



**MAYOR & COUNCIL
THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 27, 2020**

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone was held on Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at the Municipal Complex, 1 School Street, Peapack, New Jersey and began at 6:02 p.m.

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 Courier News and Bernardsville News on December 5, 2019, and posted at the Municipal Complex and the Borough Library. Action may be taken."

Mayor Skinner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call indicated the following present: Mayor Skinner, Councilman Caminiti, Council President Corigliano, 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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTION NO. 189-20 – Authorization for Executive Session for Certain Specified Purposes – (1) N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b (6) – Tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public, provided that their disclosure could impair that protection, or investigations of violations or possible violations of the law was read. Motion was made by Councilman Sweeney, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Public Meeting reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

MAYOR'S UPDATE ON COVID-19

Mayor Skinner said that the number of positive cases in Somerset County are on the rise but the number of deaths is not increasing. He stated that the schools are on a hybrid schedule. The Governor of New Jersey has extended the state of emergency for another 30 days.

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.

No one came forward.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Skinner spoke about tree removal at the lower end of Main St. Branches cannot be left hanging on wires as this is causing problems with power outages. Councilwoman Murphy explained that the Shade Tree Commission is involved. It was also asked if we can receive a compiled list of the addresses with



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trees that need to be removed or trimmed. Mayor Skinner stated he will reach out to JCP&L and see if we can get such list.

NEW BUSINESS

No New Business

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION/APPROVALS

2020 Best Practices. Randy Bahr stated that Best Practices requires a discussion with the Borough Council and will not require a resolution. There was discussion on the best practices that will be submitted to the State.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 190-20 Resolution for Authorization for Logan Weimer to become a Riding Member of the Peapack & Gladstone Volunteer Fire Department was read. Motioned by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Caminiti. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 192-20 Resolution to Accept the Elimination of Five (5) Test Questions on the Promotional Exam for the Police Department and to Rescore the Test Results, was read by Councilman Sweeny, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was passed with Councilman Smith voting NO. Councilman Smith stated that he voted no, because that it is his belief of the removal of certain questions by the testing agency was arbitrary and not based on any objective data. He feels that the test rescoring process is flawed and he doesn't think it reflects good testing practices and he would rather see a retest done.

BILLS LIST

Resolution No. 191-20 Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List in the amount of \$225,964.78. Motion to approve payment was made by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Council President Corigliano. Said motion was passed unanimously.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Finance – Council President Corigliano stated that he does not have a report.

Sanitation & Sewer – Councilwoman Murphy stated that she does not have a report.

Borough Property – Councilman Caminiti stated that he does not have a report

Fire – Councilman Smith stated that he does not have a report

Police–Councilman Sweeney stated that the police department has received a \$10,000 donation for police equipment. Randy Bahr clarified that the money can be used for any police equipment that is needed. Councilman Caminiti asked if anyone knew why there has been an increase in gun applications. Council



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President Corigliano responded that there has been an increase nationwide due to the riots that had taken place.

Roads & Transportation – Councilwoman Dietrich stated that paving is happening this week on Old Chester Road. Councilman Sweeny added that lining has been done. Ms. Dietrich also explained that the County would be doing roadwork on Main Street. Mr. Bahr recommended that the roadwork on Main Street be done during daylight hours.

Zoning & Construction – Mayor Skinner stated that he has no report at this time.

Legal – Mr. Bruder stated that he does not have a report.

Administrator's Report – Mr. Bahr said that he and Councilwoman Dietrich have been invited to the County's Marketplace which allows for interaction with the county and 21 municipalities for shared equipment, etc.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Skinner asked Mrs. Bretzger to explain the mail in ballot process. She gave the options available to vote in this general election.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – 3 MINUTES PER PERSON – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

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

Mark Engebretson-35 Main St-Asked the Mayor and Council to educate residents and JCP&L so they understand what options are available when deciding to cut down heritage trees.

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 7:41 p.m. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy A. Bretzger, Borough Clerk