

**BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON  
REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 5, 2021  
6:00 P.M.**

The Reorganization Meeting of the Borough of Mount Arlington was held on Tuesday, January 5, 2021. This meeting was held remotely/electronically using the platform Zoom and commenced at 6:00PM.

Mayor Stanzilis stated “Adequate notice of this Reorganization Meeting held this 5<sup>th</sup> day of January 2021, including without limit setting forth procedures and requirements for public participation therein given the ongoing pandemic, has been provided as required by the Open Public Meetings Act, as follows: Notice was published in the Daily Record on December 15, 2020 and the Roxbury Register on December 17, 2020; posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Borough Municipal Building on December 11, 2020 and posted on the Borough’s website. Notice of this meeting is on file in the Office of the Borough Clerk. Procedures, requirements and standards for making public comment in remote meetings shall be governed by applicable law, including Local Finance and regulatory guidance. In connection with this remote meeting, the Borough will be utilizing an electronic communications platform that utilizes audio muting in connection with the control of this meeting, including the orderly conduct of public comment.”

The Mayor led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Stanzilis asked everyone to share a moment of silence for those who had lost their lives battling COVID-19 and their families and loved ones.

Roll Call of Sitting Elected Officials was taken for attendance:

**Present:** Councilwoman Farris, Councilman Cangiano, Councilman Loughridge, Councilwoman Galate and Mayor Stanzilis

**Present from Administration:** Administrator/CFO Ms. Rinaldi, Borough Attorney Mr. Jessup, Police Chief LaBruno and Borough Engineer Mr. Puszcz

**Certification of Election**

The Clerk read the Certification of Election. For the General Election on November 3, 2020:

- Jack Delaney was duly elected to a 3-year term expiring 12/31/2023.
- Melissa Fostle was duly elected to a 3-year term expiring 12/31/2023.

**Swearing in of 2021 Elected Officials**

Borough Attorney Mr. Jessup administered the Oath of Allegiance separately to Mr. Delaney and Ms. Fostle.

Roll Call of All Elected Officials was taken for attendance:

**Present:** Councilwoman Farris, Councilman Cangiano, Councilwoman Fostle, Councilman Loughridge, Councilwoman Galate, Councilman Delaney and Mayor Stanzilis

**Invocation**

Mayor Stanzilis invited Pastor Edward Ramirez to deliver the Invocation.

### **Guests in Audience**

Mayor Stanzilis acknowledged some of the honored guests in the audience including: Assemblywoman Aura Dunn; County Commissioner Director Stephen Shaw; County Commissioner John Krickus; Jefferson Township Mayor Eric Wilsusen; Roxbury Township Mayor Bob DeFillippo; Sherriff James Gannon; Senator Anthony Bucco, Jr. and Marty Kane from the Lake Hopatcong Foundation

### **Nomination of Council President for 2021**

*Motion:* Councilwoman Galate stated: "I make a motion to nominate Councilman Delaney to serve as Council President for 2021."

*Second:* Councilman Loughridge

There were no other nominees.

*Roll Call:*

Aye: Farris, Cangiano, Fostle, Loughridge, Galate, Delaney

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

Council President Delaney thanked everyone for their support and for working through such a tough past year.

Mayor Stanzilis thanked Council President Delaney for his leadership, support, partnership and communication through such trying times.

### **Mayor's Address**

Mayor Stanzilis reflected back on 2020 as a very challenging year for the Borough. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the Borough had to pivot numerous times; however, there were many positive things and accomplishments that came out of 2020:

- Melissa Fostle was welcomed as the new Councilwoman.
- Police Chief Licata retired and Edward LaBruno was promoted from Lieutenant to Chief.
- Matt Bansch was hired as the new Borough Clerk.
- There were numerous additional personnel changes including a new Treasurer; Court Administrator; Deputy Court Administrator; Police Officer and DPW management. All of these personnel changes were implemented without affecting services to the residents. This was all thanks to the leadership of Borough Administrator/CFO/QPA Carolyn Rinaldi. Ms. Rinaldi's steadiness, calmness and resolve led the Borough through a tremendous year of change.
- The Borough received over \$83,000 in grant money in 2020 including:
  - \$50,000 for emergency expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - \$2,000 for body armor for the Police Department.
  - \$22,400 for the Morris County Historic Preservation Trust.
  - \$9,150 for Fire Department gear.
- Regarding Capital Projects:
  - The Windemere 1 Water/Sewer extension project was underway.
  - The Borough purchased a new Cascade System for the Fire Department which filled the Volunteer Firemen's oxygen tanks with air.

- There were many great events, including:
  - A ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Rogerene Trails. Thanks to County Commissioner Director Stephen Shaw and County Commissioner John Krickus who were both at the ribbon cutting.
  - The renaming of Rogerene Way to Rousch Way in honor of one of the Borough's most amazing residents, Roger Rousch, who was a war veteran, 64-year Borough resident and Borough Fireman.
- Many positive improvements were coming to the Borough in 2021, including:
  - Emergency generators to be installed in Borough buildings
  - Reevaluating beach improvements
  - Road restorations
  - Looking at municipal-owned buildings
- Water and Sewer Improvements
  - Thanks to the Water/Sewer Committee for their ongoing efforts to bring water and sewer utilities to as many Borough residents as possible. Thanks to Councilman Cangiano for his leadership on the Water/Sewer Committee and collaborating with CP Engineers in 2020 through 2021. Mayor Stanzilis was also looking forward to getting more I-Bank financing.
- A "Race to the Bottom" through "Smart Growth"
  - The Mayor emphasized the Borough's ongoing efforts in its "race to the bottom," meaning they were racing to the bottom of the tax rate in Morris County, if not the Greater New Jersey area, in order to give money back to Borough residents which was especially crucial in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - The Borough had lowered its taxes twice in the last four years. In 2020 taxes remained almost flat, only increasing from .801 to .802.
  - Mayor Stazilis stated he believed the Borough could continue to be improved while lowering the tax rate. By achieving "Smart Growth" the Borough could "have its cake and eat it, too." He thanked Borough Planner Jessica Caldwell for working so closely with the Governing Body and Land Use Board on its Redevelopment Plan. Without these redevelopments it would not be possible for the Borough to work on its Smart Growth.
  - Other efforts which had, and would continue to work towards lowering the tax rate included:
    - Shared Services agreements.
    - Efficient and effective infrastructure improvement projects.
    - The new Woodmont West apartment complex containing three hundred apartments added a huge new source of property tax revenue for the Borough.
- The Mayor's Wellness Committee pivoted during COVID-19 and went all-virtual with online Yoga classes. These classes were available on the Borough's YouTube Channel.
- There were many successful recreational events in 2020, including:
  - Virtual Memorial Day Parade. Christina Chismar and Mark Miller did an incredible job organizing the event.
  - Christmas Tree Lighting
  - Menorah Lighting
  - Children's reading events at the library
- Stormwater Management & Green Infrastructure Committee
  - This new committee held its kickoff meeting which included specialists from the Rutgers Cooperative Extension. Thanks to Marty Kane and Senator Anthony Bucco, Jr. for their support. Mount Arlington may be the first Green

Infrastructure Committee in a town of its small size in the entire State. The Land Use Board has totally embraced it.

- Mayor Stanzilis reflected on the COVID-19 Pandemic over the past year:
  - So many residents came together to help one another.
  - A voluntary program was set up to deliver groceries to those that could not leave their homes. The number of volunteers was tremendous. Many new friendships were made.
  - Judy Loughridge and the Seniors Club, along with other residents, made many face masks to give out to those who needed them.
- The Police Department saved many lives. One woman lost her leg, but thanks to the PD's efforts, they saved her life. Another gentleman's heart had stopped beating and the PD revived him. This was all under the amazing leadership of Chief Ed LaBruno.
  - These brave Police Officers were previously recognized by the Borough in 2020 and Mayor Stanzilis wished to recognize them again:
    - Sergeant Ryan Sherburne
    - Patrolman Joseph Parichuk
    - Patrolman James Braun
    - Patrolman Ryan Caparoni
- The Fire Department did many successful Drive-By Birthdays, as well as visits from the Easter Bunny and Santa Claus making their way around town on the fire truck, to the joy of children and families. Thanks to Fire Chief Gary Giacobbe and the Volunteer Firefighters. The Borough was blessed to have such an incredible group of Firefighters.
- Mount Arlington Schools
  - The Borough was extremely proud of its outstanding schools.
  - Under the leadership of Superintendent Monica Rowland and the Board of Education, the schools had to pivot between in-person and virtual learning during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Borough was blessed to have Monica Rowland as its Superintendent.
- The Borough Beach was extraordinarily busy this past summer due to people wanting to get outside during the pandemic. Special thanks to Ms. Rinaldi, Mr. Jessup and Chief LaBruno for figuring out how to offer reasonable accommodations for Borough residents and guests of the Borough Beach.
- Mayor Stanzilis offered many thanks to:
  - The Borough Council for their hard work and fiscal responsibility.
  - His wife, Laura Stanzilis, for all of her support.
  - All of the Borough Professionals who work together as one team.
  - The people of Mount Arlington. He was blessed and honored to serve as their Mayor and would continue to do his best for them.
- Lastly, and most importantly, Mayor Stanzilis thanked God. Mayor Stanzilis stated, "if we honor God every day, and we do the best we can in everything we do, then together we can accomplish great things. God Bless You, and God Bless Mount Arlington."

### **Mayor's Appointments – All Vote by Consent**

#### **Council Committees**

#### **FINANCE (includes Budget, Board of Education, Economic Development)**

- Committee Chair – Councilwoman Fostle
- Councilman Loughridge
- Councilman Delaney

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY (includes Police, Court, Fire, Rescue and OEM)**

- Committee Chair - Councilwoman Galate

- Councilwoman Farris
- Councilman Delaney

#### **PERSONNEL**

- Committee Chair – Councilwoman Farris
- Councilwoman Fostle
- Councilman Delaney

#### **PARKS & RECREATION (includes Green Team, Trails, Events)**

- Committee Chair - Councilman Loughridge
- Councilman Cangiano
- Councilman Delaney

#### **DPW, BUILDINGS, GROUNDS & UTILITIES (includes Water/Sewer)**

- Committee Chair - Councilman Cangiano
- Councilwoman Galate
- Councilman Delaney

#### **Borough Boards & Committees**

##### **LAND USE BOARD**

- Class I Member – Mayor Stanzilis (1-year term, expiring 12/31/2021)
- Class II Member – Carolyn Rinaldi (1-year term, expiring 12/31/2021)
- Class III Member – Councilwoman Melissa Fostle (1-year term, expiring 12/31/2021)
- Class IV Member – Robert Van Den Hende (2-year term, expiring 12/31/2021)
- Class IV Member – Tom Foley (4-year term, expiring 12/31/2021)
- Class IV Member – Joe Lang (unexpired 4-year term, expiring 12/31/2021)
- Class IV Member – Fran Hallowich (4-year term, expiring 12/31/2022)
- Class IV Member – John Driscoll (4-year term, expiring 12/31/2022)
- Class IV Member – Dave BaRoss (2 year, expires 12/31/2021)
- Alternate 1 Member – Heidi Roldan (3-year unexpired term, expiring 12/31/2021)
- Alternate 2 Member – Eric Green (2-year term, expiring 12/31/2022)
- Alternate 3 Member – David Karpman (2-year term, expiring 12/31/2022)
- Alternate 4 Member – Karen Meehan (2-year term, expiring 12/31/2022)

##### **LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

- Mayor Stanzilis
- Mayor's Alternate – Councilman Delaney (1-year term, expiring 12/31/2021)
- Superintendent Monica Rowland
- \_\_\_\_\_ (5-year term, expiring 12/31/2025)
- Jackie Coy (5-year term, expiring 12/31/2021)
- John Driscoll (5-year term, expiring 12/31/2021)
- Sheila Studint (5-year term, expiring 12/31/2021)
- Ana Van Den Hende (5-year term, expiring 12/31/2022)
- Lisa McQuade (5-year term, expiring 12/31/2023)
- Nita Galate (5-year term, expiring 12/31/2024)

##### **BOARD OF HEALTH**

- Beth BaRoss (3-year term, expiring 12/31/2021)
- Linda Tuorinsky (3-year term, expiring 12/31/2021)
- Sheila Studint (3-year term, expiring 12/31/2023)

- Roy Morance (3-year term, expiring 12/31/2023)
- Laura O'Reilly Stanzilis (3-year term, expiring 12/31/2022)
- Rebecca Keenan (3-year term, expiring 12/31/2022)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (3-year term, expiring 12/31/2021)
- Council Liaison – Councilman Cangiano (1-year term, expiring 12/31/2021)

#### **BOARD OF RECREATION COMMISSION**

- Bryan Higgins (5-year term, expiring 12/31/2024)
- Rebecca Keenan (5-year term, expiring 12/31/2025)
- Kim Johnson (5-year unexpired term, expiring 12/31/2021)
- Barry Yacker (5-year term, expiring 12/31/2022)
- Kristin Biase (5-year term, expiring 12/31/2023)
- Gail Delaney (5-year unexpired term, expiring 12/31/2022)
- Theresa Blough (5-year term, expiring 12/31/2023)
- Alternate 1 – \_\_\_\_\_ (5-year term, expiring 12/31/2025)
- Alternate 2 – \_\_\_\_\_ (5-year unexpired term, expiring 12/31/2021)

#### **MAYOR'S WELLNESS COMMITTEE**

- Mayor Stanzilis
- Helen Giles
- Judith Loughridge
- Laura O'Reilly Stanzilis
- Police Chief LaBruno
- Carolyn Rinaldi
- Rebecca Keenan
- Joanne Matthews
- Christopher Merker
- Christina Chismar
- Brian Kincaid
- Megan Merola
- Frank Sarinelli Jr.

#### **LAKE HOPATCONG COMMISSION**

- Borough Representative – Anne Pravs (2-year term, expiring 12/31/2022)
- Borough Alternate Representative – \_\_\_\_\_ (2-year term, expiring 12/31/2022)

#### **STORMWATER MANAGEMENT & GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**

- Mayor Stanzilis
- Councilwoman Fostle
- Councilwoman Galate
- Carolyn Rinaldi
- Monica Rowland
- Julie Crawford
- Andrea Ramalho
- Anne Pravs
- Marty Kane

- Karen Porfido
- Tom Foley

**GREEN TEAM**

- Councilman Loughridge
- Councilman Cangiano
- Councilwoman Galate
- Carolyn Rinaldi
- Christina Chismar
- Julie Crawford
- Kathy Appleby
- David Karpman
- Darlene Kadel
- Gail Delaney
- Viviana Migliore
- Heidi Roldan

**Mount Arlington-Wharton Shared Municipal Court**

1-year term, expiring 12/31/21:

- |                             |                              |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| • Municipal Court Judge     | Honorable Gerard Smith, Esq. |
| • Municipal Prosecutor      | Douglas Cabana, Esq.         |
| • Municipal Public Defender | Daniel P. Agatino, Esq.      |

**Fire Department Officers & Fire Official**

1-year term, expiring 12/31/21:

- Fire Chief – Gary Giacobbe
- Assistant Fire Chief – Jason Vivian
- Captain – Jonathan Feinberg
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant – John Morsch
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant – Michael D'Arco
- Fire Official – NJ DCA Division of Fire & Safety

**Borough Officials**

1-year term, expiring 12/31/21:

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| • Pension Certifying Official  | Lauren Schaeffner     |
| • Tax Search Officer   | Laura Adams           |
| • Assessment Search Officer  | Beth Dwyer            |
| • Clean Communities Coordinator  | Lauren Schaeffner     |
| • Recycling Coordinator  | Scott Hutchins        |
| • Licensed Water Operator  | Tom Quillinan         |
| • Police Matron  | Valerie Kourtz        |
| • Lake Hopatcong Foundation<br>Trails & Open Space Efforts<br>Representative | Councilwoman Galate   |
| • League of Municipalities<br>Representative                                 | Mayor Stanzilis       |
| • Liaison to the Board of Education  | Councilwoman Galate   |
| • Liaison to the Board of Health   | Councilman Cangiano   |
| • Liaison to the Board of Recreation   | Councilman Loughridge |

- Liaison to the Seniors Club Councilman Loughridge
- MCJIF Commissioner Carolyn Rinaldi
- Alternate MCJIF Commissioner Lauren Schaeffner
- Morris County Historic Preservation Review Board Representative Councilwoman Galate
- Mount Arlington Historic Sites Survey Representative Councilwoman Galate
- CDRS Representatives
  - Council Representative Councilman Loughridge
  - Volunteer Representative Gail Delaney
- Public Safety Coordinator Police Chief LaBruno
- OEM Coordinators Police Chief LaBruno
- Deputy OEM Coordinators Councilman Delaney
- Chief Financial Officer Police Lieutenant Matt Green
- Qualified Purchasing Agent Fire Chief Giacobbe
- Carolyn Rinaldi
- Carolyn Rinaldi

Mayor Stanzilis stated: “I recommend the following appointments to the Borough Council Committees, Borough Boards & Commissions and Borough Officials.”

*Motion:* Councilwoman Galate stated: “I move for confirmation of these appointments.”

*Second:* Councilman Loughridge

*Council Discussion:* Mayor Stanzilis stated the Borough’s past Reorganization meetings were 90 to 120 minutes long because they used to read every single appointee’s name, position and length of term. Then, they learned that other towns confirmed their appointments by consent which was much more efficient. The Borough decided to follow suit.

*Roll Call:*

Aye: Farris, Cangiano, Fostle, Loughridge, Galate, Council President Delaney

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

Mayor Stanzilis congratulated all of the volunteers, employees and Council Liaisons on their appointments.

**Ordinance – Introduction**

01-2021 An Ordinance of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Providing for Aid to the Landfill Solar Redevelopment Project Located in the Mount Arlington Landfill Redevelopment Area in and by the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, Appropriating \$4,750,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$4,750,000 Bonds or Notes of the Borough to Finance the Cost Thereof

The Mayor opened the Hearing to the Public and read Ordinance 01-2021 by Title.



There was no public comment.

The Mayor closed the Hearing to the Public.

*Motion:* Councilwoman Fostle stated: "I make the motion that Ordinance 01-2021 be introduced, and will be further considered after a public hearing held on January 19, 2021 at the Municipal Building at 7:00PM."

*Second:* Councilman Cangiano

There was no Council discussion.

*Roll Call:*

Aye: Farris, Cangiano, Fostle, Loughridge, Galate, Council President Delaney

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

**Ordinance – Second Reading**

None

**Resolutions – All Vote by Consent**

**2021-01** Resolution Designating Official Newspapers of the Borough

**2021-02** Resolution Authorizing Petty Cash Fund

**2021-03** Resolution Authorizing the Official Depositories of the Borough

**2021-04** Resolution Authorizing Signatures on Borough Checks

**2021-05** Resolution to Affirm Civil Rights Policy with Respect to All Officials, Appointees, Employees, Prospective Employees, Volunteers, Independent Contractors, and Members of the Public that Come into Contact with Municipal Employees, Officials and Volunteers

**2021-06** Resolution Establishing the Rate of Interest on Delinquent Municipal Charges for the Year 2021

**2021-07** Resolution to Allow Cancellation of Tax and Utility Overpayments or Delinquent Amounts Less than \$10.00 for the Year 2021

**2021-08** Resolution Authorizing a Tax Sale to Be Held in the Year 2021

**2021-09** Resolution Authorizing the Assessor and/or Borough Attorney to File and Prosecute Tax Appeals/Rollbacks

**2021-10** Resolution Appointing Matthew Struck, of Treadstone Risk Management, as Risk Management Consultant

- 2021-11** Resolution Appointing Morris County Joint Insurance Fund Commissioner and Alternate I Member for the Borough of Mount Arlington
- 2021-12** Resolution Adopting a Form Required to Be Used for the Filing of Tort Claims Against the Borough of Mount Arlington in Accordance with the Provisions of the NJ Tort Claims Act, NJSA 59:8-6
- 2021-13** Resolution Supporting the Lake Hopatcong Commission
- 2021-14** Resolution Supporting and Participating in the Volunteer Tuition Credit Program (P.L. 1998, C. 145)
- 2020-15** Resolution Authorizing Professional Services Contracts for the Calendar Year 2021
- 2020-16** Resolution Appointing the Local Emergency Planning Council & OEM Coordinators
- 2021-17** Resolution Authorizing the Community Emergency Response Team
- 2021-18** Resolution Authorizing Temporary Appropriations for Operating Purposes
- 2021-19** Resolution Naming National Benefit Services LLC as the Borough's Flexible Spending Account Provider
- 2021-20** Resolution Approving and Authorizing Execution of the 2021 Duff & Phelps, LLC, Consulting Services Agreement
- 2021-21** Resolution to Waive the Food & Drink Licensing Fees for the Board of Recreation Commission Concession Stand for 2021
- 2021-22** Resolution Authorizing Execution of an Agreement with Phoenix Advisors, LLC, for Continuing Disclosure Agent Services and Independent Registered Municipal Advisor of Record
- 2021-23** Authorizing Execution and Submission of Grant Applications When Due Date is Between Scheduled Council Meetings
- 2021-24** Resolution Authorizing Court Call-Out Stipends for Court Personnel
- 2021-25** Resolution Designating Council Meeting Dates for the Year 2021
- 2021-26** Resolution Authorizing a Contribution to Morris County Adaptive Recreation Program (McARP)
- 2021-27** Resolution Endorsing the Sustainable Land Use Pledge
- 2021-28** Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of Municipal Recycling Tonnage Grant Funds
- 2021-29** Authorizing a Master Lease Purchase Agreement with NCL Government Capital for (4) 2021 Chevrolet Tahoe Police Vehicles

*Motion to Approve:* Councilwoman Galate

*Second:* Councilwoman Farris

*Council Discussion:* None

*Roll Call:*

Aye: Farris, Cangiano, Fostle, Loughridge, Galate, Council President Delaney

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

**Public Comment**

There was no one from the public who wished to speak.

**Benediction**

Mayor Stanzilis invited Pastor Edward Ramirez to deliver the Benediction.

**Adjourn**

*Motion to Adjourn:* Council President Delaney

*Second:* Councilwoman Galate

*Roll Call:*

All in Favor: Aye

Opposed: None

Motion Approved

The meeting adjourned at 6:40PM.



Matthew N. Bansch, Borough Clerk

CC: Website