

# ***DRAFT MINUTES***

*These are the Draft Minutes of the North Plainfield Borough Council  
Regular Meeting held on Monday, 26 September 2022.*

*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, **September 26, 2022** at 9:10 p.m. at the North Plainfield Council Chambers, 263 Somerset Street, North Plainfield, New Jersey.

## **PRESENT:**

Council Members: Aimee Corzo  
Suzette Given  
Steven McIntyre  
Everett Merrill, Council Vice President (absent-excused)  
Keiona R. Miller  
Wendy Schaefer  
Frank "Skip" Stabile, Council President

Also Present: Lawrence La Ronde, Mayor  
David E. Hollod, P.E. – Business Administrator  
Eric M. Bernstein, Esq., Borough Attorney  
Phil George, Esq., Associate Borough Attorney  
Richard K. Phoenix, RMC, Borough Clerk  
Michele Garry, CMR, Deputy Borough Clerk

Council President Stabile 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 December 15, 2021 and by posting a copy of this notice on the bulletin boards in the Municipal Building and the Memorial Library reserved for such purpose."

## **APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:**

The Clerk had submitted copies of the minutes of the Board of Health, Agenda Conference, and Regular Meeting of September 12, 2022.

The Council President called for a roll call on the minutes:

All six in favor.

Minutes ordered approved 6-0.

**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. Given presented the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION NO. 09-26-22-01** BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that resolutions numbered

09-26-22-01a, b, c, d, e, f & g

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 unanimously.

**APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 09-26-22-01a** 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 Dumpster Bond :

Felix Fequiere                   \$ 200.00  
8 Howard Street  
North Plainfield, New Jersey 07060

**RESOLUTION NO. 09-26-22-01b** REQUESTING APPROVAL OF INSERTION OF \$29,000.00 FOR THE 2022 BUDGET REVENUE AVAILABLE FROM THE STATE OF NJ-CLEAN FLEET ELECTRIC VEHICLES PROGRAM GRANT

WHEREAS, N.J.S. 40:4-87 provides that the Director of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget, and

WHEREAS, said Director may also approve the insertion of any item of appropriation for equal amount.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of North Plainfield hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of the year 2022 in the sum of \$29,000.00 which item is now available as a revenue from the State of NJ-Clean Fleet Electric Vehicles Program Grant.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a like sum of \$29,000.00 be and the same is hereby appropriated under the caption of:

State of NJ-Clean Fleet Electric Vehicles Program Grant

**RESOLUTION NO. 09-26-22-01c BOROUGH COUNCIL WAIVING CERTAIN GARAGE SALE LICENSING ORDINANCES IN THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD DURING THE BOROUGH-WIDE GARAGE SALE**

WHEREAS, Garage Sales, Yard Sales and Estate Sales are popular in North Plainfield as a means of getting to know neighbors while realizing a modest profit for the sellers; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council have heard requests from the citizenry for a Borough-wide, fee-free weekend garage sale that would appeal to the interests of all Borough residences; and,

WHEREAS, North Plainfield Ordinance No. 18-07 calls for a Twenty Dollar (\$20.00) fee to be charged for every garage sale permit issued by the Borough Clerk's Office; due to requests heard from residents throughout North Plainfield, the Borough Council is interested in having the above fee waived for such sales throughout the Borough on Saturday, October 8, 2022 and Sunday, October 9, 2022 for a Borough-wide public garage sale; and,

WHEREAS, N.P.R.G.O. 4-11.6 regulates the number of signs advertising a garage sale; the Borough Council is interested in having said sign restriction regarding the number of signs allowed to be posted waived for such sales throughout the Borough on Saturday, October 8, 2022 and Sunday, October 9, 2022 for a Borough-wide public garage sale.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Borough-wide garage sale would not impact residents' three (3) per year paid permit allotment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the hours of the town-wide garage sale would run from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. local time on both Saturday and Sunday.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that for purposes of allowing a Borough-wide garage sale on Saturday, October 8, 2022

and Sunday, October 9, 2022, the fee for such a two (2) day sale per Ordinance No. 18-07 shall be waived for this event.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that for purposes of allowing a Borough-wide garage sale on Saturday, October 8, 2022 and Sunday, October 9, 2022, the restriction on the number of signs advertising garage sales for such a two (2) day sale per N.P.R.G.O. 4-11.6 shall be waived for this event.

**RESOLUTION NO. 09-26-22-01d** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR DESIGNEE AND BOROUGH CLERK TO EXECUTE THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD AND LOCAL UNION NO. 469 (WHITE COLLAR), INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS, CHAUFFEURS, WAREHOUSEMEN AND HELPERS OF AMERICA

WHEREAS, the collective bargaining agreement between the Borough of North Plainfield, a municipal corporation of the State of New Jersey, County of Somerset, having an address at 263 Somerset Street, North Plainfield, New Jersey 07060 (hereinafter referred to as the "Borough") and the Local Union No. 469 (White Collar), International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers of America (hereinafter referred to as the "Union") expired on December 31, 2021; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough and the Union have engaged in ongoing negotiations to discuss and agree upon the terms and conditions of a successor Agreement; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough and the Union have agreed upon the terms of a successor Agreement for the term of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024, the terms of which are set forth in the collective bargaining agreement, a copy of which is on file in the Office of the Borough Clerk, the terms of which are incorporated herein and made apart hereof; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to memorialize its approval of the collective bargaining agreement; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Borough and the Union for the term of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024 be and hereby is approved.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor or designee and Borough Clerk are authorized to execute the collective bargaining agreement between the Borough and the Union and take all appropriate actions so as to implement this Resolution, with no further actions to be taken by the Borough Council.

**RESOLUTION NO. 09-26-22-01e** RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH CLERK TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH PHOENIX TOWER INTERNATIONAL U.S. TOWERS I, L.L.C., FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CELL TOWER SITE AT 410-414 WEST END AVENUE.

WHEREAS, Phoenix Tower International U.S. Tower I, L.L.C. (“Phoenix Tower”) is the assignee of that certain cell tower lease for cell tower facilities located at 410-414 West End Avenue, in the Borough of North Plainfield (the “Borough”); and,

WHEREAS, Phoenix Tower has requested authorization and consent to allow T-Mobile Northeast, L.L.C., (“T-Mobile”) to conduct modifications to the installation at the said cell tower facilities to enhance wireless coverage and capacity in and around the Borough; and,

WHEREAS, said plans in form as attached show that the current footprint of the site will not be increased, and that cabinets and other equipment to be installed will not increase significant coverage within the site; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer has reviewed the plans submitted by Phoenix International and advised that no additional planning or zoning approvals are required as a result of the said planned improvements:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the proposal of Phoenix Tower International U.S. Tower I, L.L.C in form as attached for improvements to the T-Mobile cell tower installation at 410-414 West End Avenue is hereby approved; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Council hereby authorizes the Mayor and the Borough Clerk to sign and/or execute the said Consent to Modify Cell Tower dated March 30, 2022 in form as attached; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the modification and performance of such modifications shall be in accordance with all applicable Federal and state laws, regulations, rules and specifications.

**RESOLUTION NO. 09-26-22-01f** WHEREAS, the following organization has been issued identification number 352-5-42611 by the New Jersey Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission and has submitted application (RA-1199) to conduct raffles; and

WHEREAS, investigation has shown that this organization meets the requirements for the issuance of raffles licenses;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Clerk be and is hereby authorized to issue raffles license RL-1199 for the following:

On-Premises 50-50 Raffles – all occasions from 3:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.

6 October 2022  
7 October 2022  
8 October 2022  
11 October 2022  
13 October 2022

09/26/2022

14 October 2022  
17 October 2022  
25 October 2022

.at

34 Wilson Avenue, North Plainfield, NJ

**RESOLUTION NO. 09-26-22-01g** 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 26<sup>th</sup> day of September 2022 the same be paid; and that the Mayor and Chief Financial Officer are hereby authorized to sign and deliver warrants for the same.

**REPORTS:**

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

August, 2022 Report

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

NJ League of Municipalities Trenton, NJ	Various Newsletters and Communications
Somerset County Bd. of Commissioners Somerville	Various Newsletters and Communications
Plainfield Area Humane Society Plainfield, NJ	Invoice and Reports
Plainfield Area Regional Sewerage Authority Middlesex, NJ	Newsdrop Newsletter
Somerset County Business Partnership Somerville	Newsletter
NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection Trenton	Newsletter
NJ American Water Co., Voorhees, NJ Hon. Maureen Coxwell, Deputy County Clerk, Somerville	Odd/Even Watering Restrictions County Clerk’s Mobile Office
Edward Zimmerman, Somerset County Governing Officials, Somerville	Governing Officials’ Dinner Meeting
Bill Baker, The Radio Source, Zeeland, Michigan	TIS Stations for Fire Emergencies
Jamie Albert, Somerset Co. Health Department, Somerville	LINCS Notification
Capehart Scatchard, Esq. Mount Laurel, NJ	NJ Public Entity Law Monthly
PKF O’Connor Davies, Auditors, Cranford Richard K. Phoenix, RMC, Borough Clerk North Plainfield	Municipal Audit Signed 2022 Capital Road Improvement Document
Christian Penalozza, t/a Somerset 375 LLC North Plainfield	Person-to-Person transfer application

**REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS:**

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

The following Grand Sanitation employees discussed aspects of garbage collection in North Plainfield.

Richard Galliano, said that his company (Grand) wanted to give residents the opportunity to put garbage at the curb for collection. He added that Grand could give their customers 96-gallon containers for collection if they desired that option

Chris Warnacke, said that Grand does the best as it can in the event of missed pickups to which Mr. George replied that there are limits on the ability to set up garbage collection zones.

Mr. Warnacke remarked that not all towns whom they service had a backyard-type stipulation for collection, and that Grand bids for collection with multiple towns, none of whom he had seen stipulating backyard pickup.

Mr. McIntyre reminded that the Council has the power to change collection conventions.

Leo Lorenzo of Grand explained their collection schedule, and the Council President said that he could find no problem with their flier.

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

Mayor La Ronde expressed his thanks to all that had come out for the Clean Community Day and also expressed admiration for the ceremony held on the same Saturday that placed a new marker for the grave of Dr. Vermeule at the historic Vermeule graveyard. Both events, he assured, had gone very well. He reminded of the Hispanic Heritage Parade and Festival slated for Saturday the 1<sup>st</sup> of October beginning at 10:00 a.m. with the Festival commencing at 11:00 a.m. at Vermeule. To date, eight (8) food vendors have signed up along with eighteen (18) non-food vendors. Assemblywoman Carter and Somerset County Commissioners have advised that they will be in attendance along with a representative from a Central American Consulate.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

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Borough Clerk

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Council President