

**TOWN OF BRUNSWICK
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
JULY 11, 2019, 7:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL**

Board Members Present: Supervisor Herrington, Councilman Christian, Councilman Sullivan, and Councilman Casale.

Board Members Absent: Councilman Balistreri.

Also Present: Town Clerk, William J. Lewis.

Supervisor Herrington called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.
All joined in with the salute to the flag.

VISITORS WHO WISH TO SPEAK:

Terry Matthews, 43 East Road, addressed the Town Board concerning two long vacant properties in the Brunswick Hills neighborhood at 17 East Road and 8 West Road. He noted that the 17 East Road property had been mowed last year but not at all this year, and the grass is 3 feet tall. As well as being unsightly this could lead to rodent and wildlife problems. He believes the mortgage was sold to another lender that is ignoring it. Also the property had been going through foreclosure proceedings which for some reason still haven't been completed. The 6 West Road property had been bought at auction. However, the new owner had started to gut the building and was issued a stop work order for illegally removing asbestos. Since then it has been completely neglected, the grass and shrubs overgrown. He asked since the Town has adopted a new law regarding vacant properties, why hasn't anything been done? Supervisor Herrington advised Mr. Matthews that the vacant building and property maintenance law had just been adopted and that administrative procedures were being worked out. He then asked Mr. Andrew Gilchrist, Planning and Zoning Board attorney, to explain how the new Town law related to banks. Mr. Gilchrist advised that the State has exclusive authority to regulate lenders. The new Town Law applies to the owner of record. Until a foreclosure is completed the bank is still the lender, not the owner, therefore cannot be regulated by Town Law. He also noted that the new law does allow the Town to notice the owner to maintain the property and, if ignored, can perform or sub contract the work at the expense of the owner.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

Councilman Sullivan made a motion to accept the Minutes of the previous meetings, seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved.

REPORTS:

Town Clerk: William J. Lewis

Mr. Lewis gave his report for the month of June. \$39,775.86 will be remitted to the Supervisor's office. Recycling fees accounted for \$4,523.00, Community Center rental fees (five) for \$750.00, Pavilion rental fees (three) for \$300.00, Dog Licensing fees \$418.00, Summer Camp registration fees \$33,275.00 and \$509.00 in miscellaneous fees making up the balance. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Casale. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Highway Superintendent: Brandon Hill

Mr. Hill was not able to attend the meeting. A written report has been submitted and is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Water & Sewer Report: Bill Bradley

Mr. Bradley gave his report for the month of June. Monthly water sampling was completed. Other work included: Completed Meter readings; Continued rechecking and repairing meters; Reviewed development projects with the Town Board and Planning Board; Completed drainage project in front of Highway Garage, working with the Town and County Highway Departments, to alleviate runoff to the Howard property across Town office Rd.; Monitored active building projects for storm water compliance; Investigated sewage discharge on Westbrook Street and referred to the County Health Department; In the process of determining where all the foreign materials are originating from that are clogging the sewer pump stations on McChesney Ave. and NY 7. He will be installing debris traps that should determine which input line is the major source. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Casale and seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Code Enforcement: Charles Golden

Mr. Golden gave his report for the month of June. The report showed \$7,542.99 was collected for Building Permit and Zoning Variance/Planning Board Fees. 27 building permits were issued or renewed, 82 building inspections were performed and active permits totaled 273. The department had 1 code call out, 14 code complaints, 13 code complaint inspections and 1 fire inspection. An additional 10 follow up inspections were completed. There are 9 Planning Board projects open or approved and 6 with the Zoning Board. 22 vacant/abandoned properties have been identified with the Assessment Department. The time for Building permit reviews/approvals has been cut down to about one week. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Town Attorney: Thomas Cioffi

Mr. Cioffi was not able to attend the meeting. A report is not available.

Town Historian: Sharon Zankel

Mrs. Zankel gave her report for the month of June. She devoted at least 16 hours reviewing a second draft of the historic exhibit to be displayed at the new Center Brunswick Stewart's Shop, forwarding suggestions, corrections and revisions to them on June 25th. She assisted with one family history inquiry. A Founder's Day fundraiser will be held at Eastfield Village in the Town of Nassau, on September 21st. The event at this village of reconstructed 18th and early 19th Century buildings will include food, entertainment and artisan demonstrations. Motion to accept the report was made by Supervisor Herrington and seconded by Councilman Casale. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Recycling Coordinator: Thomas Engster

Mr. Engster gave his report for the month of June. Revenues for the month were \$4,484.00 and expenses were \$5,993.00. 24.73 tons of materials were recycled and 21.38 tons landfilled for the month. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Library Report: Sara Hopkins

Ms. Hopkins gave her report for the month of June. For the month there were 3819 circulated items, 1036 digital circulations and the customer count was 2816. They processed 6 passports for earnings of \$210.00. The computers logged 151 sessions. There were 718 participants in children's events, including the Summer Reading Party and Homeschool Fair, and 288 participants in adult events. On Saturday, July 11th, they will be holding a Civil War living history event, including cannon fire, starting at noon. Program schedules (new and continuing), special events and news items are available at www.brunswicklibrary.org. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Casale and seconded by Supervisor Herrington. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 59 Resolution Approving Extension of Time for Land Transfer in Connection with Brunswick Plaza Planned Development District. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Casale, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Christian, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Casale, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Absent; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Resolution No. 60 Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an "Agreement / Memorandum of Understanding" with the City of Troy Regarding the Brunswick Meadows Condominium Community Property. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Sullivan, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Christian, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Casale, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Absent; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

LOCAL LAW:

Introductory Local Law No. 4 A motion to adopt Introductory Local Law No. 4 of the year 2019 as Local Law No. 2 for the year 2019 entitled "A Local Law to Amend Chapter 139 of the Code of the Town of Brunswick in Relation to the Alternative Tax Exemption for Veterans" was made by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved. The Town Clerk will complete and certify the document and forward to the Department of State for filing.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Supervisor Herrington noted that he has been in contact with Planet Fitness to urge them to maintain their landscaping, especially the overgrowth of weeds in the plantings.

WARRANTS:

Warrants No. 190642 through 190769, No. 62819001 through 62819009, and No. 71219001 through 71219006 were presented. Councilman Christian made a motion to approve the warrants, seconded by Councilman Casale. Unanimously approved.

Individual fund expenses were as follows:

General	\$	128,702.61
Highway	\$	62,585.02
Water	\$	19,408.06
Sewer	\$	356.74
Special Sewer District	\$	438.50

FURTHER COMMENTS FROM VISITORS:

Jim Tkacik, 387 Brunswick Road, asked if something could be done about the advertising signs for the Brunswick Meadows Condominiums posted all along Oakwood Avenue. Were they necessary at this point for the developer and were they even in compliance with Brunswick zoning laws? Most everyone agreed they were an eyesore and Mr. Golden, Code Enforcement, will address this matter.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Christian made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Casale. Unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Lewis
Town Clerk