-232/** Authorize Use of Public Right of Way for Temporary Outdoor Dining – (7 West Railroad Ave, 10 West Railroad Ave, 4 Washington Street, 6 Washington Street, 11 Washington Street, and 24 Washington Street) be approved.

On a roll call, the vote on **#R22-232/** Authorize Use of Public Right of Way for Temporary Outdoor Dining – (7 West Railroad Ave, 10 West Railroad Ave, 4 Washington Street, 6 Washington Street, 11 Washington Street, and 24 Washington Street) was recorded as follows:

C. Dayton:	aye	C. Michaels:	absent
C. Grossman:	aye	C. O'Connor:	aye
C. Menon:	nay	C. Park:	aye

A. Introduction of Ordinance

C. O'Connor moved that the ordinance be introduced on first reading and setting July 18, 2022 at 8:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard as the date and time and the Tenafly Municipal Center as the place for a hearing on said ordinance. Seconded by C. Menon:

The Borough Clerk read into the record:

ORDINANCE NO. 22-16 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING LEASE AGREEMENT WITH CONSOLIDATED RAIL CORPORATION

On a roll call, the vote on the recorded was as follows:

C. Dayton:	aye	C. Michaels:	absent
C. Grossman:	aye	C. O'Connor:	aye
C. Menon:	aye	C. Park:	aye

MAYOR'S REMARKS

C. Grossman expressed that the 246th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence is upcoming. He added that it had many shortcomings. He added that rights are being taken away. He added that people need to vote to ensure that rights are maintain and not taken away. C. Grossman asked that people reach out to friends in other states to vote. C. Grossman expressed that he does not want to see the erosion of rights.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to come before the Council, on a motion by C. Park, second by C. O'Connor and unanimously carried, to adjourn this meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Omar Stovall, MPA, RMC
Borough Clerk