

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL**  
**Workshop Meeting**  
**August 23, 2016**

A workshop meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bradley Beach was held in the meeting room on the above date.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Gary Englestad opened the meeting with a salute to the flag.

Sunshine Law

The meeting has been noticed publicly according to the Open Public Meetings Act requirement for the “Annual Notice”, and posted on the official bulletin board.

**ROLL CALL 6:30 pm**

Present: Council: Cotler, Goldfarb, Galassetti  
Mayor Engelstad  
Business Administrator Joyce Wilkins  
Borough Attorney Michael DuPont  
Acting Municipal Clerk Kelly Barrett

**Discussion Items:**

**Lobster Fest**

Mayor Engelstad announced that he had taken the Lobster Fest item off the agenda. The cost incurred by the Borough came in higher than the deposit, therefore, if the Chamber of Commerce requests authorization for the Lobster Fest in the future the deposit amount will be doubled.

**Government Energy Aggregation**

Presentation of Government Energy Aggregation by Commercial Utility Consultants: The Government Energy Aggregation Program authorizes municipalities in New Jersey to establish Government Energy Aggregation (GEA) programs after passing an ordinance. The GEA program allows municipalities to aggregate the energy requirements of residential and municipal accounts so that the GEA program can purchase energy supply from non-utility seller of electricity (third party suppliers) at prices lower than the average utility price.

Community Energy Aggregation is a program that allows the municipality to negotiate a “bulk purchase” of energy supply on behalf of its residents and local businesses at prices lower than the utility price. New Jersey regulation allow municipalities to take this approach to procure savings on behalf of the community. There is no cost to a participating municipality to implement the program aimed to save the municipality and its resident’s money, the program does not offer an opt-out provision if the municipality enrolls in the program then all resident are automatically enrolled. However if a resident wishes to opt-out they contact the company directly and are unenrolled immediately at no cost to the municipality or resident.

Once the interested municipality adopts an ordinance, it is sent to BPU and Rate Counsel for submission, we participate in energy auctions and select the winning bidder (this program only works if we get a lower rate than JCP&L). The monthly bill will continue to come from JCP&L and it will look the same as past bills, however, an additional line will be added on the bill to identify the amount due from the third party supplier and what the amount JCP&L would bill. If the JCP&L amount is lower than the third party bill, we go back to the supplier and request a lower rate. If it is not lowered, you return back to JCP&L at no charge or penalty.

Councilman Cotler questioned the presenter, “How does third party supplier effect solar customers”, “How does the Consulting Company get paid” and “How is the borough benefitting”, “Would the consulting company be donating to Bradley Beach Fire or First Aid”? The presenter responded that the program does not currently work with solar power energy, as they get paid by the supplier and state statute prohibits the borough from making money from the program.

Mr. DuPont commented that he is the attorney for the Borough of Sayreville and they are enrolled in the GEA program and the only down side thus far is that there has been a lack of education to the residents regarding how the program works. It was his understanding that the residents receive a 4-8% savings.

Residents had comments/concerns regarding, Mr. DuPont’s involvement in the company, if a feasibility study will be done, and if the borough enrolls in the program will JCP&L continue to treat the residents as a customers.

Mr. DuPont stated that he had no involvement in the company. The presenter stated that a feasibility study was not necessary and JCP&L would continue to treat the customer as they had in the past.

Mayor Engelstad questioned if the company has the ability to take someone’s bill and determine the savings to them. Presenter stated, “yes they can be advised of the savings”. Mayor Engelstad continued by stating that he would like to see a track record of towns over the last five (5) years. Presenter responded that the program is new so they could supply a record over the last two (2) years.

Mayor Engelstad added a discussion item to the agenda: “Beach Security “

He requested Randy Bonnell to come forward and present to Council and the public his suggestion regarding beach safety. Mr. Bonnell presented to the Mayor and Council a proposal of a “Beach Ambassador”. In light of the most recent events, the drowning of a young man while swimming after hours in unprotected waters. Mr. Bonnell suggested developing a “Beach Ambassador”, (which he has seen on mountains for skiers) with volunteers at the beach providing information regarding beach safety. The volunteer would not be policing the beach and certainly not be confrontational as they would be there for general information and promote conversation regarding beach safety. The volunteers would wear specific clothing identifying them as an “Ambassador”. He stated that the Police Department and Lifeguards cannot protect everyone and with the temperatures in July and August 95-100 degrees the ambassador would assist on the beach to offer guidance and create public awareness. Mr. DuPont stated that kind of exposure was a good idea but be cautious and contact the Joint Insurance Fund to determine if

the Ambassador would fall under the borough's coverage. Dr. Cotler stated that 90% of drownings occur after hours after the lifeguards go home. He stated that the only information given out at the beach should be "never swim in unprotected waters"

Julie Nutaitis Newark Avenue, suggested that the borough have later shifts for lifeguards during the very hot weather. Dr. Cotler responded that we are unable to police the beach 100% of the time.

TJ Coan suggested raising beach fees to offset the cost of extended hours for the lifeguards.

**Quality of Life (Ordinance 2016-35)**

ON MOTION by Engelstad/ Galassetti moved to change language under "24-17 Meetings" to hold up to 12 meetings annually at the discretion of the committee and introduce the ordinance at the regular meeting.

ROLL CALL AYES: Cotler, Goldfrab, Galassetti, Engelstad  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Volante

Councilman Cotler requested that we review the newly adopted ordinance from Loch Arbor regarding drones. He stated that drones have caused some privacy issues and could possibly inhibit the protection for the public. Bill Psuik, joint-subcommittee stated that the committee had discussed an ordinance limiting drones. Mayor Engelstad responded that the FAA just passed legislation, we should take a look at that because that will supersede local jurisdiction. He requested that Joyce get a copy of the Loch Arbor ordinance.

No Public Comment

**ON MOTION by Engelstad/ Galassetti moved to adjourn**

**ADJOURN 7:32 pm**

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KELLY BARRETT  
Acting Clerk