

BOROUGH OF BUENA
SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
MAY 17, 2017

The Special meeting of Mayor and Council of the Borough of Buena was held Monday, 4:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall with Mayor Zappariello presiding. The Mayor announced that this meeting was held in compliance with the Open Meetings Act and notices of this meeting have been provided to via email, to the Press of Atlantic City, the Daily Journal and the Atlantic County Record via email on May 15 and May 17, as well as having been posted on the bulletin board at the Borough Hall.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 4:00 P.M.
MEETING ADJOURNED: 5:40 P.M.

PRESENT: Councilpersons Marolda, Baker, Alvarez and McAvaddy, Sal Perillo, Special Counsel, Maryann Coraluzzo, Borough Clerk and Brianna Pace, Deputy Clerk

ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE:

| | AYE: | NAY: | ABSTAIN: | ABSENT: |
|----------|------|------|----------|---------|
| MAROLDA | X | | | |
| WALKER | | | | X |
| BAKER | X | | | |
| MANCUSO | | | | x |
| ALVAREZ | X | | | |
| MCAVADDY | X | | | |

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING:

There was no one wishing to address Mayor and Council. Mayor Zappariello asked for questions and comments at the conclusion of the presentation.

Representatives from the City of Vineland and the Township of Franklin were present to provide information and proposals concerning the potential provision of police services for the Borough of Buena in lieu of the Buena Police Department.

Present from the City of Vineland were Captain Adam Austino, Police Chief Rudy Beu, Lt. Steven Triantos, Lt. Lene Bowers, Edwin Alicea, Public Safety Director and Sgt. Shane Harris.

Present from the Township of Franklin were Nancy Brent, Business Administrator, Police Chief Brian Zimmer, Captain Gordon Muller and Committee members Leah Vassallo and Dave Deegan.

Each presenting department discussed demographics and highlighted services that will be rendered as part of the agreement. Neither cost to provide services nor the continued employment of our current staff was discussed at this meeting.

Council members asked for clarification on coverage, the use of our building as a substation and availability of additional officers should the need arise. In addition, since our 911 calls will be rerouted if contracted with the City of Vineland, Councilman Alvarez asked for a definitive response timeframe.

Former Police Chief and resident, Doug Adams of Aberdeen Avenue stated closing the department is a mistake and requested the Council consider all options prior to making the decision. Mr. Adams made reference to the Borough of Elmer which staffs the police department during the day and uses state police services for the midnight shift.

Anthony Abriola stated that the cost of this shared service should be commensurate with services provided. For example, the Borough has two patrol officers on duty for each shift. Should that number decrease to one, Mr. Abriola stated the amount paid to either department should be no more than fifty percent of our current budget.

Mayor Zappariello made reference to a five year financial projection prepared by the auditing firm Ford, Scott and Associates, that paints a grim picture.

Meeting adjourned:
m/Baker s/Marolda

| | AYE: | NAY: | ABSTAIN: | ABSENT: |
|----------|------|------|----------|---------|
| MAROLDA | X | | | |
| WALKER | | | | X |
| BAKER | X | | | |
| MANCUSO | | | | x |
| ALVAREZ | X | | | |
| MCAVADDY | X | | | |

MARYANN CORALUZZO, BOROUGH CLERK