

**BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 6, 2021
7:00 PM**

The Regular Meeting of the Borough of Mount Arlington was held on Tuesday, April 6, 2021. This meeting was held remotely/electronically using the platform Zoom and commenced at 7:00PM.

Mayor Stanzilis stated “adequate notice of this meeting held this 6th day of April, 2021, has been provided as required by the Open Public Meetings Act, as follows: Notice was published in the Daily Record and the Roxbury Register on January 12, 2021 and posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Borough Municipal Building, on January 6, 2021; notice of this meeting is on file in the Office of the Borough Clerk. Additional notice of this meeting, including without limit setting forth procedures and requirements for public participation therein given the ongoing pandemic, was also transmitted to the Morris County Daily Record and the Roxbury Register, posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Borough Municipal Building, and posted on the Borough’s website. Consistent with that additional notice, public comment may be made during this meeting in any of the following ways:

1. By attending this meeting via Zoom, using the Attendee Link provided in that notice;
2. By attending this meeting via telephone, using the Phone Number and Event Number/Access Code provided in that notice;
3. By having provided comments in writing via electronic mail prior to 4:00 p.m. on the date of this meeting, as provided in the notice; or,
4. By having provided comments in writing and mailed same for delivery no later than the date of this meeting, as provided in the notice.

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 observe a moment of silence to reflect on the souls who had lost their lives due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Roll Call was taken for attendance:

Present: Councilman Cangiano, Councilwoman Fostle, Councilman Loughridge, Council President Delaney, Councilwoman Galate and Mayor Stanzilis

Absent: Councilwoman Farris

Present from Administration: Administrator/CFO Ms. Rinaldi, Borough Attorney Mr. Jessup, Borough Engineer Mr. Puszcz

Presentations: Mayor and Borough Council Recognition of Board of Health President Laura O'Reilly Stanzilis

The presentation was rescheduled to the May 4, 2021 Borough Council meeting at 7:00PM.

Appointments:

2021-48 Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Appointing Daniel M. Jamieson as a Volunteer Fire Fighter

The Mayor asked that a motion be made to appoint Daniel M. Jamieson as a Volunteer Fire Fighter.

Motion to Appoint: Councilwoman Fostle

Second: Councilwoman Galate

Council Discussion: The Mayor welcomed Mr. Jamieson to the Mount Arlington Fire Department family.

Roll Call:

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

2021-49 Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Appointing James J. Siuzdak as a Volunteer Fire Fighter

The Mayor asked that a motion be made to appoint James J. Siuzdak as a Volunteer Fire Fighter.

Motion to Appoint: Councilman Loughridge

Second: Councilwoman Galate

Council Discussion: The Mayor welcomed Mr. Siuzdak to the Mount Arlington Fire Department Family. The Mayor went on to express appreciation and gratitude to such a committed group of volunteer Fire Fighters. The Borough was blessed to have them.

Roll Call:

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

Tax and Utility Report for the Months of February & March

February

Total Tax Collections: \$3,497,670.63

Total Utility Collections: \$123,124.49

March

Total Tax Collections: \$286,590.77

Total Utility Collections: \$137,760.62

Finance Report for the Month of February

Receipts \$3,712,218.97

Disbursements \$1,992,888.36

Approval of Minutes

March 2, 2021 - Regular Council Meeting

Motion to Approve: Councilwoman Galate

Second: Councilman Cangiano

Council Discussion: None

Roll Call was taken.

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion carries.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Stanzilis reported it had been an interesting year. The nation just passed the one-year anniversary since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. All departments came together and worked very hard. The Mount Arlington Board of Education was doing everything it could to reopen the schools. The Governor recently reported students would be able to return to the classroom five days per week soon. The hardest part was the students were suffering. The Mayor asked all parents to please be patient. The Mayor recently attended a Mayor's Summit for helping to reignite and reenergize local small businesses. The Recreation Department did a great job with the Easter Egg Hunt. The Mayor had recently been interviewed at the Mount Arlington Beach by a group of students who had received a Smithsonian Institute Grant to do a documentary on the HAB (Harmful Algal Blooms) in Lake Hopatcong. The Mayor stated, so far, based on the conditions of past winter, a repeat issue with the algae bloom of 2019 was not expected this year.

Chief of Police Report

Chief LaBruno reported Patrolman Gregory Shallop received a very nice sendoff for his retirement. Officer Shallop served thirty years total in law enforcement; nineteen years with Mount Arlington. He was the longtime Field Training Officer, Firearms Instructor, OC Instructor (Oleoresin Capsicum, which was the proper name for their pepper spray) and Physical Training Instructor. He had a part in molding almost all of the Borough police officers over the past ten years. Chief LaBruno announced he would be attending a memorial for Phillipsburg police officer Dominic Belcastro who died in an off-duty motorcycle accident. Chief LaBruno reported that Sherriff Gannon had put together a joint venture between the Sherriff's Office, Prosecutor's Office and Police Chief's Association to meet with religious stakeholders to keep in tune with the people of the communities and support one another. The first meeting was this upcoming Thursday at 6:30pm, with Islamic religious leaders, at the Morris County Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Mayor Stanzilis also expressed his condolences to Phillipsburg Officer Belcastro. He asked who would be the new Field Training Officer.

Chief LaBruno replied Patrolman Joe Parichuk would be taking over as Field Training Officer.

Borough Administrator's Report

Ms. Rinaldi thanked the Council Members and their various committees for working very hard in the first quarter of 2021. The 2021 Municipal Budget was scheduled to be introduced at this meeting. Ms. Rinaldi wished to resume the conversation from the last Council Meeting regarding

the Lake Hopatcong Commission (LHC) application for a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Grant, because the Council still had many questions and concerns. Ms. Rinaldi provided a brief overview of the LHC's request for an in-kind match and assistance from the Borough:

- \$60,000 to be provided by the Borough utilizing \$60,000 the Borough already received in 2020 through a Highlands Council Grant.
- An in-kind match totaling \$10,500 which included the following:
 - Department of Public Works for earthwork and project oversight valued at \$5,600 (112 hours of loaded personnel time @ \$50/hour).
 - \$3,120 of administrative time for quarterly update meetings and correspondence related to the project (48 hours of loaded personnel rate of \$103/hour for the Administrator and \$27 for the Mayor)
 - \$1,620 of volunteer time for plantings (60 hours @ the volunteer rate of \$27/hour).
- There was also a section in the narrative that stated the Borough was responsible for the long-term maintenance of the project site.

The Council had the following questions and concerns:

- What was the total amount of the grant, including Mount Arlington's portion?
- Which organization was actually applying for the NFWF grant?
- What would the various grant-funded projects around Lake Hopatcong entail?
- What would happen if the plantings died? Who would be responsible for replacing dead vegetation?
- What were the next steps?

Colleen Lyons from the Lake Hopatcong Commission provided the following responses:

- The Lake Hopatcong Commission was the sole applicant.
- The Lake Hopatcong Foundation was the primary grant partner.
- The total NFWF grant, with match, of \$489,378 were to come from twelve different partners: NJ DEP; Mount Arlington; Hopatcong Borough; Roxbury Township; Morris County; Sussex County; Lake Hopatcong Commission; Lake Hopatcong Foundation; Lake Hopatcong Museum; Musconetcong Watershed Association; Rutgers University and Princeton Hydro.
- The amount to be provided by the Borough was \$70,500 (\$60,000 grant match + \$10,500 in-kind labor).
- The NFWF grant would match the Borough's contribution 1:1, so \$70,500 from Mount Arlington + \$70,500 NFWF grant match totaled \$141,000. The entire \$141,000 would go towards the project in Mount Arlington.
 - The estimated project breakdown was \$60,000 for design + \$70,500 for implementation + \$10,500 in-kind labor.
 - All contractors would be contracted by the Lake Hopatcong Commission for this project.
 - All work done in Mount Arlington would be subject to Mount Arlington's approval.
- The total NFWF grant life was two years. All allocated dollars and in-kinds were to be used during this time frame.
- Ms. Lyons gave a brief overview of the NFWF grant-funded projects around Lake Hopatcong.
- Ms. Lyons stated she would find out who would be responsible for replacing dead vegetation.

The Council made the following requests with regard to the NFWF grant application:

- A scope of work had to be provided to the Council.
- A reduction in management time (Mayor and Administrator) from 48 hours to 24 hours over a 2-year period.
- Eliminate the requirement for Mount Arlington to provide long-term maintenance of the project site at Memorial Park.
- Maximum monetary contribution provided by Mount Arlington would be the \$60,000 already awarded by the 2020 Highlands Council Grant.
- Ms. Lyons was to provide a revised Mayor's letter of support which incorporated all agreed upon changes.

Ms. Lyons agreed to the Council's terms and stated a revised request letter and scope of work would be sent to the Council within 24 hours.

The Council agreed, contingent on Ms. Lyons providing the revised Mayor's letter of support, with all agreed upon changes, the Mayor's letter of support could be signed within one week. A Resolution would go on the next Council meeting agenda to memorialize the Mayor's signing of the letter of support.

Council Committee Reports

Councilwoman Galate

Councilwoman Galate thanked the Fire Department for escorting the Easter Bunny around town this past Saturday. Officer Shallop would be missed. The Fourth of July Fireworks were scheduled to be held on the actual July 4th which was a Sunday. As a result of recent changes by the Governor, the Board of Education announced, effective Monday April 12th, all students K-8 would return to the classroom five days per week at half days. Social distancing measures would be in place in all classrooms. Parents were certainly frustrated, but the community came together and there was light at the end of the tunnel.

Councilman Loughridge

Councilman Loughridge reported that Recreation was not running softball this season. Soccer and T-Ball clinics were starting soon. There would not be a Memorial Day Parade, but there would be a Memorial Day Ceremony at Memorial Park. The Miss Lotta Cruise for the veterans would be announced soon. Beach volleyball and art classes were also coming soon. Lastly, Councilman Loughridge proclaimed he loved the freshly-painted fire hydrants.

Councilwoman Fostle

Councilwoman Fostle reported that the Finance Committee recently met and discussed the Logan Way construction project and finalized plans. Logan Way was in dire need of repair. It would be a good use of capital funds. The Borough was hoping to go out to bid over the Summer and commence Fall 2021. There would be an Ordinance for the Logan Way construction project on the next Council Meeting agenda.

Councilman Cangiano

Councilman Cangiano reported the Wellfleet Developers construction project was underway in Roxbury Township. This was good news for the residents of Lake Rogerene; however,

Councilman Cangiano wanted to make sure that the Borough stayed on top of any water quality testing and other conditions imposed as part of the development agreement. The project was located at the streams that were the headwaters into Lake Rogerene.

Mayor Stanzilis replied that Ms. Rinaldi and Mr. Puszcz were on top of it. The Borough wanted to make sure the residents of Lake Rogerene were protected.

Council President Delaney

Council President Delaney reported the Easter Bunny event was great and the children loved it. He attended the Police Walkout for Officer Greg Shallop which was a very special and bittersweet event on his last day with the Borough Police Department. Lastly, Council President Delaney commended Councilwoman Fostle's handling of the recent Finance Committee meeting and was looking forward to her involvement with the 2021 budget.

Public Comment

Marty Kane from the Lake Hopatcong Foundation (LHF) – Mr. Kane thanked the Mayor and Council for spending so much time discussing the NFWF grant application which he believed was very important for Mount Arlington, Hopatcong Borough and Roxbury Township. Mr. Kane wished to clarify that the LHF was composed of three staffers who received no money from grants and donated their staff time to the planning and work accomplished on grants. Mr. Kane stated he received no salary, was strictly a volunteer. Mr. Kane stated he felt a really bad vibe towards the LHF tonight. The LHF was a nonprofit whose sole mission was to work with the four Lake Hopatcong communities and Lake Hopatcong Commission to make Lake Hopatcong, and overall community, a better place. Mr. Kane looked forward to continuing to work with Mount Arlington in the future.

Mayor Stanzilis replied, in the interest of no future bad vibes, that the LHC and LHF should make sure they have their details in order so the Borough Council would not have to go through so much confusion again. Mayor Stanzilis stated he really appreciated the work and dedication of the LHC and Mr. Kane.

Lynne Rutkoski, 503 Windemere Avenue – Ms. Rutkoski questioned, with regards to Ordinance 05-2021 Windemere 2 Water Main Extension Project, when would residents be receiving letters regarding hooking up to the water that was coming to Windemere 2.

Councilman Cangiano replied it would not be until next year. The project still had to go through design, funding approval from the State and needed to be constructed. He estimated it could go to construction by Fall 2022. The Borough was moving the project along as quickly as possible, but it was a very large project with lots of moving pieces. Ordinance 05-2021 was one of the pieces to keep moving the project along.

Ms. Rutkoski questioned, regarding the NFWF grant application, if the Borough Council decided not to approve of the Mayor signing the letter of support, where would the Borough come up with the \$80,000 shortfall since they would only have the \$60,000 from the 2020 Highlands Council Grant.

Mayor Stanzilis replied the backup plan was for the Borough to apply for additional grants and funding.

Ordinance – Introduction

07-2021 An Ordinance of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40a: 4-45.14)

The Mayor opened the Hearing to the Public and read Ordinance 07-2021 by Title.

There was no public comment.

The Mayor closed the Hearing to the Public.

Motion: Councilman Cangiano stated: “I make the motion that Ordinance 07-2021 be introduced, and will be further considered after a public hearing held on May 4, 2021 at the Municipal Building at 7:00PM.”

Second: Councilwoman Galate

There was no Council discussion.

Roll Call:

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

Ordinance – Second Reading

04-2021 An Ordinance of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey Appropriating \$105,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund for the Acquisition of In-Vehicle and Body Cameras for the Police Department

The Mayor opened the Hearing to the Public and read Ordinance 04-2021 by Title.

There was no public comment.

The Mayor closed the Hearing to the Public.

Motion: Council President Delaney stated: “I move for adoption and final passage of Ordinance 04-2021”

Second: Councilwoman Galate

There was no Council discussion.

Roll Call:

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

05-2021 An Ordinance of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey Providing for the Windemere 2 Water Main Extension Project in and by the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Appropriating \$290,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$290,000 Bonds or Notes of the Borough to Finance the Cost Thereof

The Mayor opened the Hearing to the Public and read Ordinance 05-2021 by Title.

There was no public comment.

The Mayor closed the Hearing to the Public.

Motion: Council President Delaney stated: "I move for adoption and final passage of Ordinance 05-2021"

Second: Councilwoman Galate

There was no Council discussion.

Roll Call:

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

06-2021 An Ordinance of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey Appropriating \$21,000 From the Capital Improvement Fund for the Feasibility Study of Water and Sewer Service to Hover Drive and Floyd Drive in and by the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey

The Mayor opened the Hearing to the Public and read Ordinance 06-2021 by Title.

There was no public comment.

The Mayor closed the Hearing to the Public.

Motion: Councilwoman Galate stated: "I move for adoption and final passage of Ordinance 06-2021"

Second: Councilwoman Fostle

There was no Council discussion.

Roll Call:

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

2021-51 A Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Introducing the 2021 Budget

Motion to Approve: Councilwoman Fostle

Second: Councilman Cangiano

Council Discussion: None

Roll Call:

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

Resolutions – All Vote by Consent

2021-52 Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Authorizing Temporary Appropriations for Operating Purposes

2021-53 Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, To Redeem A Third-Party Tax Lien Certificate of Sale# 20-00004 for Property Known as Block 24 Lot 1 Qual C0005

2021-54 Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, to Redeem a Third-Party Tax Lien Certificate of Sale# 20-00008 for Property Known as Block 86 Lot 2

2021-55 Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Authorizing a Traffic Safety Plan Associated with the Annual Fourth of July Fireworks Display

2021-56 Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Hiring Patricia Palazzola as Interim Part-Time Deputy Court Administrator

Motion to Approve: Councilman Cangiano

Second: Councilman Loughridge

Council Discussion: None

Roll Call:

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

2021-57 Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, (A) Authorizing An Amendment to the May 17, 2019 Redevelopment Agreement with HESP Solar, LLC, to Modify Both the Project Schedule and the Financing Obligations of HESP Solar, LLC as Redeveloper;

and, (B) Authorizing Consent to HESP Solar, LLC's Assignment of Both the Redevelopment Agreement and Associated Ground Lease to a HESP Solar, LLC Subsidiary Project Company

Motion to Approve: Councilman Cangiano

Second: Councilwoman Galate

Council Discussion: Councilman Cangiano asked for an explanation of the amendments to the HESP Solar, LLC agreement.

Mr. Jessup provided explanations for the amendments.

Mayor Stanzilis asked when construction was projected to be completed. Mr. Jessup replied, per the estimate given to him last week from HESP Solar, the targeted date of completion was mid-August 2021 so they could give JCP&L enough time to come out and issue permission to operate by October 31, 2021.

Roll Call:

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

2021-58 Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Authorizing Execution of an Agreement by and Between the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority and the Borough of Mount Arlington for Nolan's Ridge Combination Vacuum / Air Relief Valve

Motion to Approve: Councilwoman Galate

Second: Councilman Cangiano

Council Discussion: None

Roll Call:

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

2021-50 A Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Approving the Check Register Dated April 6, 2021

Motion to Approve: Councilwoman Galate

Second: Council President Delaney

Council Discussion: None

Roll Call:

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Council President Delaney

Second: Councilman Loughridge

Roll Call:

All in Favor: Aye

Opposed: None

Motion Approved

The meeting adjourned at 9:19PM.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. N. Bansch', written over a horizontal line.

Matthew N. Bansch, Borough Clerk

CC: Website