

**WORKSHOP AND REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 1, 2020
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Council President Buckley called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:30 PM. The meeting was held via remote means using the Webex Meeting Platform under rules established under NJSA 10:4-8(b) which allows meetings to be held digitally during a State of Emergency.

Open Public Meeting Statement: Call To Order – Pursuant to Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Adequate Notice of this Meeting has Been Provided by Posting on the Bulletin Board at Borough Hall, posting on the Borough Website and Facebook Page and by Notification to The Asbury Park Press, The Newark Star Ledger, and The New Coaster at Least 48 Hours Prior to the Meeting.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mrs. Clay, Mr. Manginelli, Mr. Nesci, Mr. Siebert, Ms. Buckley

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Doreen D’Annunzio, Deputy Borough Clerk

Kevin Starkey, Director of Law

Vito Perillo, Mayor

Thomas Fallon, Acting Borough Administrator/Director of Finance

Thomas Neff, Borough Engineer

Mark Shaffery, Director of Public Works

SALUTE TO THE FLAG: Council President Buckley invited everyone attending the remote meeting to join in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council President’s Introduction

Good Evening everyone, I am Council President Tracy Buckley. We are holding this meeting remotely utilizing the Webex platform. Joining me remotely are my fellow Councilmembers Risa Clay, John Manginelli, Mike Nesci and Brock Siebert, as well as Mayor Vito Perillo, CFO and Interim Borough Administrator Tom Fallon, Deputy Borough Clerk Doreen D’Annunzio, Director of Law Kevin Starkey and Borough Engineer Tom Neff, Tinton Falls Dept of Public Works Director Mark Shaffrey, and IT Director Dan Romanov.

I would again like to give special thanks to IT Director Dan Romanov for setting up this Webex meeting and managing the technical aspects of utilizing the Webex platform.

This is a live digital Council Meeting that we are holding under the rules established under NJSA 10:4-8(b), which allows this meeting to be held digitally during a State of Emergency with the proviso that only essential business be conducted. As you may know, this form of remote meeting will be the way we conduct borough business for the foreseeable future. For those not familiar with the Webex platform, it allows members of the public to dial in from their computer, utilizing the Webex app, or from a regular phone utilizing a dial in number and meeting passcode. If you wish to be heard at either public comments portion of the meeting, please use the “Raise Your Hand” function on the Webex platform and we will call upon you one at a time. For those dialed in via phone only, I will open the floor up to phone comments during the public comments sections as well. You will be asked to state your name and address for the record and observe a time limit of three minutes.

We would like to commend our Borough municipal employees from every department for all of their hard work in keeping the Borough functioning during this difficult time.

Moreover, we would like to commend our Tinton Falls Office of Emergency Management, Tinton Falls Police Department, Tinton Falls Emergency Medical Services, Tinton Falls Fire Companies and Tinton Falls Dept of Public Works for your work on the front lines of the pandemic and for keeping us all safe.

In these challenging times, the best we can do is to be kind to one another and remember courtesy is also contagious.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Nesci offered a motion to approve the May 19, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes seconded by Mr. Seibert.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Mrs. Clay, Mr. Manginelli, Mr. Nesci, Mr. Siebert, Ms. Buckley

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

REPORT OF MAYOR/COUNCIL/ADMINISTRATION

Borough Engineer – Thomas Neff

Mr. Neff reported on the Road Program stating that the Hope Road paving is complete and open to traffic with only signage left to complete. The contractor is currently working on paving smaller residential streets of Holly Drive and Sylvan Drive. The following week Hartford Drive and Executive Drive are scheduled, and they anticipate traffic impacts on Shrewsbury Avenue near the Dunkin Donuts and Rite Aid stores. They will try to minimize any customer inconveniences. Mr. Neff stated that the week of September 14th, Lennar Developers will be starting significant road

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work by Municipal Drive in front of Borough Hall which will include road detours and will impact anyone entering the municipal complex. Ms. Buckley asked if Municipal Drive will still be accessible? Mr. Neff stated for the duration of the project there will be access to Borough Hall. More information will be available when this construction gets closer to the start date.

Director of Finance/ Acting Borough Administrator- Thomas Fallon

Mr. Fallon reported that the 2019 Audit Report has recently been filed by our independent auditors. The Borough has received a clean opinion on our financial statements and statutory compliance from the auditors. Additionally, there were no comments or recommendations issued by the auditors. Mr. Fallon thanked all the staff involved in the audit process and commended them on a job well done. He noted Resolution R-20-162 on the agenda is to accept the audit report. Mr. Fallon stated that on August 14th, the Borough received an upgrade from Moody's Investors Service on issuer's credit rating to an AA1 from a AA2 rating. The community should be very proud since a AA1 rating is one step below a AAA rating which is the highest rating achievable and very few ratings upgrades have been issued during this pandemic. In the future this will have a substantial savings for the Borough on bond interest costs. Also, on August 25th utilizing the new AA1 credit rating, the Borough issued \$3,320,000 in 2020 in refunding bonds to refund our 2010 bonds. The savings due to the bond refunding was \$560,000 and the interest cost on the 2020 bonds, maturing annually, from 2021 through 2032 was 1.18%. Ms. Buckley commented both the audit report and credit rating was great news.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Vito Perillo

Mayor Perillo echoed Ms. Buckley's comment regarding the audit report and the Moody's credit rating. Mayor Perillo also thanked Mr. Fallon for his professionalism and hard work in attaining the objective of the rating and audit report. He also commended the borough employees for their hard work and dedication to the Borough.

Director of Law- Kevin Starkey

Mr. Starkey provided an update on the Monmouth County Reclamation Center Landfill. The Borough has reached an agreement with the County on a clear protocol to receive an updated monthly report on various activities at the landfill. This report will be posted on the Boroughs website. Mr. Starkey stated that a meeting has been tentatively scheduled for the week of September 21st to discuss the negotiation of the Host Benefit Agreement during which provides financial benefits to the Borough from the County landfill. Ms. Buckley thanked Mr. Starkey and Mr. Fallon for obtaining the monthly report which will be a benefit to our residents and scheduling the Host Benefit Agreement meeting.

Deputy Borough Clerk- Ms. D'Annunzio – No report

Council's Report

Mrs. Clay congratulated Mr. Fallon and staff for the successful audit and the Moody's upgrade. She reported attending the Board of Education meeting and stated their renovations are complete and on time. Ms. Clay recommended driving by Atchison School to view the new exterior. The students will be returning on September 9th using a hybrid model with more information on the Board of Education's website.

Mr. Manginelli – No report

Mr. Nesci reported that the Planning Board meeting for the preliminary final major site plan for JSM application has been moved from August 26th to September 9th. He also stated that he will be meeting with Boy Scout Troop 124 to finish their projects for crossing over from webelos to boy scouts.

Mr. Siebert – No report

Ms. Buckley commented again on the clean audit report and the Moody's rating upgrade is great news. She announced that FMERA will be holding a groundbreaking ceremony on September 12th at 11:00am at Liberty Park for the veterans housing project called Soldier On. Ms. Buckley stated that she attended the Environmental Commission meeting on August 27th, and they discussed building a community composting site. Anyone interested should reach out to Ms. Buckley. She complimented the great job on the Hope Road repaving project and the Recreation and DPW movie night event that was held at the end of August and complimented the department and their staff for putting the event together. What a great benefit for our community.

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION – None

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL CONSIDERATION

Ms. D'Annunzio read Ordinance 2020-1464 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF TINTON FALLS MONMOUTH COUNTY REZONING PROPERTIES KNOWN AS BLOCK 3, LOT 3; BLOCK 5.02, LOT 1.02; BLOCK 5.01, LOT 22.02; BLOCK 6.01, LOT 3; BLOCK 6.02, LOT 6; AND BLOCK 7.01, LOT 18 FROM NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL (NC) ZONE TO RESIDENTIAL (R-4) ZONE.**

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Ms. Buckley introduced Mr. Neff and Mr. Starkey to provide a summary of the Ordinance. Mr. Neff explained the Ordinance were properties at the north end of town near Newman Springs Road. All the properties that front Newman Springs Road are zoned for Neighborhood Commercial (NC) which is appropriate for all the commercial businesses that front this street. Some properties setback on the side streets were also zoned NC and this Ordinance will rezone them to Residential (R-4). This will be a benefit to the homeowners when applying for a permit for minor building changes and so that they will not have to apply for a variance at the Planning Board. A consistency review was done with the Master Plan and the Planner who had input. Planning Board recommended to proceed with the changes. Mr. Starkey stated this Ordinance makes sense for the residential properties stated in the Ordinance.

Council President Buckley explained that they would systematically recognize anyone that has dialed into this remote meeting via phone or via Webex platform to comment on this ordinance.

Mr. Nesci offered a motion to open the Public Hearing on Ordinance 2020-1464, seconded by Mr. Seibert.

ROLL CALL

AYES: All in Favor
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

PUBLIC HEARING OPEN

Lessie Alston, 52 Springdale Avenue – Ms. Alston asked for clarification and wanted to confirm Springdale Avenue will not be commercial and totally residential. Mr. Neff stated affirmatively that all single-family properties on Springdale Avenue would be in the residential zone. Ms. Alston asked if applying for a permit would it be listed as residential. Mr. Neff confirmed any permits would be zoned as residential. Also, Ms. Alston inquired about a corner house near the insurance company, asking if it would be zoned residential? Mr. Neff stated all properties fronting Newman Springs Road would stay zoned commercial.

There being no further comments, Mr. Nesci offered a motion to close the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2020-1464, seconded by Mr. Seibert.

ROLL CALL

AYES: All in Favor
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED

Mr. Nesci offered a motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-1464, seconded by Mr. Seibert.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Mrs. Clay, Mr. Manginelli, Mr. Nesci, Mr. Seibert, Ms. Buckley
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Ms. D’Annunzio read Ordinance 2020-1465 entitled: **ORDINANCE 2020-1465 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF TINTON FALLS MONMOUTH COUNTY REZONING PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 97, LOT 29.02 FROM OPEN SPACE/GOVERNMENT USE (OS/GU) ZONE TO RESIDENTIAL (R-1) ZONE.**

Ms. Buckley introduced Mr. Neff and Mr. Starkey to provide a summary of the Ordinance. Mr. Neff explained there are three properties on Wayside Road near the Mosquito Commission building owned by Monmouth County. Monmouth County only uses two of these properties and would like to change the zone on one property from OS/GU to R1 so they can sell it as a residential property. The Borough reviewed the property lot and believes only one single family home can be built on the property. It would be added tax revenue for the Borough. A consistency review was done with the Master Plan and Planning Board who took no exception to this change nor did Mr. Neff. Mr. Starkey had no additional comments.

Mr. Nesci offered a motion to open the Public Hearing on Ordinance 2020-1465, seconded by Mr. Seibert.

ROLL CALL

AYES: All in Favor
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

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PUBLIC HEARING OPEN

Council President Buckley explained that they would systematically recognize anyone that has dialed into this remote meeting via phone or via Webex platform to comment on this ordinance.

There being no comments, Mr. Nesci offered a motion to close the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2020-1465, seconded by Mr. Seibert.

ROLL CALL

AYES: All in Favor
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED

Ms. Buckley asked if any Councilmembers would like to comment on this Ordinance.

Mr. Seibert asked is Monmouth County moving their aircraft operations out of that facility? Mr. Neff replied he is not aware of any changes.

Mr. Nesci offered a motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-1465, seconded by Mr. Seibert.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Mrs. Clay, Mr. Manginelli, Mr. Nesci, Mr. Seibert, Ms. Buckley
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Mr. Nesci offered a motion to open the Public Discussion, seconded by Mr. Seibert.

ROLL CALL

AYES: All in Favor
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Council President Buckley explained that they would systematically recognize anyone that has dialed into this remote meeting via phone or via Webex platform to comment on any matter of their choice.

Denise Catalano, 11 Alpine Trail – Ms. Catalano commented that Hope Road looks great after the repaving project. She asked when the municipal building may be opened to the public stating that she is asking for her community garden committee who would like to resume their meetings in the municipality’s conference room. Mr. Fallon replied they can work something out for her garden committee. As for opening the building to the public, the Borough will continue to consult, coordinate, and follow all State and County guidelines during this pandemic but no definitive date for opening as this time.

Ellen Goldberg, 90 Glenwood Drive – Ms. Goldberg thanked everyone for doing a good job in our town during the pandemic. Ms. Goldberg wanted to know when Glenwood Drive would be paved? Mr. Neff replied that Glenwood Drive is not included in the current road program schedule. He explained when it would make sense to put Glenwood Drive on the construction list.

There being no further comments from the public, Mr. Nesci offered a motion to close the Public Discussion, seconded by Mr. Siebert.

ROLL CALL

AYES: All in Favor
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

PUBLIC DISCUSSION CLOSED

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MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mr. Seibert mentioned the upcoming 9/11 memorial service at the Tinton Falls Fire Company in the evening and suggested checking their website for more information.

RESOLUTIONS – None

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Nesci offered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Siebert.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Mrs. Clay, Mr. Manginelli, Mr. Nesci, Mr. Siebert, Ms. Buckley

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Ms. Buckley stated she would abstain from R-20-164.

R-20-162 - RESOLUTION - CERTIFICATION TO LOCAL FINANCE BOARD OF REVIEW OF 2019 ANNUAL AUDIT

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 5-4 requires the governing body of every local unit to have made an annual audit of its books, accounts and financial transactions, and

WHEREAS, the Annual Report of Audit for the year 2019 has been filed by a Registered Municipal Accountant with the Municipal Clerk pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A: 5-6, and a copy has been received by each member of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 52:27BB-34 authorizes the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey to prescribe reports pertaining to the local fiscal affairs; and

WHEREAS, the Local Finance Board has promulgated N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5, a regulation requiring that the governing body of each municipality shall, by resolution, certify to the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey that all members of the governing body have reviewed, as a minimum, the sections of the annual audit entitled "Comments and Recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the members of the governing body have personally reviewed, as a minimum, the Annual Report of Audit, and specifically the sections of the Annual Audit entitled "Comments and Recommendations, as evidenced by the group affidavit form of the governing body attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, such resolution of certification shall be adopted by the Governing Body no later than forty-five days after the receipt of the annual audit, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5; and

WHEREAS, all members of the governing body have received and have familiarized themselves with, at least, the minimum requirements of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey, as stated aforesaid and have subscribed to the affidavit, as provided by the Local Finance Board; and

WHEREAS, failure to comply with the regulations of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey may subject the members of the local governing body to the penalty provisions of R.S. 52:27BB-52, to wit:

R.S. 52:27BB-52: A local officer or member of a local governing body who, after a date fixed for compliance, fails or refuses to obey an order of the director (Director of Local Government Services), under the provisions of this Article, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, in addition shall forfeit his office.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Committee of the Borough of Tinton Falls, hereby states that it has complied with N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5 and does hereby submit a certified copy of this resolution and the required affidavit to said Board to show evidence of said compliance.

R-20-163 - RESOLUTION RELEASING MAINTENANCE GUARANTEES FOR ROSE GLEN DEVELOPMENT, BLOCK 120, LOT 37.06

WHEREAS, a request has been made for the release of Maintenance Guarantees for Rose Glen Development, Block 120 Lot 37.06; and

WHEREAS, by letter dated August 20, 2020 (said letter attached and hereby made part of this Resolution), the Borough Engineer (T&M Associates) has certified that all the deficiencies have been resolved and there are no threats to public health and safety and recommends the release of the guarantees for; Rose Glen Development, Block 120 Lot 37.06, and

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Tinton Falls that Maintenance Guarantees and remaining engineering escrow fees associated with this project be released subject to the payment of any and all outstanding engineering and inspection fees.

R-20-164 - RESOLUTION - REFUNDING TAX OVERPAYMENT

WHEREAS, overpayments of 2020 3rd quarter Taxes have been made as a result of duplicate payments for the year 2020 to properties known as:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Amount</u>
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(HEREBY ATTACHED AND MADE PART OF THIS RESOLUTION)

and,

WHEREAS, said duplicate payments have resulted in overpayments of the 2020 taxes by property owners, title companies and mortgage companies in the total amount of \$26,145.09 as certified by the Borough Tax Collector.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Tinton Falls that refunds totaling \$26,145.09 are approved for the attached properties.

I, Carol Hussey, Tax Collector of the Borough of Tinton Falls, hereby certify the total amount of overpayments to be \$26,145.09.

R-20-165 - RESOLUTION - REFUNDING TAX OVERPAYMENT TO BE APPLIED TO 2021 TAXES

WHEREAS, overpayments of the 2020 taxes on the following properties have been made by the owners paying estimated taxes in the year 2019.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Amount</u>
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Borough of Tinton Falls
556 Tinton Avenue
Tinton Falls, NJ 07724

(HEREBY ATTACHED AND MADE
PART OF THIS RESOLUTION)

and,

WHEREAS, said payments have resulted in an overpayments of the 2020 taxes totaling \$501.16 certified by the Borough Tax Collector.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Tinton Falls that a refund in the amount of \$501.16 is hereby approved for the aforementioned property. Said overpayments shall be applied to 2021 taxes.

I, Carol Hussey, Tax Collector of the Borough of Tinton Falls, hereby certify the amount of overpayment to be \$501.16.

R-20-166 - RESOLUTION – APPROVAL OF BILLS – September 1, 2020

WHEREAS, the Borough of Tinton Falls received certain claims against it by way of vouchers received during the period ending September 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has reviewed said claims.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Tinton Falls, County of Monmouth, that the following claims be certified by the Chief Financial Officer for approval and payment.

SUMMARY

GENERAL	3,738,0
SEWER UTILITY	417,9
GENERAL CAPITAL	316,8
SEWER CAPITAL	10,3
GRANT FUND	1,3
TRUST FUNDS	48,7
DOG TRUST FUND	3,0
ESCROW	22,0
ADDITIONS	7,2
TOTAL	4,565,4

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ADJOURNMENT TO WORKSHOP

Mr. Nesci offered a motion to adjourn to workshop, seconded by Mr. Siebert.

ROLL CALL

AYES: All in Favor
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Council President Buckley called the Workshop Meeting to order at 8:12 PM. The meeting was held via remote means using the Webex Meeting Platform under rules established under NJSA 10:4-8(b) which allows meetings to be held digitally during a State of Emergency.

Open Public Meeting Statement: Call To Order – Pursuant to Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Adequate Notice of this Meeting has Been Provided by Posting on the Bulletin Board at Borough Hall, posting on the Borough Website and Facebook Page and by Notification to The Asbury Park Press, The Newark Star Ledger, and The New Coaster at Least 48 Hours Prior to the Meeting.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mrs. Clay, Mr. Manginelli, Mr. Nesci, Mr. Siebert, Ms. Buckley
ABSENT: None
ALSO PRESENT: Doreen D’Annunzio, Deputy Borough Clerk
Kevin Starkey, Director of Law
Vito Perillo, Mayor
Thomas Fallon, Acting Borough Administrator/Director of Finance
Thomas Neff, Borough Engineer
Mark Shaffery, Director of Public Works

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Project options for the Monmouth County Municipal Open Space Grant

Ms. Buckley asked Mr. Neff to present the options for the grant. Mr. Neff listed past projects that the Borough had been successful in acquiring grant funding. He explained the grant process and the deadline for this grant funding is due December 17, 2020. He further explained what is required by the Borough Council by the next meeting on September 15, 2020.

The first option suggested is improvements to the dog park at Liberty Park. He stated this dog park is popular with the residents. It is currently 20,000 sq. ft. and would like to increase square footage to 33,000. With the increased space they can provide a design adding the separation for the different dog sizes. Also adding benches, landscaping and shade trees, dog park amenities, watering fountain, lighting, signage upgrades, entrance improvements, artificial turf, and fencing. These costs would be approximately \$210,000. The maximum grant funding from the County is \$250,000. Mr. Neff expects the grant award to be only \$150,000 to \$200,000. He suggested to apply for grant funds in the amount of \$105,000. This is a matching grant, and the Borough will need to match the remaining costs from the Open Space Fund.

The second option suggested is improvements to the Riverdale Avenue West Park. The current playground needs upgrades. The playground is old, worn out and in a secluded spot. They would move and upgrade the playground out into the open between the two soccer fields and basketball court. This would be a more family friendly layout. Mr. Neff stated there would also be improvements for ADA walkways and paving to expand the parking lot adding 36 more parking spaces. The cost for the upgrades would be approximately \$290,000. He suggested to apply for grant funds in the amount of \$145,000 with the remaining cost matched by the Open Space Fund. He mentioned this was a project the Borough was already considering under a previous Ordinance for several park improvements. In his opinion, he feels the dog park improvements would get the attention of the County and be the more successful grant application. The County likes to see different projects not just replacement of old to new structures.

Ms. Buckley asked Mr. Neff if he had a sense if the dog park improvements would be of greater benefit to more of the residents than the Riverdale playground upgrades or visa versa. Mr. Neff stated he had gotten more questions for upgrades to the dog park over the years than the Riverdale playground. Mr. Manginelli stated that he felt the dog park will service a greater number of residents than the playground project. Mr. Nesci questioned the costs of the two projects and asked if there were enough funds in the Open Space Fund to accomplish both projects. Mr. Fallon explained that there was previously approved park funding established by ordinance and the park improvements to Riverdale West are included in that funding. There is a lot of flexibility in the ordinance regarding funding. Mr.

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Nesci stated that he was in favor of the dog park project. Mrs. Clay opinion was the dog park project was more attractive a project to receive the County funding. Mr. Seibert stated he was aware of the usage of both the dog park and Riverdale Avenue West park which he frequents with his family. He is in favor of the dog park expansion project which would be the more advantageous project to receive County funding. Mr. Fallon asked Mr. Neff if the grant total for Liberty Park can be increased by adding more of the planned improvements such as resurfacing the playground. Mr. Neff would check for the cost of the additional improvements which would bring the project total to \$300,000 and the matching funds to \$150,000. Mr. Seibert asked Mr. Neff if there is currently irrigation in the dog park. He explained a resident inquired about this to help reduce the smell. Mr. Shaffery stated there is no irrigation in the park and that he also receives many requests from residents concerning different things at the dog park adding to the use frequency and popularity of the park. Mr. Fallon questioned Mr. Shaffery about park maintenance which he replied installing the artificial turf would cut out the need for mowing the park once a week. Mr. Manginelli asked if there were rules and regulations posted at the dog park. Mr. Neff stated there are rules to follow but the signage is faded and would be part of the upgrade in this project.

Ms. Buckley commented that the dog park project seems to have won unanimous consensus. Mr. Neff will move forward with the grant application details for further discussion at the next Council meeting.

2. Renewable Government Energy Aggregation "RGEA"

Ms. Buckley introduced Joe Grillo, Sustainable Jersey program to explain RGEA. Ms. Buckley stated the Council has been forwarded and reviewed all materials regarding an RGEA and would like to open up a discussion on whether or not Tinton Falls should pursue an RGEA. Ms. Buckley explained that RGEA is to increase your billing percentage of renewable energy sources as opposed to traditional sources. JCP&L is the energy service provider for our residents and the Sustainable Jersey program staff will work with municipalities to achieve renewable energy savings benefits for their residents. Ms. Buckley stated that the benefit potential for cost savings is when several municipalities combine to bid out and indicate in their bid specs what percentage of renewable energy they want to achieve which gives the municipalities greater buying power and potentially lower bided rates. She explained she had talked to other municipalities who have already participated in the program but they were in PSE&G areas and this utility company is known to have higher rates, but they do see a savings with this program. No confirmation on the amount of financial savings per household but there were no cost increases due to the language in their contract.

Ms. Buckley stated that presently Red Bank municipality is the lead agent in this program. She explained if the cost savings target is 3% and that is not achieved when you bid on the rate you do not have to go ahead with the bid and can wait until rates are more favorable. Entering this program just for minimal cost savings would not warrant joining. Red Bank is working with several other Monmouth County municipalities who have joined them or are considering joining. They realized the larger the group the more buying power there is to achieve higher cost savings. The participation deadline is the end of September since they would also have to contract an energy consultant who would manage the bidding process.

Ms. Buckley explained that if there was consensus to join the program an Ordinance to state we will join the RGEA and a Resolution to establish Red Bank Borough as the lead agent would need to be adopted. Ms. Buckley wanted to know if we joined what impact on our professionals or staff would this process present. If you are not the lead agent, the impact is minimal. The lead agent does all the paperwork, and the consultant runs the bidding process and provides services of education such as a town hall meeting for each town, so residents understand their options to participate or opt-out.

Mr. Grillo explained all the towns who have committed to participate, and the more towns joining the better potential cost savings. Mr. Seibert asked what towns have already passed resolutions to participate. Mr. Grillo listed four towns with a possible fifth. Mr. Manginelli asked the objective of this other than possible cost savings benefit which would be his priority. Ms. Buckley responded that the benefit would be clean energy and explained the different options when the Borough could enter into this program. She stated that the Borough can wait and see what benefits are produced for the towns that participate in this program. Mr. Fallon added the option that the Borough can join after the bids are received but they may not receive as good a bid if other towns are not included prior. Mr. Grillo stated this program is a way for individual residents to add to their renewable energy savings without a cost to them. He cited an example for Southern Essex County where several townships participated in renewable resources and in their first year, they saw on average \$100 less per household per year. Mr. Seibert asked what is the difference between an RGEA and GEA and does Sustainable NJ track the cost savings difference between them? Mr. Grillo stated that the only difference is that RGEA contains the renewable component to it. GEA is also known as community choice whereby local governments choose the percentage of fossil fuel or natural gas utilized and there are many of those in the state. Sustainable NJ does not track GEA since they are a non-profit best practices organization and certify towns that do sustainability actions. Mr. Seibert asked if there are already third-party suppliers who provide renewable energy as part of their source of production. Mr. Grillo replied they do exist for the individual resident to sign up for their services. Mr. Manginelli commented that if GEA's can also provide cost savings for a town he would be interested in that option. Mrs. Clay commented that sustained renewable energy is important but wanted more time to educate the residents especially with the opt-out option. Mr. Grillo added the opt out option has been made extremely easy for individual residents to access and residents who participate will see no change or disruption in their home service. Mr. Seibert asked how it would work for residents who already are under contract with third party suppliers and does Sustainable NJ advocate for suppliers who have renewable energy in their supply. Mr. Grillo stated they would not be part of the RGEA, and they do not advocate for any product or service. Mr. Grillo and

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councilmembers further discussed the different renewable and other energy sources and the various ways they can benefit the public.

Denise Catalano, 11 Alpine Trail – Ms. Catalano asked will the cost savings decrease over time due to falling rates? Ms. Buckley explained the town’s cost savings is tied to the bid and whatever terms are in their contract. Ms. Catalano was concerned about renewables not being able to supply a consistent energy source to customers and cited rolling blackouts in California.

Ms. Buckley commented that it seems the general consensus of the Council is to wait and see what other towns experience participating in this program and Tinton Falls, at this time, will not participate in this first round. Also, there is not enough time to educate the residents on the program. Council thanked Mr. Grillo for his participation.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Nesci offered a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Seibert.

ROLL CALL

AYES: All in Favor

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

TIME: 9:22 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa A. Hesler, Borough Clerk

APPROVED AT A MEETING HELD ON: