



**MAYOR & COUNCIL
THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 26, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone was held on Tuesday, January 26, 2021 electronically via the GOTO Meeting Conferencing Service and began at 7:05p.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 Skinner began the Borough Council Meeting with the swearing in of the Chief of Police, Stephen Ferrante, followed by the swearing in of Sergeant Thomas Scanlon. He stated that it is truly an honor to be a part of this. Michael Robertson, Borough Prosecutor, congratulated both Chief Ferrante and Sergeant Scanlon. Sergeant Scanlon thanked his family, and members of the Fire Department, First Aid Squad, Police Department and Chief Ferrante. Chief Ferrante wanted to thank his family, the Borough Council and especially Mayor Skinner for all of their support through this entire process. He also thanked Randy Bahr, Administrator and Nancy Bretzger, Borough Clerk, and the Police Department. Chief Ferrante wished Sergeant Scanlon good luck and let him know that his door is always open for anything he may need. He also said that it is an honor to be in this position.

Mayor Skinner announced that there will be a brief recess at 7:25. Council Meeting resumed at 7:32p.m.

MAYOR'S UPDATE ON COVID-19

Mayor Skinner said that Peapack has had 155 positive cases with 1 death. Somerset County has had 1487 cases with 626 deaths and New Jersey has had 584,000 + cases with 18,754 deaths. The Health Department tested 250 people with 17 positive cases at a testing clinic here in Peapack. Peapack currently has approximately 15 positive cases and fortunately those people are not hospitalized. Tomorrow will be the last day of testing at the Raritan Site, through Somerset County, as they are switching to administering the vaccine. Somerset County has a hot line that residents can call to schedule a time to receive the vaccine.

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.



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Karen Rogers-7 West Ave.-Ms. Rogers asked about the accessibility of the Zoom meetings to the public for Boards and Committees. Councilwoman Murphy responded by saying that unless it is an Executive Session, the public is welcome to join all meetings. Councilwoman Dietrich added that it would be a good idea for someone from administration to reach out to our committees and make sure they are aware that the public may join their meetings. She also asked how the committees handle executive session and suggested some structure around that issue. Randy Bahr, Administrator, mentioned that Nancy Bretzger, Clerk, has spoken to many committees and explained how to handle different aspects of the meeting procedures. Mr. Bahr also stated that this is perhaps something that will need better laid out procedures.

OLD BUSINESS

Councilman Lemma announced that the updates to the website have been 100% completed.

Councilman Caminiti stated that the HAEG packets have been sent out to residents and most have been received. The majority of feedback has been positive.

NEW BUSINESS

No New Business

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION/APPROVALS

Councilwoman Dietrich wanted to make sure that all residents understand that the time for Public Comments is a safe way for them to voice their concerns, etc.

MINUTES

Mayor Skinner asked if there was a motion and second to accept the Re-Organizational Meeting minutes of January 5, 2021. Councilman Caminiti motioned to accept the minutes, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy. Said motion was passed unanimously.

ORDINANCES

Mayor Skinner introduced **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 Corigliano asked for an explanation as to what this Ordinance is. John Bruder, Borough Attorney explained that this is an amendment required by the State of New Jersey. Councilwoman Murphy moved to introduce the Ordinance at first reading, seconded by Councilman Lemma. Said motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Skinner stated that **Ordinance 1097-2021** is introduced and shall be published in summary in the Bernardsville News and the Public Hearing for said Ordinance shall be held on February 23, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. or shortly thereafter.



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RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 40-21 Resolution to Remove Probationary Status of Brad Fagan, DPW Front Line Supervisor was read. Motioned by Councilwoman Dietrich, seconded by Councilman Lemma. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 41-21 Resolution to Make Justin Dietrich, DPW Laborer Regular Employee Status was read. Motioned by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 42-21 Resolution to Make Logan Weimer, DPW Laborer Regular Employee Status was read. Motioned by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 43-21 Authorizing Borough Police Department to Participate in Somerset County Super Bowl Sunday's DWI Safe Passage Grant was read. Motioned by Councilman Sweeney seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 44-21 Resolution Authorizing Randy Bahr, Borough Administrator to Apply to Somerset County Open Space for a Grant for the Liberty Park Improvements Project was read. Motioned by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy. Councilwoman Murphy asked about the size of said grants. Randy Bahr, Administrator responded by saying there is not really a set amount, but anything we can get will help offset the cost of the project at Liberty Park. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 45-21 Authorization for Robert J. Smith III to become a Riding Member of the Peapack & Gladstone Volunteer Fire Department was read. Motioned by Councilman Lemma, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was passed unanimously.

BILLS LIST

Resolution No. 46-21 Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List in the amount of \$261,712.76. Councilwoman Murphy asked about the First Aid Contribution. Randy Bahr, Administrator, responded by saying that he has reviewed all of their paperwork and everything is ready and in order. 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 sent out packets to all Department Heads requiring information for O&E amounts for this year's budget.

Sanitation & Sewer – Councilman Lemma stated that he has reviewed the STAB report and Randy Bahr, Administrator is working on the details.



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Borough Property – Councilman Caminiti stated that we received notification from Princeton Hydro that our permit has been approved by the NJDEP, allowing us to move forward with the Liberty Park project. We are on track for beginning the project at the end of April or beginning of May. Councilman Caminiti also mentioned that we should be in a good position to receive the grant money from Somerset County, which is a great way to kick off the year 2021.

Fire – Councilwoman Murphy stated that she had no report tonight. Councilman Lemma added for OEM that a decision was made to remove signs on Route 206, and decommission the AM radio station that is no longer in use.

Roads & Transportation – Councilman Caminiti stated that he had nothing to report tonight.

Zoning & Construction – Mayor Skinner stated that he had no report tonight.

Borough Attorney's Report- John Bruder stated that he received a deed for the Roads in the Pacesetter Development, so that we can accept the dedication. It will be on the Agenda in an upcoming meeting.

Police– Councilman Sweeney stated that he had no report tonight.

Administrator's Report – Mr. Bahr stated that he had no report tonight.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Skinner stated he has no report tonight.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – 3 MINUTES PER PERSON – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Mayor Skinner asked if any member of the Public wishes to speak about agenda items. No one came forward.

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 Murphy that this meeting be adjourned at 8:07 p.m. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy A. Bretzger, Borough Clerk