

DRAFT MINUTES

These are the Draft Minutes of the Agenda Conference Meeting of the North Plainfield Borough Council held on Monday, 15 August 2016.

Every attempt has been made to make these as comprehensive and conclusive as possible. However, as it is a draft document, it is not to be construed as a formal depiction of the official conduct of business and is subject to revision up to and following the Governing Body's actual approval of same. If changes are necessary, revised minutes will be posted to the website.

MINUTES of the Agenda Conference of the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield held on Monday, **August 15, 2016** at 7:30 p.m. at the North Plainfield Council Chambers, 263 Somerset Street, North Plainfield, New Jersey.

PRESENT:

Council Members: Everett Merrill
Keiona R. Miller
Frank Righetti
Wendy Schaefer (absent - excused)
Douglas M. Singleterry
Frank "Skip" Stabile
Lawrence La Ronde, Council President

Also Present: David E. Hollod, Business Administrator
Eric M. Bernstein, Esq., Borough Attorney
Richard K. Phoenix, RMC, Borough Clerk

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Council President La Ronde.

Council President La Ronde requested a moment of silence for the men and women serving in our Armed Forces.

The Council President read the following Notice of Compliance:

"This is an Agenda Meeting of the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, scheduled by resolution of the Council adopted on December 14, 2015. Adequate notice of this meeting was given pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.* by transmitting said notice to the *Courier News*, *The Star-Ledger*, *The Alternative Press* and *WKMB* Radio on December 15, 2015, by publication of the announcement in the *Courier News* of December 17, 2015 and by posting a copy of this notice on the bulletin boards in the Municipal Building and Memorial Library reserved for such purpose."

Mr. Hollod read the following Mayoral Proclamation:

Mayoral Proclamation Supporting the
Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2016 Statewide Crackdown

Whereas, approximately one-third of all fatal traffic crashes in the United States involve drunk drivers; and

Whereas, impaired driving crashes cost the United States almost \$50 Billion a year; and

Whereas, 27% of motor vehicle fatalities in New Jersey in 2013 (the last year for which complete data is available) were alcohol-related; and

Whereas, an enforcement crackdown is planned to combat impaired driving; and

Whereas, the summer season and the Labor Day holiday in particular are traditionally times of social gatherings which include alcohol; and

Whereas, the State of New Jersey, Division of Highway Traffic Safety, has asked law enforcement agencies throughout the state to participate in the *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2016 Statewide Crackdown*; and

Whereas, the project will involve increased impaired driving enforcement from August 19 through September 5, 2016; and

Whereas, an increase in impaired driving enforcement and a reduction in impaired driving will save lives on our roadways;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Borough of North Plainfield declares its support for the *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2016 Statewide Crackdown* from August 19 through September 5, 2016 and pledges to increase awareness of the dangers of drinking and driving.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Frank D'Amore, 40 Willow Avenue, North Plainfield, commented on the Energy Aggregation program, suggesting it would have been easier to have residents opt-in. Mr. Singleterry advised that requiring residents to opt-out of the program afforded the Borough a better deal.

Steven Romeo, 16 Rockview Avenue, North Plainfield, shared his displeasure with a sewer installation project as the lateral was improperly installed which led to a sewer back-up in his home. Stressing that he should not be responsible for a sewer line beyond his property line, the speaker noted that they did not connect him to the main line.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Award of Bids for Salt Storage Building** – D.E.H. Mr. Hollod advised that this resolution authorizes the execution of an agreement with Simpson and Brown Inc. for the project known as the Department of Public Works Yard Salt Storage Building.
2. **NJDEP Treatment Works Application for Petco Commercial Property** – D.E.H. Mr. Hollod explained that this resolution authorizes the treatment works approval permit application for the Petco retail store project.
3. **Ordinance No. 13-05 (possible amendment)** – L.L.R. Council President La Ronde explained that the Police Department had discovered a conflict within Ordinance No. 13-05 regarding an applicant’s eligibility if they have been convicted of a DWI/DUI. He further proposed the addition of fines for certain violations of the ordinance. All council members agreed to continued discussion.
4. **Ordinance No. 16-12 (adding West End Avenue to N.P.R.G.O. 7-4.1)** – D.E.H. Mr. Hollod advised of the need to include West End Avenue within Ordinance No. 16-12 as one of the streets which excludes trucks over four tons.
5. **Resolution Supporting Complete Streets Policy** – D.E.H. Mr. Hollod explained that this resolution encourages more pedestrian and bicycle friendly roadways.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Government Energy Aggregation Bid** – D.E.H. Mr. Hollod noted that meetings had been held to assist residents with questions and or concerns about the program. The Borough’s utility rates will decline over 6.6% and the energy consultant will monitor it for the length of the program, he concluded.

REPORTS OF BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS:

Mr. Merrill reported that the Board of Education president suggested a joint meeting be held sometime in October.

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Miller, seconded by Mr. Stabile and carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Borough Clerk

Council President