

**MINUTES** of the Agenda Conference of the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield held on Monday, **May 8, 2023** at 7:37 p.m. at North Plainfield Council Chambers, 263 Somerset Street, North Plainfield, New Jersey.

**PRESENT:**

Council Members: Aimee Corzo, Council Vice President  
Suzette Given  
Steven McIntyre  
Everett Merrill  
Keiona R. Miller  
Wendy Schaefer  
Frank “Skip” Stabile, Council President

Also Present: Lawrence La Ronde, Mayor  
David E. Hollod, Business Administrator  
Phil George, Esq., Associate Borough Attorney  
Michele Irby-Garry, CMR, Acting 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 12, 2022 and by posting a copy of this notice on the bulletin boards in the Municipal Building and the Memorial Library reserved for such purpose."

The Flag Salute was led by Mr. McIntyre followed by a moment of silence for the men and women serving in the Armed Forces.

Mayor La Ronde presented the following Mayoral Proclamation:

WHEREAS, emergency medical services are a vital public service; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams are ready to provide life-saving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, emergency medical services have grown to fill a gap by providing important, out of hospital care, including preventive medicine, follow-up care, and access to telemedicine; and

WHEREAS, the emergency medical services system consists of first responders, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, emergency medical dispatchers, firefighters, police

officers, educators, administrator, pre-hospital nurses, emergency nurses, emergency physicians, trained members of the public, and other out of hospital medical care providers; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their life-saving skills; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating Emergency Medicals Services Week; now

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that I, Lawrence La Ronde, as Mayor of the Borough of North Plainfield, in recognition of this event do hereby proclaim the week of May 21-27, 2023 as EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK

With the EMS Strong theme, EMS WEEK: Where Emergency Care Begins, I encourage the community to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Recommended Fee Changes for Municipal Code Compliance (MCC) Certificate and Rental Certificate of Occupancy (RCO) – D.E.H.** Mr. Hollod detailed the increases to the fees for municipal code compliance certificates and rental certificates of occupancy. All owner-occupied rentals will require an inspection when sold.

2. **Resolution to Enter into a Shared Services Agreement with the County of Somerset for a Vehicle Rinse Station Funded in part by a NJ LEAP Grant – D.E.H.** Mr. Hollod explained that this resolution authorizes a shared services agreement with Somerset County for use of the vehicle rinse station located in Bridgewater. The Borough will utilize the rinsing station to clean its municipal vehicles ensuring adherence to NJDEP regulations regarding debris in storm water systems.

3. **Proposed Revisions to Chapter 4, Section 4-6 of the Borough Code “General Licensing – Canvassers” – L.L.** Mayor La Ronde detailed the proposed revisions to the canvassing ordinance including a minor adjustment to the hours for same. Permits will be more difficult to obtain and easier to revoke, he stated. Ms. Miller suggested that canvassers wear badges to clearly demonstrate they are licensed.

4. **Proposed Ordinance for Abandoned Properties and Fees – L.L.** Mr. George indicated that he and Ms. Schaefer reviewed the existing ordinance to ensure the proposed changes were in line with the State. The fee for vacant properties, including those in the foreclosure process, will be \$2,000.

5. **Resolution Authorizing Final Payment, Release of Retainage and Closeout of 2021 Capital Roads Project with CCM Contracting, Inc. – D.E.H.** Mr. Ho

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resolution would authorize the final payment, release of retainage and closeout of the 2021 Capital Roads Project with CCM Contracting, Inc. He reported that the total amount of the project decreased approximately \$100,000.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**REPORTS OF BOARDS, COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS:**

Mr. Merrill reported that the Fishing Derby was well attended and great fun for all in attendance. The Fourth of July parade will honor Veterans this year.

Ms. Corzo reported that the Planning Board met on April 26.

Mr. McIntyre announced that he would not be at the May 22 council meeting. He thanked Katherine Miller and Mayor La Ronde for their efforts with Clean Communities Day.

Ms. Given reported that the field would be ready for graduation and the school budget was more favorable than originally anticipated.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

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Borough Clerk

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Council President