



**MAYOR & COUNCIL  
THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE,  
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 11, 2023**

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The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone was held on Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at the Municipal Complex, 1 School Street, Peapack, New Jersey and virtually via GoTo Meeting and began at 7:00p.m.

Mayor Corigliano called the meeting to order. Deputy Registrar Suzie Givone read the Sunshine Notice: "Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, Adequate notice of 2023 Meeting Dates was published in the Courier News and Bernardsville News on December 8, 2022 and posted at the Municipal Complex and the Borough Library. Action may be taken."

Mayor Corigliano led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call indicated the following present: Councilwoman Dietrich, Councilman Lemma, Councilwoman Murphy, Councilman Quartello, Council President Sweeney, Councilwoman Weible and Mayor Corigliano.

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

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

No public comment.

**PRESENTATION**

Benjamin Spinelli, Executive Director and Judy Thornton, Principal Planner of the New Jersey Highlands Council gave a presentation on the Highlands Council. The Highlands Council brings to the table a variety of things such as: Grant Funding, Technical Planning and Science Expertise, Coordination with sister state agencies to address issues and State Plan Endorsement/Non-expiring Center Designations. By working with them, there is funding available for a wide range of planning activities such as: Recreation and Preservation Planning, Infrastructure Planning, Trails, Land Use Planning, Resource Management Planning. Their goal is mainly to preserve the source of drinking water for 700,000 New Jerseyans, and as a result to assist in planning all the elements that make a town livable and guide the character of the town for years to come.

A recap of what was discussed would be for the Borough to do a no-obligation planning assessment. The Borough then would avail itself of the funding and resources that Highlands has to offer. The Borough would be able to opt out at any time.

Some surrounding towns who have opted in are Chester Boro for a town center, and Bedminister for Preservation.

The Mayor ask the Highlands representatives to come back and give the same presentation to the Land Use Board. Mr. Spinelli will reach out to Greg Yannaccone, Chairman of the Land Use Board to set this meeting up.

A discussion regarding joining the Highlands Planning Area Assessment will go on the Agenda for May 23<sup>rd</sup>.



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Judy stated that she will provide information on the initial assessment and on the grant to cover the cost. She stated that the initial assessment is a pretty broad-brush look. It is typically a \$15,000 grant. Afterwards, Highlands would allocate funds to go forward with identified study and prepare the related materials. She stated that the Borough is not committed to opting in. It wouldn't be until the petition is prepared and then it is decided whether or not to submit it. This process could take up to a year and again, Highlands does fund that endeavor.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Councilman Quartello stated he has come information on road signage. It was decided he will bring it up at the next meeting under new business.

Councilman Quartello asked if any progress has been made on the illumination on the flag on Holland Ave? Brad Fagan stated they are looking into it. There is no electricity there so it would have to be a solar light. Mayor stated the flag did have a purpose at one time because there was a yard there but the yard is gone so another possibility is to remove the flag.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Councilwoman Dietrich stated the Friends of the Library are doing an Open House on Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from 3PM to 5PM. It is in honor of National Library Workers Day. It is for past and present members of PG Library staff, library advisory board, volunteers and Friends of the Library. It is sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

She stated there will be an update on the library renovation project at the next meeting. The Friends are still finalizing some of their fundraising. She also stated that the recent monies that has been gathered through the Friends of the Library is to go towards the renovation work. It is approximately \$10,000.00.

A Little Free Library is being purchased through the Friends and they are working with DPW to get it installed at the Liberty Park by the Tot Lot.

**MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION/APPROVALS**

There was discussion on the proposed ordinance amending Chapter XXIII, Land Development, Articles III and IV, Regulation Land Disturbance & Lot Grading.

The Mayor asked the Council if they would like to proceed with this?

Councilwoman Murphy asked Isabel Corbin to speak on the Ordinance. She was a big contributor to it.

Isabel said about 2 years ago it was decided to make it a priority. Greg Yannaccone from the Land Use Board has been a tremendous help in putting this together. A big impact they see with this would be the stormwater management. They took this from Mendham and did a template.



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Discussion ensued. Mayor Corigliano and others feel the draft ordinance is too restrictive. They decided to have Bill Ryden and Rodger Thomas meet and review the ordinance.

Discussion on the Garden Club was pulled.

**MINUTES**

Mayor Corigliano asked if there was a motion and second to accept the Regular Meeting minutes of March 28, 2023 and the Executive Session minutes of March 28, 2023; Councilman Lemma made the motion seconded by Councilman Sweeney. Roll Call vote; said motion was passed unanimously. Councilwoman Dietrich abstained.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 86-23** *RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH PRINCETON HYDRO FOR THE PURPOSE OF A 2023 REGULAR VISUAL DAM INSPECTION OF LIBERTY PARK POND DAM*

Motion made by Councilwoman Murphy; seconded by Councilman Quartello to adopt Resolution No. 86-23; roll call taken; motion was passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO. 87-23** *RESOLUTION APPOINTING RAISHAH FRANKLIN AS THE RENTAL INSPECTOR FOR THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE*

Motion made by Councilman Quartello; seconded by Councilman Lemma to adopt Resolution No. 87-23; roll call taken; motion was passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO. 90-23** *RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSIONS (ANJEC) FOR INVASIVE SPECIES PLANT REMOVAL*

Mayor Corigliano stated this Resolution came to us too late to revise the agenda and repost it so it is being added now. He added it in because the application deadline is just a few days prior to the Mayor and Council meeting.

Motion made by Councilwoman Murphy; seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich to adopt Resolution No 90-23; roll call taken; motion was passed unanimously.

**BILLS LIST**

**RESOLUTION NO R-88-23** *Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List Total Amount: \$1,077,430.80 was read.* Motion was made by Council President Sweeney; seconded by Councilwoman Murphy. Roll call vote; said motion passed. *Councilman Quartello abstained.*



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Mayor's Executive Summary

Mayor Corigliano will get Ben Spinelli's information to Land Use Board Chair Yannacconne. Suzie Givone will put the discussion for the Highland's Council for the second meeting in May, and for the April 25<sup>th</sup> Agenda add a signage discussion by Councilman Quartello, and relay to Nancy Bretzger to set up a meeting with Bill Ryden and Rodger Thomas to discuss the proposed ordinance regarding lot disturbances.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS – 3 MINUTES PER PERSON – AGENDA ITEMS**

No members of the public came forward.

Mayor Corigliano ask for a motion and second to go into Executive Session at 8:36PM. Councilman Lemma made the motion; seconded by Councilwoman Weible; roll call taken; the motion was carried unanimously. Action may or may not be taken after Executive Session.

Motion made and seconded to exit executive session at 9:54 PM. Approved.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn at 9:55PM. Approved.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Suzie Givone, Deputy Clerk