



**MAYOR & COUNCIL
THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE,
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 10, 2020**



The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone was held on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 electronically via the GoTo Meeting conferencing service and began at 7:32p.m. The meeting started later because there was some technical difficulty getting members of the Council and the public on to the correct meeting.

Mayor Skinner called the meeting to order. Borough Clerk Nancy A. Bretzger read the Sunshine Notice "Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, Adequate notice of 2020 Meeting Dates was published in the Borough Library. Action may be taken."

Mayor Skinner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call indicated the following present:

Present: Mayor Skinner, Council President Corigliano, Councilman Caminiti, Councilwoman Dietrich, Councilwoman Murphy, Councilman Smith, Councilman Sweeney

Absent: (none)

Also present were: Randy Bahr, Interim Administrator, Mr. John Bruder, Esq., Borough Attorney and Nancy A. Bretzger, Borough Clerk

MAYOR'S UPDATE ON COVID-19

Mayor Skinner stated that Somerset County has 6630 cases with 525 fatalities. He also said that Peapack Gladstone had 75 cases with one fatality. Overall New Jersey has had 260,430 cases with 14,661 fatalities. He also mentioned that Somerset County along with Hunterdon County has run a test site for 38 days since they started and have done 3009 tests with a 6% positive rate. This Friday, November 13 he stated that the testing will be open at Raritan Valley Community College Testing is open to any resident but you must make an appointment. You can go on to the Somerset County website and make your appointment. Mayor Skinner explained that the State of New Jersey is going into another wave. He stated that Governor Murphy has issued a couple of Executive Orders lately: EO 192 put into place workplace protective measures, which every employer has to do if you have people working at your facility and the Borough is no exception. He thanked Randy Bahr for putting it all together for the Borough quickly. He also stated that the vaccine is very close to being released, so hopefully we can all go back to some type of normal in a couple of months.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – 5 MINUTES PER PERSON – NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Skinner asked if any member of the Public wishes to speak about non-agenda items.

Jeannie TenBarge – 168 Main Street – Ms. TenBarge stated that she posted on NextDoor that within in the last few months, the train horn has become increasingly loud, like almost freight train loud during certain parts of the day, usually very early in the morning and usually around 7:00 at night. She said that it is not always happening, but on Monday morning, she said between 5:24 and 6:30am the horn blew over 48 times. She said she doesn't usually count but this was excessive. Mayor Skinner said that he has been in touch with New Jersey Transit and that there are federal regulations on when and how trains are



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required to sound their horn. He explained that he has a trail camera which he is going to set up at the train station that he will put up next week and record the trains coming into and out of the station and see when they blow the horns. He stated that this way he has evidence to bring to NJ Transit and ask why it is happening. There was discussion regarding this problem and the Mayor said that once he can get a few days recording, he will speak with NJ Transit again.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Skinner stated that he spoke with the Bedminster Postmaster regarding mail delivery within Peapack. The Mayor stated that third party delivery companies are having problems because the physical addresses are not in the system. He further stated that he has spoken with the Administrator and he will be working on getting a list of all physical addresses for Peapack to be given to the Postmaster for them to input into the system. Once that is completed, the Mayor stated that he will be writing a letter to the Postmaster General in Washington DC, officially requesting to have mail delivered in Peapack. He said that this process will take some time, and they will have to do a cost analysis as to whether it is better to deliver or give free PO Boxes to the residents. Mayor Skinner also stated that at the recommendation of the Administrator that a resolution be passed stating that delivery of mail is being requested by the residents.

Councilwoman Dietrich stated that the plantings are finally taking place at the Lime Kiln. These plantings will help with retaining the soil that was taken away from the sides of the kiln. She explained that we also received a grant of \$500.00 from the Garden Club of Somerset County.

NEW BUSINESS

New Dump Truck for Department of Public Works – Council President Corigliano stated that there was an opportunity that was presented to the Borough regarding the purchase of a new dump truck for the DPW. He stated that he met with Randy Bahr, Administrator last week regarding finance and that Mr. Bahr presented to him an opportunity that was explored for a replacement of a Dump Body Truck at a substantial discount. He explained that the Borough owns 3 large dump trucks that are used for plowing and salting during the winter months. The oldest truck is a 1999 Sterling truck which was purchased used. The truck currently needs a lot of repairs and is out of service. During the 2020 budget meetings, the Council had agreed to put \$300,000 in the Capital budget for 2021 for the purchase of such a new truck. The DPW learned of a 2019 Mack truck with a stainless steel body on it, a salt spreader and a plow. He further stated that Brad Fagan, DPW Supervisor advised him that the specifications on this truck are suitable for the roads in Peapack & Gladstone. This new truck would cost the Borough \$199,000 if we were to purchase it now. If the Mayor & Council decide that we should purchase this year, then he would introduce a Capital Ordinance for the purchase. The monies are in the Capital Improvement Fund and would not need to borrow. Council President Corigliano also stated that in speaking with some of the Council members regarding this purchase, Councilwoman Murphy asked if the Borough needed 3 dump trucks? He stated that he agrees that this needs to be a discussion at a later date and that the Council must discuss this, but the other 2 dump trucks are also older and will need to be replaced in several years. Councilman Caminiti asked if we have it in writing that the specifications of this truck will be suitable for the Borough. We don't want to get this deal and then still have to put \$20,000 to \$30,000 more into it to bring it up to speed. Mr. Corigliano mentioned that they will bringing the truck up to the DPW garage on Friday, November 13 for anyone that would like to come up and inspect it.



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Council President Corigliano asked the Borough Clerk to read the title of the Ordinance for Introduction. The Borough Clerk read the Ordinance Title, Council President Corigliano motioned to introduce Ordinance 1095-2020, seconded by Councilman Smith. This motion was unanimously passed.

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION/APPROVALS

Randy Bahr, Administrator stated that the Zoning Officer received a phone call today from Bedminster Market which is having a Pottersville Christmas Fair for the benefit of the Pottersville Church on November 21 from 10am to 4:00pm. They wanted to request to be able to place a sandwich sign up later this week or next week on the corner of Pottersville Road and Rt. 206. The Council discussed and saw no problem with the sign being posted there.

ORDINANCES

Council President Corigliano asked for a motion and second to open the Public Hearing for **Ordinance 1094-2020** – An Ordinance to Amend Chapter XXIII, Article IV, Titled “Land Development Ordinance” of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Peapack and Gladstone by Amending Section 23-39.5, Affordable Housing District, AH Zone, and, to Amend Chapter XXIII, Article XI, Titled “Mixed Use-Affordable Housing Zone” by Amending Section 23-95.11

Councilwoman Dietrich moved to open the hearing for Public Comment for **Ordinance 1094-2020**, seconded by Councilman Sweeney. Said motion was carried unanimously.

No one came forward

Councilman Sweeney moved to close Public comment for **Ordinance 1094-2020**, seconded by Council President Corigliano. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Council President Corigliano moved to Adopt **Ordinance 1094-2020**, seconded by Councilman Sweeney. Councilwoman Dietrich asked in section 6 that this would go back to the Land Use Board and they have 35 days to comment on it. Mr. Bruder, Borough Attorney stated that this has already gone to the Land Use Board after introduction and then they had 35 days to comment on it. He said that there was a consistency hearing on this with the Land Use Board as to whether this was consistent with the Borough’s Master Plan. We received a letter today from Roger Thomas, Land Use Board Attorney stated that the Land Use Board found this to be consistent with the Master Plan. Councilwoman Dietrich said that this answered her question. Council President Corigliano explained that this ordinance cleaned up wording and to address the concerns of residents of the Gladstone House that there would be a possibility their view could have been blocked by future construction. Said motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 193-20 – Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of Seasonal Employees for the 2020 Fall “ReCess” Program for Recreation was read. Motion was made by Councilman Sweeney, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was passed unanimously.



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BILLS LIST

Resolution No. 194-20 Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List in the amount of \$290,413.66 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – 3 MINUTES PER PERSON – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Mayor Skinner asked if anyone from the Public would like to speak. No one came forward.

Mayor Skinner asked if any of the Council members had any other items to discuss.

There being no other matters to be addressed by the Governing Body at this time, a motion was made by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich, that this meeting be adjourned at 8:13p.m. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy A. Bretzger, Borough Clerk