



**MAYOR & COUNCIL
THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE,
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 5, 2021**



The Reorganization meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone was held on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at the Municipal Complex, 1 School Street, Peapack, New Jersey and began at 7:00 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 2021 Meeting Dates was published in the Courier News and Bernardsville News on December 2, 2020, and posted at the Municipal Complex and the Borough Library. Action may be taken."

Mayor Skinner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Skinner welcomed everyone to the 2021 Reorganizational meeting.

Mayor Skinner swore in Councilwoman Elect Amy Dietrich.

Mayor Skinner swore in Councilman Elect Donald Lemma.

Mayor Skinner asked the Borough Clerk for a Roll Call.

Roll Call indicated the following present:

Present: Mayor Skinner, Councilman Caminiti, Councilman Corigliano, Councilwoman Dietrich, Councilman Lemma, Councilwoman Murphy, Councilman Sweeney

Absent: No one was absent.

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

COUNCIL COMMENTS, Newly Elected Officials, Other Members of the Council

Mayor Skinner asked if any new Council members had any comments.

Mayor Skinner read the following.

Good evening and Happy New Year. I am sure we are all happy to leave 2020 in our rearview mirrors. To say it was a tough year is an understatement. I first want to congratulate Councilperson Amy Dietrich on starting her second term and to Councilperson Donald Lemma for his return to the Council after taking 3 years off. All of us on the Council welcome you and we look forward to working with you in the coming year. A special thanks to now former Councilperson Royal (Roy) Smith on his service. Roy did a great job and his contributions to the Borough Council will truly be missed. All the best for your next chapter. The Borough does not function without the hard work of the employees. Thank you to all of the full time and part time employees who make this town a safe and great place to live. The same goes to all of the volunteers. Many "work" countless hours as a labor of love to help support our wonderful town. Our Country is built on volunteerism and there is no way any town could survive without the dedication you provide.



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A special thanks is necessary to our Borough's First Responders, both career and volunteer. Members of the Police Department, Fire Department, First Aid Squad, Public Works and Emergency Management have had a very tough year dealing with all the normal things they deal with coupled with having to worry about the pandemic caused by COVID-19. All of you do amazing things day in and day out. Peapack & Gladstone is the model for interagency cooperation. We will get through these trying times and with the vaccine on the horizon for the public hopefully things will get back to a more normal routine. I wish everyone a safe, healthy and happy new year.

Councilwoman Dietrich said she is honored to be back on Council for a second term and is looking forward to working with everyone. She also thanked all of the Borough employees and volunteers.

Councilman Lemma read the following.

I'd like to thank the residents of Peapack and Gladstone for their support in this year's election. I'm happy to be back on the dais to serve my second term of office. PG Borough is a special place in many respects. We have 7 elected officials that have given of themselves unselfishly to serve on the Council. One area, which has fortunately separated our Borough from other political entities, is the respect that our leadership has shown to the citizens and one-another...regardless of political affiliation. I'm proud to sit among them. The years ahead will be difficult to navigate...unfunded State mandates being passed onto the municipalities, affordable housing quotas handed down by the courts that do not take into account its impact on the community's infrastructure or master plan, and unprecedented financial hardships for our residents who have entrusted us to watch over government spending and keep taxes as low as practical, while continuing to deliver essential government services. I'm happy to take up these challenges with my fellow councilmen and women, so let's get started!

Councilman Caminiti gave his heartfelt congratulations to both Councilwoman Dietrich and Councilman Lemma and to the entire Council for all of their good work under such difficult circumstances. Also gave a special shout out to Borough Clerk, Nancy Bretzger and Business Administrator, Randy Bahr.

Councilman Sweeney read the following.

Initially, I'd like to thank outgoing Councilman Roy Smith for his service and welcome Don Lemma back to the council. Last year at this time, I commented that 2020 was shaping up to be a year of change. But I had no clue about what changes were in store for us. We learned new words this year - PPE, herd immunity, social distancing, and of course, lock down. But I like to think that we all learned how to better work together for the common good. Our administrative personnel stepped up to the plate when the COVID lock down began, taking extensive measures to safeguard the municipal building to protect our employees. And many of us learned to work remotely. But some of our people could not work remotely, or for that matter without risk. Our police officers responded over thousands of times despite COVID. In the process, they rapidly adopted new protocols for their safety and the safety of public.

Likewise, our first responder volunteers - First Aid and Fire - did not miss a beat even though their resources were strained due to mask and PPE shortages. And our OEM played a more prominent role this year as our coordinator worked with not just our first responders, but the Board of Health, the county and state to ensure that our people had the tools to do their jobs. No less important, our DPW carried on doing jobs too numerous and varied to list. Suffice it to say, if our DPW does not show up for work, then people notice exactly what they do to keep our town looking good and functioning.

But the pandemic did not just impact municipal operations. All of our residents had their lives changed in one way or another. Yet so many people stepped up.



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Our Recreation Commission - after being forced to cancel so many programs - monitored Executive Orders looking for opportunities to relieve stress and provide a sense of community. Rec hosted a drive-in movie and made sure that traditions like the Halloween parade and Santa walk went forward, although in a modified fashion. But it was not only municipally sponsored committees that lent a hand. A special word of acknowledgment goes to Sama Habibi and the Reformed Church for hosting a local food bank. Not only did the food bank help those in need, it gave our residents a vehicle to commit acts of kindness by donating food and other essentials. Lastly, I'd like to thank our mayor for his leadership during these difficult times. As a retired police officer, volunteer EMT and fire fighter as well as former deputy OEM coordinator, we truly had the right person for the job. I wish everyone a happier new year than last. Thank you and God bless.

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

No one came forward.

Resolution 1-21 Election and Appointment of Council President by Governing Body was read. Council President Corigliano stated that he will, of course, do his best to serve well the Mayor and Council in this position. Mayor Skinner thanked Council President Corigliano for doing such a great job for the past two years and looks forward to working together again. Motion made by Councilman Sweeney to nominate Councilman Corigliano as Council President, seconded by Councilman Lemma. Said motion was passed, with Councilman Corigliano abstaining.

Resolution 2-21 Council Committee Assignments for the Borough of Peapack and Gladstone during the Year 2021 was read. Motion was made by Council President Corigliano, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution 3-21 Employee Appointments for the Borough of Peapack and Gladstone during the Year 2021 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Lemma, seconded by Councilman Sweeney. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution 4-21 Certifying Payroll Certified for Payment of Employees Whose Wages or Compensation is on an Hourly Basis was read. Motion was made by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Council President Corigliano. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution 5-21 Appointing Professional Service Consultants for the Borough of Peapack and Gladstone During the Year 2021 was read. Motion was made by Council President Corigliano, seconded by Councilman Sweeney. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution 6-21 Mayoral Appointments for the Borough of Peapack and Gladstone During the Year 2021 was read. Motion was made by Councilwoman Dietrich, seconded by Council President Corigliano. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution 7-21 Resolution for the Temporary Appropriations for Operating Purposes was read. Motion was made by Councilman Sweeney, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution 8-21 Resolution Appointing Risk Management Consultant was read. Motion was made by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 25-21 Resolution Appointing Council Representative to Land Use Board (LUB)
There was discussion amongst Council regarding the Land Use Board Council representative. Motion was made by Councilman Caminiti to appoint Council President Corigliano as the Land Use Board Class III member for 2021, seconded by Councilman Sweeney. Said motion passed, with Council President Corigliano abstaining.



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CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Councilman Caminiti to approve Resolution 9-21 through Resolution 24-21, with the exception of Resolution No. 20-21, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 9-21 Authorizing the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone Tax Collector to Process the Cancellation of any Property Tax Refund, Sewer Tax Refund or Delinquency in the Amount Less than \$10.00

Resolution No. 10-21 Naming Official Depositories of the Borough of Peapack and Gladstone and Authorizing Signatories on Depository Accounts

Resolution No. 11-21 Authorizing the Borough of Peapack and Gladstone Tax Collector to Fix a Penalty on Delinquent Taxes and Allowing for a Ten-Day Grace Period for Each Quarterly Due Date of Tax Payment

Resolution No. 12-21 Authorizing the Borough of Peapack and Gladstone to Fix a Penalty on Residential Sewer Accounts and Allowing for a Ten-Day Grace Period for Each Quarterly Due Date of Residential Sewer Account Payment

Resolution No. 13-21 Appointing Assistant Administrator of the Borough of Peapack and Gladstone Nancy A. Bretzger as Certifying Agent for Public Employees Retirement System, Police and Fire Retirement System and the Defined Contribution Retirement Program

Resolution No. 14-21 Authorizing Borough Treasurer with the Chairman of the Finance committee to Purchase Certificates of Deposit from the Following Banks which are hereby Designated as Depositories for Funds of the Borough of Peapack and Gladstone

Resolution No. 15-21 Authorizing Borough of Peapack and Gladstone Tax Assessor and Borough Attorney to File an Assessor's Petition to Revise any Incorrect Items in the 2019 Tax List

Resolution No. 16-21 Authorizing a Lease with Melick Lebanon Farm, LLC for the Use of the Facility as a Firing Range for Weapons Qualifications at the Cost of \$1 Per Year

Resolution No. 17-21 Adoption of Cash Management Plan Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14

Resolution No. 18-21 Reestablishing a Petty Cash Fund for 2020 for the Borough of Peapack and Gladstone

Resolution No. 19-21 Designating Nancy A. Bretzger as the Public Agency Compliance Officer of the Borough of Peapack and Gladstone

Resolution No. 21-21 Appointing Randy Bahr, Acting Administrator as Statewide Insurance Fund Commissioner

Resolution No. 22-21 Appointing Sarah Jane Noll as Certified Recycling Professional for the Borough of Peapack and Gladstone

Resolution No. 23-21 Authorizing Submission of the 2020 Recycling Tonnage Grant Application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Designating Sarah Jane Noll as Recycling Coordinator for the Borough of Peapack and Gladstone

Resolution No. 24-21 Designating the Bernardsville News and the Courier News as the Official Newspapers for the Borough of Peapack and Gladstone



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Resolution No. 20-21 Establishing Billing Dates for Business and Bulk Sewer Users in the Borough of Peapack and Gladstone was read.

Council President Corigliano explained that he would like to change this resolution for sewer billing from quarterly to twice a year. Discussion ensued to determine the new billing dates of April 15th and October 15th. Motion was made by Council President Corigliano to amend Resolution No. 20-21, seconded by Councilman Sweeney. Said motion was passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – 3 MINUTES PER PERSON – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

No members of the public wished to address the Mayor and Council during this portion of the meeting.

Councilman Lemma mentioned that Christmas tree pick up will begin on January 18, 2021. He asked Clerk, Nancy Bretzger if it will be going on the Borough website and she replied that it will. Councilman Lemma also brought up his concerns about certain information on the Borough website being out dated and volunteered to help get it up to date. Councilwoman Murphy asked Clerk, Nancy Bretzger if she could post the Christmas tree pick up information on the NextDoor app. Nancy said that she will post the link for that page on our website to Next Door.

There being no other matters to be addressed by the Governing Body at this time, a motion was made by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Councilman Lemma, that this meeting be adjourned at 7:38 p.m. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy A. Bretzger

Nancy A. Bretzger, Borough Clerk