

**TOWNSHIP OF BYRAM
TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 20, 2023
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 Act. 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.byrampwp.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 Mollica and Township 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
 - Administration of Government– Chapter 3

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 7, 2023.

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 7:30 p.m. All members were in favor. Motion Carried.

FLAG SALUTE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Motion by Councilwoman Franco second by Councilman Bonker 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 – At the next meeting they will be swearing in a new Police Officer who will be going to the Police academy July 10th. Received confirmation from Elizabeth Town Gas that they will be extending services to Forest Lakes section of town in 2024 including Tamarack Road and into Cranberry Lake by 2026.

Mayor Rubenstein – Received an email from Verizon regarding the placing of fiber cables. They will be finished by end of July.

Councilman Bonker – The Open Space Committee met on June 12th, items discussed are on the agenda for approval tonight, including deer hunting and French & Parello Park Improvements including Playground equipment, bleachers, and basketball court. All to be funded by the Open Space committee.

Councilwoman Franco – June 13th was CAG meeting regarding the wells in East Brookwood. June 14th was a meeting with the Township Manager, Mayor, EPA, Mr. Barrett & Mr Zisa which was a productive meeting. June 15th was the Planning Board meeting where they discussed Jefferson Lake Day Camp.

Councilman Gallagher – The last BOE meeting was June 15th with Graduation on June 19th. June 19th was the Recreation Committee meeting where they discussed upcoming events.

Councilman Roseff – Historical Society will be hosting Canal Day this Saturday. Wild West City has a 225th anniversary activity for all Wednesdays in July with free admission for Byram Residents.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION I

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

No Comments.

Motion by Councilman Bonker, second by Councilwoman Franco to close to the public.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 7, 2023 Regular & Closed Session Minutes – Motion by Councilman Gallagher, seconded by Councilwoman Franco to approve the minutes.

	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. Motion by Councilman Bonker, Second by Councilwoman Franco to approve the consent agenda.

Councilman Roseff asked for letter L. to be removed from the agenda on the grounds that they benches were asked to be removed by the risk manager and feels that the risk manager should be managed better as he asked for the removal of the bleachers with no remedy. They need to go with a different insurance company.

Mr. Sabatini explained the reason for the removal based off the reports received by the risk manager. Mr. Sabatini said he will not support an unsafe situation.

- A. Resolution No. 115-2023 – Authorization to Purchase One (1) 2024 Kenworth T280 Dump Truck Chassis Under the Sourcwell National Cooperative Purchasing System for Budget Year 2023 – Not to Exceed \$101,355.13
- B. Resolution No. 116-2023 – Authorization for the Purchase of DPW Dump Truck Body and Additional Options for the Daily Operations of the Township of Byram Department of Public Works – Not to Exceed \$46,237.33
- C. Resolution No. 117-2023 – Resolution to Award the Bid for Salt Dome Rehabilitation – Not to Exceed \$120,640.00
- D. Resolution No. 118-2023 – Authorization to Purchase Firefighter Protective Clothing and Equipment under the State of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program for Budget Year 2023
- E. Resolution No. 119-2023 – Resolution of the Governing Body of the Township of Byram for Deer Hunting on Municipally-Owned Property for the 2023-2024 Hunting Season
- F. Resolution No. 120-2023 – A Resolution Authorizing the Township of Byram to Enter into the New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Alliance cooperative Pricing Agreement
- G. Resolution No. 121-2023 - Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Liquor License to Zipload, Inc., Trading as SALT, Valid from 7/1/2023 Through 6/30/2024
- H. Resolution No. 122-2023 – Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Liquor License to BBG Restaurant LLC, Trading as Alibi Beach Bar, Valid from 7/1/2023 through 6/30/2024
- I. Resolution No. 123-2023 – Authorization to Purchase Four (4) Park Benches Utilizing Open Space Trust Fund – Not to Exceed \$2,172.00
- J. Resolution No. 124-2023 – Resolution Authorizing the Township Manager to Finalize a Statement of Work with French & Parrello Associates to Provide Engineering and Landscape Architecture Services for Byram Township Dog Park & CO Johnson Park Improvements and to Submit the Proposal to the Highlands Council for Funding

- K. Resolution No. 125-2023 – Approval to Submit a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Manor Drive Improvement Project
- L. Resolution No. 126-2023 – Authorization to Purchase Bleachers for Neil Gylling & CO Johnson Parks utilizing Open Space Trust Fund – Not to Exceed \$59,672.15

	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 20, 2023 – Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Gallagher to approve the bill list.

	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

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF BYRAM, IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$450,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$427,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING SUCH APPROPRIATION.

Motion by Councilman Bonker, second by Councilwoman Franco to introduce 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 July 5, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 10 Mansfield Drive, Byram Township, at which time and place all persons interested shall be given an opportunity to be heard.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION -

CO Johnson Park Playground – Mr. Sabatini explained that there is need to replace the Playground Equipment at C.O. Johnson Park per the Risk Managers Report. He recommends the replacement in the Spring of 2024. Supplemental funding may be possible with a recreation grant. Councilman Bonker said he is in support of updating the equipment but has reservations on the location of the playground and may want to reconsider moving it over to the end of the current football field, however, does not want to wait on the replacement. Councilman Bonker would like to hold off on the playground equipment until we can receive a grant. Mr. Sabatini suggested a discussion with he Risk Manager if it is going to be delayed.

Historical Society 225th Anniversary Events – The Historical Society is requesting the use of the Byram Township social media (Nixel), requesting to be allowed to hang banners in the parks, and to put signs out on the Byram Township right of ways and parks to support their events. Mr. Sabatini said that they are not in accordance with current zoning ordinances. This has never been used prior for other nonprofit organizations. If it is approved that the administration is asking for the text of their notices to be written out and provided timely to allow for proper posting, and asks the council to provide a clear policy to be followed.

Mayor Rubenstein does not have an opposition to supporting the Nixel notices and banners.

Councilman Bonker would like to promote the 225th anniversary but does not put the council in a position where other will expect the same and turn Nixel into a “spam” notification.

Township Attorney, Tom Collins, believes they can be placed in the township parks but not in the right of ways. Will need to do a resolution to support the placement of the signs and banners in township parks to support the Byram Township 225th Anniversary.

Motion by Councilman Bonker, seconded by Councilwoman Franco to permit the use of ground signs throughout the township in a reasonable matter to remove within 7 days of the event and to also allow three banners in the township parks and the use of Nixel to promote event for the purpose of Byram Townships 225th Anniversary with the understanding that the Historical Society will provide the content of the Nixel notices.

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

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION II

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

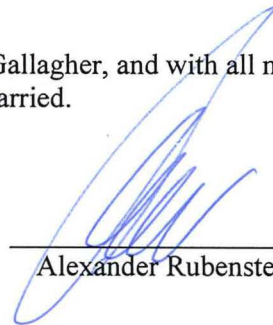
No Comments.

Motion by Councilman Bonker, Second by Councilwoman Franco to close to the public.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Gallagher, and with all members in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. All members were in favor. Motion carried.


 Cynthia Church, RMC
 Township Clerk


 Alexander Rubenstein, Mayor