



**MAYOR & COUNCIL
THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE,
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 28, 2022**



The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone was held on Tuesday, June 28, 2022 at the Municipal Complex, 1 School Street, Peapack, New Jersey and began at 7:01p.m.

Mayor Skinner called the meeting to order. Deputy Borough Clerk Karen Van Nest read the Sunshine Notice "Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, Adequate notice of 2022 Meeting Dates was published in the Courier News and Bernardsville News on December 9, 2021 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:

Present: Council President Corigliano, Councilman Caminiti, Councilman Lemma, Councilman Sweeney, Mayor Skinner

Absent: Councilwoman Dietrich, Councilwoman Murphy

Also present were: Mr. John Bruder, Esq., Borough Attorney, Nancy A. Bretzger, Borough Clerk/Administrator and Karen Van Nest, Deputy Clerk.

RESOLUTION NO. 156-22 – RESOLUTION TO APPOINT POLICE OFFICER KYLE H. MCCARTNEY TO THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE POLICE DEPARTMENT was read. Motion was made by Councilman Sweeney, seconded by Councilman Caminiti. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Police Chief Ferrante introduced Kyle H. McCartney, spoke about his background and welcomed him to the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone.

Mayor Skinner performed the swearing in of new Police Officer Kyle H. McCartney by reading the Oath aloud, repeated by Kyle H. McCartney. Photographs were taken and all Council Members congratulated and welcomed the newest Officer to the Borough.

A brief recess began at 7:04pm for Kyle McCartney's family and friends to take photographs with him. The recess ended and the meeting resumed at 7:07pm.

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

Mayor Skinner opened it up to the public for any non-agenda comments. No one came forward.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no old business items discussed.



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NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Lemma spoke about the Liberty Park compliance inspection and noted a few remaining items. The pad for the new electrical panel and meter is poured, the electrical conduits are in, walkways and lighting are finished, and the fountains are ready as soon as the electric service is connected by JCP&L. The old aerators are not working and replacements are in the process of being order. The stainless-steel locking cabinet has not yet arrived and the fencing by the tot lot should be installed tomorrow. The algae bloom is just about starting and the geese fencing is having some effect; yet some remediation methods still need be implemented regarding the geese issue. Two doggie bags dispensers have been ordered for the park. Regarding the tot lot equipment, the Recreation Commission feels the current equipment is usable suggested adding a few new pieces of equipment. Council concurred. Council President Corigliano suggested that the search for some new pieces begin now. Councilman Sweeney noted that the state might have grants available. DPW Director Brad Fagan will power wash the tot lot equipment and paint some of the railings.

There was a discussion amongst Council surrounding park hours and lighting at Liberty Park in addition to parking regulations at the public parks in the Borough. Councilman Lemma stated that all of the lighting at Liberty Park is low-voltage LEDs that point downward. He also noted that sensors are in place for Liberty Park's lighting to be on from dusk to dawn. Mayor Skinner asked Sgt. Scanlon about the lights at Natirar Park and Sgt. Scanlon confirmed that the lights are on all through the night. Regarding hours that Liberty Park would be open, the consensus was 6am-9pm. For parking, Sgt. Scanlon said that there is an ordinance that states no parking at public parks from 2am-6am and it was agreed that parking at all Borough parks should mirror the hours of the parks. Councilman Lemma raised the possibility that the Barre Studio business on Main Street could have customers that take up parking spaces at Liberty Park. The decision was that language would be added to the parking ordinance to read "Parking within Liberty Park is for Park Use Only". Attorney John Bruder noted that he will send the revised Ordinance to the Council Members upon completion of same. Sgt. Scanlon stated that within the parking Ordinance for the Firehouse, there is an exemption for employees who work at Gladstone Tavern.

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION/APPROVALS

There was a discussion among Council regarding the re-opening of Liberty Park. Borough Administrator suggested a walk-around-the park event with the Mayor and Council to point out and to explain to Borough residents the improvements and changes at Liberty Park. Consensus for the walk at the park event agreed upon 7pm on Thursday, July 7th for this soft opening. Councilman Lemma asked DPW Director Brad Fagan to power wash the tot lot equipment, install mulch, and place benches prior to the evening of July 7th. Councilman Lemma further stated that there was a lot of chatter on the NextDoor app regarding the opening of Liberty Park and noted that he will elaborate on NextDoor regarding the planning event for the re-opening.

Council President Corigliano began a discussion on a signage project that he and Councilwoman Amy Dietrich have been working on. He displayed photos on one of the TV screens in the Council Room. He explained the construction and design of the signs and noted specifics regarding materials, prices, and sizes. These signs are replacement signs for entering the Borough and the design in the middle of the logo is raised. He noted that the Far Hills sign, which was also displayed, was created by the same company that provided us the lowest bid. Council President Corigliano proposed seven (7) signs, one for each of the



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entrances into town and noted that our DPW employees would install the posts in the ground and mount the signs. Additionally, an image of a double-sided sign proposed for the front of the Municipal Building that measures 52" tall by 59" wide for the Municipal Complex & Public Library was shown and noted at a cost of approximately \$4,000. Mayor Skinner stated that he thinks an electronic sign to put messages out would be a great addition to the signage as residents would see the messages as they drive by. He noted that it might be a good project for next year and that the proposed large sign could be augmented to add the electronic sign above or below. The consensus among all Council Members was to proceed with the seven (7) entrance signs and to order three (3) additional vinyl prints of the logo (1 to place on the front of the dais in the Council Room), but to hold off on the large sign for now.

MINUTES

***Consent Agenda** to accept the following ten (10) Meeting Minutes was motioned by Councilman Lemma, seconded by Councilman Caminiti. Said motion was passed unanimously.*

Executive Session Meeting Minutes February 8, 2022
Executive Session Meeting Minutes February 22, 2022
Executive Session Meeting Minutes March 8, 2022
Executive Session Meeting Minutes March 16, 2022
Executive Session Meeting Minutes March 29, 2022
Executive Session Meeting Minutes April 7, 2022
Executive Session Meeting Minutes May 10, 2022
Executive Session Meeting Minutes May 24, 2022
Executive Session Meeting Minutes June 14, 2022
Regular Session Meeting Minutes June 14, 2022

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 157-22 – RESOLUTION TO CHANGE STATUS OF FLORENCE SPITALE, ASSISTANT TO THE CONSTRUCTION AND DPW OFFICES TO PERMANENT EMPLOYEE STATUS was read. Motion was made by Council President Corigliano, seconded by Councilman Lemma. Said motion was passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 158-22 – RESOLUTION TO CHANGE STATUS OF KAREN VAN NEST, DEPUTY CLERK AND DEPUTY REGISTRAR TO PERMANENT EMPLOYEE STATUS was read. Motion was made by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Councilman Sweeney. Said motion was passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 159-22 – RESOLUTION ACCEPTING RESIGNATION FROM ROBERT SMITH, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS LABORER was read. Motion was made by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Councilman Sweeney. Said motion was passed unanimously.

BILLS LIST

Resolution No. 160-22 Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List in the amount of \$417,948.20 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Sweeney, seconded by Councilman Corigliano. Said motion was passed unanimously.



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COUNCIL REPORTS

Finance – Nothing specific to report

Sanitation & Sewer – Councilman Lemma noted that he is continuing to follow the status of the federal grant for the pumping station for STAB.

Borough Property – Councilman Caminiti asked DPW Director Brad Fagan about the status of contractor pricing for the Scout Cabin work to be done and Brad stated that he hasn't heard anything.

Fire and First Aid – Nothing specific to report

Police – Councilman Sweeney stated that the Police Department is making progress on hiring a 9th Officer.

Roads & Transportation – Councilman Caminiti asked DPW Director Brad Fagan about road striping. Mayor Skinner said that extra delineation is no problem with the County. Councilman Caminiti raised the topic of heavy trucks on certain roads, in particular the corner of Mendham Rd. and Overlook. Mayor Skinner confirmed that Overlook is a town road. It was noted that Borough Engineer Bill Ryden had an issue in the past when it was proposed. Mayor Skinner said that there are certain roads in Bernardsville that restrict trucks over a certain GVWR (gross vehicle weight rating). Councilman Caminiti stated that he would call the County and Borough Administrator Bretzger stated that she would call Borough Engineer Bill Ryden to discuss putting up signs on County Roads.

Zoning & Construction – No Report

Borough Attorney's Report- Mr. John Bruder noted that one resident withdrew their tax appeal and that there are not many appeals this year since the market is so high.

Administrator's Report – Nothing specific to report

Mayor's Report – Mayor Skinner stated that the Flag drop-off is going strong. He also stated that he wants to host a Town Hall meeting with NJ Transit to explain the quiet zone. He said that the trains have to blow their horn on Holland Ave and also have to blow their horn as they pull into the train station in the Gladstone train station yard. He noted that becoming a DOT-Compliant "Quiet Zone" is very expensive and would provide limited relief. Mayor Skinner also noted that he received a letter for the Borough to join the Lackawanna Coalition that was formed in the late 1970s. Council President Corigliano explained that the organization is an advocacy group of interested commuters to advocate for service on the rail line and that the fee to join is \$150/year. Council President Corigliano stated that he would be the Borough's liaison and consensus was obtained amongst the Council Members.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – 3 MINUTES PER PERSON – AGENDA ITEMS

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

Sgt. Scanlon of the Borough Police Department asked about Rockabye Meadow and Komline Park as it relates to the new proposed parking hours and Council President Corigliano stated that it would apply to



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all Borough Parks. Mayor Skinner noted that it would then encompass any new Borough Parks in the future as well.

There were no further public comments regarding agenda items.

Councilman Caminiti congratulated all of the 2022 graduates of Bernards High School and noted that the graduates enjoyed participating in the tradition of running a lap around the track.

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 Sweeney, that this meeting be adjourned at 8:03p.m. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy A. Bretzger

Nancy A. Bretzger, Borough Clerk