

Mayor and Council Newsletter

Borough of Island Heights
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Official Council Meeting Minutes

June 23, 2020

Mayor Doyle opened the meeting with the following public statement:

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Island Heights is hereby called to order. Notice of this meeting was issued in accordance with the OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT P.L. 1975, Chapter 231 (Section 10:4-10). Notice of this meeting was advertised in the Asbury Park Press on December 16, 2019 and May 22, 2020, and was also posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and Borough website.

Mayor Doyle led those in attendance with a Pledge to the Flag of the United States of America

The Borough Clerk proceeded with Roll Call of Mayor and Council
Present:

Mayor Doyle
Council Member Baxter
Council Member Gabriel
Council Member Pendleton

Council President Ms. Thompson
Council Member Weber
Borough Counsel – Mr. Steiber
Deputy Clerk Sean Asay

Absent: Council Member Wudzki

OATH OF OFFICE

Mayor Doyle provided the Oath of Office to Sgt. Paul Rutledge

A short recess was granted for pictures with family and friends of Sgt. Rutledge.

BUDGET

Budget Hearing

Mayor Doyle provided summary points on the proposed budget, stating the Borough took debt that had accumulated over approximately fifteen years and bonded the debt at good interest rate with a set payoff schedule. The Borough is now budgeting capital projects on a pay-as-you-go basis. There is a slight increase in revenue of \$14,000 year over year, due to new properties coming on the property tax rolls in town. However, the Mayor anticipates that property tax revenue may be strained later in the year due to COVID-19. The rent paid by the Postal Service

has increased. The Borough is bringing the Construction Office back to Island Heights as of July 1st. On the expense side, there is a slight increase in solid waste pickup costs. There are now no full-time employees in the Borough Administrative Offices at a savings of \$30,000; DPW has no full-time vacancies; some seasonal part time employees have been added. The Borough has a multi-year Fire Protection Agreement with the Island Heights Fire Company that allows them to receive up to a \$75,000 donation from the Borough based on established performance measures, significantly less than other Municipalities that have a dedicated Fire District Tax. The Borough has a similar arrangement with our First Aid Squad.

The capital portion of the budget totals \$160,000 including funds for a yard debris recovery system, a police vehicle, renovations at Borough Hall, a new gazebo at the Wanamaker Complex which previously exploded due to a lighting storm, a water fountain at Memorial Field, and a horse-shoe pit. Our water and sewer rates remain flat. A Holly and Lake water main extension is our only planned water main project this year. Improvements to our waste water lift stations will continue this year. Road restoration and paving with funding from the Department of Transportation will be taking place on East End Avenue, Garden Avenue, Lake Avenue and West End Avenue. The County will be paving River Avenue from Ocean Avenue going east to the Pavilion and West End Avenue from Triangle Park to the Highway 37.

Seeing no further questions or comments:

Motion to Close Budget Hearing: Weber, Seconded by Gabriel and Council consent.

Mayor Doyle asked the Borough Clerk to explain the Budget Amendment.

Resolution 2020-102 Approving the Amendment to the 2020 Introduced Budget

Motion: Weber

Second: Pendleton

Discussion/Comments: The Borough Clerk stated this amendment is for Water-Sewer - Moving the \$5,000 from Capital Surplus to Operating Surplus

Roll Call: Adoption of the Budget Amendment – Resolution 2020-102

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAY S	ABSTENTIONS	ABSENT
		Baxter	x			
	x	Gabriel	x			
		Pendleton	x			
x		CP Thompson	x			
		Weber	x			
		Wudzki				x

		Mayor Doyle	x			
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Roll Call: Adoption of the 2020 Budget as Amended

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAY S	ABSTAIN/N V	ABSENT
		Baxter	x			
	x	Gabriel	x			
		Pendleton	x			
x		CP Thompson	x			
		Weber	x			
		Wudzki				x
		Mayor Doyle	x			

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

Approval of the Minutes for the Meeting Conducted on June 9, 2020

Motion: Weber
 Second: Gabriel
 Discussion/Comments: none

Unanimous Voice Vote

RESOLUTION (Consent Agenda)

Resolution 2020-99 Resolution Appointing Sean Asay the Acting Borough Clerk for the Borough of Island Heights for a Period of One Year Effective on July 1, 2020, Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:9-133 (c)

Motion: Gabriel
 Second: Pendleton
 Discussion/Comments: none

Resolution 2020-100 Resolution authorizing the Mayor and the Clerk to enter into an employment agreement between the Borough and Jonathan Brodbeck as Director of Public Works

Motion: Gabriel
 Second: Thompson
 Discussion/Comments: none

Resolution 2020-103

Authorizing and Approving the proposal submitted by the Borough Engineer for services related to Lake Drive and Holly Avenue Water Main Extension In an Amount Not To Exceed \$30,650

Motion: Gabriel
Second: Thompson

Discussion/Comments: The Mayor stated that this is in the area of the Cozy Cove Marina. This is funded by a water-sewer capital ordinance adopted in 2019

Resolution 2020-104

Recognizing and Commending the Efforts of Joseph Kostecki in Serving as the Borough Clerk and Expressing Appreciation from the Governing Body For His Continued Work as the Qualified Purchasing Agent for the Borough of Island Heights

Motion: Thompson
Second: Baxter

Discussion/Comments: Mayor stated that Joe has been a shared service for the Borough. He had a bifurcated life. We are grateful for your advice and counsel. We thank you.

Seeing no questions or comments on the Consent Agenda:

Motion to accept and adopt the entire Consent Agenda: Thompson
Second: Gabriel

Unanimous Voice Vote

BILL LIST

Resolution 2020-101

Approving the Bill List

Motion: Weber
Second: Thompson
Mayor/Council Discussion/Comments: none

Unanimous Voice Vote

DISCUSSION & PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Seeing no questions or comments from the public, Mayor Doyle requested a motion to close Privilege of the Floor

Motion to Close: Gabriel
Second: Baxter

Unanimous Voice Vote

GOVERNING BODY REPORTS

WEBER: The police have been providing bike patrols and they will continue through the summer. The bike patrols provide for more interactions on the boardwalk and other public areas. Welcome and congratulations to our new police officer Kyle Seahausen. A special thank you to all those who assisted with the Parade of Excellence.

THOMPSON: Congratulations to Sgt. Rutledge, and thank you to Jon Brodbeck for his leadership and work with Public Works. She provided additional congratulations to Sean Asay on his new appointment as Clerk, and thank you to outgoing Clerk Joseph Kostecki.

The regulation of short-term rentals continues to be priority for the Quality of Life Task Force. A proposed ordinance has been drafted to be reviewed by our Borough Attorney and once prepared it will be reviewed by our Planning Board.

NJ.COM listed Island Heights as one of the top 20 most tranquil places in New Jersey. Thank you to all of our teachers for their work over the last few months. And on behalf of Council Member Wudzki, she thanked the Police, EMS and Fire Company for their excellent job coordinating the Parade of Excellence.

PENDLETON: As part of the street sign painting project, the Borough and volunteers will be painting 33 signs, with new white paint and stencils. This will cover all the signs from Central Avenue to the west side of town. That leaves 50 signposts on the other side of town; she has identified those which need to be painted (36). She asked that the Governing Body pick places where they would like to assist.

BAXTER: The Construction office will return to Island Heights on July 1st. There will be a training session for our staff to learn the new software on June 26th. There are several homes (4) under construction, and we hope to have them on the tax rolls this year. We are way ahead of last year on the sale of Recreation Badges having sold more than 600 to date.

He said that it seems that at least one writer from The Star Ledger really likes Island Heights, and specifically the boardwalk. Municipal Court revenue is down this year due to the Court being closed or meeting virtually. However, I anticipate it will pick back up as offices are starting to open again.

GABRIEL: Thank you to Council for approving Jon Brodbeck's contract. DPW is busy with normal day to day work. Jon is monitoring the Lake Ave projects, and we hope to see paving shortly. We have an issue on the Boardwalk, at the bend. There is a separation of the boardwalk from the bulkhead. Our Engineer and the County are investigating to see if this is related to recent construction in the area and we expect a report soon.

Mayor Doyle opened the floor for Mr. Kostecki to say a few words

I really appreciate serving the Mayor, and several Mayors and Council Members during this time. It has been a short five years, and an absolute honor to work with everybody, and assist the

Borough in any shape and fashion I can. I'm right down the river, and able to answer questions you need in the future. I wish everyone the best luck and health. Thank you.

Mayor thanked everyone for attending in person. It's great to see people here after several Zoom meetings.

Motion to adjourn: Gabriel

Second: Thompson

Unanimous Voice Vote

ADJOURNMENT @ 7:40pm

Respectfully submitted

Borough Clerk

Mayor Doyle

PLEASE CALL TO CONFIRM MEETINGS

Items of Interest:

- ❑ The **Island Heights Mayor and Council** regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.
- ❑ The **Central Regional Board of Education** regularly scheduled meeting is Thursday, July 16, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the Board of Education building, Forest Hills Parkway, Bayville.
- ❑ The **Central Regional Board of Education** regularly scheduled meeting is Thursday, August 20, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the Board of Education building, Forest Hills Parkway, Bayville.
- ❑ The **Island Heights Mayor and Council** regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, September 1, 2020 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.
- ❑ The **Central Regional Board of Education** regularly scheduled meeting is Thursday, September 9, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the Board of Education building, Forest Hills Parkway, Bayville.
- ❑ The **Island Heights Mayor and Council** regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.
- ❑ The **Island Heights Environmental Committee** regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, September 16, 2020 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.
- ❑ The **Central Regional Board of Education** regularly scheduled meeting is Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the Board of Education building, Forest Hills Parkway, Bayville.

AT THIS TIME PLEASE CALL TO CONFIRM OFFICE HOURS.

The **Municipal Clerk's Office, Tax Collector & Water/Sewer Office**, are open Monday – Friday 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM and Monday evening 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM; Fire Official and Municipal Court are open Monday evening 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM. The Tax Assessor is available by appointment only. Please call the borough hall at (732) 270-6415 for days and times of offices not listed above.

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April D. Elley, Newsletter Editor (732) 270-6415