

**COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2017
7:00 P.M.**

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| Mayor: | Robert A. Sabosik |
| Council President: | John Wisniewski |
| Council Member: | Joseph Furmato (Absent) |
| Council Member: | Antoinette DePaola |
| Council Member: | William Borowsky (Absent) |
| Council Member: | Pamela Snyder (Absent) |
| Council Member: | Michael Thulen, Jr |
| Borough Attorney: | Christopher Dasti, Esq. |
| Borough Administrator: | Frank Pannucci |
| Borough Clerk: | Antoinette Jones |

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

STATEMENT BY MAYOR SABOSIK: Pursuant to the applicable portions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been given. Notice of this meeting of the Governing Body has been posted in the corridor of the Municipal Building, published in the July 21, 2017 edition of *The Ocean Star* and communicated to *The Asbury Park Press*.

Mayor Sabosik stated the following: “Tonight, we have a special occasion. We have two young gentlemen who are going to be joining our police force. They will be starting careers with our town to ensure the safety of our residents. So we are going to ask them to come forward with their families so we can shake their hands and congratulate them for joining the family of employees in the town of Point Pleasant.”

Mayor Sabosik welcomed Pierce G. Drzymkowski, Michael T. Cappello and their families to the Borough.

A. WORKSHOP

1. Committee Reports

Council Member Thulen stated the following: “The Land Use Committee got together yesterday to go over some fine tuning of a few ordinances that we have been working on with our attorney. One of them is in reference to driveways on corner lots. The other ordinance is in regards to temporary storage containers on people’s property and maintaining records on how long they have been there. And the last one is in reference to handicap ramps. Residents get hurt or grow old and need handicap ramps to get into their homes. We want to alieve some of the work that you might need to do to get a handicap ramp at your house. That will hopefully be on for our next meeting.”

Council Member DePaola stated the following: “First off I would like to congratulate and welcome our two new special police officers to Point Pleasant Borough. We look forward to you having a long happy career here. Hopefully at some point in time, even though you are beginning as specials, there will be an opportunity to advance and that would be awesome. So congratulations again to you and your families.

Also our new police dog has been hired by the Borough of Point Pleasant. The Police Dogs name is Juno. The dog was a donation and we will be reporting on the donors at another time. For now, they wish to remain anonymous and we will respect their wishes. The police dog and his trainer will be training for 10 to 12 weeks so hopefully by the beginning of the summer we will be able to have the dog available. This is just another way for the Borough of Point Pleasant to try and help combat the drug addiction problems that we have here in Ocean County.

Another thing that is going to be coming up is on September the 30th the Rock for Awareness Festival will be held in Community Park. The purpose of the festival will be to raise awareness about drugs and alcohol in our community and to raise money for the Point Pleasant Borough School System so that they can improve upon their education program for drugs and alcohol so that we can reach more children especially as they get older into middle school and high school. So that event will take place on September 30th at Community Park from 12pm to 7pm and hopefully we will have a nice turnout.

Also on Saturday our Police Department will be conducting inspections of car seats. So as any of you know, if you have children or grandchildren that need a car seat or a booster seat, some of them you need an engineering degree to make sure they are secured properly. So to help alleviate any concerns that you may have about whether or not your child or grandchild is buckled properly, you can come to the Police Department between 9am and Noon. Our officer Josh Gunnell is certified in car seat evaluations and will be able to help families make sure their children are properly secured.”

Council President Wisniewski stated the following: “Open Space met last week and a couple things came up. The members of Open Space noticed some dead branches on the trees in town. So they have asked me to reach out to the DPW to take a closer look at some of these trees, especially in the parks.

The Bennett Cabin is in need of repair. I reached out to our Administrator Mr. Pannucci to discuss this with Richard Morris and we will make sure the repairs are taken care of.

One of the biggest topics the Committee talks about is the Canal Walk. We received a notice from Congressman Smith who went back and forth with the Army Corps of Engineers. They require a lot of work and one of the most disappointing parts of it is that the Army Corps require us to take on all administrative costs that they might experience to transfer any access or ownership of the Canal Walk which is probably not something we will be able to do. We are going to look a little more into it.”

2. Report of Mayor

Mayor Sabosik stated the following: “I have some letters. One of them is from the Ashley Lauren Foundation. This is a pediatric cancer foundation where they provide social events for children with cancer. It is self-funded. If anyone would like to donate or help out, their website is AshleyLaurenFoundation.Org. They are a 501C. They are located in Spring Lake and they do parties and make dreams come true programs. This is a great organization.

The second item I have is a Safe Care CAM Program brought to you by the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General. This is if you have elder care concerns. Someone in your house taking care of an elderly family member as a care taker and you are suspecting that there is a problem there. They will give you a CAM for 30 days to observe any type of irregular action or if anybody is being abused or mistreated. They have a phone number and it is no cost for the applicants to apply. That number is 1(800) 242-5846.

Five years ago this town suffered greatly with Sandy. Now we see our fellow Americans in Texas and Florida facing the same type of problems that we all faced. We all came together and rebuilt our town. Unfortunately there are some people out there who are trying to collect unscrupulously and we are being told that this is preventable. If you are being asked to donate, no offense, to what might be a phony charity, don't do it. Make sure it is a name charity. If you have a question, the State of New Jersey has a hotline and they also have a website.

Lastly, tomorrow, I can assure you the sun will shine. We have a senior services picnic at the River Front Park at 11:30am to 2pm. There is a nominal fee of \$5.00 to attend. We have live entertainment. We will

be having a picnic style lunch along with dessert. Please come one, come all. It will be a nice afternoon. And it just highlights one of the best parks that the county has to offer.”

B. MINUTES

1. Approve Council Meeting Minutes of September 5, 2017

MOTION: Approve Minutes

MADE: Mr. Thulen

SECOND: Mr. Wisniewski

Mr. Wisniewski: Yes

Mr. Furmato: Absent

Mr. Borowsky: Absent

Ms. DePaola: Yes

Ms. Snyder: Absent

Mr. Thulen: Yes

CARRIES: Yes

**C. OPEN PUBLIC SESSION (Resolutions, Consent Agenda and Authorizations Only)
Five (5) Minute Limit Per Person**

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

5 Minute Limit Per Person

Ordinance No. 530. An Ordinance to establish by-laws to govern the organization and procedures of the Borough Council for meetings and deliberations. Section 5. Public Participation. Each member of the public shall keep his or her remarks brief, pertinent to the issues being discussed and shall not exceed a time period of five (5) minutes in order to adequately provide all members of the public with the opportunity to address the Governing Body consistent with good order and efficiency.

MOTION: Open the meeting to the public

MADE: Ms. DePaola

SECOND: Mr. Thulen

APPROVED: All in Favor

Acting Council President DePaola opened the meeting to the public.

Dennis Vitkauskis: 2117 Foster Road – Asked the Mayor and Council about Item #5 Playground Equipment.

Mr. Pannucci: Answered that you cannot reuse the playground equipment once you take it out and that this was all already approved over the summer.

Dennis Vitkauskis: Asked about Item #10 Personnel Actions. Wanted to know why this wasn't an executive session item.

Mr. Dasti: Stated that they only discuss confidential personnel matters in executive session. Any formal action has to be in public.

Seeing no other hands, Council President Wisniewski closed this portion of the meeting.

D. RESOLUTIONS

“All matters listed under item “Resolutions” will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. If discussion is desired on any item, this item will be removed and will be considered separately.”

1. (275-2017) Bills and Claims
2. (276-2017) Void Check Resolution
3. (277-2017) Certifying Review of the Local Government Best Practices Checklist

The bills totaling the amount of \$281,565.65 are to be paid as presented. The bills and claims list is on file in the Clerk’s Office and can be reviewed Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and on Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

MOTION: Adopt Resolutions

MADE: Mr. Thulen

SECOND: Ms. DePaola

Mr. Wisniewski: Yes

Mr. Furmato: Absent

Mr. Borowsky: Absent

Ms. DePaola: Yes

Ms. Snyder: Absent

Mr. Thulen: Yes

CARRIES: Yes

*Mr. Wisniewski abstained from payments made to T&M Associates and voted Yes to all others

E. CONSENT AGENDA

“All matters listed under item “Consent Agenda” will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. If discussion is desired on any item, this item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.”

1. (278-2017) Authorize Refund for Recreation Program
2. (279-2017) Authorize Adjustment and/or Refund on Certain Tax or Water/Sewer Accounts
3. (280-2017) Authorize Recreation Department to Hire Seasonal Employees
4. (281-2017) Authorize Recreation Department to Hire Preschool Teachers for the 2017/2018 School Year
5. (282-2017) Declare Community Park Playground Equipment Has No Value and Authorize Disposal
6. (283-2017) Authorize Release of Maintenance Bond from Curbcon, Inc. for the Various Drainage Improvements Phase 2 Project
7. (284-2017) Authorize Refund Escrow Accounts – Zoning Board of Adjustment
8. (285-2017) Authorize Change Order Number 1 – Mill and Overlay at Various Locations-Earle Asphalt Company – COF #2017-160
9. (286-2017) Authorize Appointment of Special Law Enforcement Officers IIs (SLEO II)
 - Michael T. Cappello
 - Pierce G. Drzymkowski

10. (287-2017) **Confirming Personnel Actions:**
- **Mitchell L. Remig, Point Pleasant Boro Fire Department Station 75, Volunteer Firefighter, effective July 10, 2017**
 - **Theodore F. Beady, Point Pleasant Boro Fire Department Station 75, Volunteer Firefighter, effective September 19, 2017**

MOTION: Adopt Consent Agenda

MADE: Ms. DePaola

SECOND: Mr. Thulen

Mr. Wisniewski: Yes

Mr. Furmato: Absent

Mr. Borowsky: Absent

Ms. DePaola: Yes

Ms. Snyder: Absent

Mr. Thulen: Yes

CARRIES: Yes

F. AUTHORIZATION

1. **Petition to Extend Licensed Premises – Point Pleasant Foundation for Excellence in Education Boro Bikes & Backyard BBQ, The Shore House Bar & Grill on September 23, 2017, 12:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

MOTION: Approve Authorization

MADE: Ms. DePaola

SECOND: Mr. Wisniewski

Mr. Wisniewski: Yes

Mr. Furmato: Absent

Mr. Borowsky: Absent

Ms. DePaola: Yes

Ms. Snyder: Absent

Mr. Thulen: Yes

CARRIES: Yes

G. OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

5 Minute Limit Per Person. Ordinance No. 530. An Ordinance to establish by-laws to govern the organization and procedures of the Borough Council for meetings and deliberations. Section 5. Public Participation. Each member of the public shall keep his or her remarks brief, pertinent to the issues being discussed and shall not exceed a time period of five (5) minutes in order to adequately provide all members of the public with the opportunity to address the Governing Body consistent with good order and efficiency.

MOTION: Open the meeting to the public

MADE: Mr. Thulen

SECOND: Ms. DePaola

APPROVED: All in Favor

John (Resident): 1212 Sunrise Avenue – Stated the following: “I grew up in Point Pleasant where I learned to ride a bike. I went away to school in the city where it became a passion of mine. I recently moved back from school and have been having conversations with other bicyclists who have ridden across the country and back and a lot of them seem to notice a similar thing which is that there is a really passionate cycling community around here. But there are also a lot of elements about the town that are not necessarily conducive to bike safety. Today I am here to open a dialogue of the possibility of getting bike lanes in Point Borough, specifically on Route 88 and also on Beaver Dam Road and River Avenue.”

Mayor Sabosik: Stated that Beaver Dam Road is going to be reconfigured for next year. So will Bridge Avenue. Both of those roads are County Roads. Route 88 is a State highway. Explained that we have gone back and forth with the State on this topic.

John LeCompte: Stated that they have done surveys and are trying to extend sidewalks from Route 88 to Bridge Avenue. Explained that there have been some issues with some of the driveways that butt up against Bridge Avenue. Stated that the County are the ones that can allow or not allow this on Bridge and Beaver Dam. Route 88 will be determined by the State. Noted that Route 88 may be a taller order to fill.

Mayor Sabosik: Stated that he has been a biker for over 60 years and mentioned that he will be in the bike tour for the Foundation this weekend. Explained that this administration has an active program in trying to take care of this problem. Stated that unfortunately and historically this town didn't address that issue long ago. Explained that we are addressing that issue to the best of our ability for every road that we are doing we look at the possibility of bike routes and sidewalks because this is the perfect place to bike ride.

John (Resident): Stated that one of the issues we have are some of the existing driveways are not long enough to install a bike lane and adequate room for the cars to park.

Kathleen Ebert: 1203 Dorsett Dock Road – Mentioned that she started a group on Facebook and has a website now which is called, Point Pleasant Borough Complete Streets. Asked if we had a committee that meets to go try for bike routes, etc.

Mayor Sabosik: Stated that what they do is they meet with the County and their engineering department along with our town engineer. Historically, and unfortunately, with this town a lot of the major roads are county owned. So it is a different layer of management that we have to go through. Explained that some of these roads are going to be reconfigured. So we are taking into consideration, the bike lanes and the bike lanes and the walking capacity for our residents.

Kathleen Ebert: Stated that it is currently unsafe to walk around the town of Point Pleasant.

Mayor Sabosik: Stated the following: “This is why all of those areas are being reconfigured. From Nellie Bennett to Marine Parkway, the town just put in sidewalks and curbs. This is because the demographics have changed. Since Sandy, a lot of what used to be summer homes are now rebuilt with young families. Point Pleasant has recently been voted the number one place to build a family. We are looking forward into transitioning into a safe street town and a bikeable town where we can all enjoy all that has been mentioned. At the same time, Dealing with the State can be a long ordeal. To give an example, the bridge on 88 over by Sundaes going over to Bricktown, they came up with an idea to redo that bridge 5 years ago. It is not going to be done until 2022. That is how long it takes the State. You have our word up here, this Administration and myself as Mayor, that we are going to do everything in our power to accelerate the walkability and safety for our kids.”

Mr. Pannucci: Stated the following: “All of these things that we have talked about such as bike lanes and sidewalks, when it does become a possibility to do it, and when the engineers and the County say yes that it is feasible, we then have to come up with a way to pay for it. The County may say they will do it, but

we would still have to pay them. So the Mayor and Council this year, for the first time in the history of Point Pleasant Borough has the Pedestrian Safety Fund. If you build a new house in an area that is not feasible to have a sidewalk or a bike lane you have to put a certain percentage down that goes into the Sidewalk Pedestrian Safety Fund which means in the future, as this fund grows, and money gets accumulated, we will be able to pay for those projects and get more sidewalks in our neighborhoods.”

Ms. DePaola: Stated the following: “I have also spoken with the County Engineer and another issue we have here in Point Pleasant Borough is that we are so densely populated and some of our homes don’t have driveways. So when you talk about moving on street parking, that becomes an issue for residents that are already there. We have had issues in the past with right-of-ways with different utility poles being in the way and the width of the streets not being able to accommodate a biker lane. But we are trying as best we can to overcome those issues hopefully with the major roadways at least so that we can be able to have it more walkable. We all believe that this is one of the most important things to keep the town family oriented. We are working passionately. We have had so many roadblocks. I have been sitting up here for 8 years and we are still working on it. Don’t give up hope because we are going to keep pushing it.”

Kathleen Ebert: Stated that in light of the fact that a 12 year old and a 15 year old were just hit by cars this week, she would like to talk to someone about the hazardous conditions and ideas for some programs in the school system.

Mayor Sabosik: Talked about the Police Department and their program for bike safety. If kids and young adults are found wearing their helmets they are given reward.

Chief Larsen: Explained that this program is to reward good behavior and not punish bad behavior. If the officers catch the kids doing good things, like have their helmets on or cross at crosswalks they are given certificates for a free drink from 7-11.

Reverend Schoenberg: 803 Catherine Street, also with the Church – Stated that they are having a Spaghetti Dinner on September 30th to raise funds for those affected by the storms in Florida and Texas. Offered free tickets to the dinner.

Mayor Sabosik: Stated that if he saves him a seat he will stop by and purchase a ticket. The free tickets will be distributed to residents.

John (Resident): Asked if the results of having the roads surveyed will be made public.

Mr. Pannucci: Stated the following: “the County is in the planning stages to redo Beaver Dam, Bridge Avenue and Route 88 to the Bridge Avenue portion. We are doing every single crosswalk as well. All are being redone to be ADA compliant and laying modern striping. They don’t have finalized plans yet. When they do, they then have public hearings like we do. If you want, I will give you my card and you can shoot me an email and when we have something more concrete I will be happy to let you know.”

Dennis Vitkauskis: 2117 Foster Road – Mentioned that he rides his bike a lot and found a section of Hollywood Blvd that is very dark. Stated that he spoke to the Police Chief about it and it was fixed right away. Thanked the Chief for his quick work.

Mayor Sabosik: Stated that our Chief follows through on everything big and small. He does it all.

Seeing no other hands, Mayor Sabosik closed this portion of the meeting.

Mayor Sabosik stated that there would be no Executive Session this evening.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

All in Favor

TRANSCRIBED BY: VERONICA THWING, DEPUTY CLERK

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

**ANTOINETTE JONES
BOROUGH CLERK**

**ROBERT A. SABOSIK
MAYOR**