

**COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2024
7:00 P.M.**

Mayor:	Robert A. Sabosik (Absent)
Acting Mayor:	Antoinette DePaola
Council Member:	William Borowsky (Absent)
Acting Council President:	Joseph Furmato
Council Member:	Valerie Coulson
Council Member:	Charlene Archer
Council Member:	Joseph Veni (Absent)
Borough Attorney:	Jerry J. 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 January 5, 2024, edition of *The Ocean Star* and January 5, 2024, edition of *The Asbury Park Press*.

Acting Mayor DePaola stated the following: “Tonight, I am very pleased to announce that we will be hiring two new police officers that will serve the residents of Point Pleasant Borough, and we could not be more proud. I also want to say that I am very sorry that Mayor Sabosik could not be here tonight. He is extremely disappointed that he couldn’t be here tonight. He had a minor procedure today and his doctor told him to stay home. I also wanted to thank our PBA president for coming this evening. First off, we have Justin Tuzzolino. He is a Point Pleasant resident who graduated from Point Pleasant High School in June of 2022. Mr. Tuzzolino was involved in the Point Pleasant Varsity Football Team and participated in the Point Pleasant Challenger Program where he assisted children and adults with special needs. He was a former Point Pleasant Police Explorer where he rose to the rank of Sergeant. Mr. Tuzzolino was hired by the Bay Head Police Department as a Special Law Enforcement Officer Class II and graduated from the Ocean County Police Academy in February of 2023. He was a Special Law Enforcement Class II officer with the Point Pleasant Police Department from January 2024 until July 2024 before taking a position with the Ocean County Sheriff’s Department. Mr. Tuzzolino wanted to become a full time officer with the Point Pleasant Police Department and took the civil service entry level exam. In November of 2024 the results were released, reflecting that Mr. Tuzzolino came out number one with a score of 99.83. Mr. Tuzzolino was fully certified and will enter a modified field training officer program and upon successful completion will be assigned to the patrol shift. Congratulations.”

A. RESOLUTION

- 1. (305-2024) Authorize Appointment of Police Officer:
Justin Tuzzolino is hereby appointed to the position of Police Officer in the Police Department at the 2024 contractual salary of \$46,097.00 effective December 20, 2024.**

MOTION: Adopt Resolution

MADE: Coulson

SECOND: Furmato

Ms. DePaola: Yes

Ms. Archer: Yes

Mr. Furmato: Yes

Ms. Coulson: Yes

Mr. Borowsky: Absent

Mr. Veni: Absent

CARRIES:

Acting Mayor DePaola stated the following: “Next up is the appointment of officer Logan Carter who I have known since he was in high school. He is a Point Pleasant resident who graduated from the Academy of Law and Public Safety in Waretown. In 2017, before enlisting in the United States Army and was assigned in Fort Hood Texas with the 410th Military Police Company. He completed his basic training in the United States Military Police School in 2018 in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. He attended and graduated from the noncommissioned Officer of Leaderships School in 2022 from Fort Hood Texas. While in the US Army he conducted law enforcement and patrol duties in the jurisdiction of Fort Hood and assisted in the movement of supply and support military operations. Officer Carter received multiple ribbons and decorations to include three army achievements, good conduct, national defense, armed forces services, noncommissioned officer, professional development, army service and army oversees service ribbons. Logan Carter was previously employed as a Special Law Enforcement Officer, Class II with the Point Pleasant Beach Police Department. He was then appointed as a Special Law Enforcement Officer, Class II with the Point Pleasant Police Department on November 1, 2023, and has served in that position since. Congratulations.”

2. (306-2024) **Authorize Appointment of Police Officer:**
Logan Carter is hereby appointed to the position of Police Officer in the Police Department at the 2024 contractual salary of \$46,097.00 effective December 20, 2024.

MOTION: Adopt Resolution

MADE: Archer

SECOND: Coulson

Ms. DePaola: Yes

Ms. Archer: Yes

Mr. Furmato: Yes

Ms. Coulson: Yes

Mr. Borowsky: Absent

Mr. Veni: Absent

CARRIES:

Acting Mayor DePaola stated the following: “I must say, we have a wonderful Police Department as you can see from the support that the officers are here tonight to welcome you into their force. I know you guys are going to do a great job. You are great additions to the force, and we appreciate and look forward to your starting. I am sorry that the swearing in won’t be until the 20th, but we wanted to get you in the books and get you hired.”

B. WORKSHOP

1. Committee Reports

Council Member Coulson stated the following: “I just want to start off by congratulating our new officers. This past Saturday we had our tree lighting, and it was so enjoyable. The children sang and they were just adorable. It was cold but many families were there. It was so cold that the Divi Tree ran out of hot chocolate, and they had to go back to get more for the marketplace. It opened an hour earlier this year and was very successful.

Registration for our winter programs open Tuesday, December 17th at 10am for Borough residents and Friday, December 20th at 10am for nonresidents. You can go to the website for more details. We also have a winter break camp. This is on December 23, 27th and the 30th for children K-5. The camp is from 9am to 2pm at the Rec Center. There will be planned activities, arts, crafts, sports, and outdoor activities along with pizza and snacks.

I also just want to give a shout out to Bill Borowsky. He is not here tonight, but this would have been his last council meeting. He was on Council for several years and had chosen not to run again. But I just want to say thanks to Bill for his time on Council.”

Council Member Archer stated the following: “I would also like to congratulate the new officers for being appointed today. I know they will both be fine examples of our police force and they will have great success.

I also want to thank the Chamber and Recreation for an incredible market in the park and Christmas tree lighting. As Val said, it was cold, but we all had a great time.

As a reminder, on Saturday and Sunday, Open Space has meet Santa at Bennett’s Cabin from 2pm-5pm. They will have hot chocolate and cookies and little gifts for the children. Also, dogs are welcome as well if you would like to have your dog take a photo with Santa.

On December 11, Wreaths Across America is going to have a convoy. It is a procession that comes from Maine all the way down to Arlington to bring wreaths. They will be honoring the men and women who have fallen at sea. They go down the parkway, down the Bridge Avenue extension past the Borough Hall into Bayhead and then going to the Point Pleasant Beach inlet. We are thinking this will be around 12:15pm. Then around 1pm, we are going to have a ceremony over at the inlet and they will lay a wreath and honor the service men and women who have fallen at sea. Then on Saturday, Wreaths Across America will actually be laying wreaths at White Lawn Cemetery at the grave sites of the fallen heroes. I would like to thank them all. This wonderful way to honor them.

And I know he is not here, but I want to thank Bill Borowsky. This is his last meeting, and I would like to thank him for all his service as a councilman for all these years. He chose not to run this year, but we are happy that he has had such a success as councilman for so many years.

I would like to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.”

Acting Council President Fumato stated the following: “Congratulations to our two new police officers Logan and Justin. It is good to have young people in the police force.

Tonight, on our consent agenda we have an Authorization for the engineering part of the Bridge Avenue safety program. That is a \$1,185,780.00 project that will set out to begin next year.

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and Happy Holidays to everyone.”

2. Report of Acting Mayor

Acting Mayor DePaola stated the following: “This evening as you know, Mayor Sabosik could not be with us. But he sends his regards for a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a Happy New Year to all our residents and employees here at the Borough.

Speaking about the tree lighting and market in the park, I would like to thank our DPW crews and Sheri and our Recreation Department. It was a wonderful event. Santa came out on the fire truck and the children from the Rec Center who sang were absolutely adorable. It was one of the events that brings this town together and shows you the heart of Point Pleasant. It was a family event. It was geared for young children but there were things for the parents to do also with the marketplace. There were also high school students there who were helping the children write letters to Santa. So, there was a lot going on that evening, but it just shows how our borough employees and our borough residents come together for a wonderful event for families to enjoy at no cost. So again, I would just like to thank everyone for participating. And as always, our police department was there patrolling. I also would like to congratulate our new officers who are young and energized and very committed officers. They will be a great addition to the team that our Chief has put together.

And last but not least, I have a proclamation that I would like to read for my colleague and former running mate, Bill Borowsky.”

Acting Mayor Antoinette DePaola read the proclamation for William Borowsky aloud.

C. MINUTES

1. Approve Regular Meeting Minutes of November 25, 2024

MOTION: Approve Minutes

MADE: Archer

SECOND: Coulson

Ms. DePaola: Yes

Ms. Archer: Yes

Mr. Furmato: Yes

Ms. Coulson: Abstain

Mr. Borowsky: Absent

Mr. Veni: Absent

CARRIES:

D. ORDINANCES

1. Final Reading/Public Hearing

Ordinance No. 2024-26 – Amending Parking on Mistletoe Avenue and Treeneedle Road

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

MOTION: Adopt Ordinance

MADE: Furmato

SECOND: Archer

Ms. DePaola: Yes

Ms. Archer: Yes

Mr. Furmato: Yes

Ms. Coulson: Yes

Mr. Borowsky: Absent

Mr. Veni: Absent

CARRIES:

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

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

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. Archer

SECOND: Ms. Coulson

APPROVED: All in Favor

Acting Mayor DePaola opened the meeting to the public.

Resident: Foster Road – Asked about consent agenda Item #12 employee carry over vacation time.

Mr. Pannucci responded that contractually, he can only approve what he can up to a certain amount by law, everything else carried over the council has to approve.

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

F. 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. (307-2024) Bills and Claims**
- 2. (308-2024) Authorization Transfer of 2024 Budget Appropriations**

The bills for 2024 totaling the amount of \$1,031,120.30 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: Archer

SECOND: Coulson

Ms. DePaola: Yes

Ms. Archer: Yes

Mr. Furmato: Yes

Ms. Coulson: Yes

Mr. Borowsky: Absent

Mr. Veni: Absent

CARRIES:

G. 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. (309-2024) Authorize Refund of Lien Redemption and Premium Paid at Tax Sale
2. (310-2024) Authorize Adjustment and/or Refund on Certain Tax or Water/Sewer Accounts
3. (311-2024) Authorize Refund Escrow Fee – Mirador Partners, LLC
4. (312-2024) Canceling Taxes and Authorizing a Refund Pursuant to N.J.S.A.54:4-3.32 - White
5. (313-2024) Canceling Taxes and Authorizing a Refund Pursuant to N.J.S.A.54:4-3.32 – Menendez
6. (314-2024) Canceling Taxes and Authorizing a Refund Pursuant to N.J.S.A.54:4-3.32 – D’Allura
7. (315-2024) Authorize Refund of Demolition Bond – Block 269.01 Lot 9 – 1619 Jackson Street
8. (316-2024) Authorize Refund to Church of St. Martha – Off Duty Police Escrow
9. (317-2024) Accepting and Authorizing Execution of a Mutual Local Services Agreement for Animal Facilities Services with the Ocean County Board of Health
10. (318-2024) Authorizing Amendment to Contract with John J. Novak, Esq., Borough Public Defender
11. (319-2024) Authorize Change Order Number 1 – S Brothers Inc., -2023 NJDOT Reconstruction of Boulton Avenue
12. (320-2024) Approve Carry Over Vacation Time for Borough Employees
13. (321-2024) Authorize Morgan Municipal, LLC for Engineering Services for the FY2025 NJDOT Local Transportation Project – Bridge Avenue Safety Improvements and Authorization to Bid – COF #2024-144
14. (322-2024) Authorizing Amendment to Contract with Brian W. McAlindin, of the Firm Bathgate, Wegener & Wolf, P.C.; for Borough Prosecutor Services
15. (323-2024) Awarding a Contract for Solid Waste Collection & Disposal Services to Suburban Disposal, Inc. – COF #2024-145

MOTION: Adopt Resolutions

MADE: Archer

SECOND: Coulson

Ms. DePaola: Yes

Ms. Archer: Yes

Mr. Furmato: Yes

Ms. Coulson: Yes

Mr. Borowsky: Absent

Mr. Veni: Absent

CARRIES:

H. 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. Coulson

SECOND: Mr. Furmato

APPROVED: All in Favor

Acting Mayor DePaola opened the meeting to the public.

Resident: 211 Osborn Avenue – “I have been a resident of Point Pleasant since 1968. I would like to talk about 5G. In today’s Ocean Star, there was a very good article about the settlement in Lavallette. They conceded that they do not have the money to fight it. The Judge recommended that they settle and not take this thing to court. One of the councilmembers there, Joanne Filippone, voted no on the 5G. She gave a whole big explanation as to why, and I agree with her one thousand percent. The other item I am bringing up is that Spring Lake is fighting this 5G network which is unnecessary and unneeded. It has nothing to do with cellphones. I read that people want to be able to watch a movie on the beach on their laptop or whatever. So, this concern is ridiculous. I have a flip phone which is in a case and is off, but they still track me. We are living in bad times now. I would recommend our Mayor to get in touch with Spring Lake because they have a private organization to fund the fight against Verizon. Another item I have is that this was sent home to every resident in Point Pleasant. I have said I do not want a smart meter. This looks like a piece of junk mail. There is not even a notification. I have an analog meter. I asked the meter reader about this. If you are sleeping and you have an outlet next to your head, that outlet with smart reader stuff is looking for things to do. I am not an expert, but I am just trying to fight this stuff. I opted out of this, but they are going to charge me \$15.00 monthly. How are they going to charge me \$15.00 a month when since 1968 it has been read by a person and the person who read it two months ago said there are about 600 people who have opted out. Are we going to fight this \$15.00 charge?”

Acting Mayor DePaola: “The utilities are under the control of the BPU in Trenton.”

Mr. Pannucci asked what meters he was talking about because it is not from us.

Resident: Stated it was the electric meter.

Mr. Pannucci stated that, that is JCP&L and not us.

Resident: “Well I would recommend that the Borough get in touch with Spring Lake and fight this 5G and maybe even get a class action suit going against Verizon. We need to get serious about taking these people out.”

Resident: Foster Road – Wished everyone a Merry Christmas

Resident: Beach Blvd – “Unfortunately, I did not have enough time to do the research that I would like to do, so what I am going to tell you is based on hearsay. I have heard that the crossing guards in town make \$24.00 an hour. That is a higher hourly rate than the two police officers you hired tonight. The workers at the Arthur Avenue Recycling Center make between \$14 to \$15 per hour. I just do not understand that disparity. I feel like they really all have the same skill set. They don’t need a PHD or a License or anything. I heard they were promised a .50 cent an hour raise and that was delayed. There is a gentleman there by the name of Dave. His father and his grandfather both worked for the DPW, and I imagine that has to do with how he got in. He had a surgery that was botched and now has a disability. I think it is great that the town has hired him, but I don’t understand why the town won’t make him full time. I think it would be the right

thing to do. It would show compassion and empathy, and I want to know why you won't hire him full time. I don't understand why he is being held back. I would like a comment on this."

Mr. Dasti stated that the Borough is not going to comment on that. But did state that the hourly rate he spoke about is controlled by contracts and each of those types of employees mentioned all have their own bargaining units.

Resident: Beach Blvd – "Well it is my understanding that the guys who work over at the Recycling Center part-time are not union."

Mr. Pannucci: "First of all, number one, as far as individuals, we do not talk about personnel issues. Number 2, the part-timers, the recycling guys are seasonal, and they are part-time. Crossing Guards have a contracting unit. The PBA, even though they start at that low scale, they also scale up very fast. Faster than any other unit, as per their contracts, which is the case in most municipalities in New Jersey.

Resident: Beach Blvd – "So are you suggesting that the guys who work part-time at the DPW should unionize?"

Mr. Pannucci: "I am not suggesting that at all, I am just simply stating that we do not talk about direct personnel issues with individuals and just explaining our scale."

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

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

The Council wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

All in Favor.

TRANSCRIBED BY: VERONICA THWING, DEPUTY BOROUGH CLERK

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

**ANTOINETTE JONES, RMC, CMR
BOROUGH CLERK**

**ROBERT A. SABOSIK
MAYOR**