

DRAFT MINUTES

*These are the Draft Minutes of the Regular Meeting
of the North Plainfield Borough Council held on Monday, 22 September 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 (virtual) Meeting of the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield held on Tuesday, **September 22, 2020** at 4:07 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
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
Stephanie Sherwood, RMC, CMR, Deputy 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.

The Council President read the following Notice of Compliance:

"This virtual 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 September 3, 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 Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at 4:00 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, setting up the technical parameters of the meeting, training the participants in the proper use/procedures of the telephone/videoconferencing methodology and 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 two Capital Bond Ordinances (one for General Improvements, and one for Sanitary Sewer Improvements), and introduce an ordinance to revise the existing Stormwater Resolutions. Resolutions to be considered and acted upon include closing out a professional services contract with Miskovich Consulting Engineers, LLC, entering into a professional services agreement with Klein Traffic Consulting, LLC for the traffic signal design at the intersection of Somerset Street/ Craig Place and Pearl Street, and awarding a bid for the construction of the Grandview Avenue Roadway Improvements project. Other anticipated business includes the North Plainfield Fire Department Awards Ceremony, approval of payment of bills, and any other such matters of business as may be necessary and required to be approved at an otherwise regularly scheduled Council Meeting. An Executive Session is called for the Meeting to discuss matters of pending/anticipated litigation with regard to the Borough's Affordable Housing Obligation, under the prerogative of Attorney/Client Privilege.

The Clerk had submitted copies of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 25, 2020.

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

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

Chief William Eaton offered the Fire Department awards presentation, detailing the incidents that led to the commendatory actions of the award recipients.

Captain Thomas McDonald
Captain Richard Connolly

Lieutenant Ryan Valentino
Lieutenant Daniel Lawson

Firefighter/EMT Jeffrey Meyer
Firefighter/EMT Scott Otto
Firefighter/EMT John Schulz
Firefighter/EMT Philip Kika
Firefighter/EMT Chad Makowski
Firefighter/EMT Michael Ceccato

EMT Gary Howard
EMT David Kohler
EMT Robyn Barb
EMT Nicholas Grieco
EMT Daniel O'Grady
EMT Emily Kilgore
EMT Angela Taylor

HEARING:

BOND ORDINANCE NO. 20-08 BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS 2020 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$4,359,000 THEREFOR (INCLUDING STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GRANTS IN THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF \$958,000) AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$3,241,000 IN BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

The Clerk read the Ordinance by its title.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

Motion to close public comment by Ms. Miller, seconded by Ms. Corzo and on Roll Call carried all seven voting aye.

Mr. Singleterry presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 09-22-20-01 BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that an ordinance numbered 20-08 be adopted and advertised as required by statute.

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

HEARING:

ORDINANCE NO. 20-09 BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE 2020 SANITARY SEWER AND REPAIR PROGRAM OF THE SEWER UTILITY OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (THE "BOROUGH"); APPROPRIATING \$1,377,000 THEREFOR (INCLUDING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS IN THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF \$174,173) AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,202,827 IN BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

The Clerk read the Ordinance by its title.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

Motion to close public comment by Ms. Miller, seconded by Ms. Corzo and on Roll Call carried all seven voting aye.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 09-22-20-02 BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that an ordinance numbered 20-09 be adopted and advertised as required by statute.

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. 09-22-20-03 BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of North Plainfield that an Ordinance numbered 20-10 be read by its title by the Borough Clerk and be passed on its first reading and advertised as required by statute, fixing November 17, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, as the time and the North Plainfield Council Chambers, 263 Somerset Street, North Plainfield, New Jersey as the place for hearing and final adoption.

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

The Clerk read the ordinance by its title as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 20-10 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND, REVISE AND SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER 22 OF THE BOROUGH CODE, ENTITLED “WATER RUN-OFF CONTROL,” MOST NOTABLY PARAGRAPH F OF SECTION 22-101.2, ENTITLED “STORMWATER CONTROL”

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.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 09-22-20-04 BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that resolutions numbered

09-22-20-04 a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l

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

Seconded by Mr. Merrill and on Roll Call carried all seven voting aye.

APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 09-22-20-04a RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH CLERK TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH CIFELLI & SON GENERAL CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR 2019 NJDOT- GRANDVIEW AVENUE ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield is in need of certain road improvements as it related to the 2019 NJDOT - Grandview Avenue Roadway Improvements (hereinafter referred to as the “Project”); and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield solicited bids for the Project and the following five (5) bids were received:

<u>Bidding Entity</u>	<u>Base Bid</u>
Cifelli & Son General Construction, Inc.	\$381,404.25
Top Line Construction Corp.	\$393,838.21
Diamond Construction	\$398,263.74
S. Brothers Inc.	\$402,477.95
Black Rock Enterprises	\$411,110.50

WHEREAS, Director of Law/Borough Attorney Eric M. Bernstein, Esq. and the offices of Eric M. Bernstein & Associates, LLC, as well as Grotto Engineering Associates, LLC, the Borough’s Engineer on the Project, have reviewed the bid submissions and recommend the award of the bid and contract for the Project to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Cifelli & Son General Construction, Inc., whose main offices are located at 4 Coppola Street, Nutley, New Jersey 07110 (hereinafter referred to as the “Contractor”), as there are no material defects with the bid proposal; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield is desirous of obtaining the services of the Contractor to perform all those services contemplated in the Borough’s bid documents and the bid proposal submitted by the Contractor; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield finds that the Contractor is the lowest responsive and responsible bidder for the Project, pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.

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 hereby awards the following Bid and Contract:

Project: 2019 NJDOT - Grandview Avenue Roadway Improvements
 Successful Bidder: Cifelli & Son General Construction, Inc.
 Base Bid: In the Amount Not to Exceed Three Hundred and Eighty-One Thousand Four Hundred and Four Dollars and Twenty-Five Cents (\$381,404.25)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Council hereby authorizes the Mayor and the Borough Clerk to sign and/or execute a contract and all other necessary documents to engage the construction services of Cifelli & Son General Construction, Inc. for the Project; and,

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; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the award and the contract and its performance shall be consistent with all applicable laws, the Borough's bid documents and the bid proposal of Cifelli & Son General Construction, Inc. for the Project known as the 2010 NJ DOT – Grandview Avenue Roadway Improvement.

RESOLUTION NO. 09-22-20-04b RESOLUTION TERMINATING THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD AND MISKOVICH CONSULTING ENGINEERS, LLC

WHEREAS, on June 8, 2015, by Resolution No. 02-08-15-02f, the Borough retained the professional services of Miskovich Consulting Engineers, LLC to assist the Borough in the replacement of the existing traffic signal at the intersection of Somerset Street and Pearl Street in the Borough; and,

WHEREAS, Miskovich Consulting Engineers, LLC provided said engineering services to the Borough as consulting engineer on the project until it was halted by the Borough due to lack of funds; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough now has sufficient funding to continue/complete the project in question; however, Miskovich Consulting Engineers, LLC is no longer an existing entity to perform the services in question and thus the contract must be terminated.

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 terminate its contract with Miskovich Consulting Engineers, LLC, effective immediately.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, by this Resolution and a letter of August 26, 2020, Miskovich Consulting Engineers, LLC acknowledges that they are not owed any further compensation by the Borough for their services and that their services are no longer required by the Borough.

RESOLUTION NO. 09-22-20-04c RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF NORTH PLAINFIELD AWARDED A CONTRACT FOR TRAFFIC SIGNAL MODIFICATION AT THE INTERSECTION OF SOMERSET STREET AND PEARL STREET TO KLEIN TRAFFIC CONSULTING, LLC

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield is looking to complete an existing project regarding traffic signal modification at the intersection of Somerset Street and Pearl Street in the Borough of North Plainfield; and,

WHEREAS, Klein Traffic Consulting, LLC, with a principal place of business of 156 Walker Road, West Orange, New Jersey 07052 is in the business of providing professional design and engineering support services and submitted a proposal for the following scope of work:

Proposal dated September 3, 2020 for Design and Engineering Support Services during Construction Traffic Signal and Roadway Improvements, Somerset Street, Pearl Street

and Craig Place, North Plainfield, Somerset County, New Jersey.

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield is desirous of obtaining the services of Klein Traffic Consulting, LLC to perform all of those services contemplated in the afore-referenced Proposal in a total amount not to exceed Thirteen Thousand Five Hundred (\$13,500.00) Dollars.

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 award said contract to Klein Traffic Consulting, LLC, 156 Walker Road, West Orange, New Jersey and authorizes the Mayor and the Borough Clerk to sign and/or execute the Professional Services Agreement with Klein Traffic Consulting, LLC, without the need for any further action of this Borough Council, in a total amount not to exceed Thirteen Thousand Five Hundred (\$13,500.00) Dollars.

NOW, THEREFORE, 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.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 09-22-20-04d 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 Road Opening Bonds:

Arcadis Design \$ 1,500.00
10 Friends Lane
Newton, Pa. 18940
Attn: Aimee Stoudt

Work done: Coddington Avenue

RESOLUTION NO. 09-22-20-04e BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized and directed to create duplicate tax sale certificate(s) as follows:

Block 166 Lot 3 448 Catalpa Avenue # 07-00106 issued 12/18/07

RESOLUTION NO. 09-22-20-04f BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that, pursuant to N.P.R.G.O. 4-1 et seq., it does hereby authorize the issuance of licenses for the owner/operation of taxicabs to the following for two years in accordance with the applications heretofore submitted:

Silvita Nunez, t/a

Gray Taxi Inc.
63 Watchung Avenue
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

RESOLUTION NO. 09-22-20-04g BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that it does hereby authorize the issuance of a license to drive a taxicab for two years, pursuant to N.P.R.G.O. 4-1 et seq., to the following in accordance with the applications heretofore submitted:

Wilson E. Gutierrez
71 Belmont Avenue
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

RESOLUTION NO. 09-22-20-04h BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that, pursuant to N.P.R.G.O. 4-1 et seq., it does hereby authorize the issuance of licenses for the owner/operation of limousines to the following for one year in accordance with the applications heretofore submitted:

Ramon D. Cruz-Nieves
2 Kennedy Court
North Plainfield, NJ 07062

RESOLUTION NO. 09-22-20-04i WHEREAS, currently active replacement plenary retail consumption and/or plenary retail distribution liquor licenses in the Borough of North Plainfield were, upon issuance, scheduled to expire at Midnight on June 30, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, on April 13, 2020 in issuing Order A-2020-02, James B. Graziano, Acting Director of the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control, recognized the direct impact of the Governor's Executive Orders 103, 104, and 107, has had on the alcoholic beverage industry in this state and that the Covid-19 outbreak has affected each tier of the industry and has affected the Division's operations; and,

WHEREAS, Acting Director Graziano also recognized that many licensees would not be able to take all of the steps necessary to renew their licenses by June 30, 2020; and, that the holders of municipally-issued licenses would be unable to obtain *ad interim* permits from the Division pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:2-2.10; and, that if licensees with municipally-issued licenses and were not able to timely renew their licenses, that these licenses and permits would expire, and all manufacturer, distribution, transportation, sales and/or service of alcoholic beverages authorized under those licenses and permits would cease immediately; and,

WHEREAS, in an effort to avoid the dire consequences aforesaid, Acting Director Graziano exercised his broad authority under N.J.S.A. 33:1-39 and extended the 2019-2020 license term for all municipally-issued licenses and State-issued licenses and permits to Municipally-issued licenses that expire on June 30, 2020 until Wednesday, September 30, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, consistent with A-2020-02 aforesaid, the Borough of North Plainfield wishes to extend to the Borough's plenary retail consumption and distribution liquor license holders, whose current active licenses are schedule to expire at Midnight on June 30, 2020, the opportunity to file complete applications to renew such licenses in accordance with applicable law, while affording the Borough Council sufficient time to review and approve such applications by way of Resolution on or before September 30, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, as a result of same, the following applicants have applied for renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption or Plenary Retail Distribution Licenses for the period October 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 and the submitted application forms are complete in all respects; and,

WHEREAS, the applicants are qualified to be licensed according to all statutory, regulatory and local government ABC laws and regulations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to issue licenses in accordance with the filed applications to the following applicants for the period October 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021:

1814-32-011-011 J & N Wine and Spirits LLC, t/a Buy Rite
967 US Highway 22 West

1814-33-001-003 L Penaloza LLC, t/a The Bridge
50-54 Watchung Avenue

1814-33-003-004 El Salvador Inc, t/a Tesoro Salvadoreño Restaurant
64 Somerset Street

1814-33-004-005 Toson Food & Beverages North Plainfield LLC
1250 Route 22 East

1814-33-008-006 Mi Mundo Latino LLC, t/a Mi Mundo Latino
375 Somerset Street

1814-33-010-012 Texas Roadhouse Holdings LLC
1258 Route 22 Eastbound

1814-33-007-008 Dombar LLC – International Club and Sports Bar
403 Somerset Street

1814-44-005-009 Clinton Liquors of North Plainfield Inc., t/a Clinton Liquors
64 Watchung Avenue

1814-44-006-007 R&R Spirits Inc., t/a Star Discount Liquors
25 Greenbrook Road

1814-44-012-006 Shivaam LLC, t/a Herb's Liquor

194 Somerset Street

1814-44-013-013 NB Liquors Inc., t/a Rock Discount LLC
1290 US Highway 22

RESOLUTION NO. 09-22-20-04j GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION OF THE ANNUAL AUDIT

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-4 requires the governing body of every local unit to have made an annual audit of its books, accounts and financial transactions, and

WHEREAS, the Annual Report of Audit for the year 2019 has been filed by a Registered Municipal Accountant with the Municipal Clerk pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:5-6, and a copy has been received by each member of the governing body; and,

WHEREAS, R.S. 52:27BB-34 authorizes the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey to prescribe reports pertaining to the local fiscal affairs; and,

WHEREAS, the Local Finance Board has promulgated N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5, a regulation requiring that the governing body of each municipality shall by resolution certify to the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey that all members of the governing body have reviewed, as a minimum, the sections of the annual audit entitled "Comments and Recommendations," and,

WHEREAS, the members of the governing body have personally reviewed as a minimum the Annual Report of Audit, and specifically the sections of the Annual Audit entitled "Comments and Recommendations," as evidenced by the group affidavit form of the governing body attached hereto; and,

WHEREAS, such resolution of certification shall be adopted by the Governing Body no later than forty-five days after the receipt of the annual audit, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5; and,

WHEREAS, all members of the governing body have received and have familiarized themselves with, at least, the minimum requirements of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey, as stated aforesaid and have subscribed to the affidavit, as provided by the Local Finance Board, and

WHEREAS, failure to comply with the regulations of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey may subject the members of the local governing body to the penalty provisions of R.S. 52:27BB-52, to wit:

R.S. 52:27BB-52: A local officer or member of a local governing body who, after a date fixed for compliance, fails or refuses to obey an order of the director (Director of Local Government Services), under the provisions of this Article, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, in addition shall forfeit his office.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, hereby states that it has complied with N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5 and does hereby submit a certified copy of this resolution and the required affidavit to said Board to show evidence of said compliance.

RESOLUTION NO. 09-22-20-04k 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 22nd day of September, 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. 09-22-20-04l WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield is required to conduct disciplinary hearings from time to time regarding Police Department employees pursuant to law; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Borough of North Plainfield Code § 2-21.2, the Chief of Police, or the Director of Law or their designee, serves as the Hearing Officer for such disciplinary matters for the North Plainfield Police Department; and,

WHEREAS, the Director of Law previously designated the Hon. Bradley Ferencz, J.S.C. (ret.) as Hearing Officer for North Plainfield Police Department disciplinary hearings, pursuant to Borough of North Plainfield Code § 2-21.2(e) in order to provide an independent Hearing Officer in disciplinary matters; and,

WHEREAS, the Director of Law has determined to provide for an Independent Hearing Officer to conduct disciplinary hearings for all disciplinary matters regarding its Police Department employees pursuant to law; and,

WHEREAS, the Director of Law has recommended that the Borough Council designate the Hon. Bradley Ferencz, J.S.C. (ret.) as Independent Hearing Officer for disciplinary hearings for Police Department matters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Hon. Bradley Ferencz, J.S.C. (ret.) be designated as an Independent Hearing Officer for Police Department disciplinary matters.

COMMUNICATIONS:

NJ State League of Municipalities Trenton, NJ County of Somerset, Somerville, NJ Plainfield Area Humane Society Plainfield, NJ Plainfield Area Regional Sewerage Authority Middlesex, NJ	Newsletters & Advisories / League Conference Goes “Virtual” Newsletters & Communications Report and Invoicing Minutes and Agenda
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NJ Census Team, Trenton, NJ Somerset County Governing Officials Somerville, NJ	Preparing NJ for a Strong Future Virtual Meeting(s)
NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection Trenton, NJ	Weekly Update; Unrestricted Use/No Further Action Letter
Plainfield Area Regional Sewerage Authority Middlesex, NJ	Agenda and Minutes

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Francine Gargano, 57 Willow Avenue, North Plainfield, voiced concerns over the reports of public urination by the patrons of Mi Mundo Bar which were detailed at a recent Board of Adjustment meeting. Referencing the appointment resolution of Hon. Bradley Ferencz, J.S.C. (ret.) as Hearing Officer for North Plainfield Police Department disciplinary hearings, Ms. Gargano called to question the financial implications of a J.S.C. in this role.

Frank D'Amore, 40 Willow Avenue, North Plainfield, commented on the deterioration of the property located at 120 Sycamore Avenue. Reporting that the building had been condemned, he called for stricter enforcement throughout the historic district.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 09-22-20-05 BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that prior to the adjournment of this meeting it shall convene in executive session from which the public will be excluded for the purpose of discussion on:

ATTORNEY/CLIENT PRIVILEGE:
COAH OBLIGATION

Exclusion of the public for this purpose is specifically permitted by N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. The contents of this discussion will not be disclosed until such time as the disclosure of same will not adversely affect the public interest and upon resolution of the Council. Formal action may be taken following end of executive session.

Seconded by Ms. Corzo and on Roll Call carried all seven voting aye. Executive Session convened at 4:42 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to come out of Executive Session by Mr. La Ronde, seconded by Mr. Singleterry and carried unanimously.

Council President Stabile reconvened the meeting at 5:07 p.m. with all seven council members still present.

Mr. Bernstein advised that all council members present at the convening of the regular meeting were still present, as well as the Mayor, Business Administrator, Director of Law, Borough Clerk and Deputy Borough Clerk. Discussion included an update relative to the Borough's on-going desire to seek compliance with their Affordable Housing obligation.

REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS:

Ms. Schaefer requested ordinances regarding vacant properties and prohibiting the parking of vehicles on lawns.

COMMENTS BY MAYOR, ADMINISTRATOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Giordano commented on the success of the 49th Annual Fishing Derby despite the cool weather. The flu shot clinic will be held Tuesday, October 6 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Community Center and a blood drive will be held Tuesday, October 20 from 12:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Community Center. Recreation will host a drive-in movie night on September 26 from 7:45 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. at St. Luke's Church.

Mr. Hollod thanked the Council for their support of the Capital Plan.

Ms. Corzo urged for support of the Spanish restaurants in honor of Hispanic Heritage month.

Mr. Merrill offered an update from the Board of Education after the first two weeks of school, specifically the various challenges of virtual learning. Many students do not attend their classes or they may leave early while the virtual class is in session. Teachers will begin virtual instruction from the schools on October 5 and kids will be back in the classrooms on November 10. He thanked the members of the fire department, noting that we are very lucky to have a paid fire department.

Congratulating the fire department, Mr. Singleterry indicated that he was especially impressed to learn that a firefighter had delivered a baby.

Ms. Schaefer offered her congratulations to the award recipients within the fire department.

Ms. Miller also congratulated the award recipients for their achievements and voiced her support of Hispanic Heritage month.

Mr. La Ronde offered his congratulations to the award recipients.

Council President Stabile extended his sincere appreciation to the members of the fire department, noting that we all enjoy the benefits of a paid department.

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

Meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

Borough Clerk

Council President