



**MAYOR & COUNCIL
THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
August 17, 2021**



The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone was held on Tuesday, August 17, 2021 via GoTo Meetings and began at 7:02pm.

Council President Corigliano called the meeting to order. Borough Clerk Nancy A. Bretzger read the Sunshine Notice "Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, Adequate notice of 2021 Meeting Dates was published in the Courier News and Bernardsville News on December 3, 2020 and posted at the Municipal Complex and the Borough Library. Action may be taken."

Council President Corigliano led the Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call indicated the following present: Councilman Caminiti, Council President Corigliano, Councilman Lemma, Councilwoman Murphy and Councilman Sweeney

Absent: Mayor Skinner and Councilwoman Dietrich

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

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

Council President Corigliano asked if any member of the Public wishes to speak about non-agenda items.

Ann Todd-9 Maple St.-Mrs. Todd asked for an update on the sidewalk project, and wanted to know if there is a plan to repave Holland Ave. Randy Bahr, Administrator, responded by saying that the county is paving Holland Ave. as part of the County Road Project and it will not interfere with the sidewalk project. Councilman Caminiti added that the Borough has a shortfall between the projected cost of the sidewalk project and what we have appropriated for it. He then added that he will be in touch with Mrs. Todd by the end of the week to discuss the actual numbers of the cost of said project and what we have appropriated to date.

John Kappler - 25 Holland Ave. - Mr. Kappler asked about the paving project on Holland Ave. He stated he, along with others, would like to convert to gas heat and is concerned about the five-year moratorium for digging up the road once it is paved. Randy Bahr, Administrator, explained that according to Public Service, there is not enough of an interest to put gas in on Holland Ave. Council President Corigliano added that the five-year moratorium does not apply to county roads. Councilwoman Murphy mentioned that she and her neighbors on Willow Ave. were able to work directly with Public Service to get gas lines installed and it was a fairly easy process.

Mike Koppes - 25 Willow Ave. - Mr. Koppes asked for an update on the speeding problem on Willow Ave. Councilman Caminiti responded by saying that the Police Department does not have enough data points to warrant action at this time. He suggested putting the signs back up to collect more data during September.

John Kochis - 24 Willow Ave. - Mr. Kochis stated that there is a speeding problem on this road as he can see the speed sign directly in front of his house. He noticed that the sign does not work all the time and that may be the reason for not enough data. Chief Ferrante responded by saying that the officers are



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often on Willow Ave. and even though the signs appear to not be working, they are in a setting which allows the collection of data without displaying the speed. He also mentioned that the Police Department is expecting to get more speed signs.

Patty Sullivan -21 Willow Ave. - Ms. Sullivan asked what the benchmarks are that make a speeding problem. She stated that there is a definite speeding problem on Willow Ave. Chief Ferrante explained that as a pedestrian, cars seem to be going much faster than they actually are.

Beth Hoyle- 21 Willow Ave. - Ms. Hoyle wanted to know what exactly constitutes speeding. Discussion ensued and it was decided that the best course of action is for Councilman Caminiti and the Roads Committee to continue to work with Chief Ferrante to get additional data in September.

Kathy DeLuca - 16 Valley View - Mrs. DeLuca voiced her concerns about the traffic on Valley View. She also expressed that she is hoping for the Mayor and Council to help get the mask mandate lifted at the schools by writing a letter to Governor Murphy. Council President Corigliano responded by saying that the Borough has very little to do with management of the schools and suggested reaching out directly to the School Board or Superintendent.

OLD BUSINESS

Council President Corigliano stated that he had a conversation with Mr. Wojtowicz regarding C-PACE. He suggests that Mr. Wojtowicz work out the details and get approval from the county before our Council takes any action. Council President Corigliano stated that he will write a letter to Mr. Wojtowicz explaining Council's position on the matter.

Councilman Caminiti gave an update on the Liberty Park Improvement Project. He stated that there was a preconstruction meeting, and we will have a start date soon.

NEW BUSINESS

Outdoor Dining - Councilman Lemma explained that local restaurants are seeking to extend the allowance of tents through the fall of 2021. Councilman Sweeney added that since the State of Emergency has been lifted and there is no limitation on the number of people in a restaurant, any restaurant that would like to continue the use of tents for outdoor dining, should apply for a special use permit.

Plow Truck Replacement - Council President Corigliano stated that the Borough has an opportunity to purchase a new 2019 plow truck at a discounted price due to the dealer having overstock. While this is not something that the Borough can afford during 2021, by the DPW forgoing the purchase of a new pick-up truck for \$35, 000.00 and available funds in our Capital Improvement Fund of \$65, 000.00, that would give us a total of \$100, 000.00 towards the purchase this year. The truck supplier is willing to sell us the truck this year and pay the balance out of next year's budget. Councilwoman Murphy agreed that since this is a truck that the Borough planned to replace in 2022, we should not pass up the opportunity. Brad Fagan, DPW, added that this is the exact same truck as one we currently have, and it is an outstanding truck.



**MAYOR & COUNCIL
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BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
August 17, 2021**



Tax Bills - Randy Bahr, Administrator, stated that the grace period for the third quarter has been extended to September 7, 2021.

Councilman Lemma gave some statistics regarding the severity of Covid-19 cases among those who have been vaccinated and suggested that Council meets for in person Council meetings. Council President Corigliano responded by saying that since the Administrator has mandated the use of masks within Borough Hall, Council should comply in the same way, which means wearing masks for the Council Meetings. Randy Bahr, Administrator, added that the Borough of Peapack and Gladstone has the lowest rate of vaccinated residents in the County which is why he has decided to mandate the wearing of masks within Borough Hall. Councilwoman Murphy stated that she agrees that Council should also comply with the mask mandate and continue to follow the CDC guidelines. It was suggested that this gets discussed again at the September 28th meeting.

Council President Corigliano asked for concurrence to continue virtual meetings through September. All concurred.

MISCELLANEOUS DISSION/APPROVALS

Council President Corigliano asked for concurrence on the matter of a Facility Use Application that was submitted by AT Films, LLC for filming at the Sunoco Station and Borough Hall. All concurred.

MINUTES

Consent Agenda for the following minutes was motioned by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Councilman Lemma, and passed with Councilman Sweeney abstaining.

Regular Meeting minutes of July 20, 2021.
Executive Session minutes of July 20, 2021.

ORDINANCES

Council President Corigliano asked for a motion and second to open the Public Hearing for **Ordinance 1103-2021- AN ORDINANCE TO SET THE COMPENSATION OF THE MAYOR, BOROUGH COUNCIL MEMBERS, DEPARTMENT HEADS AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES**

Councilman Sweeney moved to open the hearing for Public Comment for **Ordinance 1103-2021**, seconded by Councilman Lemma. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Council President Corigliano opened it to the public for any comments. No one came forward. Councilman Caminiti moved to close public comment for **Ordinance 1103-2021** seconded by Councilman Lemma. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Councilman Sweeney moved to adopt **Ordinance 1103-2021**, seconded by Councilman Lemma. Said motion was carried unanimously.



**MAYOR & COUNCIL
THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
August 17, 2021**



Council President Corigliano introduced **Ordinance 1104-2021** – AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING CERTAIN MONIES HELD BY THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE FOR THE ACQUISITION OF DUMP TRUCK WITH PLOW AND SALT SPREADER

Councilwoman Murphy moved to introduce the ordinance at first reading, seconded by Councilman Caminiti. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Council President Corigliano stated that **Ordinance 1104-2021** is introduced and shall be published in summary in the Bernardsville News and the Public Hearing for said Ordinance shall be held on September 14, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. or shortly thereafter.

RESOLUTIONS

Consent Agenda for the following resolutions were motioned by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Councilman Sweeney, and passed unanimously.

- RESOLUTION NO. 152-21** –Resolution for the Governing Body Certification of the Annual Audit
- RESOLUTION NO. 153-21** – Resolution Approving the Corrective Action Plan for the 2020 Audit
- RESOLUTION NO. 154-21** – Resolution to Approve Purchase of Spatial Data Logic (SDL) software for the purpose of Upgrading the Construction Department Program for Permitting
- RESOLUTION NO. 155-21** – Resolution to Approve Special use Permit for AT Films, LLC to Film at the Sunoco Station, 28 Route 206, Peapack, NJ
- RESOLUTION NO. 156-21** – Resolution for Authorization to Increase Salary-Logan Weimer
- RESOLUTION NO. 157-21** – Resolution for Authorization to Increase Salary-Robert Smith III
- RESOLUTION NO. 158-21** – Resolution to Submit a Grant Application to New Jersey State Agriculture Development Committee for up to 50% of Eligible Costs of a Municipal Comprehensive Farmland Preservation Plan, not to Exceed a Maximum Grant of \$20, 000.00
- RESOLUTION NO. 159-21** – Resolution Requesting Permission for the Dedication by Rider for Police Donations Required by N.J.S.A. 40A:4-39
- RESOLUTION NO. 160-21** – Resolution for Approval to Reduce Sewer Bill Charges for 2021 for Block 20, Lot 1.02, Account #930-0
- RESOLUTION NO. 162-21**-Resolution to Approve a Special Use Permit for North of Now to Film a Music Video at Blairsden, 30 Blair Drive, Peapack, NJ

BILLS LIST

Resolution No. 161-21 Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List in the amount of \$2,139,391.72 was read. Motion to approve payment was made by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Councilman Sweeney. Said motion passed unanimously.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Finance – Council President Corigliano stated he had no report.

Sanitation & Sewer – Councilman Lemma stated he had no report.



**MAYOR & COUNCIL
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BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
August 17, 2021**



Borough Property – Councilman Caminiti stated he had no report.

Fire and First Aid– Councilwoman Murphy stated that she had no report but wanted to thank the Fire Department and First Aid for their reports and mutual aid to other towns.

Roads & Transportation – Councilman Caminiti stated he had no report.

Zoning & Construction – No report for Zoning and Construction.

Borough Attorney’s Report- John Bruder stated he had no report.

Police– Councilman Sweeney stated he had no report.

Administrator’s Report – Mr. Bahr stated he had no report.

Mayor’s Report – No Mayor’s report.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – 3 MINUTES PER PERSON – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Council President Corigliano asked if any member of the public wishes to speak about agenda items.

No one came forward.

Councilman Caminiti thanked Council President Corigliano for running the Council meeting.

There being no other matters to be addressed by the Governing Body at this time, a motion was made by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Caminiti, that this meeting be adjourned at 8:21p.m. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy A. Bretzger

Nancy A. Bretzger, Borough Clerk