

**BOROUGH OF BRADLEY BEACH  
COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 21, 2025 AT 6:30 P.M.**

**A Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bradley Beach was held in the Meeting Room, 701 Main Street, Bradley Beach, New Jersey on the above date and time.**

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, PUBLIC MEETINGS MAY BE HELD IN PERSON OR BY MEANS OF COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT TO INCLUDE STREAMING SERVICES AND OTHER ONLINE MEETING PLATFORMS (N.J.S.A. 10:4-8b).**

**THIS MEETING WAS HELD IN-PERSON AND THROUGH THE ZOOM MEETING PLATFORM, BROADCAST FROM BOROUGH HALL, 701 MAIN STREET, BRADLEY BEACH, NJ 07720. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR THIS COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING OF JANUARY 21, 2025 WAS AVAILABLE IN PERSON OR THROUGH THE ZOOM LINK POSTED TO THE WEBSITE. THE COUNCIL MEETINGS (RESOLUTION 2024-210 ADOPTED DECEMBER 11, 2024) FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2025 WAS ADVERTISED IN THE NEW COASTER, THE COAST STAR, AND THE ASBURY PARK PRESS ON DECEMBER 14, 2023.**

**WITH ADEQUATE NOTICE HAVING BEEN GIVEN, THE MUNICIPAL CLERK IS DIRECTED TO INCLUDE THIS STATEMENT IN THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Mayor Gubitosi opened the meeting with a salute to the flag.**

**Sunshine Law was read.**

**ROLL CALL AT 6:30 P.M.**

**Present at the January 21, 2025 Council Business Meeting:**

**Governing Body Members: Ms. DeNoble, Ms. Greenblatt, Mr. Nowicki, Mr. Weber, Mayor Gubitosi (in attendance via Zoom)**

**Administration:**

**Acting Borough Administrator, Matthew Doherty**

**Municipal Clerk, Erica Kostyz**

**Borough Attorney, Gregory Cannon**

**Michele Whille, Deputy Municipal Clerk, Zoom Facilitator**

**Police: Chief James Arnold**

**Council President DeNoble announced the Mayor will be in attendance this evening virtually.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/Greenblatt to retire into Executive Session at 6:35 p.m. to discuss Anticipated/Pending Litigation Matters and an Employee/Personnel Matter.

- Affordable Housing Litigation
- Irvington Manor
- Employee/Personnel Matter

**Resolution 2025-48 Retire into Executive Session.**

**ROLL CALL:**

AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

ON MOTION by Weber/DeNoble to return from Executive Session at 7:12 p.m. and conclude the Council Business Meeting.

**ROLL CALL:**

AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**PRESENTATIONS:**

- **Interim CFO Introduction – John Barrett**

**Mr. Barrett, with PM Consultants & Interim CFO for the Borough stated he will be collaborating with the Mayor, Acting Administrator, and Finance Department to ensure the financial records are in functioning order for the Borough to conduct its fiscal responsibilities. Mr. Barrett stated he will be for anyone anytime.**

**WORKSHOP(S):**

**Fifth Avenue Paving – Workshop tabled.**

**Verizon 5-G Network Ordinance**

**Councilman Nowicki stated due to anticipated future advancing cell phone technology it will be necessary to install equipment on utility poles. This ordinance for being introduced this evening is a pro-active measure for the Borough to define liability of what is permissible on right-of-way streets, the locations and positioning of equipment on poles, the anticipated appearance of the equipment, and protect natural Borough resources. Mr. Nowicki further requested a change in the ordinance to include Sylvan and Fletcher Lakes.**

**Council discussion ensued providing clarification this ordinance is to define aesthetics and not argue against the anticipated installation of technology.**

**Mr. Cannon amended the ordinance to include the Sylvan and Fletcher Lakes.**

**Public Comments:**

**Ray Castellano, 604 Bradley Boulevard, expressed concerns regarding potential installation of poles and placement locations of poles near the beach.**

**Peter Sharpe, 301 Second Avenue, requested the Council keep the public abreast of when this equipment is installed.**

**Thomas J. Coan, 612 Third Avenue, thanked the Council for this ordinance and for adding the lakes to the ordinance.**

**James Frederick, 704 Fourth Avenue, inquired if the Borough can negotiate the aesthetic appearance of the equipment.**

**Mr. Cannon amended the ordinance to include the Sylvan and Fletcher Lakes.**

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

**ON MOTION by Weber/Greenblatt to approve the Council Meeting Minutes of January 7, 2025.**

**ROLL CALL:**

**AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Gubitosi**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**ABSTAIN: None**

**APPROVED**

**Public Comments on Agenda Items:**

**In Person:**

**Mia Mutascio, 401 McCabe Avenue, is hoping for an update on the Irvington Manor status and suggested going back to the SDL portal to access permit information for properties in town.**

**Councilman Weber stated the SDL portal was replaced with GovPilot which does have a feature like SDL that enables residents to access permit information on properties within the town.**

**Mr. Cannon provided an update to Irvington Manor there has been no movement to approve it beyond what it is by the private owner which is not illegal at this time. The property owner has also opened multiple litigation open again with the owner.**

**Refet Kaplan, 409 Brinley Avenue, Chairman of the Charter Study Commission, requested a current employee list to begin interviews. Mr. Kaplan stated interviews do not have to occur at Borough Hall and can be private or public.**

**Zoom:**

**Maryann Spilman, 902 Ocean Avenue, inquired about “transient rental” listed in Ordinance 2025-6 to be introduced.**

Mr. Cannon addressed the inquiry.

**ORDINANCES:**

**Introductions:**

**ORDINANCE 2025-5**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 115: “ANIMALS” OF THE BOROUGH’S REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES TO INCREASE THE ANNUAL DOG LICENSE FEE FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1987.**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/Greenblatt to introduce Ordinance 2025-5.

**ROLL CALL:**

**AYES:** DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

**INTRODUCED**

**ORDINANCE 2025-6**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 365: “RENTAL PROPERTY” OF THE BOROUGH’S REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES TO IMPOSE AN OCCUPANCY TAX ON CERTAIN RENTALS WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF BRADLEY BEACH.**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/Weber to introduce Ordinance 2025-6.

**ROLL CALL:**

**AYES:** DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

**INTRODUCED**

**ORDINANCE 2025-7**

**AN ORDINANCE AUGMENTING CHAPTER 398: “STREETS AND SIDEWALKS” OF THE BOROUGH’S REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES TO CREATE NEW ARTICLE VI: “SMALL WIRELESS FACILITIES” TO REGULATE CERTAIN CELLULAR WIRELESS FACILITIES IN THE BOROUGH’S RIGHTS-OF-WAY.**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/Greenblatt to introduce Ordinance 2025-7.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**INTRODUCED**

**Adoptions:**

**ORDINANCE 2025-1**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 5: “ADMINISTRATION OF GOVERNMENT” OF THE BOROUGH’S REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES TO CLARIFY THE APPLICABLE SCHEDULE FOR BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETINGS.**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/Weber to open the public hearing for the adoption of Ordinance 2025-1.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**Public Comment: None**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/Weber to close the public hearing and adopt Ordinance 2025-1.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi

NAYS: None

ABSENT : None

ABSTAIN : None

**ADOPTED**

**ORDINANCE 2025-2**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 5: “ADMINISTRATION OF GOVERNMENT” OF THE BOROUGH’S REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES TO CLARIFY THE PUBLICATION SCHEDULE FOR BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING AGENDAS.**

**Councilman Weber reiterated the purpose of this ordinance is to establish the publication of agendas and meeting materials due to the meetings going back to a Tuesday schedule.**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/Nowicki to open the public hearing for the adoption of Ordinance 2025-1.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**Public Comment: None**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/Greenblatt to close the public hearing and adopt Ordinance 2025-1.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi

NAYS: None

ABSENT : None

ABSTAIN : None

**ADOPTED**

### **ORDINANCE 2025-3**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 78: "PERSONNEL POLICIES" OF THE BOROUGH'S REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES TO CLARIFY ELIGIBILITY FOR VACATION PAID TIME OFF.**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/Greenblatt to open the public hearing for the adoption of Ordinance 2025-1.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**Public Comment: None**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/Greenblatt to close the public hearing and adopt Ordinance 2025-1.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi

NAYS: None

ABSENT : None

ABSTAIN : None

**ADOPTED**

## ORDINANCE 2025-4

### **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 78: “PERSONNEL POLICIES” OF THE BOROUGH’S REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES TO ELIMINATE BOROUGH ATTORNEY ELIGIBILITY FOR DEFERRED CONTRIBUTION RETIREMENT PROGRAM.**

**Councilman Weber explained the purpose for this resolution.**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/Nowicki to open the public hearing for the adoption of Ordinance 2025-1.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**Public Comment: None**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/Nowicki to close the public hearing and adopt Ordinance 2025-1.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi

NAYS: None

ABSENT : None

ABSTAIN : None

**ADOPTED**

### **COMMUNICATIONS :**

- **Environmental Commission Resignation & Appointments.**
- **Shade Tree Commission Resignation & Appointments.**
- **Recreation Center Resignation & Appointments.**
- **Sylvan Lake Commission Resignations & Appointments.**
- **Library Board Appointment.**
- **OEM Coordinator Stipend Increase.**
- **Salary Increase for OEM Employee Robert Pearsall.**

### **CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:**

**2025-49 Adopting a Temporary Operating Budget for 2025.**

**2025-50 Bill List for January 21, 2025.**

**2025-51 Authorizing the Transfer of Appropriations for the Calendar Year 2024 Budget.**

**2025-52 Approval of an On-Premises 50/50 Cash Raffle License and an On-Premises Gift Basket Auction Raffle License on March 30, 2025 and waiver of the Municipal Raffle License Application Fee for the BBPTA.**

**2025-53 Approval of an On-Premises 50/50 Cash Raffle License on March 8, 2025 for the Ladies Auxiliary of the Bradley Beach Fire Department, Inc., and waiver of the Municipal Raffle License Fee.**

**2025-54 Approval for Clean Ocean Action to hold their 2025 Annual Spring and Fall Beach Sweeps.**

**2025-55 Approval for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society to conduct their Charity Bicycle Ride for Saturday, May 10, 2025 from 6:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Pass through only).**

**2025-56 Approval for Eastern Surfing Association to conduct their Surf Contest for Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup>.**

**2025-57 Approval for Summertime Surf Camp to conduct their Surf Contest for Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup> and Sunday June 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

**2025-58 Establishing Beach Front Locker Fees for 2025.**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/Greenblatt to adopt the Consent Agenda Resolutions.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**ADOPTED**

**INDIVIDUAL RESOLUTIONS:**

**2025-59 Professional Service Appointment, Oliwa & Company, as the Borough Auditor from January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025 and to perform the 2024 Municipal Audit.**

**Mayor Gubitosi stated the 2023 Audit has still not been received however it will be completed upon receiving information from the former CFO and Finance Department.**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/Greenblatt to adopt Resolution 2025-59.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**ADOPTED**

**2025-60 Authorizing award of Professional Engineering Services with CME Associates for General Engineering Services.**

**Councilman Nowicki stated this resolution is a general engagement for services on an as needed and not for a specific project.**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/Nowicki to adopt Resolution 2025-60.

**ROLL CALL:**

AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

**ADOPTED**

**2025-61 Approval to apply for a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for approximately \$100,000.00 for Improvements to the Bradley Beach Park.**

**Councilman Weber confirmed this is a grant application for the playground on the Beachfront.**

**Councilwoman DeNoble stated this grant would be to replace the old swings that are currently there with a toddler set for younger children. Ms. DeNoble confirmed the newer equipment in place there would remain.**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/ to adopt Resolution 2025-61.

**ROLL CALL:**

AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

**ADOPTED**

**2025-62 Authorizing and providing for the issuance and sale of \$11,187,000 Bond Anticipation Notes of the Borough of Bradley Beach, in the County of Monmouth, New Jersey to the Monmouth County Improvement Authority and determining various matters in connection therewith.**

**Councilwoman DeNoble stated the purpose of this resolution and stated by doing this refinance it is anticipated the Borough will save approximately \$70,000.00.**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/ to adopt Resolution 2025-62.

**ROLL CALL:**

AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

**ADOPTED**

**2025-63 Appointing Pamela Valentine as the Community Development Director.**

**Mayor Gubitosi stated this appointment was well overdue as Ms. Valentine has been performing in this capacity for quite some time.**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/ to adopt Resolution 2025-63.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**ADOPTED**

**2025-64 Authorizing an Agreement with Avon-by-the-Sea to share Goose Control Expenses.**

**Discussion ensued regarding the importance of Goose Control services to maintain the quality and health of the lake. Responsibility for Goose Control expenses for Fletcher Lake were also discussed. It was confirmed that the Neptune side of the Fletcher Lake Commission does not participate in shared expenses with Bradley Beach for Goose Control services.**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/Nowicki to adopt Resolution 2025-64.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**ADOPTED**

**2025-65 Resolution of the Borough of Bradley Beach committing to the Borough's fourth round Affordable Housing Obligation.**

**Mayor Gubitosi stated the Borough is very committed to participating in the Affordable Housing requirements and this resolution is the first step in acknowledging participation in round four. Mayor Gubitosi explained the many additional commitments the Borough will need to make by June of this year to be in compliance with Affordable Housing requirements.**

**Councilman Weber also spoke about meeting the commitments required of the Borough for Affordable Housing.**

**Councilwoman Greenblatt asked at what point the Borough is safeguarded from Builder's Remedy.**

**Mr. Cannon stated upon the adoption of this resolution and filing of the Declaratory Judgement within forty-eight hours.**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/Greenblatt to adopt Resolution 2025-65.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**ADOPTED**

**2025-66 Appointing a full-time Construction Official for the Borough of Bradley Beach.**

**Councilman Nowicki thanked Mr. Murray for accepting this position.**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/Greenblatt to adopt Resolution 2025-66.

**ROLL CALL:**

AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**ADOPTED**

**2025-67 Fifth Avenue Paving.**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/Greenblatt to table Resolution 2025-67.

**ROLL CALL:**

AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**TABLED**

**2025-68 Authorizing the Bradley Beach Charter Study Commission to interview Borough Employees in connection with its work, provided that all such interviews shall be wholly voluntary and all such interviews shall be strictly confidential.**

**Mr. Cannon amended this resolution to adjust the flexibility of location of the interviews with employees.**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/Weber to adopt Resolution 2025-68.

**ROLL CALL:**

AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**ADOPTED**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS: None**

## **ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:**

Mr. Doherty reported the following:

- Implementation of a more transparent process with the Council members to include a walk-through of the 319 LaReine Avenue Church, review of the bill list, meetings with professionals, and inclusion in weekly director meetings.
- Mr. Doherty and Mayor Gubitosi met with Local 152 representatives to advance the negotiations and move the contract fruition and hopes to have this completed in February. Mr. Doherty noted the tremendous effort provided by Public Works over the last few weeks during the challenging weather.
- The Interim CFO will be looking into using Amazon.
- Mr. Doherty stated he is looking to increase efficiency and effectiveness in the staff in the upcoming months.
- Mr. Doherty will be providing periodic updates on the Borough finances and improvements to the website.

Councilman Weber asked who is currently responsible for website updates and postings.

Mr. Doherty stated he is looking to centralize this task to one person, but for now suggests emailing the information to him and he will disperse the task to the appropriate person.

## **MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:**

### **Councilwoman DeNoble**

- The Jazz Festival Event scheduled for 2/7/25 and 2/8/25 is sold out.
- The Shade Tree Commission met on 1/8/25 and discussed ordinance modifications, their five-year plan, their calendar, and their budget amount is \$11,900.00.

### **Councilman Nowicki**

- Gave the weekly Police Activity Report.
- Thanked everyone that participated in the Blood Drive that took place today.
- The Sylvan Lake Commission met on 1/15/25 and discussed their recently awarded REPI Grant, replacement of the retaining wall on Bradley Avenue, and repairs to the flow gate.
- The Land Use Board met on 1/16/25 to conduct their reorg meeting electing TJ Coan as the Chairman and Dennis Mayer as Vice-Chair.

### **Councilwoman Greenblatt**

Ms. Greenblatt and Ms. DeNoble attended the Monmouth New Jersey 250th Summit last week. Ms. Greenblatt reported the County is in the process of addressing the 250th Celebration of the Country in 2026 and hopes to have Bradley Beach participate and formulate a resolution.

### **Fletcher Lake Commission:**

I met with Fletcher Lake Commission Chair, Anthony DiMaio last Friday January 17<sup>th</sup>. Thank you, John Weber, for passing the baton and helping me get up to speed.

The Commission's January meeting was cancelled as they held an emergency meeting on December 19<sup>th</sup> to discuss certain pending reimbursement issues and plans to facilitate the continued services of Galaxy Geese (AKA Mike Campbell) for 2025.

**They were pleased to see their 2024 funds approved for \$3,000.00, along with reimbursement of the Geese Control contract from the same year for \$2,500.00. This program is supported by the Municipality, with a total cost of \$5,000.00 equally shared amongst Neptune and Bradley Beach. The Geese Control program is instrumental in the revitalization of the lake's wildlife population, and the Commission looks forward to a positive impact on water quality.**

**The Commission did a beta test on clustered flower/shrub plantings along the shoreline to test sustainability. They have found success and plan to implement a number more of the same around the lake. Planting will take place in early to mid-May with lead Sal Galassetti at the helm. Anyone interested in providing some gardening manpower to this effort would be appreciated, especially from the Neptune side of the lake which is short on planting labor. Please contact the Commission with interest in participating.**

**In spring, the recently installed bridge which spans the lake will be stained to extend its durability to the elements. The Commission will ask Neptune to take on this task.**

**Seven diseased trees have been removed along the lake and to date, have not been replaced. Upon review of the Council, the Commission would like to have input on the new trees to be planted and perhaps coordination with the Shade Tree Commission and/or its Tree Expert.**

**The FLC Commission will hold its next meeting Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at Borough Hall. All interested are welcome to attend.**

#### **Recreation Committee:**

**I attended the Recreation Board's first meeting of the year Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup> which was also their reorg meeting. What a lively and energetic group.**

**The Board nominated and approved their Chairperson, Rusty Caldwell, who is continuing his leadership; Tom Gavin as Vice-Chair; and CJ Scharfenstein as Secretary. The reorganized board has seven members, three of whom are new to the board. Anyone interested in serving as a potential board substitute can reach out to Recreation Director Courtney Pappas.**

**The Recreation Committee set its meeting calendar for the year: the second Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m. at the Recreation Center, with a few exceptions for holidays.**

**The Recreation committee is working to finalize its By-Laws. Members will be appointed for one-year terms.**

**Recreation has historically run a lot of programming for the younger and older groups in Bradley and is specifically looking to enhance programming for adults. Some of the exciting plans include "Radio Bingo" in March, in partnership with the Bradley Ladies' Auxiliary; Marjan Fridays may expand to "Friday Game Day;" Family Karaoke in March; and "Family Game Night," which may begin as early as February. Recreation will also be hosting a Middle School Silverball Arcade event for grades 5-8. This is a drop off event, scheduled for February 20<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Watch for details.**

**The Grinch was a great success and well received by those who greeted him at their front door. This will be a continued holiday tradition.**

**Plans are already underway for Summer Camp, despite the deep freeze. Director Pappas will be looking for a new director for the Summer Camp.**

Finally, Ms. Pappas has submitted a “Wish List” of upgrades for the Recreation Center, details of which have since been incorporated into the Borough Engineer’s next Recreation Grant.

The next Recreation Board meeting is Monday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the Recreation Center. All are welcome to attend.

**Arts Council:**

The Arts Council currently has two remaining members who are interested in continuing to serve. One comes from theater arts and the other from fine arts and is also a member of the BBBCA Visual Arts Community Initiative.

Any artists in town who have interest in playing a role in the Arts Council, please reach out to me at my Borough email address. This includes visual artists, graphic/textile/industrial artists and photographers, performance artists, musicians, writers, and even those in the culinary arts.

I am happy to help jumpstart the new Arts Council.

**Councilman Weber**

- Mr. Weber stated he is pleased with the change in the approach to leadership.
- Congratulated the new members of all of the Boards and Commission.
- Reminded everyone to shovel their sidewalks during snow to prevent safety hazards.
- Mr. Weber expressed his concerns regarding recent Presidential actions regarding offshore oil drilling and birth right citizenship and the affect it can have on the elementary school children in the Borough.

**Mayor Gubitosi**

- Thanked Council President DeNoble for facilitating the meeting this evening and for commenting on the new sign in the meeting room.
- Mayor Gubitosi stated he is proud of the progress the Council is making and thanked the Municipal Clerk for the preparation.
- Mayor Gubitosi stated progress is underway with the Local 152 negotiations.
- Mayor Gubitosi is researching opportunities to gain revenue for the Borough.
- Mayor Gubitosi is excited to become involved with the Mayor’s Wellness Committee and working with the Library Board.
- Commended the Department of Public Works.
- Looking for volunteers to staff the Strategic Task Forces.

**Public Comments:**

**In Person:**

Peter Sharpe, 301 Second Avenue, inquired if there is an estimated time frame for the 319 LaReine Avenue demolition.

Mr. Cannon and Councilwoman DeNoble addressed this inquiry.

**Zoom:**

Don Greenberg, 302 Park Place Avenue, thanked the Governing Body for efficient meetings.

Maryann Spilman, 902 Ocean Avenue, inquired about the full-time Construction Official employee and the job duties listed in 2025-63. Mr. Doherty addressed the inquiries.

Cindy Lukenda, 218 Fourth Avenue, offered several suggestions for the Beach Playground and speeding issues on Brinley Avenue.

Julie Nutaitis, 605 Newark Avenue, expressed concerns about the removal of rodents and wildlife.

Councilwoman DeNoble stated the removal of rodents is included in the RFP that was bid on in December.

**Public Emails:**

**George Bachar, 407 Fletcher Lake Avenue:**

I am unable to attend tonight's meeting , I would openly express my concern that I see nothing on the agenda addressing the progress in disposing of 319 LaReine Avenue. We the residents made it very clear what our position is by our votes, which is disposal of the property. Why the delay in acting on the wishes of the public? It is time to get rid of this eyesore and enjoy the revenue that will result in the future development of this property.

Councilwoman DeNoble and Mr. Doherty addressed this email inquiry.

**Tom Gavin, 414 Fourth Avenue:**

Council Members, I am unable to attend this evening, but I am greatly concerned.

Nothing is included in your agenda this evening regarding the future demolition work on the 319 LeReine Avenue property. The residents of our Borough made clear their position by voting on the referendum, the Land Use Board made the necessary ruling, demolition bids are in your hands from professional and respected contractors. Why is there an additional delay occurring with no update on this eyesore, health hazard, and dangerous situation? Every delay causes our Borough to lose additional revenue opportunities. We are all aware of the danger it is to public safety. The residents have made their votes their voice. Why is this not moving forward? Thank you for your response.

Councilman Nowicki addressed this email inquiry.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

ON MOTION by DeNoble/Weber to adjourn the Council Business Meeting at 8:45 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

AYES: DeNoble, Greenblatt, Nowicki, Weber, Mayor Gubitosi  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

**THE COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:45 P.M.**

  
Erica Kostyz, RMC, CMR  
Municipal Clerk