

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

The Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington was held on Tuesday, July 6, 2021. This meeting was held in-person at the Municipal Building at 419 Howard Boulevard, Mount Arlington, New Jersey and commenced at 7:04PM.

Mayor Stanzilis stated “adequate notice of this meeting of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington was given 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. In accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-1 et seq.), the Borough Council opens every public meeting for comments of the public. However, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-12: ‘Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit the discretion of a public body to permit, prohibit or regulate the active participation at any meeting.’ Speakers at Borough meetings shall have five minutes to present their comments to the Borough Council so as not to consume time that would otherwise be allotted to other persons who wish to speak.”

The Mayor led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. He asked everyone to observe a moment of silence to mourn the passing of resident and former longtime Land Use Board member Bill Keuntje. The Mayor then asked everyone to remember longtime Borough Firefighter Albert Dunphy who had also recently passed away. He thanked both men’s families for all of their support and having allowed these two men to give so much of themselves to this town.

Roll Call was taken for attendance:

**Present:** Councilwoman Farris (present via Zoom), Council President Delaney, Councilwoman Fostle, Councilwoman Galate and Mayor Stanzilis

**Absent:** Councilman Loughridge, Councilman Cangiano

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

**Presentations**

None

**Appointments**

None

**Tax and Utility Report for the Month of May & Finance Report for the Month of May**

Due to a building-wide power outage at the time of this meeting, Mr. Bansch was unable to access the Tax and Utility and Finance Reports from his computer. Both reports were moved to the August meeting with no objections.

## **Approval of Minutes**

### **June 1, 2021 - Regular Council Meeting**

Motion to Approve: Councilwoman Fostle

Second: Councilwoman Farris

Council Discussion: None

Roll Call was taken.

### **Roll:**

Aye: Farris, Fostle, Galate, Council President Delaney

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion carries.

## **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Stanzilis thanked the Fire and Police departments for their incredible work at the Fourth of July Fireworks at the Lake Hopatcong Yacht Club. Everyone did a great job and it was always a very nice event. Thanks to the Lake Hopatcong Yacht Club for sponsoring the event every year. The Fire Department also recently held their annual picnic at the Elks Lodge which was fantastic and well attended. Thanks to Lee Moreau, Miss Lotta and Camp 6 for putting on the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Veterans Cruise aboard Miss Lotta. It was very well received and the veterans always really appreciated it. He attended Dave Moran's retirement as owner of Pat's Bar after many decades. The Hike with the Mayor event at Lake Rogerene Trails went very well and had an excellent turnout. He hoped to make it an annual event. Lastly, the Mayor stated he was blessed to be on a panel for the Planners and Developers Association of New Jersey annual meeting, where he spoke on Stormwater Management and Green Infrastructure. He believed Mount Arlington was getting a good reputation in terms of its green infrastructure and attitude towards stormwater management, because the Borough was getting a lot of recognition throughout the State.

## **Chief of Police Report**

Chief LaBruno stated the Fourth of July Fireworks went off without a hitch. It was more crowded than usual due to the Denville Township fireworks being cancelled last minute. The only issue was traffic after the event because people arrived separately, but all left at the same time. New police officer Matthew Kaiteris had completed his field training. Lastly, the new County radios had arrived.

## **Borough Administrator's Report**

Ms. Rinaldi also thanked the Police and Fire departments, not only for helping to run a successful Fourth of July Fireworks, but for doing so on the actual holiday of July 4<sup>th</sup> which meant more crowds and more coordinating. The Borough Firemen were all volunteers, got there early, left late and were to be commended. She, the Mayor and some Council members had received several complaints regarding cars speeding throughout the Borough. Many residents were concerned about pedestrian safety. They felt it was appropriate to bring up at this meeting, with the help of Chief LaBruno and Mr. Puszcz, a call for more active conversations regarding reducing vehicles speeding.

Councilwoman Fostle added that residents were particularly concerned about an area in Lake Rogerene, on Orben Drive, which was adjacent to a bus stop. The safety of children was critical. It was her hope that everyone could come together to come up with some practical solutions to prevent speeding in that area.

The Mayor added that other areas of concern with vehicles driving too fast were James Drive, Oak Street, Cove Road, McGregor Avenue and most of Bertrand Island. He thanked Councilwoman Fostle for taking the initiative to look into possible solutions to reduce speeding.

Ms. Rinaldi summed it up by stating she would be speaking with Mr. Puszcz and Chief LaBruno about gathering the data required to come back to the Council with some alternative solutions.

### **Council Committee Reports**

#### *Councilwoman Fostle*

Councilwoman Fostle had nothing else to report. Mayor Stanzilis reminded everyone that Councilwoman Fostle had experience in traffic safety and would bring a great level of expertise.

#### *Councilwoman Galate*

Councilwoman Galate reported the Mount Arlington Board of Education was planning 100% in-person enrollment in September for the entire 2021-2022 school year. The schools celebrated their full graduations outside; what a difference one year could make. Regarding the passing of Borough Firefighter Albert Dunphy, she added Mr. Dunphy had been a firefighter in town for 47 years. There was a Ride for Life event in June to fight against opioid abuse and addiction. Many were involved including the Police, Fire, Military and Elks Lodge. The Elks really gave so much to the community on a regular basis. All the communities of Morris County supported each other time and time again. Kudos to all.

#### *Councilwoman Farris*

Councilwoman Farris recently attended the Fire Department Picnic at the Elks Lodge. It was nice to finally see everyone and bring everyone together including firefighters and police officers. She recently attended the Morris County League of Municipalities meeting along with Mayor Stanzilis. Trisha O'Keefe, President of Morristown Medical Center was the guest speaker. It was a wonderful event and interesting to hear how Morristown Medical Center navigated its way through the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### *Council President Delaney*

Council President Delaney reported the CERT Team was in the process of welcoming its newest member, John Wilkinson, who was a former engineer for Exxon Valdez. The Fourth of July fireworks were great. Everyone was orderly. He could view the fireworks from his backyard.

### **Public Comment**

None

### **Ordinance – Introduction**

10-2021 An Ordinance of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Amending the Code of the Borough of Mount Arlington to Prohibit the Operation of Any Class of Cannabis Businesses Within the Borough

The Mayor opened the Hearing to the Public and read Ordinance 10-2021 by Title.

There was no public comment.

The Mayor closed the Hearing to the Public.

*Motion:* Councilwoman Galate stated: "I make the motion that Ordinance 10-2021 be introduced, and will be further considered after a public hearing held on August 3, 2021 at the Municipal Building at 7:00PM."

*Second:* Council President Delaney

There was no Council discussion.

*Roll Call:*

*Roll Call:*

Aye: Farris, Fostle, Galate, Council President Delaney

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

Mayor Stanzilis announced another ordinance was being added to the agenda. Mr. Jessup provided an overview of the ordinance which was regarding the Solar Redevelopment Project at the landfill. Today the Borough received a request from the developer that the Borough enter into an easement agreement with JCP&L and Verizon. This agreement was for the installation of utility poles, for both JCP&L and Verizon services, that would run relative to the Solar Redevelopment Project. The developer indicated that JCP&L would not sign off on the project, or allow work to commence, until the easement had been executed. In discussion with the Mayor and Administration, it was decided that this ordinance be put forth before the Council tonight to get the process going as quickly as possible. Mr. Puszcz provided a brief overview of the easement project. He stated the engineers from all parties were in sync and wanted to get the Council's approval to authorize the execution of this easement agreement. Mayor Stanzilis asked if JCP&L would be taking down the old utility poles. Mr. Puszcz replied they were not requiring JCP&L to do so. Only if the old poles were exposed during the land clearing would they be taken down. Mayor Stanzilis replied that there have been issues with old utility poles falling down and causing power outages, so this could be an improvement for the residents.

11-2021 An Ordinance of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Borough of Mount Arlington to Enter into an Easement Agreement with Jersey Central Power and Light and Verizon of New Jersey, Inc.

The Mayor opened the Hearing to the Public and read Ordinance 11-2021 by Title.

There was no public comment.

The Mayor closed the Hearing to the Public.

*Motion:* Councilwoman Fostle: "I make the motion that Ordinance 11-2021 be introduced, and will be further considered after a public hearing held on August 3, 2021 at the Municipal Building at 7:00PM."

*Second:* Council President Delaney

*Council discussion:*

Councilwoman Galate asked if there would be additional information on the easement, such as a diagram, at the next Council meeting. Mr. Puszcz replied there would be.

*Roll Call:*

Aye: Farris, Fostle, Galate, Council President Delaney

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

**Ordinance – Second Reading**

None

**Resolutions – All Vote by Consent**

- 2021-76 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 July 6, 2021
- 2021-78 A Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Appointing Lifeguards for the 2021 Season
- 2021-79 A Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Appointing Beach Attendants for the 2021 Season
- 2021-80 A Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Establishment of a Change Fund for the Mount Arlington Beach
- 2021-81 A 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 # 20-00012 for Property Known as Block 108 Lot 23
- 2021-82 A 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 # 20-00009 for Property Known as Block 87 Lot 4
- 2021-83 A Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Accepting the Bid, and Awarding the Contract For, the Logan Way Restoration Project to Riverview Paving, Inc.
- 2021-84 A Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Authorizing Execution of a Redevelopment Agreement for the Property Known as Block 61.02, Lot 23.08 (181 Howard Boulevard) on the Tax Map of the Borough
- 2021-85 A Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Authorizing Morris County Trail Construction Grant Application

Motion to Approve: Council President Delaney

Second: Councilwoman Farris

Council Discussion: None

Roll Call was taken.

Aye: Farris, Fostle, Galate, Council President Delaney

Opposed: None  
Abstain: None  
Motion carries.

2021-77 A Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Confirming Receipt and Review of the Annual Report of Audit for 2020

Motion to Approve: Councilwoman Galate  
Second: Council President Delaney

*Council Discussion:*

Mr. Ko from Nisivoccia & Co. thanked the Mayor and Council for having them at tonight's meeting. He wanted to highlight the great job that Ms. Rinaldi and her staff did to help them throughout the audit process. It had been difficult for the second year in a row due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Borough's fund balance was in a very wholesome position, having increased by approximately 14% in 2020. Tax collection rates increased in most municipalities in Morris County in 2020. This was accomplished while maintaining important reserves such as reserves for litigation, pending tax appeals, as well as establishing a new reserve for the reevaluation of real property. Regarding grants, the Borough received \$565,000 from the DOT to subsidize capital projects, and \$80,000 from the Morris County CDBG. Overall, the Borough was in a very healthy financial position.

Mr. Ko thanked the Mayor and Council for their continued confidence in Nisivoccia. Mayor Stanzilis thanked Mr. Ko and Nisivoccia for their great work.

Roll Call was taken.

Aye: Farris, Fostle, Galate, Council President Delaney  
Opposed: None  
Abstain: None  
Motion carries.

**Motion**

None

**Adjourn**

Motion to Adjourn: Council President Delaney

Second: Councilwoman Farris

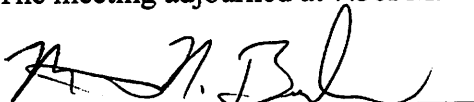
Roll Call:

All in Favor: Aye

Opposed: None

Motion Approved

The meeting adjourned at 7:36PM.



Matthew N. Bansch, Borough Clerk

CC: Website