



**MAYOR & COUNCIL
THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE,
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 7, 2022**



The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone was held on Monday, November 7, 2022 at the Municipal Complex, 1 School Street, Peapack, New Jersey and virtually via GoTo Meeting 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 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: Councilman Caminiti, Council President Corigliano, Councilwoman Dietrich, Councilman Lemma. Councilwoman Murphy, Councilman Sweeney and Mayor Skinner.

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

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

No public came forward.

OLD BUSINESS

Council President Corigliano stated that he and Councilwoman Dietrich's Ad Hoc Committee have received quotes for the signage for the front of the Municipal Building. Meg Walters has been very instrumental in this process. They investigated what the cost would be to make it digital or at least a portion of it. Because it would be a custom-made sign and including the wiring it would be in the range of \$20,000 to \$25,000. He asked the Council if they feel this is a worthwhile expenditure. He said the sign could be added later if grant monies were found. Councilman Sweeney does not think we will find grant money for this, he said it is a good idea and it is a way to communicate with people. He said it is much better than portable signs. Councilman Lemma stated that he does not agree with Councilman Sweeney. He is concerned with the aesthetics of the Historic Borough Hall. Councilwoman Dietrich and Councilwoman Murphy agree with Councilman Lemma. Councilwoman Dietrich also stated that technology changes quickly and this could be outdated very quickly. Councilwoman Murphy asked if they could see some images. Councilman Caminiti stated that a sign is needed for emergency notifications and we need to look to see if any grants would be available. From an emergency notification perspective, there is a lot a grant money available. He agrees that electronics change but is in favor of exploring options. Mayor Skinner stated he feels we should get it. Besides the emergency notifications, there is a lot going on in the Borough and it would be good to have it posted. The sandwich boards are hard to read.



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He said electronics do change but, in this day, and age we need to be able to get messages out quickly. People drive by the municipal building all day and the sign should be seen from both ways. The Mayor feels that it is very important to have the sign. Council President Corigliano stated after hearing the discussion it is important enough to pursue. Councilman Lemma stated that it was not the consensus of the Council to get the digital sign, it was the consensus of the Council that we would look at alternatives to a traditional sign. It was decided that he will provide options for Council review.

Councilman Lemma stated the he has looked at the Geese situation at the pond. He did a count before and after since the amber lights were installed. The population has gone down but not enough. The next step is he found a company that will charge \$450 per month for a non-toxic chemical to get rid of the geese. Councilwoman Dietrich stated that they tried it where she lives and they did see a noticeable difference - the geese were gone. The Company will do the spraying. There is no material data sheet required because it is all organic. There is no EPA registration required either. It was decided that Councilman Lemma will provide the state contract information flyers to the Council. The company did mention that after the spraying it dries immediately and there is no toxicity.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Sweeney mentioned the gym floor has been resurfaced. Dan Dolan, Recreation Coordinator spear headed this project. The floors came out very nicely.

Councilman Lemma told Dan Dolan that indelible paint was used on Lackawanna Avenue for the Art in the Park to mark the spots used by the Vendors. It is going to have to be sand blasted off. The instructions went out to the Recreation Committee that they should use chalk to mark off the spaces. Councilman Lemma will work with Brad Fagan, DPW Director to get this taken care of.

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION/APPROVALS

Quilt Donation from Bernice Coop

Councilwoman Murphy stated her neighbor Bernice Coop has lived in this town her whole life and her great grandfather was the first Mayor in town, John Bodine. Ms. Coop wishes to donate a patriotic quilt to the Boro. Mayor Bodine's wife created the quilt and it was presented in Philadelphia at the Centennial celebration of 1876 and it has been in her family for 150 years. It is also registered at Rutgers as a historical quilt. Ms. Coop asked that the quilt stay in the Municipal building. It was decided it would stay in the Council meeting room. The quilt will be given to the Township's Historical Society and they will take care to preserve it and hang it. They will also make a plaque giving a description about it. Once it is displayed, they will do a special unveiling of it.



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Open Gym Proposal

Councilman Sweeney asked the Recreation Director Dan Dolan to be here because they have had two volunteers form a subcommittee to put together a proposal for resuming Open Gym. They are recommending they we bring it back 2 to 3 days a week. They will have to hire a monitor with a hourly rate of \$15 for 12 hours a week. There was a discussion amongst the Council and Dan regarding open gym for kids 10 and older. Councilwoman Dietrich asked if there could be a time for older adults. With the colder temperatures, it would be nice for them to have a place to walk and possibly do some other activities. There was a discussion on advertising for a monitor for the kids. Nancy Bretzger, Borough Administrator, will advertise for this position on the website and the Bernardsville News. The starting hourly rate will be advertised at \$15.00. The monitor will need to have a background check as all the volunteer coaches have. The Open Gym will be done on a trial basis starting in January to May and be paid for from the Recreation Trust Fund.

Councilman Corigliano stated that he will be having a Town Hall meeting Monday, December 12 at 7PM to talk about Affordable Housing and to discuss the affordable housing on the Smith Tract for the residents in that area. Invites will go out to the 3 streets abutting the area as well as the general population via the Borough website and PG Notify.

RESOLUTIONS

Consent Agenda for Resolutions 217-22, 218-22, 219-22, 220-22, 221-22, was motioned by Councilman Caminiti seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motioned was passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. R-217-22 – RESOLUTION FOR AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR BOROUGH AUDITOR FOR THE YEAR 2023

RESOLUTION NO. R- 218-22 – RESOLUTION GRANTING THE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT (FMLA) TO NANCY MUOIO FOR UNPAID TIME OFF FOR OCTOBER 27 AND 28, 2022

RESOLUTION NO. R-219-22 – RESOLUTION FOR APPROPRIATION BUDGET TRANSFERS

RESOLUTION NO. R-220-22 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO SOMERVILLE ALUMINUM FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF COMMERCIAL GUTTERS ON THE BOROUGH'S FIRE HOUSE



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RESOLUTION NO. R-221-22 - RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF 2023 ANNUAL PLANNING INCENTIVE GRANT APPLICATION TO THE STATE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

BILLS LIST

RESOLUTION NO. 222-22 – APPROVAL OF BILLS AS SIGNED AND LISTED ON THE BILL PAYMENT LIST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,390,219.37 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Councilman Lemma. Said motion was passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – 3 MINUTES PER PERSON – AGENDA ITEMS

No one came forward

ADJOURNMENT

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 7:43p.m. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Nancy A. Bretzger, Borough Clerk