

*PINE VALLEY BOROUGH  
MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, July 19, 2018  
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**CALL TO ORDER** - Mayor Kennedy called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with a Salute to the Flag.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT** – Adequate notice of this meeting was given by emailing The Retrospect and Courier Post on January 3, 2018 and posting on the bulletin board at Borough Hall.

**ROLL CALL** – Recorded as present was Mayor Kennedy, Commissioner Clark and Commissioner Kennedy;

**OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC** – Mayor Kennedy opened the meeting to the public and welcomed and recognized the participation of State Assemblyman Ryan Peters of the New Jersey Eight Legislative District.

**MATTERS REQUIRING OFFICIAL ACTION:**

- **Minutes** – Borough Meeting of Tuesday, June 19, 2018 - the motion to approve by Commissioner Clark was seconded by Commissioner Kennedy with all in favor, none opposed and none abstaining.
- **Resolutions**
  - #036-2018 - APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS  
BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Pine Valley, that payment for the annexed bill list dated July 19, 2018 in the amounts indicated below is hereby approved:  
Current Account                 \$36,555.83  
Payroll Account                 9,896.72  
TOTAL                                 \$46,452.55
  - The motion to table by Commissioner Kennedy was seconded by Mayor Kennedy, with Mayor Kennedy, Commissioner Clark, and Commissioner Kennedy in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

**OFFICIAL REPORTS**

- **Finance Reports** – CFO Dean Ciminera reported that the tax rate had been received by the County, and Edmunds the software system provider had been contacted with regard to the production of the tax bills. There was discussion of the timing of 25 days from the mailing, however, no interest accrues. The new tax bills will be produced in house with CFO Ciminera’s information inserted as he also serves as tax collector. CFO Ciminera said he attended the SALT Legislation Seminar the crux of which was that they will have to wait until the IRS decides and the NJDLGS releases regulations. However, they did discuss “what if” scenarios in which each payment would receive a signed 10-point receipt verifying the contribution. CFO Ciminera said he would be reluctant to sign such. Mayor Kennedy will be attending a seminar in Pennsylvania, part of which will center on tax payments to charitable trusts, but agrees that until the IRS makes a decision there is uncertainty, but will stay on top of the issue for the residents of Pine Valley. There was discussion of how this idea has played out in western states such as Arizona. However, it was discussed that these are not exactly the same in that the donation must be for a specific non-profit, such as a Community College, versus a seemingly quid pro quo arrangement proposed in New Jersey. Representative Peters said that the Assembly had passed it, but the IRS and Treasury do not seem to favor it. There was notional discussion on whether it may be political or practical, and of the general legislative agenda on taxation. Mayor Kennedy confirmed that everything with payroll was good and that that Quarterly Payroll taxes had been submitted.
- Captain Rauer reported that every officer had qualified with firearms. Everything is moving ahead for the Crump Cup, EMS presence has been secured. Mayor Kennedy gave Representative Peters an explanation of the event, and how that 600 – 800 members of the public are expected in the Borough for Sunday of the tournament. There is an entrance fee that the Club donates to a local children’s charity. The Borough has to prepare the policing and EMS for the day. Captain Rauer reported that there were no incidents with caddies or golfers on the course and no call for the ambulance. There was a minor fire incident with the laundry, which has been repaired and the fire extinguisher recharged.

**MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION**

- Notice of Rescheduled Meetings – The proposed schedule was distributed and confirmed by the Board of Commissioners and will be published for the remainder of the year.
- NJCM Information Alert “Forced Consolidation” – No new information has been received since the alerts and updates were filed. Mayor Kennedy has discussed the matter with Solicitor Betley. Representative Peters said that it is not constitutional to force the municipalities to comply with consolidation, however, they could change the distribution of State Aid, so municipalities dependent on State Aid will have a tougher road.
- Best Practices –
  - Right to know survey – there are no applicable items to report, nonetheless, the report must be filed annually, which was accomplished.
  - 2018 EJIF Audit – Borough Administrator Mather met with the intern who performs the audit for EJIF, all is well, the report filed with nothing to report.
- Annual Award Dinner – details for the awards will be discussed when the time for the dinner in December is closer.

**FLOOR OPEN TO THE PUBLIC** – Mayor Kennedy mentioned that the floor was opened to the Public and invited Representative Peters to make some comments, to which he responded with thanks and gave a biographical account of how he became a State Assemblyman. He invited the governing body to reach out to him for updates on the consolidation and SALT issues. He is working on legislation that amends the State Constitution to require Energy Tax Receipts Property Tax Relief Act aid and Consolidated Municipal Property Tax Relief Aid programs be fully funded each year, with dedicated amounts distributed to municipalities. Representative Peters reviewed the history of the ERT and CMPTRA saying prior to 1970 each of the 565 municipalities received separate revenues, but that in 1970 it all became funneled through the State and the State now distributes the money. The State does not give municipalities the full amount, but uses the money fund State programs. His amendment would require the State to fully fund the money to municipalities. He has a resolution of support that he would like the Board of Commissioners to consider adopting. Mayor Kennedy thanked him for his service in the military, State Assembly and for coming to the Borough Meeting.

Mayor Kennedy, not hearing any further comments or questions, closed the meeting to the public.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – The next Borough Meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Pine Valley will be held on Tuesday, August 14, 2018, 9:00 am in the Borough Hall.

**ADJOURNMENT** - There being no further discussion or official action, the motion to adjourn by Commissioner Clark was seconded by Commissioner Kennedy at 9:35 am, with all in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn T. Amadio, RMC, Municipal Clerk