

**BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON**  
**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**AUGUST 3, 2021**  
**7:00 PM**

The Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington was held on Tuesday, August 3, 2021. This meeting was held in-person at the Municipal Building at 419 Howard Boulevard, Mount Arlington, New Jersey and commenced at 7:03PM.

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 longtime Borough Firefighter Albert Dunphy. Mr. Dunphy had been an integral part of this town.

Roll Call was taken for attendance:

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

**Absent:** None

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

**Presentations- Colleen Lyons, Lake Hopatcong Commission Administrator Monthly Report:**

Ms. Lyons provided a summary of various projects being funded by a DEP HAB (Harmful Algae Blooms) Grant to install and monitor projects around Lake Hopatcong to help mitigate HABs. One project was an aeration unit had been installed at the Mount Arlington Beach and was expected to be operational soon. There was a much larger aeration system already installed at Crescent Cove which was working very well and creating much better water clarity.

Ms. Lyons reported that an upcoming project would be the installation of Biochar in wetlands in Jefferson Township. Ms. Rinaldi added that Biochar had been installed at the pond in Memorial Park and they were seeing much better nutrient removal rates. Ms. Lyons replied that since it was successful in this small pond, as well as the Duck Pond in Roxbury Township, it was a good sign that it could be installed directly into Lake Hopatcong.

Ms. Lyons reported the Lake Hopatcong Commission had been awarded a 319 Grant which funded studies of the bottom of Lake Hopatcong to help understand what projects would be most beneficial for reducing HABs, such as aeration systems or alum treatment.

Mayor Stanzilis asked if the DEP would approve alum treatment. Ms. Lyons replied that she believed it would be approved. The Borough would need to apply for a permit through the DEP and be applied by a licensed applicator.

Regarding the National Fish and Wildlife Grant (NFWG) Grant, which had been discussed at previous Council meetings, the Lake Hopatcong Commission would be hearing in September if they would receive funding.

In July, Princeton Hydro had been out testing in Lake Hopatcong for HABs. The test results came back negative for toxins at all ten stations. This was fantastic news.

The DEP installed four small, yellow buoys in Lake Hopatcong which continually monitored temperature, dissolved oxygen, turbidity and more. They were located in River Styx, the State Park, Woodport and Byram Cove. Residents could go online at any time to view the readings.

Regarding weed harvesting, the DEP announced they were no longer interested in the weed harvesting business. The Lake Hopatcong Commission would be taking over the entire weed harvesting operation and were hopeful to be on the water in September.

Ms. Lyons concluded her presentation by announcing the Lake Hopatcong Commission had an opening for an Alternate for Mount Arlington. The Mayor replied he had someone lined up for the position.

**Appointments:**

None

**Tax and Utility Report for the Months of May & June**

May Total Tax Collections: \$2,824,967.41

May Total Utility Collections: \$124,359.06

June Total Tax Collections: \$112,635.40

June Total Utility Collections: \$105,286.22

**Finance Report for the Months of May & June**

May Receipts: \$3,118,866.75

May Disbursements: \$2,055,539.02

June Receipts: \$583,881.70

June Disbursements: \$2,306,344.10

**Approval of Minutes**

**July 6, 2021 - Regular Council Meeting**

Motion to Approve: Councilwoman Farris

Second: Councilwoman Galate

Council Discussion: None

Roll Call was taken.

**Roll:**

Aye: Farris, Fostle, Galate, Council President Delaney

Opposed: None

Abstain: Loughridge, Cangiano

Motion carries.

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Stanzilis reported the Eagle Scout ceremonies were finally up and running again since before the pandemic. He attended the first Eagle Scout ceremony on August 1<sup>st</sup> for Keyan Rogalsky, Patrick Devery and David Cambiotti. Thanks to Chief LaBruno for attending and speaking at the event. In all the years he had been attending Eagle Scout ceremonies, this was the first time a Police Chief had attended and spoken to the boys. It meant a lot to the Eagle Scouts, residents and families. Next week's ceremony would honor Louis Bacinsky and Andrew Cangiano Jr. Mayor Stanzilis and Councilman Cangiano were both proud Eagle dads.

Councilman Cangiano thanked the Mayor for attending both of these great ceremonies.

Mayor Stanzilis reported he had attended the Lake Hopatcong Foundation Gala over the weekend. The Foundation raised a lot of money for good causes around Lake Hopatcong.

The Borough had met with New Jersey Natural Gas twice in the past month to learn more about NJNG's direction with the gas lines in the northern section of town.

The Mayor recently attended the Picatinny Arsenal Change of Command event due to its General retiring and a new General being sworn in.

Mayor Stanzilis, along with the other three Mayors of Lake Hopatcong municipalities, recently met with Governor Murphy at Pavinci Italian Grill to discuss how Lake Hopatcong was doing. It was a positive conversation because things were improving all around the Lake, plus the Mount Arlington beach was being managed better than the previous summer.

The Mayor reported there was a recent survey that went out to the residents regarding Altice / Optimum which raised some serious service issue concerns. Over three hundred surveys were completed and none contained positive feedback. The Borough recently met with Altice and their external government affairs attorney. They were supposed to be coming back to the Borough with a plan to improve their services. The Mayor recommended that residents continue to put the pressure on Altice, either individually or through the Borough.

The Mayor was recently voted on as the Vice President of the New Jersey Conference of Mayors.

The Mayor attended the memorial for Al Dunphy. Mr. Dunphy was such a vibrant individual and always around the fire house. And this was only two weeks after the memorial for the passing of

former Mayor and Past Fire Chief Eugene Crance.

The Mayor was recently on a panel with Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill about what was going on regionally in the real estate market and the reopening of businesses.

He was planning another Mayor's Hike with Jefferson Mayor Eric Wilsusen in the next couple of months.

### **Chief of Police Report**

Chief LaBruno reported the Eagle Scout Ceremony was an honor to attend. It was great to see how proud they all were. And they should be.

Chief LaBruno then provided four examples where his department recently did standout jobs:

- Last night the Police and Fire Departments did a great job together handling an accident on Bensel Drive which took down a pole.
- Chief LaBruno commended Officers McCoach, Fortunato and Kaiteris for their efforts while responding to a medical emergency. While Officers Fortunato and Kaiteris were tending to a mother who was ill, Officer McCoach got down on the floor and read to her young daughter who was frightened; he made the little girl smile.
- A resident was pleasantly surprised to observe Officer Kaiteris at a basketball court, not chasing the kids away, but playing basketball with the kids.
- After a resident tragically lost a family member, Sergeant Farina and Officer Pizzuto responded to her home to comfort her until family could arrive. The next day a family member called to say how overjoyed they were with how the Police Department handled the situation.

Over the weekend, a radar unit had been installed on Orben Drive to collect vehicle data. He and Ms. Rinaldi would be meeting with CP Engineers to discuss options to reduce speeding in that area. They would continue to collect data on Orben Drive as well as install radar units at other locations for the same purpose.

### **Borough Administrator's Report**

Ms. Rinaldi reported there was a recent meeting between New Jersey Natural Gas (NJNG), Morris County and CP Engineers to discuss installing gas lines in almost the entire northern end of the Borough, impacting about 195 homes. Since the Borough was also planning projects to install water and sewer lines in some of those areas, there would be coordination between all parties so that no work would be done twice, such as road paving. Gas lines would not be coming this winter, but a solid plan was in place and it was more a question of when at this point.

The Borough Beach had been going well with the new beach attendants and lifeguards. There would be no beach staff during the last week of August as everyone was going back to school; however, staff would be back for Labor Day weekend to close out the season.

Karen Porfido would be the new Alternate for the Lake Hopatcong Commission. Her appointment would be on the September Council meeting agenda. Ann Pravs was still the representative to the Commission and did a fantastic job.

The fountain at Memorial Park was currently out of order due to an issue with the pump. A part was on order to repair the fountain.

Lastly, Ms. Rinaldi stated she was excited about the McGregor Trails Grant the Borough had just applied for. She thanked Mr. Clark and Millennium Strategies for their assistance with submitting the grant application. The trail would effectively create a walkway connecting the northern end of town and Borough Hall. They should know by the end of the year where they stood.

### **Council Committee Reports**

#### *Councilwoman Galate*

Councilwoman Galate reported Borough schools were starting September 8<sup>th</sup> with the plan to be all in-person. She encouraged residents to visit the Board of Education website which provided lots of great information, such as the Roxbury School District was giving away food on Mondays and Thursdays and residents could sign up online. There was also information about what programs were available around New Jersey to provide assistance with utility payments and other expenses during the COVID-19 pandemic. And for residents without children in the school system, there were links on the main page, titled NJ Sustainable Schools, which provided information about school projects, activities and accomplishments throughout the community which showed their tax dollars going to great use. Lastly, Councilwoman Galate thanked Chief LaBruno and the Police Department for their great work. It was nice to see residents giving the Police Department well-deserved praise instead of only complaining.

#### *Councilwoman Fostle*

Councilwoman Fostle, Councilwoman Galate and David Karpman recently met with Borough Planner Ms. Caldwell to work on an aesthetics ordinance for the Borough. Ms. Caldwell came up with a template for a design standard for the Borough. There was no definitive timeline, but once the ordinance was ready, they would be bringing it before the Council for consideration. It would be perfect timing, and very helpful, with the redevelopment projects coming up soon. Developers wanted to know what was expected aesthetically, and the Borough would have a set of standards in place so there would be a cohesive look.

#### *Councilman Cangiano*

Councilman Cangiano commended Councilwoman Fostle on her work and agreed that developers regularly looked for design standards. Regarding Resolution 2021-91 on the agenda, which consented to the sewerage transfer allocation from the Borough of Stanhope to the Township of Byram, he was a member of the Musconetcong Sewer Association and there were no issues for Mount Arlington. It was for a good purpose.

#### *Councilwoman Farris*

Councilwoman Farris reported the Personnel Committee recently met with the DPW management who were hiring two new Laborers. She thought the two new hires would make good additions to the DPW team. She also felt the DPW really seemed to care that Mount Arlington was run well.

#### *Councilman Loughridge*

Councilman Loughridge reported Munchkin Soccer, ages 3-5 years old, was almost done for the season. Kickz Soccer, ages 6-15, was winding down too. A concert was scheduled for August

26<sup>th</sup> at Fireman's Field with a band called Cool Core set to perform. He was excited to see how the concert would go. The Community Garden was 100% full. Ms. Chismar was exploring the option of hosting an end-of-season event at the Community Garden. He reminded residents there was Yoga at the Beach on Sundays at 9:00am and Chair Yoga at the Municipal Building Fridays at 10:00am. He was happy to see the McGregor Trails Grant moving forward.

#### *Council President Delaney*

Council President Delaney announced the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) volunteer group had returned to meeting at the Civic Center. For the edification of those in attendance, he explained how the RACES group members went to school and became certified to use ham radio equipment. In the event of real emergency situations, when all other communication systems were down, the ham radio operators were the only ones who could effectively continue to provide emergency communications. Lastly, Council President Delaney announced the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) would have two new members, both with excellent credentials, who were sure to be assets to the Borough.

Mayor Stanzilis wished to recognize Ms. Melissa Eckert, liaison to the Board of Education, who was in attendance at the meeting.

#### **Public Comment**

Pinakin Patel, 369 Howard Boulevard – Mr. Patel stated he moved to Mount Arlington four months ago from the Town of Dover where he resided for 42 years. Mr. Patel wished to complain about the lack of a crosswalk on Altenbrand Avenue near the Mount Arlington Police Station and Municipal Beach. He walked his dog daily in this area and was not happy with vehicles speeding. He said he complained to the Borough who instructed him to call the County. When he called the County, he said they told him to go back and complain to the Borough.

Mayor Stanzilis thanked Mr. Patel for attending the meeting. The Mayor emphasized the safety of all residents was their primary concern. There were a lot of moving parts at that intersection because it was a County road, which intersected with a Borough road, in an area where a lot of Borough road projects were occurring. The Mayor recommended some safe alternative walking routes, such as along Howard Boulevard where there were stop signs and crosswalks the entire way down. This would allow Mr. Patel to safely cross Altenbrand Avenue and any other side street. Mayor Stanzilis stated personal safety was also each person's responsibility, and he was not faulting Mr. Patel, but there were a lot of moving parts at that particular intersection.

Chief LaBruno stated he had spoken with Mr. Patel the day before and advised him, up until this point, there had never been any complaints at that intersection. Now that it had been brought to the Police's attention, they would be monitoring the traffic at this intersection and take appropriate action if and when necessary. The safety of all residents and visitors was paramount.

Ms. Rinaldi added it was a unique situation since it was a County Road; however, due to the recent installation of Borough water lines, which was a Borough project, the Borough would be doing the paving and restriping after the beach season was over. In the meantime, Mr. Patel could use the stop signs and crosswalks along Howard Boulevard to cross the streets safely.

Mr. Patel had a second complaint about odors coming from the pond at Memorial Park. Ms. Rinaldi replied, as she had mentioned in her report, it was likely due to the fountain not working. Once repaired it would again create waterflow. Until then, the water was just sitting.

Mr. Patel then questioned how often did street sweeping occur. Ms. Rinaldi replied it was at least twice a year; definitely after the winter season, and typically before Memorial Day.

Lastly, Mr. Patel questioned when the streetscape lights would be cleaned. Ms. Rinaldi replied one of the upcoming DPW projects was to clean and paint the streetscape lights.

**Ordinance – Introduction**

None

**Ordinance – Second Reading**

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:* Councilman Cangiano stated: “I move for adoption and final passage of Ordinance 10-2021”  
*Second:* Councilwoman Farris

There was no Council discussion.

*Roll Call:*

Aye: Farris, Loughridge, Cangiano, Fostle, Galate, Council President Delaney  
Opposed: None  
Abstain: None  
Motion Approved

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:* Councilman Cangiano stated: “I move for adoption and final passage of Ordinance 11-2021”  
*Second:* Councilwoman Galate

There was no Council discussion.

**Roll Call:**

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

**Resolutions – All Vote by Consent**

- 2021-86 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 August 3, 2021
- 2021-87 A Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Approving the Corrective Action Plan Recommended in the Annual Report of Audit For 2020
- 2021-88 A Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Appointing Office of Emergency Management ‘Municipal Emergency Coordinator’ N.J.S.A. App.A:9-40.1 and Directive Number 102
- 2021-89 A Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Hiring Robert Magee as Full-Time Department of Public Works Laborer
- 2021-90 A Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Hiring John Heinrich as Full-Time Department of Public Works Laborer
- 2021-91 A Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Consenting to the Transfer of Sewerage Allocation from the Borough of Stanhope to the Township of Byram in the Amount of 4,300 Gallons Per Day
- 2021-92 A Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Approving Appointment for Dog and Cat Census
- 2021-93 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: Councilwoman Galate

Second: Council President Delaney

Council Discussion: None

Roll Call was taken.

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion carries.



**Motion**

None

**Adjourn**

Motion to Adjourn: Council President Delaney

Second: Councilman Cangiano

Roll Call:

All in Favor: Aye

Opposed: None

Motion Approved

The meeting adjourned at 8:11PM.

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

Matthew N. Bansch, Borough Clerk

CC: Website