

**TOWNSHIP OF BYRAM
TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 1, 2021
EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:30 P.M.
REGULAR SESSION - 7:30 P.M.**

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – Mayor Rubenstein called the meeting to order.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. Both adequate and electronic notice of the meeting has been provided, specifying the time, place. In addition, a copy of this notice is available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk, posted on the main door, the bulletin board of the Municipal Building, on the Township website at: https://www.byramtwp.org/index.php/town_hall/township_council, and has been forwarded to those persons requesting notice.

ROLL CALL OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL – Councilman Bonker here; Councilwoman Franco, here; Councilman Gallagher, here; Councilman Roseff, here; Mayor Rubenstein here. Also present was Township Manager Joseph Sabatini, Attorney Tom Collins and Municipal Clerk Cynthia Church

RESOLUTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION – Motion by Councilman Bonker, second by Councilwoman Franco, to go into executive session and adopt the below resolution.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, P. L. 1975, Chapter 231 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

- a. Attorney Client Privilege Communication
 - General
 - Forest Lakes Drive – Potholes
 - Affordable Housing
- b. Personnel
- c. Contract Negotiations
 - Collective Bargaining
 - Shared Services

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Byram, that the public shall be excluded from discussion of the following matters:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Minutes will be kept on file in the Municipal Clerk’s office, and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentiality, then the minutes shall be made public.

BYRAM TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Certification: I certify that the Byram Township Council adopted the above resolution on June 1, 2021.

Cynthia Church, Municipal Clerk

	Councilman Bonker	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion	x				
2nd		x			
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION - Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Gallagher to return to open session at 7:30 p.m. All members were in favor. Motion Carried.

FLAG SALUTE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Motion by Councilman Gallagher, second by Councilwoman Franco, to approve the agenda.

	Councilman Bonker	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion			x		
2nd		x			
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

TOWNSHIP MANAGER, MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Township Manager – The new Recreation Leader started on May 24th. The Municipal Building Project presentation had to be moved to the June 15th Township Council meeting. Documents have been posted to the Township website. June 8th is Primary Election Day.

Mayor Rubenstein – On May 20th he was a guest of honor with Township Clerk Cindy Church at the Senior Awards Ceremony, celebrating George and Francine Shivas. May 20th was a Planning Board Meeting. May 31st was Memorial Day and the ceremony was held at the Roseville School House, and then the parade starting at the Cranberry Lake Fire House and ending at the Cranberry Lake Club House. This Thursday June 3rd is the next Planning Board meeting. Had a conversation with John Burg from Good Energy, to date approximately 21% of the Township opted out which is not unusual.

Councilman Roseff – The Environmental Commission met last week and reviewed the impervious coverage ordinance that they will present to the Planning Board. They also reported that they handed out 500 seedlings at the Arbor Day Event.

Councilman Gallagher – the next Recreation Committee Meeting is June 21st. June 5th will be the Miss Byram Ceremony at CO Johnson Field. The Town Wide Garage Sale will be June 5th & 6th. The kids Triathlon will be June 19th at 8am in Lake Lackawanna. Memorial Day was very successful with a great turnout.

Councilwoman Franco – Haden Harris Subcommittee - they are aware that a grave marker was placed at the tragic site. There is a process in place for placing such a memorial and ask that everyone respect that process. There will be a meeting with the subcommittee June 4th.

Councilman Bonker – June 14th is the next Open Space meeting where they will be focusing on the dog park. They will also be receiving an update from the forester, will be talking about plans for riverside park, CO Johnson Park renovation, will focus on some potential acquisitions for the trail system extensions, and a Green Acres loan application. Participated at the Memorial Day Parade on May 31st. Gave credit to the quick response by the Byram Township DPW for cleaning up graffiti on the cut off railroad tunnels.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION I

Motion by Councilman Gallagher, Second by Councilwoman Franco to open to the public.

No Comments

Motion by Councilman Bonker, Second by Councilwoman Franco Motion to Close to public.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 05-18-2021 Regular & Closed Session Minutes – Motion by Councilman Gallagher, seconded by Councilwoman Franco to approve the minutes as presented.

	Councilman Bonker	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion			x		
2 nd		x			
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

CONSENT AGENDA – All are considered to be routine by the Members of the Township Council and will be enacted on by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a citizen or Council member so requests in which event the item may be removed from the general order of business and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda. Motion by Councilman Gallagher, second by Councilwoman Franco to approve the consent agenda.

- Resolution No. 128-2021 – Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Liquor License to Tomahawk Lake Inc., Trading as Tomahawk Lake, Valid from 7/1/2021 Through 6/30/2022
- Resolution No. 129-2021 – Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Liquor License to Lockwood Tavern Liquor License LLC Valid from 7/1/2021 Through 6/30/2022
- Resolution No. 130-2021 – Resolution Renewing a Plenary Retail Consumption License Issued to Andover Wine and Liquors Inc. Trading as Liquor Factory & Lounge Valid from 07/01/2021 Through 6/30/2022
- Resolution No. 131-2021 – Resolution to Authorize Participation in the 2021 Radon Awareness Program
- Resolution No. 132-2021 – Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Liquor License to Byram Beverage Inc., Valid from 7/1/2021 Through 6/30/2022

- F. Resolution No. 133-2021 – Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Liquor License to the Pink Elephant of Cranberry Lake, Trading as Golden Nugget Saloon, Valid from 7/1/2021 Through 6/30/2022
- G. Resolution No. 134-2021 – Resolution Authorizing the Refund of Redemption Monies to Outside Lien Holder – Block 212 Lot 5, 239 Rt. 206
- H. Resolution No. 135-2021 – Resolution Authorizing Tom Dixon to Provide Temporary Zoning Official Services
- I. Resolution No. 136-2021 – Award Bid to Schifano Construction Corp. and Denville Line Painting, Inc. Under the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council for Proposed Improvements to Continental Drive – Not to Exceed \$49,340 (Schifano) & \$1183.80 (Denville)

	Councilman Bonker	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion			x		
2nd		x			
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

BILL LIST – June 1, 2021 – Motion by Councilman Gallagher, second by Councilwoman Franco to approve the bill list as presented.

	Councilman Bonker	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion			x		
2nd		x			
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

ORDINANCE – Introduction/First Reading

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BYRAM GRANTING MUNICIPAL CONSENT TO NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS COMPANY TO CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE NATURAL GAS TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES

Motion by Councilman Bonker, second by Councilman Gallagher to Introduce the Ordinance

	Councilman Bonker	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion	x				
2nd			x		
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

BE IT RESOLVED, that said Ordinance shall be further considered for final passage at the meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Byram on the 15th day of June 2021 at 7:30 p.m., on an audio conference call using Zoom at which time and place a public hearing will be held thereon and all persons and citizens interested shall have an opportunity to be heard.

ORDINANCE – 2nd Reading / Public Hearing

Ordinance No. 007-2021 - AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE A CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FOR THE ACQUISITION OF BODY CAMERAS FOR USE BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT OF THE TOWNSHIP TO PROVIDE FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$35,000.00

Purpose Statement: Acquisition of body cameras for use by the Police Department of the Township.

	Councilman Bonker	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion		x			
2nd			x		
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

BE IT RESOLVED that Ordinance No. 007-2021 is passed on final reading and that a notice of final passage be published in the official designated newspaper according to the law.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Future Meetings – There was a discussion about when should the Township Council should return to live meeting and what to do about the technology surrounding it. Mayor Rubenstein proposes going back to live meetings as of July 6th, there was a consensus among the council to support this.

The Planning Board should go back to live meetings by the end of July. They will not be doing hybrid meetings. This will be a further discussion that the Planning Board will have.

Other subcommittees: The Board of Health would like to remain virtual; Recreation wants to be in person. The Township Council would need to decide as to how these committees would proceed. Mr. Sabatini suggested that they go back to in person meetings because of the technology challenges.

Mr. Sabatini said that he has concerns about the staff members that would have to support the hybrid meetings. It will be a bigger challenge for the staff to try and support these smaller boards in hybrid meetings.

Councilman Bonker said that it is time for the Township Council to get back to in person meetings in July. Feels that all volunteers should have a virtual ability to allow for continued participation.

The Township Council all agreed that the hybrid component is needed for all future meetings, however, it should not hold up going live in July.

Councilman Franco suggested looking into what other towns are doing.

Mayor Rubenstein asked for the council's position of spending between \$10k and \$15k to enhance the technology. Councilman Bonker is in favor, Councilman Roseff is in favor, however, he would like to look at what other towns are using.

The Recreation Committee, Board of Health, Environmental Commission and Open Space Committees will be going back to live meetings in July. Will need to notice for those meetings.

The Township Council will attend meeting of other municipalities, and report back at the next meeting.

CO Johnson Park Improvements – Next Steps – Councilman Bonker would like to move forward on the dog park as quickly and efficiently as possible. This will be paid for from many different sources, not just Open Space funding alone. Hoping that the Open Space Committee can come up with a very detailed list of directives that they can bring back to the Township Council for approval.

Mayor Rubenstein said he would not want to pay for this out of Open Space outright.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Councilman Roseff said that 225th Anniversary of Byram is in a year and a half. Asked that the Recreation Committee and Historical Society to meeting and come up with thoughts on what should be done. Councilman Roseff will reach out the Historical Society and Councilman Gallagher will reach out to the Recreation Committee.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION II

Motion by Councilman Gallagher, Second by Councilwoman Franco to open to the public.

Jack Moran – 7 East Waterloo Road - asked if there will be a discussion with NJ Natural Gas. Mayor Rubenstein read aloud the email that he received from NJ Natural Gas. Mayor Rubenstein will ask if they are interested in coming to the public hearing of the ordinance. Mr. Moran asked on ISO updates. Councilman Gallagher has not received any updates.

Bonnie Blackwell – 40 Sleepy Hollow Road – has been working with the Byram Township Fire Department to collect money for the soldier that was murdered in Byram Township. Feels that the memorial is the only place for the family to go. Saw the memorial on Ross Road and feels that it is the right thing to do. Asked where a memorial can be placed and will the township be willing to maintain the memorial. Mayor Rubenstein said there is a subcommittee meeting this Friday. Mr. Sabatini that the committee need to bring plans for the memorial forward to the Township Council.

Luann Byrne – 34 Richmond Road – Asked if there are any revenues back to the Township from NJ Natural Gas. Feels that the 225th year anniversary for the township does not need to be held on a specific date.

Motion by Councilman Bonker, Second by Councilwoman Franco Motion to Close to public.

RESOLUTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION – Motion by Councilman Bonker, second by Councilwoman Franco, to go into executive session and adopt the below resolution.

RESOLUTION

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BYRAM TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Certification: I certify that the Byram Township Council adopted the above resolution on June 1, 2021.

Cynthia Church, Municipal Clerk

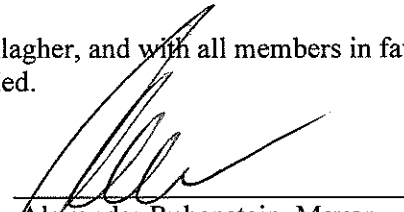
	Councilman Bonker	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion	x				
2nd		x			
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION - Motion by Councilman Bonker, second by Councilwoman Franco to return to open session at 10:05 p.m. All members were in favor. Motion Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Councilman Bonker, second by Councilman Gallagher, and with all members in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 10:08 p.m. All members were in favor. Motion carried.


 Cynthia Church, RMC
 Township Clerk


 Alexander Rubenstein, Mayor