



**MAYOR & COUNCIL
THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE,
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 28, 2023**



The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone was held on Tuesday, March 28, 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. Borough Deputy Clerk 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: Councilman Lemma, Councilwoman Murphy, Councilman Quartello, Council President Sweeney, Councilwoman Weible and Mayor Corigliano

Councilwoman Dietrich absent

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

Andrew Pfitzenmeyer, Brook Street brought up flooding on Brook Street & Railroad Avenue. He wanted to know if anything could be done with the berm. He was advised that the berm was not preventing flooding in what is a flood plain. Councilwoman Murphy will contact Bill Ryden, the Borough's engineer to look into this further.

OLD BUSINESS

Virtual Meeting discussion on GotoMeetings- Council tabled until all members are present.

Mayor's Punchlist – Mayor is looking forward to moving forward with these items and having discussions on them. Mayor Corigliano mentioned the Energy Tax receipts. He signed a Mayor's letter to the State Assembly addressing this issue.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION/APPROVALS

None

MINUTES

Mayor Corigliano asked for a motion to approve the Special Budget meeting minutes on March 8, 2023; motion made by Councilman Sweeney; seconded by Councilwoman Murphy.



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He then asked for a motion to approve the Regular meeting on March 14, 2023; motion made by Councilman Sweeney and seconded by Councilman Quartello. Roll Call vote. Councilmen Lemma and Quartello abstained. Said motion passed.

ORDINANCE

Mayor Corigliano asked for a motion and second to open the Public Hearing for **Ordinance 1120-2023 – ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)**

Councilwoman Murphy moved to open the hearing for Public Comment for **Ordinance 1120-2023**, seconded by Councilman Sweeney. Roll call vote, said motion was carried unanimously.

Mayor Corigliano opened it to the public for any comments. No one came forward.

Councilman Sweeney moved to close public comment for **Ordinance 1120-2023** seconded by Councilman Quartello. Roll call vote, said motion was carried unanimously.

Councilman Sweeney moved to Adopt **Ordinance 1120-2023**, seconded by Councilwoman Weible. Said motion was carried unanimously. Roll call vote, said motion was passed unanimously.

Mayor Corigliano stated that “**Ordinance 1120-2023** is Adopted and shall be published by title only in the Bernardsville News in accordance with the law”

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE 1121-23 – AN ORDINANCE BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AMENDING THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE’S CODE OF ORDINANCES TO REPEAL CHAPTER 27 FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION SECTION 27-1 to 27-5 TO ADOPT A NEW CHAPTER FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION; TO ADOPT FLOOD HAZARD MAPS; TO DESIGNATE A FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATOR; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Councilman Sweeney made a motion to introduce Ordinance 1121-23; Councilwoman Weible seconded the motion, roll call vote; said motion was passed unanimously.

Mayor Corigliano stated that Ordinance 1121-2023 is introduced and shall be published in summary in the Bernardsville News and that the Public Hearing for said Ordinance shall be held on April 25, 2023 at 7:00pm or shortly thereafter.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE 1122-23- AN ORDINANCE TO SET THE COMPENSATION OF THE MAYOR, BOROUGH COUNCIL MEMBERS, DEPARTMENT HEADS AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES

Councilman Sweeney made a motion to introduce Ordinance 1122-23; Councilman Quartello seconded the motion, roll call vote; said motion was passed unanimously.



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Mayor Corigliano stated that Ordinance 1122-2023 is introduced and shall be published in summary in the Bernardsville News and that the Public Hearing for said Ordinance shall be held on April 25, 2023 at 7:00pm or shortly thereafter.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 76-23 *RESOLUTION FOR MAYORAL APPOINTMENT FOR THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE TO THE RECREATION COMMISSION*

RESOLUTION NO. 77-23 *RESOLUTION FOR MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS FOR THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE TO THE LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD*

RESOLUTION NO. 78-23 *RESOLUTION AUTHORIZES THE APPOINTMENT OF AN INTERIM MUNICIPAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE SHARED MUNICIPAL COURTS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BEDMINSTER ("BEDMINSTER"), THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK AND GLADSTONE ("PEAPACK-GLADSTONE"), THE BOROUGH OF BERNARDSVILLE ("BERNARDSVILLE") AND THE TOWNSHIP OF BERNARDS ("BERNARDS")*

RESOLUTION NO. 79-23 *RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH SELLERS, ANDREW, AND JUDITH TUCKER, FOR THE PURCHASE OF A FARMLAND PRESERVATION AGREEMENT*

RESOLUTION NO. 80-23 *RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TEMPORARY EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS*

RESOLUTION NO. 81-23 *RESOLUTION TO REFUND LIENHOLDER FOR REDEMPTION OF LIEN #21-00005 ON BLOCK 9 LOT 14*

RESOLUTION NO. 82-23 *RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN APRIL DISTRACTED DRIVING MOBILIZATION FROM APRIL 1st THROUGH APRIL 30th*

RESOLUTION NO. 83-23 *RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF 2023 STORMWATER GRANT APPLICATION TO THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (DEP) FOR EXISTING (PRIOR TO JULY 1, 2022) TIER A MUNICIPALITIES*

RESOLUTION NO. 84-23 *RESOLUTION APPROVING HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION BYLAWS AND MASTER DEED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT BY P-G RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPERS, LLC AT BLOCK 33, LOTS 11, 11.01 AND 13 IN THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK AND GLADSTONE*

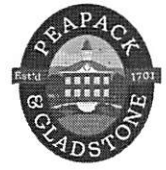
Mayor Corigliano asked the Council to review resolutions 76-23 to 84-23 and to advise if any should be pulled for discussion. Resolutions 76-23 to 84-23 were addressed by Consent Agenda.

Councilman Lemma made a motion to vote on Resolutions 76-23 to 84-23; seconded by Councilwoman Weible; roll call taken; said motion was passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 85-23 *Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List Total Amount: \$730,018.25; Councilman Quartello made motion to adopt resolution; seconded by Councilwoman Weible; roll call vote; said motion was passed unanimously.*



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COUNCIL REPORTS

Finance- Councilman Quartello reported they have two finalists for the banking RFP's and will be meeting with them tomorrow. After tomorrow's meeting they should have a recommendation and be able to move forward.

Sanitation & Sewer - Councilwoman Weible reported there is a STAB budgeting meeting scheduled for tomorrow.

Borough Property- Councilwoman Murphy reported that Brad Fagen and his Department have completed the spring cleanup on all the Borough properties and additionally she met with Brad and Nancy last week regarding a simple trail system in the wooded lot adjacent to the municipal building. It was purchased last year with Green Acres money.

Fire/First Aid Squad

Councilman Lemma reported that a subcommittee of the Council met with a subcommittee of the Fire Department to begin discussions on replacement Engine No. 3. They decided they would have a firm do an assessment of the vehicle condition and need and they will come back to Council once they get a report. There is a very positive relationship between the Council and Fire Company with regards to this.

Police

Councilman Lemma reported they are moving forward on the new color scheme for one of the patrol cars. After it is done, The PD will get pictures to the Council.

Councilman Sweeney reported due to finalizing the budget this year, it was discovered the budget is slightly lower for the shared court because the salary money was not all spent last year. Bedminster did a great job running the court during a tough year.

Roads & Transportation

Councilman Quartello reported no updates.

Zoning & Construction

Mayor Corigliano reported no updates.

Legal

John Bruder stated as a reminder it is tax season with respect to tax appeals. He has received 3 appeals thus far. One outstanding appeal that was in tax court last year dropped their appeals.



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John Bruder stated that roughly 90% of the tax appeals come from firms that handle them. Very few are generated directly by residents.

Administrator's Report – Nancy Bretzger reported on a food fund raising initiative and flyer that her staff prepared and that will be advertised on the website and emailed to employees. One of the partners from our auditing firm runs a Foodstock Food Challenge for Middlesex County. He has brought it to Somerset County and is asking the towns within the county to participate. The clerk's office will be collecting food that will be donated to the Peapack Reformed Church's foodbank. There will also be a competition amongst all employees to see who can bring in the most food and there will be a prize. The collection will begin on Monday, April 3rd through May 5th.

It was stated that there will be a prize of \$250.00 to the town who collects the most food by weight, with the proceeds going to that town's local food bank.

Mayor's Report

No report

Mayor's Executive Summary

Mentioned to Councilwoman Murphy that she will follow up with Bill Ryden and the flood plain.

Mayor Corigliano said he would like to recognize a group at every one of their meetings. For tonight, he recognized the Historical Preservation Commission. He and Councilwoman Dietrich met with them last night and they are a very enthusiastic group of people and they are doing some very nice work.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – 3 MINUTES PER PERSON – AGENDA ITEMS

John Kappler, 25 Holland Avenue, asked about the energy tax receipts and wanted to know if they are from the utility poles that run through town. He wanted to know if the Borough has any control to what is hanging on them.

Mayor explained originally the energy tax receipts were collected by the Borough and it was estimated to be approximately \$1M. Back in the late 70's the State took over the collection. Over time they starting dipping into those funds and sharing less of the money with the town. We don't know what the number is now, but suspect it is about 10%. He said the Mayors in the State are now starting to realize how much we are losing out on utilities that run through our towns. He referred to the letter he signed regarding this earlier in the meeting.



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With respect to the excess of wiring on the poles, Mayor stated that he and Councilman Sweeney have talked to Comcast to ask them to start cleaning up their wires. There is currently a proposed bill that would require public utilities with above ground poles to clean up their wiring.

With regards to Comcast we are trying to meet with them to negotiate their 2-year contract and make cleaning up the wires part of their contract. This was tried before but with no luck.

There being no other matters to be addressed by the Governing Body at this time, a motion was made by Councilman Sweeney, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy that this meeting be adjourned at 7:39p.m. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy A. Bretzger

Nancy Bretzger, Borough Clerk