

MINUTES: May 9th, 2022

START: 6:05 P.M.

PRESENT: MAYOR NICOL, COUNCILMEN GARRUZZO, GIANFORTE, GORHAM, NOLAN, SHAAK & VISCEGLIA, ATTORNEY MONTENEGRO & ADMINISTRATOR NOLAN.

ABSENT: NONE

Mayor Nicol announced that this meeting was being held virtually in compliance with Executive Order No. 103 and was being recorded.

There being no need for a work session, Mayor Nicol then read the compliance statement and the Regular Council Meeting was opened, after a pledge of allegiance to our flag. Mayor Nicol asked for a roll call.

Mayor Nicol then asked for a motion to approve the Minutes of the April 25th, 2022 meeting. A motion was made by Councilman Gianforte seconded by Councilman Visceglia, all ayes, no nays. (Councilman Garruzzo abstained)

Councilman Garruzzo seconded by Councilman Nolan, introduced Resolution 22-54 for passage of the Consent Agenda.

Resolution:

- A. To approve a Special Event Permit for the Brielle Library and to waive the fee.
Re: Strawberry Festival May 25th, 2022 (Rain Dates June 1st or June 8th, 2022)

Vote: Council Members Garruzzo, Gianforte, Nolan, Shaak & Visceglia; all ayes. No nays. Passed.

Councilman Visceglia seconded by Councilman Shaak introduced Resolution 22-55 For Payment of Bills Be It Resolved that the following bills be paid, and that the Mayor or President of Council be authorized to draw orders on the Chief Finance Officer for payment of the bills of May 9th, 2022, as reviewed by the Finance Committee and as listed on the Resolution and the Computer Bill List amended thereto. Vote: Councilmen Garruzzo, Gianforte, Nolan, Shaak & Visceglia; all ayes. No nays. Passed.

Mayor Nicol then announced that the time had arrived for a hearing and further consideration of "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER SIXTEEN OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BRIELLE ENTITLED "STREETS AND SANITATION".

The hearing was opened on a motion by Councilman Gianforte, seconded by Shaak.

The Administrator explained that the ordinance would codify regulations establishing the date and time for the separate collection of brush and leaves throughout the year. The ordinance also established the size of piles of these materials and regulates where they can be placed.

There being no comment from the public or members of council, the hearing was closed on a motion by Councilman Gianforte seconded by Councilman Shaak.

Councilman Shaak seconded by Councilman Gianforte introduced Resolution 22-56 for passage on final reading of the foregoing ordinance. Vote: Councilmen Garruzzo, Gianforte, Nolan, Shaak & Visceglia; all ayes. No nays. Passed.

Councilman Shaak seconded by Councilman Visceglia introduced Resolution 22-57 to authorize publication in the Coast Star in accordance with law. Vote: Councilmen Garruzzo, Gianforte, Nolan, Shaak & Visceglia; all ayes. No nays. Passed.

Mayor Nicol then announced that the time had arrived for a hearing and further consideration of “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER FOUR OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BRIELLE ENTITLED “GENERAL LICENSING”.

The hearing was opened on a motion by Councilman Garruzzo seconded by Councilman Nolan.

The Administrator explained that Brielle would now license landscapers who conduct business in the Borough. The ordinance primary intent is to ensure that landscapers abide by the same rules regulating leaf and brush disposal as the residents are required to do. The license fee covers the estimated cost of implementation.

The hearing was closed on a motion by Councilman Gianforte seconded by Councilman Shaak.

Councilman Shaak seconded by Councilman Visceglia introduced Resolution 22-58 for passage on final reading of the foregoing ordinance. Vote: Councilman Garruzzo, Gianforte, Nolan, Shaak & Visceglia; all ayes. No nays. Passed.

Councilman Shaak seconded by Councilman Nolan introduced Resolution 22-59 to authorize publication in the Coast Star according to law. Vote: Councilman Garruzzo, Gianforte, Nolan, Shaak & Visceglia; all aye, no nays. Passed.

The Mayor called for committee reports and recognized Councilman Gianforte who had no report.

Councilman Nolan reminded the assembly that the annual North vs. South competition would be held on June 6th from 9:00am to 4:00pm. Four hundred residents have registered. On May 14th, the first Corn Hole Tournament will be held.

Turning to the Library, Councilman Nolan reported the following activities, May 12th Family Crafts, May 19th Cook Book Club, May 24th Medicare Seminar, May 26th, Paint & Sip. On May 24th Eyes of the Wild will be held at 4:00pm. This program, along with Cook Book Club require pre-registration.

Councilman Garruzzo advised the public that data indicates that car thefts in New Jersey are at an old time high with car theft reports increasing 37% over this time last year. In 2021, there were 14,320 reports of stolen cars a 22% increase over 2020. The Police and Governing Body are again calling for citizens to do their part in reducing this statistic by making sure to lock their car doors and not to store key fobs inside the vehicle. Attorney General Matt Platkin stated that this practice contributes to car thefts noting “It turns out if you have a new vehicle your car is hard to steal, unless you leave the key fob in it, then it is remarkably easy to steal”. New Jersey officials are addressing this problem by expending ten million dollars for license plate recognition technology.

Brielle is taking a pro-active approach and in 2020 the Police Department mounted six permanent Automated License Plate Readers at strategic locations throughout the borough, with plans for expansion in the near future. The data collected by the cameras is instantly shared with other law enforcement agencies that utilize the same platform. In many cases, this technology leads to the tracking and ultimately the recovery of the vehicle.

Councilman Shaak pointed out that NJ Transit had mobilized on the Green Avenue site and work on the railroad crossing would begin on May 12th and continue through May 26th. The work would be completed before Memorial Day weekend. Councilman Shaak also advised the public that the scheduled work on the Green Avenue Railroad Crossing would not begin on May 19th as originally planned, weather permitting.

Councilman Visceglia and Councilman Gorham having no reports, the meeting was opened to the public.

The Administrator having already noted that no public comments on the agenda items had been received either by mail or e-mail

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15pm on a motion by Councilman Shaak seconded by Councilman Garruzzo.

Approved: May 23rd, 2022

Carol Baran
Municipal Clerk