

**TOWNSHIP OF BYRAM
TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 1, 2022
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.byramtpw.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, absent; Councilman Roseff, here; Mayor Rubenstein, here. Also present was Township Manager Joseph Sabatini, Attorney Tom Collins 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
 - Alterman Complaint
 - 7 Weasaug Trail
 - Fire Department Donation
- b) Contract Negotiations
 - Garbage Bid
 - Fire Prevention

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 November 1, 2022.

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 7:31 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 with the removal of Soil Importation Ordinance Introduction.

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

TOWNSHIP MANAGER, MAYOR, AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Township Manager - There was a kickoff meeting on October 25th with NJNG to start street opening in 2023. They will be conducting a survey. ETG had a status meeting last Thursday they are committing to complete Stonehenge this year and expect to be complete in two weeks. There was a kickoff meeting on the Lackawanna cut off. The scope of work is the rehab of the Roseville Road tunnel with drainage improvements. They want to start planning some of the construction work this year. There will be a staging area and access in Andover Township. Waiting on what the plans are for electric. They may still need access to CO Johnson Parks. Mr. Sabatini will be attending the PAC meeting on Thursday November 3rd along with the Byram PAC representative, as they are going to be doing an initial review of the Waste Water Management Plan. Joe provided a memo to the township council on the 2023 municipal budget, it is also available on the township website. The next council meeting is Monday November 14th.

Mayor Rubenstein - On October 23rd was a community hike. There was about 15-20 people who attended. The River Side Park Grand Opening was October 29th and was also well attended.

Councilman Bonker –

Veteran’s Day Service: On the 11th month, on the 11th day, and at the 11th hour, Byram Township will hold a Veteran’s Day memorial service in front of the Old Schoolhouse here at the Municipal Complex. We will never forget.

William Garcia: Last week one of our own volunteer firefighters passed away after a long struggle with cancer. We recognize the many years of contributions Lt. William Garcia made to Byram and we extend our prayers and condolences to his family and friends and fellow firefighters.

Open Space: The Open Space Committee has agreed to defer our November meeting to the December 12th meeting.

Riverside Park: Attend the Riverside Park ribbon cutting last Saturday morning, which was renovated with Open Space funds along with a \$75,000 grant. It was great to see so many members of the next generation holding the ribbon along with us, and I am proud of this Council for voting to renovate Riverside Park.

Lackawanna Drive: Councilman Bonker said that he wanted to lodge a formal complaint about the failure to re-paint the monster crossing footprints on Lackawanna Drive for Halloween. Those footprints are a 50 year plus Byram tradition which needs to be preserved.

Councilwoman Franco – Was at the riverside park grand opening, it was a great turn out. On October 20th the Planning Board met and there was conversation on the Master Plan review. This Thursday is the next planning board meeting on three residential properties.

Councilman Roseff – Councilman Roseff presented Councilman Gallagher’s report in his absence. The Recreation Committee had their Halloween home decorating contest. The winners are (scariest) 11 Newton Ave, (most traditional) 8 Wildwood Road, (most original) 9 Colby Drive. Councilman Gallagher attended the Board of Education Meeting on October 26th, where they gave a presentation on the testing of the students for grades 3-8, and on their progress from 2019-2022. The results have been posted on the school website. The Fire Department held their coin toss on Sunday, October 30th. Councilman Gallagher wished to thank the Byram Schools and Police Department for being a drop off for Abigail’s army.

Councilman Roseff said the Environmental Committee met and discussed the Mansfield test results as they stand today. There will be additional testing that will be announced within the next few weeks. The Byram Township Historical Society “Spirt of Byram” fund raiser will be held on November 18th.

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

October 18, 2022 Regular & Closed Session Minutes – Motion by Councilwoman Franco, seconded by Councilman Bonker to approve the minutes.

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

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.

- A. Resolution No. 207-2022 – Township of Byram Resolution to Transfer 2022 Budget Appropriations – Current Fund

- B. Resolution No. 208-2022 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Township of Byram Approving the Five (5) Year Fuel Interlocal Services Agreement with the Board of Education of the Byram Township School District
- C. Resolution No. 209-2022 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Township of Byram Approving the Fire (5) Year Fuel Interlocal Services Agreement with the Lenape Valley Regional High School District

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

RESOLUTION NO. 206-2022 – Resolution Authorizing Submittal of CY 2022 Best Practices Inventory Certification Form

Motion by Councilwoman Franco, Second by Councilman Bonker to adopt Resolution 206-2022.
Mr. Sabatini went over what was answered on the Best Practices for 2022.

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

BILL LIST – November 1, 2022 – Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Bonker to approve the bill list with the pulling of PO# 25981, 25993 & 26003.

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

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Recreation Survey:

Mr. Sabatini provided the township council with the survey results and read aloud the results. The council discussed the results and decided to consider refining it down to a few items that will be easy to provide within the budget constraints. Councilman Roseff would like to bring it back to the Recreation Committee to get their feedback on what they propose supporting.

Shawn Conner, a representative of the Byram Township Recreation Committee asked if the results of the survey can be posted for public as well as to the recreation committee. Would like to have some programs executed for 2023. Mr. Conner said that there are many members on the committee that would like to take some of burden off the administration and help out where they can. Councilman Roseff asked if he has been looking at how other towns are doing their recreation programs. Mr. Conner said he has looked at both Sparta and Mt. Olives programs. Councilman Roseff asked if he has looked at utilizing the school’s space. Mr. Conner said he has. He will be further looking at what their availability is at the school. Councilman Bonker said that a monthly hike would be an easy program to start with.

Mr. Sabatini spoke on the operating and administrative costs and how those costs can not be passed on in the program cost and explained the differences between events and programs. When discussing programs, there are other costs that are involved. Mr. Sabatini suggested having the Recreation Committee work with the PTA to establish programs, and to come up with a model to deliver the service. Would like to see the council provide guidance and their expectations of the Recreation committee for 2023.

Mayor Rubenstein said that the Township Council will look at the data and decide what they want to see for 2023.

Councilman Bonker suggested outsourcing of the programs.

Councilwoman Franco sees the recreation committee as a group who would create various clubs. Mr. Sabatini said to do that they would need to redefine the ordinance (possibly creating a commission) and provide direction on expectations as to how they want the Recreation Committee to function.

Mr. Sabatini offered a suggestion of reaching out the local lake communities to hold swim lessons at their locations.

Mr. Conner would like to see the Recreation Committee come to fruition with a program run through the township. The Recreation Committee will bring suggestions for programs to the township council for 2023.

Recreation will have a discussion on at there meeting on November 21st and will come back to the township council with suggestions.

Historical Society Grant Funding - There was a discussion on the funding for Historical Society Grant to support the 25% match. Mr. Sabatini suggested the source of funding come out of expended balances from 2022. Mr. Sabatini will have two resolutions on the next council agenda for approval. One resolution will be for the transfer the funds, and the other for the one-time donation of the funds to the Historical Society.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – No comments

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION II

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

No Comments.

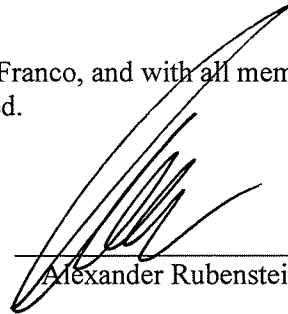
Motion by Councilman Bonker, Second by Councilwoman Franco to close to the public.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Councilman Bonker, second by Councilwoman Franco, and with all members in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 9:32 p.m. All members were in favor. Motion carried.



Cynthia Church, RMC
Township Clerk



Alexander Rubenstein, Mayor