

# Mayor and Council Newsletter



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Official Council Meeting Minutes

March 26, 2019

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Island Heights was called to order by Mayor Doyle at 7pm. Notice of this meeting was issued in accordance with the OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT P.L. 1975, Chapter 231 (Section 10:4-10). Notice of this meeting was advertised in the Asbury Park Press on December 27, 2018 and was also posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building.

Mayor Doyle proceeded to lead in the Pledge to the Flag of the United States of America.

Mayor Doyle asked those in attendance to have a Moment of Silence in remembrance of Michael Tsucalas. Mr. Tsucalas, was very active in the Island Heights and Central Regional School Board along with the Island Heights PTO, and will be sorely missed.

Mayor Doyle requested Roll Call, and the Deputy Clerk provided the following Roll Call

	Asay	Gabriel	Snow	Thompson	Weber*	Wudzki	Mayor Doyle	Atty
Present	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Absent								

Councilmember Weber was present at 7:10pm.

## APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

Resolution 2019-70

Approving the Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes of March 12, 2019

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		CP Asay	x			
		Gabriel	x			
		Snow				x
	x	Thompson	x			
		Weber				x
x		Wudzki	x			
		Mayor Doyle	x			

Mayor Doyle stated that this is the 28<sup>th</sup> race they have held here in which he participates in the walk and encourages all to participate. Mayor Doyle further stated that many may not know that the funds that the Toms River Kiwanis raises goes to many charities in the County with the funds that they raise.

Mayor Doyle read the Proclamation that proclaims May 4<sup>th</sup> as Kiwanis Race Day.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		CP Asay	X			
	X	Gabriel	X			
		Snow				X
		Thompson	X			
		Weber				X
X		Wudzki	X			
		Mayor Doyle	X			

**RESOLUTIONS (CONSENT AGENDA)**

Resolution 2019-68 Authorizing Island Heights Methodist Church to Hold Sunrise Service On Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019 at Camp Meeting Park

Motion – Mr. Gabriel  
Second – Ms. Thompson

Resolution 2019-69 Authorizing the Execution of a Lease With The United States Postal Service.

Motion – Ms. Thompson  
Second – Mr. Gabriel  
Mayor Doyle stated that this is an extension of the lease with the Post Office that is for 5 years with an extension for 5 more years that is a nice increase and thanks Ms. Thompson for her work on this.

Resolution 2019-71 Commending Sophia Church for achieving the Highest Level in Girl Scouting: the Gold Award

Motion – Mr. Gabriel  
Second – Mr. Asay  
Mayor Doyle asked Sophia to rise and be recognized. A standing ovation was given to Sophia for such a great accomplishment.

Resolution 2019-72 Approving a Social Affairs Permit for Island Heights Fire Company on June 29, 2019 from 5pm to 11pm

Motion – Mr. Asay  
Second – Ms. Thompson  
Mayor Doyle mentioned that this is for Summer Brew at their property.

Resolution 2019-74 Approving the hiring of Derrick Keyser and Casey Lepeshko as part-time Public Works Laborers for \$12.50 not to exceed 30 hours per week

Motion – Mr. Asay  
Second – Mr. Gabriel

Resolution 2019-75 Approving the hiring of Karen Kier as Part-Time Employee at Borough Hall for 10-15 hours a week at \$18 per hour

Motion – Ms. Thompson  
Second – Ms. Wudzki

Mayor Doyle asked if there were any questions by Council regarding the consent agenda?

Leslie Stewart of 229 Ocean asked for clarification if it was the Methodist Church making the request. Mayor Doyle said yes it is a typo that stated Presbyterian.

Motion to close public comment on the consent agenda by Mr. Gabriel second by Ms. Wudzki. Unanimous Voice Vote.

Motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Ms. Thompson second by Mr. Asay.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
	X	CP Asay	X			
		Gabriel	X			
		Snow				X
X		Thompson	X			
		Weber				X
		Wudzki	X			
		Mayor Doyle	X			

Mr. Gabriel abstained from Resolution 2019-72.

**APPROVAL OF BILL LIST**

Resolution 2019-73

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
X		CP Asay	X			
		Gabriel	X			
		Snow				X
	X	Thompson	X			
		Weber				X
		Wudzki	X			
		Mayor Doyle	X			

Mayor Doyle stated that there are some items to discuss, although the vote was postponed at the State level one is the possibility of having marijuana dispensaries in our business district which would include Route 37 through Central Avenue. If this is something we want to have in town as the law is currently in draft form the town would get 5% of all sales. That is the financial benefit, for the open retail of marijuana and would like to gauge the feel of the town with an open discussion of it. Ms. Thompson asked if anyone knows if there would be a carved out area around schools where a distribution center could not be placed. Ms. Thompson said there are some social services that cannot be around a school and that is a concern that she has. Mayor Doyle stated that is a good question and the business district which includes the old gas station is within certain proximity to the school. Ms. Pendleton, 249 Ocean Ave. asked if this was for medicinal purposes. Mayor Doyle said no for recreation purposes. Ms. Pendleton said she thought the vote was knocked down. Mayor Doyle said no it was postponed and one thing the town has to do is to opt in or out on having retail. Mayor Doyle further stated that Toms River has opted out and they will have to opt out again if it passes and we would have to do the same or stay in if we want to have this in our town. Mr.

Gabriel said he is not in favor of this in our town. Mary Ward, 178 Ocean Ave. had a question on the decriminalization of it rather than the sale of the bill. Mayor Doyle stated that this is part of the bill but we have not heard the final bill yet. Jim Jablonski, 227 Ocean Ave. stated that he is not in favor of this in our town. Mayor Doyle said that he is opposed to this and the issues that could accompany this for our Police Dept.

Mayor Doyle closed the discussion on this item.

## **GOVERNING BODY REPORTS**

**WUDZSKI:** Stated that the Island Heights Grade School will be having their budget hearing on May 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm and Central Regional will have their budget hearing on May 2 at 7pm. Both budgets were approved by the respective boards and are waiting for County Approval. There is a fundraiser for Michael Tsucalas for a bench to be placed in his memory at the playground at the school. If anyone is interested in donating checks should be made payable to the IH Student Activity Fund and can be mailed to PO Box 329. If you have any questions you can contact Lillian Brendel at (732)929-1211. The dedication ceremony is planned for early in June and more details will follow as the date gets closer.

The IHGS Newsletter states that there are long term strategic planning meetings being held and the first of three was March 21<sup>st</sup> which had a good turnout of 33 people which included staff members, herself, Mayor Doyle, parents and general public who don't have children in the school; this is important because sometimes there is a disconnect between the school and people who do not have children in the school. The goal is to get the public opinion on the strengths and weaknesses in the school and to use those to come up with a 3-5 year strategy for the school. Coming out of the referendum she was happy to see this plan because that was a little problem before that the school did not have a long term plan. A couple of things that we learned at this meeting were that the school in the Asbury Park Press for Ocean County Grade Schools they were rated #2 which is impressive considering we have some of the lowest paid teachers in the County and impressive what our teachers have accomplished. They have worked really hard to have Shared Services Agreements in the areas of the Child Study Team, Art, Gym and facility management. Further information is that 17% of the student population has IEP's who may have special needs and this is where a lot of the expense is in the education stand point. The school is also facing the same challenges of health care benefits and in three years the costs have raised by \$100,000 which will be a big factor in the upcoming budget.

Mr. Gabriel asked if we know the numbers for tax increase from the schools. Ms. Wudzki replied that she spoke to Ms. Brendel regarding this and since it has not gone to public hearing yet she wasn't sure what she could and could not release at this time. Mayor Doyle said that the referendum that was passed a few years back this will be the first year it will be on the tax bills. Ms. Wudzki said we get a lot of money for Choice Students, all 14 seats are full and there is a waiting list at this time of 8 students. The school gets more money for Choice Students than it did for tuition students.

**WEBER:** Apologized for being late and wanted to congratulate Sophia Church for her outstanding accomplishment in reaching the Gold Star in Girl Scouts.

**THOMPSON:** In regards to the Post Office Lease that we authorized today to renew we have a 5 year period until 2024 and two renewal periods that could take us until 2034. It is great that our town continues to have the presence of the Post Office. Ms. Thompson wanted to congratulate the three new employees as our staff really drives the work here and we value our employees and appreciate all that they do.

**MAYOR DOYLE:** Mayor Doyle stated that April 2nd will be a regular meeting, and one in which the Borough will be introducing the budget.

**GABRIEL:** Progress.

**ASAY:** The new Borough website is just about at the finish line. We will have a soft run in the beginning and one day you may be directed to the new website. We do not want to have a tremendous amount of traffic in the beginning; it is more modern and looks like a real website. The ability to pay taxes and water/sewer will be on there as well as the ability to sign up for the Reverse 911. Mr. Asay stated he was trained this past week and that they were able to get the feature for free to be able to email/text those that have signed up any non-emergency information such as events in town. The sign up is through the web and you must check the box for text messages and complete the email portion to receive this type of information. Mr. Asay also asked residents to report any issue with street lighting or any other lighting issues either to the Police, himself or to JCPL via the web or APP that they have available.

Mr. Asay also wanted to recognize and thank Kempton Flags for the new Borough Flag here in the meeting room which they donated to the Borough.

### **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

Linda Grinfelds – 2 Lake Ave. – Asked for clarification if the meetings in April on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> were canceled. Mayor Doyle said yes the only meeting in April is on the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Lynn Pendleton – 249 Ocean Ave. – Asked for more patrols in the area at the end of Ocean Ave. as there are fishermen out late at night and the noise from the radios/cars is quite loud.

Leslie Stewart – 229 Ocean Ave. – Asked if the budget that is being introduced next month will any of the recreation money be designated towards the Pickle Ball Court? Mr. Gabriel said that has been allocated and is already in the budget. Mayor Doyle said that this was already passed a \$30,000 allocation from the Capital Account; in other words the towns saving account was passed to renovate. It is to fix fences, renovate the pickle ball court or develop a pickle ball court per the description and design the pickle ball spokesman, Mr. Hummel that came to the meetings and met with Mr. Gabriel to go over how to do it. It is also to resurface the tennis courts. Ms. Stewart repeated the information since she is going to be reporting back that she gets the information correct. Mr. Gabriel said it is for tennis court repairs and multiple pickle ball courts. Ms. Stewart asked if the pickle ball courts would be in the tennis courts and Mr. Gabriel said that has not yet been determined but they will have their pickle ball courts.

John Pendleton – 249 Ocean Ave. – Do you have a time frame for the completion of the Pickle Ball Courts. Mr. Gabriel said that once we can ramp up our DPW staff with a couple more part time employees than more projects can get underway. Mr. Gabriel said we are very short staffed but we are hoping before summer. Mr. Asay said that the labor except for the painting of the courts will be done by DPW because otherwise we cannot afford to do it. Mr. Asay said you are talking about a demolition where all that old fencing is going to come down and be recycled and then to get new barriers around it; get the court smoothed out and repaired and to blow out all the dirt that is in the cracks. Mr. Asay said we need decent weather with sunshine to dry new asphalt, get the new barriers up and check the lighting. Mr. Gabriel said he does not want to be held to a time but we would like to see it done by Memorial Day.

Lynn Pendleton – 249 Ocean Ave. – Suggested getting some of the people who play to volunteer and help with some of the work as was done at the Camp Meeting Ground Gardens. Mr. Gabriel said he would have to speak to Mr. Brodbeck at DPW about volunteers doing some of the work. Mr. Asay said that there is another resident who is applying to AARP for money to help with the restoration of the pickle ball courts.

Tara Church – 156 West End Ave. – qualified for Silver from Sustainable NJ in December and has the plaque with the new engraving on it. Mayor Doyle congratulated the Green Team and Environmental Committee for achieving this award.

Mayor Doyle stated that the Borough is being considered for a very special grant compacting machines, for robo cans and a water fountain at Memorial Field so those people using the field there can get a drink of water.

Motion to close privilege of the floor was made by Mr. Gabriel second by Mr. Weber. Unanimous Voice Vote.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Weber second by Ms. Wudzki. Roll Call was taken and everyone was in favor.

## **ADJOURNMENT @ 7:45PM**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

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**Wendy Prior, Deputy Clerk**

## **Items of Interest:**

- ❑ The **Island Heights Mayor and Council** regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, April 23, 2019 has been ***cancelled.***
- ❑ The **Island Heights Board of Education** regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at 6:15 PM held at the Island Heights Grade School, 115 Summit Avenue, Island Heights.
- ❑ The **Island Heights Planning Board** regularly scheduled meeting is Thursday, May 9, 2019 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.
- ❑ The **Island Heights Mayor and Council** regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.
- ❑ The **Island Heights Environmental Committee** regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.
- ❑ The **Central Regional Board of Education** regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, May 16, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Board of Education building, Forest Hills Parkway, Bayville.
- ❑ **All Borough Offices will be closed** on Monday, May 27, 2019 in observance of Memorial Day.
- ❑ The **Island Heights Mayor and Council** regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, May 28, 2019 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.

The **Municipal Clerk's Office, Tax Collector & Water/Sewer Office**, are open Monday – Thursday 8:00 AM until 3:00 PM (**closed Friday**) and Monday evening 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM. Finance & Purchasing are open Wednesday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Building Department & Fire Official, Tax Assessor and Municipal Court are open Monday evening 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM. Please call the borough hall at (732) 270-6415 for days and times of offices not listed above.

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Council Member Sandra Snow

April D. Elley, Newsletter Editor (732) 270-6415