



**MAYOR & COUNCIL
THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 23, 2021**



The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone was held on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 electronically via the GOTO Meeting Conferencing Service and began at 7:01p.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 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."

Mayor Skinner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call indicated the following present: Mayor Skinner, Councilman Caminiti, Council President Corigliano, Councilwoman Dietrich, Councilman Lemma, Councilwoman Murphy, 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 gave an update on Covid-19 and directed residents to check the Somerset County Website for testing and vaccine locations and case information.

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.

Andrea Kronic. Holland Ave., Peapack: Ms. Kronic thanked the DPW for their hard work during the snow storm. She then stated that at the February 17, 2021 Land Use Meeting, there was an incident of verbal violence at a female member of the Board and asked if there was going to be anything done about it. Mayor Skinner responded by saying that no one was sure who that was and it was believed that someone hacked the virtual meeting. Council President Corigliano agreed that it was someone unknown. Mayor Skinner advised that he will follow up with the Land Use Board Chair.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Scout Cabin – Councilwoman Dietrich stated that she did not have an update. Councilman Sweeney stated that there was very little mentioned at the Recreation Meeting regarding the Scout Cabin, but once numbers are figured out there may be some collective work that can be done. Councilman Caminiti stated that he had reached out to Dan Megill, Director of Recreation, regarding maintenance and needed improvements.

Five-ton Rescue Vehicle – Mayor Skinner would put together a working group that will be comprised of local senior first responders and gave a list of who would be on that taskforce. This task force would be



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for advice only on the value of the truck to the Borough. Their report would be brought to the Mayor & Council for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Agreement with Pfizer for Usage of Trails on their Property-John Bruder, Borough Attorney, advised the Mayor and Council of the language in the contract regarding maintenance and repairs that would be the responsibility of the Borough. Discussion ensued regarding the walking trails, parking area, and tennis courts. It was agreed, as suggested by John Bruder, that some of the language in the contract with Pfizer should be changed once all information is obtained and looked at more thoroughly.

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION/APPROVALS

Facilities Usage Application from Somerset County Library System – for use of the Borough’s field at Borough Hall on Saturdays June 12th, July 10th and August 14th from 10am to 11:45am for “Read to a Therapy Dog” program and on Friday, July 16th for a “Children’s Musician” from 9:30am to 11:30am

Councilman Caminiti mentioned that we should make sure that it is clear that they will need to clean up the area after their events. Facilities Usage application was approved.

MINUTES

Mayor Skinner asked if there was a motion and second to accept the Executive Session Meeting minutes of December 14, 2020 and December 15, 2020. Councilman President Corigliano motioned to accept the minutes, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was passed with Councilman Lemma abstaining.

Mayor Skinner asked if there was a motion and second to accept the Regular Meeting minutes of January 12, 2021 and January 26, 2021 and Executive Meeting minutes of January 12, 2021. Councilwoman Murphy motioned to accept the minutes, seconded by Councilman Lemma. Said motion was passed unanimously.

ORDINANCES

Mayor Skinner asked for a motion and second to open the Public Hearing for **Ordinance 1097-2021** – An Ordinance to Amend Chapter XVII, Titled, “Sewers” of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone by Amending Section 17-4, Stormwater Control

Councilman Caminiti moved to open the hearing for Public Comment for **Ordinance 1097-2021**, seconded by Councilman Lemma. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Mayor Skinner opened it to the public for any comments. No one came forward.

Councilman Sweeney moved to close public comment for **Ordinance 1097-2021** seconded by Councilman Lemma. Said motion was carried unanimously.



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Councilman Lemma moved to Adopt **Ordinance 1097-2021** – An Ordinance to Amend Chapter XVII, Titled “Sewers” of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone by Amending Section 17-4, Stormwater Control, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy. Said motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 47-21 Resolution Demanding that the New Jersey State Legislature Accept its Responsibility to Administer the Provisions of the Affordable Housing Act and Stay Further Action Until Such Times as it has Promulgated Rules Governing its Implementation was read. Motioned by Council President Corigliano, seconded by Councilman Sweeney. Discussion ensued concerning the language of the resolution. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 48-21 Resolution for Mayoral Appointment for the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone to the Historical Preservation Commission for the Year 2021 was read. Motioned by Councilwoman Dietrich, seconded by Councilman Caminiti. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 49-21 Resolution for Mayoral Appointment for the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone to the Land Use Board was read. Motioned by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Councilman Lemma. Councilwoman Dietrich asked what information we have on this person. She also voiced her concerns about such appointments and stated that she would like to see a more thorough process in choosing members of Boards and Committees. Councilwoman Dietrich voted no because she doesn't have enough information on this individual. Said motion was passed.

Resolution No. 50-21 Resolution to Authorize Change Order #1 for Contract with JA Alexander, Inc. for the Sheephill Drive and Forest View Drive Resurfacing Project was read. Motioned by Councilwoman Murphy seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 51-21 Resolution Authorizing Borough Police Department to Participate in Somerset County Distracted Driving Crackdown February 14, 2021 – February 27, 2021 was read. Motioned by Councilman Sweeney, seconded by Councilman Lemma. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 52-21 Resolution Authorizing Temporary Emergency Appropriations was read. Motioned by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Councilman Sweeney. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 54-21 Authorization to Solicit Bids for Collection of Solid and Bulk Waste was read. Motioned by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Councilman Sweeney. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 55-21 Resolution Authorizing the AM Emergency Radio Station to be Decommissioned was read. Mayor Skinner explained that this has not been used for several years and he is working with the State DOT to have the signs removed. Motioned by Councilman Lemma, seconded by Councilman Caminiti. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 56-21 Resolution Authorizing the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone to Enter into an Agreement with Lamington Conservancy for the Purchase of Block 8, Lot 2.03, 16 School Street, Peapack, NJ was read. Motioned by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Council President Corigliano. Said motion was passed unanimously.



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Resolution No. 53-21 Resolution Accepting Donation of Two (2) Environmental Control Units (ECU) from the Federal Government's General Services was read. Motioned by Councilman Sweeney, seconded by Council President Corigliano. Mayor Skinner explained that these units would be used for emergency situations to create cooling and/or heating stations or wherever needed. Discussion ensued to decide if these are needed by the Borough and what the costs would be to repair and maintain them as well as where they would be stored. It was also mentioned that they may be better utilized by the County. Council President Corigliano suggested that the units are temporarily accepted for a 45-day window until it is figured out what should be done with them. The resolution was changed to reflect that the ECU units will be temporarily accepted for 45 days until a viable plan is presented to Council or an alternate caretaker can be found. This resolution was amended and renumbered to R-53A-21.

Resolution No. 53a-21 Resolution Temporarily Accepting Donation of Two (2) Environmental Control Units (ECU) from the Federal Government's General Services was read. As discussed, this resolution was amended to reflect that the ECU units will be temporarily accepted for 45 days unless a viable plan is presented to, and accepted by, the Council or an alternate caretaker can be found. If neither, they shall immediately be returned to the Federal Government. Motioned by Council President Corigliano, seconded by Councilman Sweeney. Councilwoman Dietrich voted no because she does not feel comfortable with the promissory approach. Said motion was passed.

BILLS LIST

Resolution No. 57-21 Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List in the amount of \$1,888,261.74. Councilman Sweeney stated that there is a line item showing a donation for \$10,000.00 from Dr. Caesar DePaco, which needs a resolution to be accepted. Randy Bahr, Administrator, stated that neither he nor Nancy Bretzger, Clerk, were aware of this donation, but he will look into it. Councilman Caminiti asked what the membership to Randolph is. Randy Bahr, Administrator, clarified that it is for the Morris County Co-op. Motion to approve payment was made by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was passed unanimously.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Finance – Council President Corigliano stated that he has received all of the budget reports and will be having the Budget meeting with Council in the second or third week in March.

Sanitation & Sewer – Councilman Lemma stated that Bedminster will take over STAB. The Capital Budget plans for the sewer systems have been submitted and prior invoices due to PG are being generated. The usage for PG has increased by over 1%. With these changes, residents will see a decrease in sewer bills. Camera and detection work will begin in the spring once the snow melts to see if infiltration and inflow problems accounting for the >1% increase can be located.

Borough Property – Councilman Caminiti stated that Liberty Park Project is moving along and we will be going out for bid for the foot bridge soon and asked Randy Bahr, Administrator, for an update. Randy stated that once the weather breaks, they can come and inspect to give us a quote.

Fire – Councilwoman Murphy stated that there are two proposals from fire apparatus consultants for the Fire Department. She will share the proposals with the Fire Department and together they will decide



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which company to use for the project. It is hoped to have someone chosen and the project started sometime in March. Councilwoman Murphy also mentioned that the Fire Department is applying for a grant for upgrades with their equipment.

Roads & Transportation – Councilman Caminiti gave a big shout out to our DPW Department for doing a great job on our roads with the snow storms. Also mentioned that once the spring begins, we’re going to be doing assessments of all the roads in town to prioritize repaving. He also mentioned that he, along with Councilman Lemma, would like reach out to our neighbors at the corner of Maple and Holland in hopes of moving the sidewalk project forward a bit more quickly.

Zoning & Construction – Mayor Skinner stated that he and Sarah Jane Noll, Zoning Official, met with John Fetterly, who is the owner of the Saint John’s property on Mendham Dr. He is aware of the potholes and has a contract to do cold weather patching once conditions permit.

Borough Attorney’s Report- John Bruder stated that Legislation has passed legalizing of the use of marijuana. He will need to read the new bill and report back to the Mayor and Council so it can be decided if an Ordinance is needed to preclude the use of marijuana on public property within our Borough.

Police– Councilman Sweeney stated that the Collective Bargaining agreement is expiring at the end of this year. He is going to schedule a meeting with the PBA and submit the agreement to the Council for any modifications that may be needed. Councilman Sweeney also mentioned that there have been many inquiries about Recreation programs for the summer. He stated that everything is dependent upon the Governor’s orders, but we will be prepared to have the programs if allowed in the state’s guidelines.

Administrator’s Report – Mr. Bahr stated that Bedminster did away with their senior bussing and is now utilizing Somerset County’s senior bus services. He has reached out to the County as well, and was told we could get a Thursday schedule and that it would cost approximately \$150.00 round trip to cover the hourly rate of the bus driver. The seniors would be picked up at their homes and taken to Chester for shopping trips, etc. and then dropped back off at home. Councilwoman Dietrich asked about scheduling for doctor appointments that may not be a on Thursday. Mayor Skinner suggested getting more information from the county so a decision can be made. Mr. Bahr said that he will set it up for discussion at the next Council meeting.

Mayor’s Report – Mayor Skinner stated Government Murphy was at Matheny and watched staff members get the Covid-19 vaccine. While there, Mayor Skinner mentioned the Fire grant to the Congressman who said he would be happy to support it. Mayor Skinner also gave a shout out to the DPW on the great job they’ve been doing during the snow storms as well as the Police and EMS.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – 3 MINUTES PER PERSON – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

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

Fran Tosti-41 Old Chester Road-Mrs. Tosti voiced her concerns with the process of Mayoral appointments, especially to the Land Use Board, and the process in which he or she is chosen. Mayor Skinner responded by saying that they will be working on a little bit different of a process in making such appointments.



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Councilwoman Murphy also responded by saying that she understands Mrs. Tosti's concerns and going forward, there will be positive changes in this process.

Recreation Report-Council President Corigliano mentioned that he is excited about Recreation Director, Dan Dolan's report and the future of Recreation in Peapack & Gladstone.

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 9:41 p.m. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy A. Bretzger

Nancy A. Bretzger, Borough Clerk