

# ***DRAFT MINUTES***

*These are the Draft Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the North Plainfield Borough Council held on Monday, 27 April 2020. 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 Council's actual approval of same. If changes are necessary, revised minutes will be posted to the website.*

**MINUTES** of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield held on Monday, **April 27, 2020** at 3:02 p.m. at the North Plainfield Borough Council Chambers, 263 Somerset Street, North Plainfield, New Jersey.

**PRESENT:**

Council Members: Aimee Corzo  
Lawrence La Ronde  
Everett Merrill  
Keiona R. Miller  
Wendy Schaefer  
Douglas M. Singleterry (3:31 p.m.)  
Frank "Skip" Stabile, Council President

Also Present: Michael Giordano, Jr., Mayor  
David 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 Stabile.

Council President Stabile requested a moment of silence for the men and women serving in our Armed Forces as well as those in the medical community and the first responders for their efforts during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Council President read the following Notice of Compliance:

"This meeting is being held in compliance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. Adequate notice of this meeting was provided by transmitting notice to the official newspapers of the Borough, The Courier News, WKMB Radio, WJLP-TV, the Alternative Press and also to the Star Ledger on April 23, 2020 and by posting a copy of this notice on the bulletin boards in the Municipal Building and the Memorial Library reserved for such purpose."

Mayor Giordano read the Mayor's Call of Meeting:

I, Michael Giordano, Jr., Mayor of the Borough of North Plainfield, do hereby call a Special Meeting of the North Plainfield Borough Council for Monday, April 27, 2020 at 3:00 PM. Such Meeting is expected to be conducted by telephone/videoconference due to the current COVID-19 Virus Public Health Emergency declared by Governor Philip Murphy which requires social distancing measures that would not be achievable in the customary location in the Council Chambers at North Plainfield Borough Hall in addition to P.L. 2020, c.11. The Borough Clerk is charged with providing proper notice of the Meeting to all applicable parties, to setting up the technical parameters of the meeting, to training the participants in the proper use/procedures of the telephone/videoconferencing methodology and by conducting the Meeting in accordance with all governing statutes, including the allowance for public participation. The purpose of this Special Council Meeting is to hold a Public Hearing and vote on Ordinance No. 20-02 (Cap Bank Ordinance), hold a Public Hearing and possibly vote on the adoption of the 2020 Municipal Budget, vote to approve payments of bills, vote to adopt a temporary budget, vote to endorse an application for a State Library Grant, vote to approve professional services proposals, vote to approve an employee separation agreement, vote to authorize cancellation of taxes, vote to authorize issuance of Estimated Tax Bills, vote to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to pay bills and conduct any and all other such business during the Public Health Emergency and when the Council is not in session, and finally, to conduct any other such matters of business as may be necessary and required to be approved at an otherwise regularly scheduled Council Meeting.

The Clerk had submitted copies of the minutes of the Agenda Conference and Regular Meeting of March 9, 2020.

The Council President called for a Roll Call on the minutes:

Aye: Corzo, La Ronde, Miller, Schaefer, Stabile  
Abstain: Merrill

**HEARING:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 20-02** CALENDAR YEAR 2020 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

The Clerk read the Ordinance by its title.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

Motion to close public comment by Mr. La Ronde, seconded by Ms. Miller and on Roll Call carried all six voting aye.

Ms. Schaefer presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-27-20-01** BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that an ordinance numbered 20-02 be adopted and advertised as required by statute.

Seconded by Mr. La Ronde and on Roll Call carried all six voting aye.

Mr. La Ronde presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-27-20-02** BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-8, that the approved 2020 Municipal Budget of the Borough of North Plainfield be read by its title; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is the determination of the Council that a complete copy of the approved budget, as aforesaid, has been made available for public inspection at the North Plainfield Memorial Library and the Somerset County Library at least one week prior to today's date, and that a copy of said budget has been made available to each person requesting the same during said week and during this public hearing.

Seconded by Ms. Schaefer and on Roll Call carried all six voting aye.

Authorization for Self-Examination of 2020 Municipal Budget

Mr. Bernstein requested that item "I" be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately at this portion of the meeting.

Mr. La Ronde presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-27-20-04I** AUTHORIZING SELF-EXAMINATION OF BUDGET

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-78b has authorized the Local Finance Board to adopt rules that permit municipalities in sound fiscal condition to assume the responsibility, normally granted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, of conducting the annual budget examination; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:30-7 was adopted by the Local Finance Board on February 11, 1997; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.2 through 7.5, the Borough of North Plainfield has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of Local Government Services, and the Chief Financial Officer has determined that the local government meets the necessary conditions to participate in the program for the 2020 budget year.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Borough of North Plainfield that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.6a & 7.6b and based upon the Chief Financial Officer's certification, the governing body has found the budget has met the following requirements:

1. That with reference to the following items, the amounts have been calculated pursuant to law and appropriated as such in the budget:

- a. Payment of interest and debt redemption charges
- b. Deferred charges and statutory expenditures
- c. Cash deficit of preceding year
- d. Reserve for uncollected taxes
- e. Other reserves and non-disbursement items
- f. Any inclusions of amounts required for school purposes.

2. That the provisions relating to limitation on increases of appropriations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.2 and appropriations for exceptions to limits on appropriations found at N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.3 et seq., are fully met (complies with CAP law).

3. That the budget is in such form, arrangement, and content as required by the Local Budget Law and N.J.A.C. 5:30-4 and 5:30-5.

4. That pursuant to the Local Budget Law:

- a. All estimates of revenue are reasonable, accurate and correctly stated,
- b. Items of appropriation are properly set forth
- c. In itemization, form, arrangement and content, the budget will permit the exercise of the comptroller function within the municipality.

5. The budget and associated amendments have been introduced and publicly advertised in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Budget Law, except that failure to meet the deadlines of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 shall not prevent such certification.

6. That all other applicable statutory requirements have been fulfilled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution will be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services upon adoption.

Seconded by Ms. Corzo and on Roll Call carried all six voting aye.

**HEARING:**

MUNICIPAL BUDGET OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD,  
COUNTY OF SOMERSET, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2020

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Francine Gargano, 57 Willow Avenue, North Plainfield, requested consideration for those residents hurt financially during the pandemic as they may not be able to pay their property taxes. Addressing Ms. Gargano's concerns, Mr. Hollod assured that the Borough would look to use a portion of its surplus as well as those funds allocated for snow removal.

Motion to close public comment by Mr. La Ronde, seconded by Ms. Miller and on Roll Call carried all six voting aye.

Ms. Corzo presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-27-20-03** BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, County of Somerset, that the budget hereinbefore set forth is hereby adopted and shall constitute an appropriation for the purposes stated of the sums therein set forth as appropriations, and authorization of the amount of:

\$27,275,648.70 (Twenty-Seven Million, Two Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand, Six Hundred Forty-Eight Dollars and Seventy Cents) item 2 below, for municipal purposes. I so move.

Seconded by Mr. La Ronde and on Roll Call carried all six voting aye.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Council President Stabile stated that all matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If any discussion is desired by Council, that particular item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

Mr. La Ronde requested that item “l” be removed as it had been voted on previously.

Mr. La Ronde then presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-27-20-04** BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that resolutions numbered

04-27-20-04 a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k and m

having been placed on the Consent Agenda and there having been no objection thereto, the same are hereby approved.

Seconded by Ms. Miller and on Roll Call carried all six voting aye.

**APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-27-20-04a** SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

**RESOLUTION OF PARTICIPATION AND ACCEPTANCE**

A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY FEDERAL GRANT PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE, DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY.

Whereas, the Borough of North Plainfield does accept funding of \$90,000 with a match of \$425,720 for an approximate project total cost of \$515,720 for a project under the State of New Jersey Safe and Secure Neighborhoods Grant Program, Subaward number: P-20-1814, with a subaward award period of March 1, 2020 to February 28, 2021, and

Whereas, the North Plainfield Borough Council does accept the grant Subaward funding for assisting with paying the base salary of police officers, and

Whereas, the project is a joint effort between the Department of Law and Public Safety and the Borough of North Plainfield for the purpose described in the application;

Therefore, be it resolved by the North Plainfield Borough Council that

1. As a matter of public policy, the Borough of North Plainfield wishes to accept grant funding to the fullest extent possible with the Department of Law and Public Safety.
2. The Attorney General will receive funds on behalf of the applicant.
3. The Division of Criminal Justice shall be responsible for the receipt and review of the application for said funds.
4. The Division of Criminal Justice shall initiate allocations to each applicant as authorized.

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-27-20-04b RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATION TO NJ STATE LIBRARY FOR RENOVATIONS OF THE NORTH PLAINFIELD MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield and the Somerset County Library Commission hereby certify that permission has been granted to apply for the project entitled the New Jersey Library Construction Bond Act, in the amount of:

\$626,400.00 (total construction project).  
\$313,200.00 (50% Borough matching funds).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council do hereby approve the submission of said grant application.

Introduced	Seconded	Borough Council	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
		Frank "Skip" Stabile, Council President	x			
		Everett Merrill, Council Vice President	x			
		Aimee Corzo	x			
X		Lawrence La Ronde	x			
	x	Keiona R. Miller	x			
		Wendy Schaefer	x			

		Douglas M. Singleterry				x
--	--	------------------------	--	--	--	---

It is hereby certified that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the borough council of the Borough of North Plainfield at a meeting of said council held on April 27th, 2020.

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-27-20-04c** RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (NJ DOT) TO ISSUE A TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CERTAIN BUS STOPS ALONG ROUTE U.S. 22 IN THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD.

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:4-8.4c, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (“NJDOT”) may immediately issue a Traffic Regulation Order in response to a resolution of support from the governing body of a municipality if the Traffic Regulation Order pertains exclusively to a public highway or transportation system located within the boundaries of that municipality; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield (“Borough”) wishes to request that the NJDOT issue a Traffic Regulation Order for the establishment of certain bus stops along Route U.S. 22 in the Borough.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The Borough requests that the NJDOT issue a Traffic Regulation Order for the establishment of bus stops along Route U.S. 22 as follows:

Along Route U.S. 22, eastbound, on the southerly side at:

West End Avenue – (near side) (NJ Transit ID #28335)

Beginning at the westerly curb line of West End Avenue and extending one hundred and five (105) feet westerly therefrom.

Along Route U. S. 22, westbound, on the northerly side at:

West End Avenue – (near side) (NJ Transit ID #30917)

Beginning at the easterly curb line of West End Avenue and extending one hundred and five (105) feet easterly therefrom.

2. The Borough concurs that any approved bus stop locations or traffic regulations in conflict with or inconsistent with the provisions of this Resolution be rescinded upon approval of the Traffic Regulation Order.

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-27-20-04d** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR AND BOROUGH CLERK (WHERE APPLICABLE) TO ACT ON VARIOUS MATTERS AND/OR EXECUTE AGREEMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE BOROUGH DURING PUBLIC HEALTH

EMERGENCIES AND/OR WHEN THE BOROUGH COUNCIL IS NOT IN SESSION OR OTHER REASONS.

WHEREAS, there are certain periods of time during Public Health Emergencies and/or when the Borough Council is not in session and/or no meetings are scheduled and/or held by the Borough Council; and,

WHEREAS, during such times during Public Health Emergencies and/or when the Borough Council is not in session, or where otherwise appropriate and/or necessary, certain actions may need to be taken by the Borough of North Plainfield with respect to paying bills, executing agreements and other such items; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to authorize the Mayor and Borough Clerk to take any and all necessary actions on behalf of the Borough during Public Health Emergencies and/or when the Borough Council is not in session including, but not limited to, paying bills and executing agreements on behalf of the Borough.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Mayor is hereby authorized to pay bills, execute any and all agreements (with execution by the Borough Clerk) and/or take any other action on behalf of the Borough which becomes necessary at times of Public Health Emergencies and/or when the Borough Council is not in session and/or no meetings are scheduled and/or held by the Borough Council.

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-27-20-04e** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR AND BOROUGH CLERK TO EXECUTE SEPARATION OF EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL COMPENSATION AGREEMENT WITH HOWARD KLEIN.

WHEREAS, Howard Klein desires to permanently resign from his official duties as a Borough employee; and,

WHEREAS, both the Borough and Howard Klein desire to enter into a Separation of Employment Agreement and Final Compensation Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized to execute a Separation of Employment Agreement and Final Compensation Agreement with Howard Klein, a copy of which is annexed hereto and incorporated herein and is on file in the office of the Borough Clerk.

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-27-20-04f** RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH CLERK TO EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH GROTTO ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES, LLC FOR THE MEMORIAL LIBRARY PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENTS



WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield is in need of professional engineering services to provide the design documents and services relative to bid support and construction observation and administration for the project known as the Memorial Library Parking Lot Improvements (hereinafter referred to as the "Project"); and,

WHEREAS, Grotto Engineering Associates, LLC, with a principal place of business located at 340 North Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016, is in the business of providing professional engineering services and previously submitted a proposal for the Project to the Borough of North Plainfield, Somerset County, New Jersey, dated April 7, 2020, as follows:

Item 1: Bid Design Documents at an hourly rate in an amount not to exceed Eight Thousand Five Hundred (\$8,500.00) Dollars; and,

Item 2: Bid Support, Contract Administration and Inspection at an hourly rate in an amount not to exceed of Ten Thousand (\$10,000.00) Dollars.

Therefore, the award for both items is not to exceed Eighteen Thousand Five Hundred (\$18,500.00) Dollars. All of these fees are contemplated and set forth in the afore-referenced proposal, a copy of said proposal being maintained in the Office of the Borough Clerk and the contents of which are incorporated herein; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield is desirous of obtaining the services of Grotto Engineering Associates, LLC to perform all of those services contemplated in the afore-referenced proposal.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the Borough Council does hereby award said contract to Grotto Engineering Associates, LLC, 340 North Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016 in the amounts set forth above and authorizes the Mayor and the Borough Clerk to sign and/or execute a Professional Services Agreement with Grotto Engineering Associates, LLC, without the need for any further action of this Borough Council, as to their proposal of April 7, 2020.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the award of this Contract shall be subject to the Certification of the Borough's Chief Financial Officer as to the availability of funds for payment for same.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the award is made pursuant to and consistent with the Local Public Contracts Laws of the State of New Jersey.

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-27-20-04g** RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH CLERK TO EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH GROTTO ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES, LLC FOR THE 2020 CAPITAL ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT-VARIOUS STREETS

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield is in need of professional engineering services to provide the design documents and services relative to bid support and construction observation and

administration for the project known as the 2020 Capital Road Improvements – Various Streets (hereinafter referred to as the “Project”); and,

WHEREAS, Grotto Engineering Associates, LLC, with a principal place of business located at 340 North Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016, is in the business of providing professional engineering services and previously submitted a proposal for the Project to the Borough of North Plainfield, Somerset County, New Jersey, dated April 7, 2020, as follows:

Item 1: Bid Design Documents at an hourly rate in an amount not to exceed Forty Thousand (\$40,000.00) Dollars; and,

Item 2: Bid Support, Contract Administration and Inspection at an hourly rate in an amount not to exceed of Thirty Nine Thousand (\$39,000.00) Dollars.

Therefore, the award for both items is not to exceed Seventy Nine Thousand (\$79,000.00) Dollars. All of these fees are contemplated and set forth in the afore-referenced proposal, a copy of said proposal being maintained in the Office of the Borough Clerk and the contents of which are incorporated herein; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield is desirous of obtaining the services of Grotto Engineering Associates, LLC to perform all of those services contemplated in the afore-referenced proposal.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the Borough Council does hereby award said contract to Grotto Engineering Associates, LLC, 340 North Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016 in the amounts set forth above and authorizes the Mayor and the Borough Clerk to sign and/or execute a Professional Services Agreement with Grotto Engineering Associates, LLC, without the need for any further action of this Borough Council, as to their proposal of April 7, 2020.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the award of this Contract shall be subject to the Certification of the Borough’s Chief Financial Officer as to the availability of funds for payment for same.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the award is made pursuant to and consistent with the Local Public Contracts Laws of the State of New Jersey.

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-27-20-04h** WHEREAS, on various properties, as listed below, tax sale certificates were sold prior to 12/31/14; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:5- et seq, If the tax sale certificate is not redeemed, or the property foreclosed upon within the five year period, then the premium escheats to the municipality.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized and directed to cancel the premium totaling \$35,000.00 on the tax sale certificates as listed below and the Finance Director is authorized to make the appropriate entries.

<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Cert #</u>	<u>Sold Date</u>	<u>Premium Amount</u>
47	7	11-00050	09/20/11	\$10,000.00
129	1	13-00185	12/04/13	\$25,000.00

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-27-20-04i** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL TAXES

WHEREAS, the property known as Block 194 Lot 33 was deemed exempt from property taxes per the Assessor and;

WHEREAS, taxes have been levied on the aforementioned parcel for multiple quarters to include 2019 and 2020;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield of Somerset County, State of New Jersey, that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to cancel taxes on this parcel.

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-27-20-04j** BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Treasurer is hereby authorized to refund the following:

Refund of Bulk Pick Up Registration:

Attia Raja                          \$ 30.00  
386 Malcolm Avenue  
North Plainfield, New Jersey 07060

Property at:

14 Mountain Avenue  
North Plainfield. New Jersey 07060

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-27-20-04k** BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that the attached bills of the accounts named and for the amounts stated, having been duly audited and found to be correct as of this 27<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2020 the same be paid; and that the Mayor and Chief Financial Officer are hereby authorized to sign and deliver warrants for the same.

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-27-20-04m** RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL IN SUPPORT OF A MOBILE COVID-19 TESTING FACILITY WITHIN SOMERSET COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield, in the County of Somerset, New Jersey (the “Borough”), a public body corporate and politic of the State of New Jersey (the “State”), is facing a health crisis related to the spread and treatment of the COVID-19 virus, and

WHEREAS, in order to assist in the combat of the spread of the COVID-19 virus the performance of tests to help identify infected individuals is necessary, and

WHEREAS, several other counties within the State have established mobile drive thru testing sites for the benefit of their residents, and

WHEREAS, the County of Somerset in conjunction with the County of Hunterdon desires to establish and operate a mobile testing site for their residents, and

WHEREAS, the County of Somerset has identified Raritan Valley Community College as a suitable location for the mobile testing facility; and

WHEREAS, the County of Somerset and the County of Hunterdon have agreed to share the costs and responsibility for the staffing and operation of the facility; and

WHEREAS, in order to establish and operate the mobile testing facility certain equipment including personal protective equipment and testing kits are necessary for the operation of the facility; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey in conjunction with the United States of America possesses the authority and ability to provide the necessary equipment needed for the establishment and operation of the mobile testing facility; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council requests that the State provide the needed resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Council of the Borough of North Plainfield hereby expresses its support of a mobile testing facility for COVID-19 in Somerset County and urges the Governor of the State of New Jersey, the New Jersey Legislature and Members of Congress to act expeditiously and without haste to provide the necessary resources to the County of Somerset and the County of Hunterdon.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

NJ State League of Municipalities Trenton, NJ Richard K. Phoenix, RMC Borough Clerk and 1630-AM Chief Operator County of Somerset, Somerville Plainfield Area Humane Society Plainfield, NJ	Newsletters & Advisories  Updated Radio Reports and Announcements  Newsletters & General Correspondence Invoice and Report
---	---

Somerset County Business Partnership Somerville, NJ	Newsletters
NJDEP, Trenton, NJ	Newsletters
Sustainable Raritan River New Brunswick, NJ	Newsletters

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Councilman Doug Singletery, 59 Mali Drive, North Plainfield, explained that without a computer camera he had listened to the meeting, but was unable to participate.

Frank D’Amore, 40 Willow Avenue, North Plainfield, indicated his desire for the Somerset County Health Department to share statistics of those who have recovered from Covid-19, rather than only sharing the new case totals and deaths. Mayor Giordano explained that the only information received is the number of new cases and the ages of those individuals.

Nancy Campbell, 677 Greenbrook Road, North Plainfield, shared the difficulties she encountered while completing the Census paperwork, specifically that the system automatically made her a Plainfield resident. The speaker also inquired after the brush and leaf pickup schedule as her materials had not been collected. Mayor Giordano explained that the Plainfield Municipal Utilities Authority had been temporarily shut down by the Department of Environmental Protection so we were unable to drop off brush and leaves.

**REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS:** None.

**COMMENTS BY MAYOR, ADMINISTRATOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Mayor Giordano thanked the Police Department, Fire Department and Emergency Medical Technicians for going above and beyond during this pandemic. He thanked the Food Bank and all local churches for feeding those in need. He reported on the daily conference calls with Somerset County and the Governor’s Office, noting that the economic recovery would be a tough one. The Fishing Derby scheduled for May 16 would be rescheduled for September. The Memorial Day ceremony will take place on May 25 at 11:00 a.m. at Memorial Park. The Summer Concert Series is set to begin in July. The Fourth of July parade is still on as planned as well as Community Day and the Summer Camp program. He wished everyone well and encouraged everyone to be safe.

Mr. Hollod noted he was honored to participate in the Borough’s first remote meeting. He thanked the Council for their support of the Budget and thanked all first responders and Borough employees for their continued efforts in these trying times.

Mr. Merrill reported that the Board of Education continued with the school food programs for students. He thanked the Mayor and Mr. Hollod for their leadership.

Mr. La Ronde thanked the first responders and Borough employees for continuing to help residents and encouraged everyone to stay safe.

Ms. Schaefer offered her condolences to those who have lost a loved one. She encouraged everyone to check on neighbors, especially the elderly. She thanked all of the first responders.

Ms. Corzo expressed her gratitude for all essential workers. She urged everyone to continue to stay safe.

Ms. Miller offered her sympathies to those affected by the virus and condolences to those lost. She urged everyone to remain calm, stay informed and be safe.

Thanking the first responders and Borough employees, Mr. Singleterry, now available via Zoom, urged everyone to stay safe and positive.

Council President Stabile thanked all of the first responders and Borough employees as well as those volunteering to help others during the crisis. He thanked Joe Asprocolas for his efforts with their very first Zoom meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Miller seconded by Ms. Corzo and on voice vote carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

---

Borough Clerk

---

Council President