

**COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 19, 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 (Absent)
Council Member:	Joseph Veni
Council Member:	William Stevenson
Borough Attorney:	Jerry Dasti, 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 April 4, 2025, edition of *The Ocean Star* and communicated to *The Asbury Park Press* on April 2, 2025.

A. WORKSHOP

1. Committee Reports

Council Member Stevenson stated the following: “I would like to thank the crossing guards that work for the police department. Over the years, especially bringing my kids to school, I have noticed that they do a job that I know is an impossible task sometimes. They do a great job protecting our children and our residents and a lot of the times, they do it without thanks. Quite often they get social media to second guess their work. I think I can say on behalf of all of us up here, Chief, thank you. Your crossing guards do a great job.

That being said, for the legislature side, our two assemblymen, Paul Kanitra and Greg McGuckin have introduced legislation that would establish a 15 mph speed limit for motorized bikes and scooters. That is still in committee. For the Board of Education, at a previous meeting I reported that Principal Gary Floyd of the Memorial Middle School and James Karaba of Nellie Bennett Elementary School are retiring this summer. The new principal of Memorial Middle School will be Matt Rusnick and Mr. Derek Hulse, who is the current vice principal of Nellie Bennett has been promoted to principal. The school board also adopted a budget of \$53 million dollars last week at their meeting. Although it is a good sized budget, we do have one of the lowest spending in the state and especially in the county. And our schools consistently rank in the top 30%, so they are doing a great job.

I also want to report, this past winter, that the girls indoor track teams had two relay teams and two individuals compete in the nationals in Boston. The spring relay team placed 8th in the nation and one of our runners set a new school record in the 16 meter dash. The spring track team the girls just won the B South and Ocean County championships.”

Council Member DePaola stated the following: “As the liaison to public safety we would like to remind the residents about what happened in the early hours of May 10th. Our officers assisted the Howell Township Police Department in executing an arrest warrant at a River Avenue residence. The suspect barricaded himself inside and was seen armed with a knife. Officers protected the scene for the safety of nearby residents. They placed a temporary traffic detour and called in the Ocean County Regional Swat Team to negotiate. After several hours of failed negotiations, SWAT officers conducted an explosive breach ultimately used a taser to take the subject into custody safely. We appreciate the community’s patience during that prolonged incident, and we also thank our partner agencies for their support in ensuring a safe resolution. A formal press release was issued on May 12th, and I would like to commend the chief and his officers for their part in keeping us safe.

We had three officers participate in the Police Unity Tour. In addition to our operational efforts, we are proud to highlight the participation of three of our officers. Officer Tobias, Officer Henrich and Corporal Fennessy in the annual Police Unity Tour. This event honors the service and sacrifices of law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty. Our officer’s rode hundreds of miles in their memory. They rode from Point Pleasant to Washington DC. The point was to raise awareness and support for the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. Their commitment to this cause reflects the values and dedication to our department.

Finally, a message from Chief Leonhardt, he said: As we approach the Memorial Day weekend, we remind all residents to stay safe, be responsible and take time to honor those who serve and who have served our nation.”

Council Member Coulson stated the following: “This weekend is Memorial Day Weekend, and you if you need a badge for the River Beach, badges can be purchased from 9am to 3pm, Monday through Friday at the court window right outside the courtroom. \$20.00 for six and older, \$10.00 for seniors and Veterans get a lifetime badge free of charge.

Our summer camp registration went very well. We were able to offer 30 more spots this year at the full day camp, and the half day camp has a limited number of spots left. Our Kindercamp for the little ones has a waiting list.

We have the largest schedule for the summer rec programs. You can take a look online. Our registration is June 3rd at 10am. There are a lot of new programs. We have the coast cheer, little movers yoga, dance camp and over 50 pages of different offers. This Monday coming up, we are going to have our Memorial Day ceremony at 12pm. We already have our fallen hero’s memorial, so hopefully some of you will be able to attend. Have a safe holiday weekend.”

Council Member Veni stated the following: “Just a quick thing with the Environmental Commission. Once again, they did a great job with Earth Day. A lot of planning goes into this, and they have already started planning for next year. Probably at the next meeting which, by the way, is tomorrow at 7pm. Anyone who would like to come is welcome.

Moving along to Zoning and Land Use, again, this is the middle of the year, so I have a meeting next week with our Code Enforcement regarding any suggestions or revisions on ordinances.”

Council President Furmato stated the following: “Hydrant flushing is going to begin on Wednesday throughout the town. If you have any problems with water color, the DPW has a solvent that can fix your clothes and get them back to white again.

Also, paving and sidewalks have begun. They are moving along pretty good. It goes from Meadowpoint Road almost to Crystal Point. We will have sidewalks there probably within a couple of weeks. Paving will

begin about a week after the Fourth of July over at Bay Head Shores. All of Bay Head Shores is getting repaved so it is going to be a mess over there for at least a month or more.

We also have Canal and Roe with a flooding problem. Curbing has already been installed. They will be milling and paving that road shortly.

Speed limits in town. There are parts of Bridge Avenue that is still 35mph. That will be going down to 30mph. All of River Road from Crystal Point to River Front Park will be going down to 30mph.”

2. Report of Mayor

Mayor Sabosik stated the following: “If you see I am wearing new glasses, I don’t wear real glasses anymore. I had surgery on my eyes. But I need reading glasses when somebody writes too small for notes. But I won’t say who does that.

One of the things I would like to mention is that the Ocean County Mayor’s Association is giving out \$1,000.00 scholarship to outstanding students this year. I am happy to report that one of our own is this year’s winner of the scholarship. Also, the New Jersey Mayor’s Association has added our Mantoloking Mayor to the Board of Directors. I wish Lance White the best. Bill Curtis and I are on it. This is getting together to help the mayors of the state go to Trenton and get better laws for each individual town.

Once again, Niche has reviewed the state of New Jersey and Ocean County has risen very high on the scale. Point Pleasant has received an A and B+ in all the rankings which makes us #4 in the County for one the best places to live. As I have said in the past, the Borough is the best place to live, and these surveys and different website are approving it.”

B. MINUTES

- 1. Approve Council Meeting Minutes of April 21, 2025.**
- 2. Approve Executive Session Minutes of April 21, 2025.**

MOTION: Approve Minutes

MADE: Coulson

SECOND: Veni

Mr. Furmato: Yes
Ms. Archer: Absent

Ms. DePaola: Yes
Mr. Veni: Yes

Ms. Coulson: Yes
Mr. Stevenson: Yes

CARRIES:

C. ORDINANCES

1. Final Reading and Public Hearing

Ordinance No. 2025-06 – To Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

MOTION: Adopt Ordinance

MADE: Stevenson

SECOND: Furmato

Mr. Furmato: Yes

Ms. DePaola: Yes

Ms. Coulson: Yes

Ms. Archer: Absent

Mr. Veni: Yes

Mr. Stevenson: Yes

CARRIES:

D. MUNICIPAL BUDGET

1. Public Hearing of 2025 Municipal Budget as Introduced

2. (135-2025) Adoption of 2025 Municipal Budget

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

MOTION: Adopt Municipal Budget

MADE: Furmato

SECOND: Stevenson

Mr. Furmato: Yes

Ms. DePaola: Yes

Ms. Coulson: Yes

Ms. Archer: Absent

Mr. Veni: Yes

Mr. Stevenson: Yes

CARRIES:

E. ORDINANCES (con't)

1. Final Reading and Public Hearing

Bond Ordinance No. 2025-07 – Providing for Various Capital Improvements and other Related Expenses in and for the Borough of Point Pleasant and Appropriating \$3,120,120 Therefor, and Providing for the Issuance of \$2,963,220 in Bonds or Notes of the Borough of Point Pleasant to Finance the Same

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

MOTION: Adopt Ordinance

MADE: DePaola

SECOND: Furmato

Mr. Furmato: Yes

Ms. DePaola: Yes

Ms. Coulson: Yes

Ms. Archer: Absent

Mr. Veni: Yes

Mr. Stevenson: Yes

CARRIES:

2. **Final Reading and Public Hearing**
Bond Ordinance No. 2025-08 – Providing for Various Water and Sewer Utility Improvements and Appropriating \$1,821,700 and Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,730,300 in Bonds or Notes of the Borough of Point Pleasant to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Resident – 2117 Foster Road: “Part of it says here, removal and replacement of galvanized water service lines. Is this for municipal lines or private lines?”

Mr. Pannucci: “That is state mandated. Anybody that owns a water system, whether you are private like New Jersey American, or Brick Township Public Utility Authority. These are those goosenecks that are lead and were originally put in years and years ago. Everybody has to start replacing them, so everybody has to put about two percent a year of your system and replace them as per the DEP, whether you need it or not. If you have a lead one, the town will replace it. We are not replacing the water line, only those lead parts.”

Mr. Dasti: “The connection from the curb to the house.”

Resident – 2117 Foster Road: “How do you know if your house is or isn’t affected?”

Mr. Pannucci: “Public Works has to figure it out. They know.”

Mayor Sabosik: “What year the house was built, if it was renovated, we have records and that is what we will basically use.”

Resident – 2117 Foster Road: “Okay, I will check with Public Works.”

MOTION: Adopt Ordinance

MADE: DePaola

SECOND: Coulson

Mr. Furmato: Yes
Ms. Archer: Absent

Ms. DePaola: Yes
Mr. Veni: Yes

Ms. Coulson: Yes
Mr. Stevenson: Yes

CARRIES:

3. **Final Reading and Public Hearing**
Ordinance No. 2025-09 – Providing Funding for Sanitary Sewer Repair Services for the Borough of Point Pleasant and Appropriating \$70,000 for such purpose.

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

MOTION: Adopt Ordinance

MADE: DePaola

SECOND: Coulson

Mr. Furmato: Yes
Ms. Archer: Absent

Ms. DePaola: Yes
Mr. Veni: Yes

Ms. Coulson: Yes
Mr. Stevenson: Yes

CARRIES:

4. Introduction

Ordinance No. 2025-10 – Amending and Supplementing Chapter 7a-18 of the Borough Code Entitled “Schedule XVIII: Speed Limits”

MOTION: Adopt Ordinance

MADE: Furmato

SECOND: DePaola

Mr. Furmato: Yes

Ms. DePaola: Yes

Ms. Coulson: Yes

Ms. Archer: Absent

Mr. Veni: Yes

Mr. Stevenson: Yes

CARRIES:

5. Introduction

Ordinance No. 2025-11 – Amending the Code of the Borough of Point Pleasant to Establish a Conflict of Interest and Nepotism Policy for the Hiring and Promotion of Police Officers

MOTION: Adopt Ordinance

MADE: Stevenson

SECOND: DePaola

Mr. Furmato: Yes

Ms. DePaola: Yes

Ms. Coulson: Yes

Ms. Archer: Absent

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: DePaola

SECOND: Stevenson

APPROVED: All in Favor

Council President Furmato opened the meeting to the public.

Seeing no hands, 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. (136-2025) Bills and Claims**
- 2. (137-2025) Void Check Resolution**

The bills for 2025 totaling the amount of \$14,324,503.56 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: DePaola

SECOND: Veni

Mr. Furmato: Yes

Ms. DePaola: Yes

Ms. Coulson: Yes

Ms. Archer: Absent

Mr. Veni: 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. (138-2025) Authorize Refund of Lien Redemption and Premium Paid at Tax Sale**
- 2. (139-2025) Authorize Adjustment and/or Refund on Certain Tax or Water/Sewer Accounts**
- 3. (140-2025) Authorizing the Borough of Point Pleasant Tax Collector to Prepare and Mail Estimated Tax Bills in Accordance with P.L. 1994.C.72**
- 4. (141-2025) Authorize Refund of Demolition Bond, Block 217 Lot 19, 1119 Northstream Parkway**
- 5. (142-2025) Authorize Refund of Demolition Bond, Block 36, Lot 1.01, 2113 River Rd.**
- 6. (143-2025) Authorize Recreation Department Refunds**
- 7. (144-2025) Authorize Recreation Department to Rehire Part-time Seasonals**
- 8. (145-2025) Support Revolution NJ in the Borough of Point Pleasant**
- 9. (146-2025) Authorize Release of Performance Bond to Pinnacle Commercial Development, Block 93, Lot 13, 619 Mistletoe Avenue**
- 10. (147-2025) Authorize Release of Performance Guarantee for Block 112, Lot 7, 1117 Sampson Road**
- 11. (148-2025) Authorizing Payment of Engineer’s Certificate No. 2 and Acceptance of the Maintenance Bond for the Riviera Parkway Elevated Water Tank Rehabilitation Project to Bridgeway Associates Corp.**
- 12. (149-2025) Opposing NJ Protecting Against Climate Threats/Resilient Environments and Landscape Rules (NJPACT)**
- 13. (150-2025) Adopt Procedures for Administration and Inspection of Federal Aid Highway Projects**
- 14. (151-2025) Confirming Personnel Appointment:**
 - Viktoria Carey, hereby appointed as Part-time Finance Clerk, with a salary of \$1,000.00 per month, effective May 19, 2025.**

15. (152-2025) Approving the Following Application:

- **Point Pleasant Challenger Flag Football Game (Sponsored by Lester Glenn Subura) at Community Park on Sunday, August 17, 2025, from 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM.**

MOTION: Adopt Resolutions

MADE: DePaola

SECOND: Stevenson

Mr. Furmato: Yes
Ms. Archer: Absent

Ms. DePaola: Yes
Mr. Veni: Yes

Ms. Coulson: 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: DePaola

SECOND: Furmato

APPROVED: All in Favor

Mayor Sabosik opened the meeting to the public.

Resident: 2406 Spruce Street – “What is our affordable housing number? I have never actually seen the exact number.”

Frank Pannucci: “I am just going off the top of my head. Our realistic need for the last rounds is 40. Our actual need going forward, after we refile for the fourth round is going to come down to zero. So, right now when the state put out their numbers a few months back that said every town, including Point Pleasant is going to have to owe two or three hundred more units, we ended up doing our own vacant land analysis, so that will eventually zero for future need when it comes to round four.”

Mayor Sabosik: “Basically they started us at almost 600 and we negotiated down. This last round, somebody made a mistake and counted the open lagoons and parks as part of open space and we had to point out that this is not open space you can build on. That is why the difference.”

Resident: 2406 Spruce Street – “In conjunction with that, what are we doing about Route 88. I know it is a county or state road, but when you put all those houses where the OB is, and if you okay the ones on Bay

Avenue, how do you think people are going to get around in this town? I don't take 88 already, if I can help it."

Mayor Sabosik: "Route 88 is a state highway. They applied with the state and got permission. That did have a low income component in it. That is done."

Resident: 2406 Spruce Street – "I will point this out here because it was the stupidest thing, but I grew up on Delaware. So, I used Lister for like 30 years. The egress from those apartments are directly across from Lister, which is the first street everyone comes to when they want to make a left on Route 88, and you have the blind curve with people speeding. So, who thought this was a good idea?"

Mayor and Council answered that it was the state of New Jersey that approved this.

Mayor Sabosik: "We have no power over the state."

Mr. Dasti: "If they want to cut a driveway onto Route 88, so be it. It is their road."

Resident: 2406 Spruce Street – "So please, by the way, don't tell everyone what a nice town we have. Because we don't anymore."

Mayor Sabosik: "I had a Mayor's meeting this morning, and a couple Mayor's said the same thing to me. That we are the most densely populated town in Ocean County, and we are one of the best. And I said, we are just going to make it better."

More conversation continued regarding the traffic on Route 88.

Resident: 2117 Foster Road – "When the council meeting dates are changed, and it is posted on the bulletin board, who notifies the newspapers?"

The Borough Clerk, Antoinette Jones, responded that she notifies the newspaper.

Resident: 2117 Foster Road – "Because I missed the last Council Meeting. I checked the bulletin board and I looked in the Ocean Star and it had it listed for the wrong date."

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

Antoinette Jones: "You can come to my office. I had it advertised in the Ocean Star. We had a change of date. March 14th is when we published the new meeting date."

Resident: 2117 Foster Road – "Well the Ocean Star has upcoming events, and it has the council meeting date. It had the wrong date. Up until this past date, they also had the wrong date for this meeting."

Antoinette Jones: "We put it in with the legal advertisements. They get the original list in the beginning of the year, and they probably didn't realize of the change."

Resident: 2117 Foster Road – "The OB Diner, they are out of business now right? Don't we have an ordinance that states they have to take their signage down within a certain amount of days when you are out of business?"

Mayor and Council state that they do not believe so.

Resident: 2117 Foster Road – “Well, they have been closed for I don’t know how long now, and they still have signs flashing at night that they are open.”

Resident: 2114 Barnegat Blvd. – “I came to the last Mayor’s Meeting and brought up an issue that I think deserves some attention and an amendment to the zoning ordinances. It concerns parking on your front yard.”

Mayor Sabosik: “As a matter of fact, because of that meeting, we have a scheduled zoning board meeting with the committee and myself at 10am on Friday morning and that is one of the issues that we will be discussing. I know the house you are talking about. We all drove by it and we concur with your opinion about that. There are other houses too, so we will be controlling that factor. It is a committee meeting, so it is not open to the public. We work a lot during the daytime too. I know everybody thinks we only come at 7pm for a council meeting, but we work a lot during the daytime too. But we got this.”

Resident: 211 Osborn Avenue – “I got an electric bill here, and I called First Energy. By the way, this First Energy took over, it is on the stock market. It makes profit. I opted out from the smart meter. I called and the lady I spoke to said that you can do that, but you are going to get charged \$15.00 a month for reading the meter anyway. So, my question to you, is how do I resolve this as a private citizen? You have got some power. Why don’t you tell this company that the residents that have an analog meter should be able to send in our numbers by calling or online.”

Mayor Sabosik: “First Energy bought out JCP&L a few years ago. They are out of Ohio. They have had a few problems out in Ohio. I have a meeting with the president on June 23rd along with 16 other Mayors. I will add this issue to my list.”

Resident: 211 Osborn Avenue – “209 Hall is going to put up 2 homes on that lot. Those homes are not going to be affordable. They have a hundred foot lot. This happens to be one of the ways people make money in this town. The ones by the OB Diner, I almost want to throw up when I go passed that. The ones over by Clark’s Marina, there was a little house sitting on a lot there. They cut every tree down and put these up.”

Mayor Sabosik: “They have a tree ordinance now, and they have to put back, and the COAH requirements is triggered if you have five units or more. So, doing those two houses, does not trigger the COAH.”

Resident: 2406 Spruce Street – “I was walking my dog today and I crossed over Beaver Dam Road. The E-Bike went by me, and he had to be going at least 35 miles per hour.”

Mayor Sabosik: “And if you heard Councilman Furmato earlier, there is a new proposal to change the state law for a maximum of 15 miles per hour. Every town a complained to Trenton about this. Every town is facing the same problem. These bikes are supposed to be doing 25 miles per hour, but it is rated for people weighing 250 pounds. You put a 100 pound kid on that, or a teenager, they go up to 35 miles per hour. I know our police are out there stopping people. We are doing the best we can. This is a Trenton problem that the towns are trying to fix with this new regulation. Hopefully, they will pass this. We are in agreement with you. This is why the Ocean County Mayor’s Association has gone to the legislature to come up with a law to get this done. Because this is horrendous.”

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

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

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**