

NORTH BEACH TAXPAYERS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

Membership Meeting

June 29, 2019

Attending

Bill Walsh
Eileen Szperka
Pat Moran
Hank Fisher
Barry Sullivan

Tom Frangione
Skip Soriero
Bob Van Buren
Mark Falco

Bill Walsh opened the meeting and introduced Commissioner Bayard. He also mentioned that Mayor Mancini would be a little late and Commissioner Latanza had prior plans. A list of suggested topics was forwarded to Mayor Mancini and Commissioner Bayard prior to the meeting.

Commissioner Bayard

Long Beach Township is required to apply to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection every three years for a permit operate its potable water system. The State has been asking Long Beach Township for several years to install water meters. Water meters were required as a condition of the recent State permit.

Water meters must be installed and on line by July 1, 2020. The Water Department will monitor the meters to develop a basic fee that will be charged to all water users before the metered amount is added. Property owners will continue to be billed under the current payment system until January 1, 2022 when billing will include the basic fee and a metered water use charge. The Township has purchased water meters of various sizes that can be purchased at the Water/Sewer Department located at 13000 Long Beach Boulevard (at 131st), Beach Haven Terrace. The cost for water meters can be found on the Long Beach Township web-site. The Township has not developed an approved vendor list of plumbers for installation of the water meters.

Installing separate water meters on certain condominiums with a single water line is a problem for the Water Department. Water Department employees will go out and evaluate what can be done and make recommendations.

Ocean County is planning to repave Long Beach Boulevard in North Beach in 2020. Long Beach Township is currently planning to replace most of the sewer main in the median of Long Beach Boulevard in North Beach. Commissioner Bayard said that the Township will coordinate

with Ocean County to hold off road work until the sewer work is completed. The North Beach sewer project is delayed by a major sewer project in Holgate and Commissioner Bayard said the sewer work in North Beach will probably start in the Fall of 2020.

Mayor Mancini

Mayor Mancini brought a water meter and wireless sending unit to the meeting to provide a visual perspective of what needs to be installed. If a homeowner already has a water meter, a compatible sending unit must be installed. The Township has sending units for the Muller Meter and a plumber will have to determine if it is compatible with the homeowner's meter.

The Township does not have \$32 million to install water meters in every residence. Instead, they have purchased the water meters and will sell them at cost to residents. Homeowners should hire their own plumber for the installation. Homeowners also are permitted to do their own installation. When a water meter is purchased, an inspection date is scheduled.

If a resident receives an inflated installation cost, the plumber/installer should be reported to the Mayor's office and Mayor Mancini will personally deal with them. The Mayor also mentioned that he may allow Water Department personnel to moon light and install water meters for residents.

Mayor Mancini said that a water use baseline will be set for every house and if the baseline is exceeded a higher rate will be charged. Water meter usage also will be used to set sewer rates.

Ocean County has required Long Beach Township to undergo property reevaluation. Long Beach Township properties are currently assessed at \$8.6 billion, but could reach \$10 billion after reevaluation. The Township has hired an appraisal company and information should be mailed to property owners in September.

Long Beach Township currently has a 24.4 cent municipal tax rate. It could increase 2%-3% due to an increase in the pension system. The combined County and Regional School District tax rate could increase 10% - 15%.

Long Beach Township has started the season with a full complement of Life Guards. However, by mid-August the ranks will thin as many guards leave for school. The Township is considering the hiring of approximately 40 Australian and Eastern European life guards. The only draw back is the lack of housing. They are looking at some of the older hotels for housing.

Stakes have been placed along the beach 10 feet from the toe of the dune. The purpose is to delineate a safe zone to protect a sea beach grass identified as amaranth. Beach raking and vehicular traffic is prohibited in this area.

Web-Site

Bill Walsh mentioned that the new NBTPA.org web-site is up and running. The site has many links and will be used to get information out. Bill thanked Nancy McNamara for putting the web-site together.

Financial Report

Tom Frangione provided a brief financial report as of June 29, 2019. The 2018 year-end balances for the various accounts were \$9,461.50 in Checking \$3,683.00 in Savings and \$12,684.00 in a CD for a net balance of \$26,008.50. Total income to date in 2019 from dues, beautification and special events amounted to \$8,499 and expenses paid amounted to \$1,386.

Membership

Eileen Szperka reported current membership at 196 out of 575 families, approximately 34%.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Barry F. Sullivan, Secretary