

**COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2025
7:00 P.M.**

Mayor:	Robert A. Sabosik
Council President:	Joseph Furmato
Council Member:	Antoinette DePaola
Council Member:	Valerie Coulson
Acting Council President:	Charlene Archer
Council Member:	Joseph Veni
Council Member:	William Stevenson
Borough Attorney:	Joe Mackolin Esq.
Borough Administrator:	Frank Pannucci

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 10, 2025, edition of *The Ocean Star* and January 10, 2025, edition of *The Asbury Park Press*.

A. PRESENTATION

1. Honoring Police Chief Adam Picca on his Retirement

Mayor Sabosik stated the following: “Tonight, we are honoring one of the best Police Chief’s this town has ever had. He is unbelievable for the amount of time he has put into the job. His record is something that I don’t think anybody else will ever beat. He is a friend. I have known him for a long time. He is a great communicator and a great leader for his department.”

The Mayor and Council presented Chief Adam Picca with a plaque.

Chief Picca: “I was actually not expecting this. I should have read the agenda. I picked up on it when I saw my officers show up. I am not prepared. But I want to start by thanking everyone here. All my officers, my clerical staff, and my crossing guards. I can’t thank you enough for all the work you put in each and every day. I thank you for your service to our community and promoting public safety, which is our mission statement. I really appreciate your support. As Chief, I am not the reason we are successful. You are the reason. We have been working together for the betterment of our department and at least I know that we have done good for this town. With that said, I wish you all the best in your careers. I thank you again. I also wanted to thank all of our Borough volunteers and the other departments here. The Department of Public Works. All of our First Aid members. Our Fire Department, OEM and CERT. Together we make this town a great place to live and raise families. And that is also because of the Governing Body. I want to thank all of you for your support over the years. Obviously, this working relationship that we have in this town is a reflection of you. I can’t thank you enough for trusting me to serve as your Chief of Police. With that said, I thank you all.”

B. PROCLAMATIONS

1. 2025 Teachers of the Year

Mayor Sabosik stated the following: “Next on our agenda is our 2024-2025 Educator’s of the Year Award. We have three teachers here today to receive this award.”

Mayor Sabosik read the proclamation to the honorees and thanked them for their hard work.

2. 2025 New Jersey Exemplary Educators of the Year

Mayor Sabosik read these proclamations to the honorees and thanked them for their hard work.

3. National Library Week

Mayor Sabosik presented the Library with a special proclamation and thanked them for all they do.

A representative from the library announced that April 11 and 12 will be the Borough’s Friends of the Library Book Sale. She stated that all of the proceeds from the sale will go to special library services.

C. WORKSHOP

1. Committee Reports

Council Member Archer stated the following: “I would like to congratulate Chief Picca on a wonderful career. We will miss him very much here in the Borough. I want to thank him for his many years of service and dedication he has given the town. You are going to be missed, but we are happy for you that you are retiring and will be relaxing.

Finance Committee, we are still working on the budget. We are continually having meetings to ensure that the budget will be ready for submission to the state.

Open Space, we are currently working on the memorial tree project. Open Space has met with town officials and the DPW. We are finalizing native trees in NJ that will be good for these parks at Riverfront, Community and Arnold Avenue. Hopefully this will come to fruition some time this year.”

Council Member DePaola stated the following: “As the Chairperson for Public Safety, I would once again, like to thank Chief Picca for his years of hard work, dedication and truly doing the best job he can for the Borough. I am extremely grateful for everything you have done for us, and for everything you will continue to do moving forward because you left us in good hands with the police force you have trained. So, thank you from the bottom of my heart and I wish you nothing but the best in your retirement.

As part of our public safety report, on March 2nd at 6:30pm, officers responded to a report of a two car motor vehicle collision on the Route 88 Bridge on the west bound lane. Officers discovered one of the vehicles had rolled over. Luckily, the officers and First Aid were able to attend to the occupants who were uninjured. But during the investigation, police officer Robert Stowe observed signs of alcohol impairment in the driver of the overturned vehicle. The driver identified as Daniel O’Neill, a 30 year old resident of Brick NJ was arrested for driving while intoxicated. He was processed at the police headquarters and released in accordance with Johns Law. After additional investigation, O’Neill was also charged with fourth degree assault by auto. At this time, these are just accusations, but we would once again like to congratulate our law enforcement officers and our First Aid Squad who came and averted a more serious incident. Accidents can cause other accidents. So, I am eternally grateful.”

Council Member Coulson stated the following: “First off, I want to congratulate Chief Picca on his retirement. Enjoy it. It is well deserved. You left us in good hands, but we are going to miss you.

The Rec Committee met last Wednesday on March 5th. I would like to highlight that the preschool information is on the Borough Website. Pre-school registration begins March 14th at 10am. You have to go online to register.

The 2025 River Beach badges will be available for pickup starting April 4th at the Court Violation window over here on Monday – Friday, 9am to 3pm. Badges need to be paid for in either exact cash or a check made out to the Borough of Point Pleasant. Badges are 5yr and under are free, 6yr to 59yr are \$20.00, 60 yr and older are \$10.00 and military have a lifetime badge for free. The season begins on June 21st and ends September 1st.

We have some updates to our playground on Maxson Avenue and the Riverfront Beaches. We have gotten some grants, and you will see some new playground equipment over there which is very nice for the children.

Our summer camp registration is May 1st. The half day camp at Nellie Bennett runs from June 30th to August 8th, from 9am-12pm for children K-5. Then, there is the camp at the Recreation center which will run from June 30th through August 8th from 9am to 2pm. That is for children completing kindergarten through 5th grade.

The Easter Egg hunt will be Sunday, April 13th at 11am.”

Council Member Veni stated the following: “First I would like to thank Chief Picca for your years of service to the Borough and for making this one of the safest towns in New Jersey. We understand that this is not an easy job, and it takes a talented and honest person, such as yourself, to be able to successfully lead an entire police force. Enjoy your retirement. It is well deserved.

Also, congratulations to all of the educators who have gone above and beyond providing the best education for the children in our school district, including three of my own. The amazing reputation of the Borough school system is one of the many reasons why I chose to move here. The Borough school system goes beyond education. It is how our educators nurture and encourage the success of the students as individuals. The right people and the right place. Although I am a class four instructor for Rutgers, teaching school children is something I admit I cannot do. So, my hat off to all of you and congratulations to you all and keep up the good work.

Just a reminder for Earth Day. It is going to be Saturday, April 26th from Noon to 4pm. The rain date will be Sunday, April 27th at the Riverfront Park.

The next Environmental Commission meeting will be Tuesday, March 18th at 7pm.”

Council Member Stevenson stated the following: “As everyone else has said, Chief, thank you. It is well deserved. Enjoy all your traveling and your retirement.

I want to congratulate all of the teachers who received awards. As a parent of two children in the school district. Our district is amazing.

On the legislative side, on February 25, 2025, Governor Murphy announced his budget which is proposed at \$58.1 billion dollars. It includes a \$1.2 billion dollar increase in new fees and taxes. \$2 billion in spending cuts and \$28.4 billion dollars in direct property tax relief. Included in that will be \$21.3 billion for schools. \$1.6 for municipal aid and \$123 million for other local aid.”

Council President Furmato stated the following: “Chief, thank you for all your hard work. You have done a great job. Good luck in your retirement. I hope everything goes well. And to the teachers, what a great job you are doing. We couldn’t do it without you.

Last week we had a DPW meeting, and a few things were discussed. One of the things that Val had mentioned was the playground equipment that we were getting. We are getting \$300,000.00 from the state. That is free money. It doesn’t cost the taxpayers anything, so it is a good thing that we get that. When it comes to roads and sidewalks, NJ Natural Gas is paving most of our roads right now. Sidewalks, we received money from the Local Transportation Projects Fund, which will do Herbertsville Road and River Road and they will be worked on this summer and done in the fall. We are dealing with some water problems. We have Well #5 at the DPW building and we need a new well. That is a million dollars. That is going to have to happen this fall. The next thing we have is Safe Streets to Schools. The sidewalks behind Ocean Road School. That is another grant we received for \$752,000.00. Again, this is all free money we are getting. Except for the water. We have had a few water main breaks, and a few sanitary lines collapse over the last 6 months. That has been totaling anywhere between \$10,000.00 to \$200,000.00 to repair. Our water system is getting old. It was built in the 1960’s so concrete pipes over the years start to collapse. The seams are opening up. We do have ways to fix it. We have a big machine that will go down into the line and seal it. That works sometimes, but a lot of times the road has to be dug up. That is where we are with our water. You will see, there is a lot going on in town. On Bridge Avenue, we are having all electronic signs put in this summer. This will slow people down along pedestrian walkways. That is another free project that is worth \$1.2 million dollars.”

2. Report of Mayor

Mayor Sabosik stated the following: “I have a little housekeeping to do. I have a notice of a meeting cancellation. It is hereby given that the meeting on May 12, 2025, at 7pm is cancelled. Further notice that the meeting will be rescheduled for Monday, May 19th at 7pm. The agenda will consist of items that were previously scheduled to be addressed at the May 12, 2025, meeting which has been cancelled.

I too want to say thank you to the teachers. They do a great job with our kids for the future.

Our Chief is the epitome of honesty and integrity. I am really going to miss you. I have known you for a long time and you are the best of the best. I congratulate you on your retirement.

Tonight, our council has one of the most important ordinances this town has ever seen. This ordinance will ensure that our new Rec Center will be built by our local tradesman with a qualified apprenticeship program. A program that will lead to a safe building that we will be proud of for decades to come. I thank all of the tradespeople that have come in tonight to support this ordinance. I feel very strongly about this, and I know that council does too.”

D. MINUTES

1. Approve Council Meeting Minutes of February 24, 2025

MOTION: Approve Minutes

MADE: Archer

SECOND: Stevenson

Mr. Furmato: Yes

Ms. DePaola: Yes

Ms. Coulson: Yes

Ms. Archer: Yes

Mr. Veni: Yes

Mr. Stevenson: Yes

CARRIES:

E. ORDINANCES

1. Final Reading/Public Hearing

Ordinance No. 2025-02 – Amending and Supplementing Chapter 2 of the Borough Code Entitled “Administration” to Include New Chapter 2-38 Entitled “Public Labor Agreements”

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Sergio Verdesco – Representative of the Eastern Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters: “I specifically represent the floor layers for that organization. I just wanted to thank you guys for this ordinance. This will ensure that our members who live in the area, work in the area, and spend their hard earned money in the area, will be the ones able to do this work. Thank you.”

Resident – 2117 Foster Road: Asked for clarification as to why the contracts start with a \$5 Million Dollar minimum.

Mayor Sabosik: “It is basically an amount set up by the unions and government bodies. It is a project laborer agreement and the \$5 million dollar minimum works out both for everybody concerned.”

Wayne Martiak – IBEW Business Agent: “I believe this is one of the finest things this council has ever done here in Point Pleasant with this ordinance. This is not a job. This is a career. When they come into these trades, this is something they are going to do for the rest of their lives. Not everybody makes it through the apprenticeship. It is really tough. These men and women put a lot of effort into it and then they become journey people. They come to Point Pleasant, and they buy a house and they pay taxes. This is what you are doing today. You are providing for these young men and women to have a future in our different communities to become hardworking citizens. They take care of their own medical. They take care of their own retirement. They are not coming to the government asking for handouts. They are working for it every single day. So, thank you for taking this ordinance under consideration and thank you for doing such a positive thing today.”

Christine Montorio – Teamsters Local 469 Business Agent: “We have the distinct honor of representing four units here in town. The DPW, Clerical, Crossing Guards, and the Police Dispatchers. We also represent construction workers, and we have a Teamsters Apprentice Program. We are here tonight in favor of this important bill, and we thank you so much for posting it. Nothing costs more than doing it cheap and then finding out that we have to do it over, so you are really protecting the taxpayers with this one. I also just want to thank this Mayor and Council because we bargain in a lot of towns, and this is the only town where the Mayor and two Governing Body representatives sat in on every bargaining session. It shows how much you care about the workers. This bill is the next chapter of that so thank you very much for posting it and we hope you vote yes.”

Tom Iveson – Senior Counsel Representative Carpenters Union & Floor Layers: “I just want to thank everyone for adopting this. I would like to reiterate what my fellow union representatives are saying. This is a great thing for our community and a great thing for our members and we thank you.”

Ed Burns – Business Rep for Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Union, Local 9 Central Jersey: “I am just so proud to see a town come together and see the value in the labor movement. How we can come in and get the job done right, safely and on time. That is what is most important to you, to us and the taxpayers. I appreciate you guys considering this ordinance.”

MOTION: Adopt Ordinance

MADE: DePaola

SECOND: Veni

Mr. Furmato: Yes

Ms. DePaola: Yes

Ms. Coulson: Yes

Ms. Archer: Yes

Mr. Veni: Yes

Mr. Stevenson: Yes

CARRIES:

2. **Final Reading/Public Hearing**
Ordinance No. 2025-03 – Amending and Supplementing Chapter 12 of the Borough Code Entitled “Streets, Solid Waste and Sanitation”

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

MOTION: Adopt Ordinance

MADE: Furmato

SECOND: Archer

Mr. Furmato: Yes

Ms. DePaola: Yes

Ms. Coulson: Yes

Ms. Archer: Yes

Mr. Veni: Yes

Mr. Stevenson: Yes

CARRIES:

3. **Final Reading/Public Hearing**
Ordinance No. 2025-04 – Establishing New Chapter 26 of the Borough Code Entitled, “Emergency Medical Services for Patient Care Facilities”

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Maine – EMS Worker: “The purpose of this ordinance is for extended care facilities. They tend to call on us for non-emergency transports via the 911 system. Now with this, I am just saying, we are still going when we are paged out there, but it is mostly for them to get there act together a little bit more with their private companies. We have been called over there for anything from abnormal labs, to going to the hospital in an emergency even though they fell three days ago. Minor things like that. Like I said, we will still respond to every call we can, but obviously with this ordinance in place, they can try to figure something a little bit better out for them. Any questions?”

Council Member Furmato asked how many visits does the EMS make weekly?

Maine – EMS Worker: “Depending on the week, 3 to 5 times a week.”

Mayor Sabosik stated the following: “If you look at the January figures, I think it was 19 calls out there in that month, and the majority were not on emergencies. Our volunteers are spending a lot of time on non-emergency stops.”

MADE: Archer

SECOND: Furmato

Mr. Furmato: Yes

Ms. DePaola: Yes

Ms. Coulson: Yes

Ms. Archer: Yes

Mr. Veni: Yes

Mr. Stevenson: Yes

CARRIES:

4. Final Reading/Public Hearing

Ordinance No. 2025-05 – Providing for the Revaluation of Real Property and Authorizing a Special Emergency Appropriation of \$821,020 Therefor and Providing for the Issuance of Special Emergency Notes

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

MOTION: Adopt Ordinance

MADE: DePaola

SECOND: Furmato

Mr. Furmato: Yes

Ms. DePaola: Yes

Ms. Coulson: Yes

Ms. Archer: Yes

Mr. Veni: Yes

Mr. Stevenson: Yes

CARRIES:

**F. 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. DePaola

SECOND: Mr. Veni

APPROVED: All in Favor

Council President Furmato opened the meeting to the public.

Resident: 2117 Foster Road – Asked for clarification on Consent Agenda Item #11 – Rehabilitation of Well #5

Borough Engineer John LeCompte responded that the existing well was taking in sand. A new well is required.

Council President Furmato closed this portion of the meeting.

G. 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. (094-2025) Bills and Claims
2. (095-2025) Void Check Resolution
3. (096-2025) Authorize Transfer of 2024 Budget Appropriations
4. (097-2025) Authorizing Temporary Budget Adjustment

The bills for 2025 totaling the amount of \$2,304,212.42 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: Stevenson

SECOND: DePaola

Mr. Furmato: Yes
Ms. Archer: Yes

Ms. DePaola: Yes
Mr. Veni: Yes

Ms. Coulson: Yes
Mr. Stevenson: Yes

CARRIES:

H. 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. (098-2025) Authorize Refund of Lien Redemption and Premium Paid at Tax Sale
2. (099-2025) Authorize Adjustment and/or Refund on Certain Tax or Water/Sewer Accounts
3. (100-2025) Authorizing Electronic Tax Sale Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:5-19.1
4. (101-2025) Authorize Refund of Demolition Bond – Block 236, Lot 14–2228 Foster Rd.
5. (102-2025) Authorize Refund of Current and Escrow Accounts – Zoning Board
6. (103-2025) Authorize Recreation Department Refund
7. (104-2025) Authorizing Disposal of Surplus Property Via Online Auction – DPW
8. (105-2025) Awarding a Contract for Revaluation Project for 2026-2027-COF #2025-119
9. (106-2025) Authorize RVV for Engineering Services for the Replacement of the Sloped and Flat Roofing System at the DPW Building and Authorization to Bid – COF #2025-120
10. (107-2025) Authorize RVV for Additional Funds for Engineering Services for the Replacement of the Sloped and Flat Roofing System at the Municipal Building
11. (108-2025) Awarding a Contract for the Rehabilitation of Well #5 Project – COF #2025-121
12. (109-2025) Authorize Purchase of Playground Equipment from KOMPAN Let’s Play Through the Bergen County Cooperative – BC-24-35 – COF #2025-122
13. (110-2025) Confirming Personnel Appointment – OEM
- Paul Pantaleone, Deputy Assistant Coordinator

14. (111-2025) Approving the Following Applications:
- Rose & Opal Boutique, 1508 Beaver Dam Road, Bazaar, Saturday, May 3, 2025, from 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM.
 - 22nd Annual Treasure Island Sprint Triathlon at Riverfront Park on Sunday, September 28, 2025, from 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM.
15. (112-2025) Awarding the Bid for the 2024 NJDOT River Road Sidewalk Project – COF #2025-123

MOTION: Adopt Resolutions

MADE: Coulson

SECOND: DePaola

Mr. Furmato: Yes

Ms. DePaola: Yes

Ms. Coulson: Yes

Ms. Archer: Yes

Mr. Veni: Yes

Mr. Stevenson: Yes

CARRIES:

I. 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: Ms. Archer

APPROVED: All in Favor

Mayor Sabosik opened the meeting to the public.

Resident: 2117 Foster Road – “I would like to say thank you to our Chief of Police. You are always there to listen, and I hope that our new guy will be just as good.”

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

Mayor Sabosik stated that there would be no Executive Session

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**