

**BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 9, 2021
7:00 PM**

The Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington was held on Tuesday, November 9, 2021. This meeting was held in-person at the Municipal Building at 419 Howard Boulevard, Mount Arlington, New Jersey and commenced at 7:02PM.

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 reflect on almost two years of the COVID-19 pandemic, all of the souls which had been lost, and to pray that the pandemic would hopefully soon be over.

Roll Call was taken for attendance:

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

Absent: Councilwoman Farris

Present from Administration: Administrator/CFO Ms. Rinaldi, Police Lieutenant Green, Borough Attorney Mr. Jessup, Borough Planner Ms. Caldwell, Borough Engineer Mr. Puszcz and Fire Chief Giacobbe

Presentations:

Colleen Lyons, Lake Hopatcong Commission Administrator Monthly Report:

Ms. Lyons was unable to attend. Ms. Rinaldi read the following report which had been provided in advance by Ms. Lyons:

Just before the October Lake Hopatcong Commission meeting there was a report of an oil sheen on the lake near Hudson Avenue. Ms. Lyons contacted the DEP for details and the enforcement officer told her it was from an unknown source. The NJDEP and Sussex County Health Department inspected all surrounding properties and did not find a source. Sorbent materials were placed in the lake to address the sheen; the sheen had since dissipated. They would continue to monitor the situation.

Ms. Lyons had contacted Morris County about the lights on Brady Bridge which needed repairs. The County engineering department responded that they did not have immediate plans to repair the lights because they were repaired in mid-June and were damaged within a month. This was the third time the lights were damaged since they were installed in 2017. The County would be working with the NJSP (New Jersey State Police) – Marine Services Bureau, to discuss other options before repairs were made.

The Lake Hopatcong Commission and Jefferson Township were contacted by a resident who identified materials in the lake which resembled fecal material. Ms. Lyons met Jefferson Township onsite with the resident and observed the materials. Jefferson Township DPW cleaned the nearby storm drains and the resident indicated the problem was better. She asked the homeowner to contact her if he noticed any other materials entering the lake from the outfall pipe. She did also request a proposal from Princeton Hydro for fecal coliform and E. coli sampling, but for now she would wait to hear from the resident.

Princeton Hydro had nominated the Lake Hopatcong Commission and Lake Hopatcong Foundation for a North American Lake Management Society, Lake Management Success Story, for their work combating HABs on Lake Hopatcong. Ms. Lyons wished to say thank you for the nomination, and to the municipalities, counties, Rutgers University and the state for their collaboration on the grant.

Regarding Lee's County Park Marina, Ms. Lyons had received notice from Morris County Parks that a meeting would be held on November 23, 2021 to discuss proposed improvements.

Last week, the Lake Hopatcong Commission had a meeting with the DEP to discuss the transfer of weed harvesters and employees. She had no additional information on the investigation and no estimate when the report would be issued.

Melissa Eckert, Board of Education Liaison Monthly Report:

Ms. Eckert reported they had just concluded the boys and girls fall soccer programs. There was great participation and they kids were very happy to be doing something normal again. They had tryouts for boys and girls basketball which also had great participation. There was a new program called LEAP which stood for Lakers Educational Assistance Program. The program was being offered to all students at both schools. It focused on helping students excel in math and ELA, as well as help students with learning gaps get back to where they needed to be. It was completely covered by federal funds so there was no taxpayer burden. There were currently 60 students enrolled. Students in the program received individualized attention three days per week. Overall, they were seeing some normalcy back in the school district.

Mayor Stanzilis read a letter he had received from Ryan Mejia who was in attendance:

“Dear Mayor Stanzilis... Hello Mr. Mayor, I wanted to tell you that we need a seesaw in Fireman's Field Park. Seesaws help children explore balance and movement. Since it needs at least two partners, it teaches kids to play together and work cooperatively. Also, seesaws are fun. I would prefer a seesaw with up to 4 seats to play with my siblings and friends. I hope the town of Mount Arlington can get this seesaw, and I thank you for you time. Sincerely, Ryan Mejia”

Mayor Stanzilis proposed to the Governing Body that the Borough look into the feasibility of getting a couple sets of seesaws at Fireman's Field, to which there was unanimous consent.

Mayor Stanzilis presented Mr. Mejia with a Challenge Coin for excellence in community service.

Appointments - None

Tax and Utility Report for the Months of September & October

September Total Tax Collections: \$169,417.46

September Total Utility Collections: \$92,128.13

October Total Tax Collections: \$1,560,460.93

October Total Utility Collections: \$325,196.49

Finance Report for the Months of September & October

September Receipts \$426,355.20

September Disbursements \$1,773,826.01

October Receipts: \$2,092,083.47

October Disbursements: \$1,607,189.39

Approval of Minutes

October 5, 2021 - Regular Council Meeting

Motion to Approve: Councilwoman Galate

Second: Councilman Cangiano

Council Discussion: None

Roll Call was taken.

Roll:

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

Mayor's Report

Mayor Stanzilis reported last week was the General Election. He thanked the Fire Department for hosting the Free Rabies Clinic this past Saturday; it was a huge success with about 100 vaccinated dogs and cats. Also, that day was the Community Cleanup where volunteers dispersed throughout the town and cleaned up the beach, Memorial Pond and Fireman's Field; it went really well. The PAL Annual Golf Outing went extremely well with an incredible turnout. The Mayor's Hike was hosted by himself and Jefferson Mayor Eric Wilsusen around Liffy Island. Mayor Stanzilis highly recommended that others should also try the Liffy Island Trail. Regarding the Halloween Bash, he thanked the Recreation Department, as well as the judges for the costume contest. Both himself and Council President Delaney were two of the judges. It was an excellent turnout and event. He thanked the Police Department for supplying the ice cream. Mayor Stanzilis attended the 10th anniversary memorial of Mount Arlington Police Officer Joe Wargo. Ten years had gone by so fast. It was a great memorial service. He got to unveil the Police and Fire Memorial that would be built

in Memorial Park. Lastly, he congratulated Councilwomen Nita Galate and Maria Farris on winning reelection for 3-year Borough Council seats.

Borough Administrator's Report

Ms. Rinaldi stated she was required to complete the 2021 Best Practices Inventory Worksheet and submit it to the Division of Local Government Services. The purpose of the Worksheet was to determine whether some portion of the Borough's aid would be withheld. Ms. Rinaldi stated it was determined the Borough was still in compliance and would continue to receive 100% of the aid that was normally dispersed.

Chief of Police Report

Lieutenant Green gave a report on behalf of Chief LaBruno who was unable to attend. The Police Department participated in the Lake Hopatcong Block Party, Trunk or Treat Halloween Bash, and the FOP Golf Outing which were all great successes. Chief LaBruno, himself and a few other officers attended the annual Blue Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark, which remembered New Jersey officers who had made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. The 10th anniversary memorial for Joe Wargo was a very nice event. He thanked everyone for their support and hard work in planning the memorial. They were excited for the unveiling of the Police and Fire Memorial at Memorial Park. Body cameras were scheduled to be installed starting January 24, 2022.

Council Committee Reports

Councilwoman Galate

Councilwoman Galate reported the Public Schools Thanksgiving Food Drive was accepting donations at both schools until November 12th to benefit Mount Arlington residents. The 8th graders were accepting donations for a Spring Clothing Drive until November 14th. There was a tent located on Kadel Drive where donations could be dropped off.

Councilwoman Fostle

Councilwoman Fostle reported the Aesthetic Design Standards Ordinance was presented at the Land Use Board meeting. All-in-all, she thought it went over very well. There was little pushback and not too many questions or concerns. The Land Use Board felt it was consistent with the overall direction of the Borough.

Councilman Cangiano

Councilman Cangiano reported the Musconetcong Sewerage Authority was close to approving its annual budget. There would be a budget increase which may or may not mean a rate change to customers. More details to follow. The budget increase was due to a variety of factors including more water usage to new commercial properties in nearby towns. This was a good sign for the area.

Councilman Loughridge

Councilman Loughridge announced Senior Chair Yoga was part of the Mayor's Wellness Program. Both the Halloween Bash and Community Cleanup were a terrific success. The annual tree lighting ceremony was scheduled for Friday, December 3rd. The most recent Senior Citizens meeting had 90 members. The Recreation Commission was looking for more volunteers.

Council President Delaney

Council President Delaney thanked the residents who came out to vote on Election Day to perform their civic duty. He was thrilled to see Councilwoman Nita Galate and Councilwoman Maria Farris reelected.

Public Comment

Paul Bizarro, 6 Spruce Path – Mr. Bizarro stated driving on Orben Drive and Elizabeth Way was extremely difficult due to vehicles parked on both sides of the road. He asked if anything could be done.

Mayor Stanzilis replied he regularly observed the same parking issues on Bertrand’s Island. Lieutenant Green stated residents could call the Police Department to address any parking issues.

Mr. Bizarro then questioned what would be the possibility of getting public water and sewer in the Lake Rogerene area.

Councilman Cangiano replied that the Borough Engineering team was currently working with Roxbury Township, the State and County to try and get approvals in place to eventually be in the position to consider public water and sewer in Lake Rogerene. He emphasized it would take time, and that he would continue to provide updates in his Council Meeting reports.

Mayor Stanzilis added they too wanted water and sewer in that area. They were moving things along as best as they possibly could.

Ordinance – Introduction

15-2021 An Ordinance of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Rescinding and Cancelling Bond Ordinance 01-2021, Finally Adopted on January 19, 2021, Appropriating \$4,750,000 to Aid the Landfill Solar Redevelopment Project Located on the Mount Arlington Landfill Redevelopment Area in and by the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey and Authorizing the Issuance of \$4,750,000 in Bonds and Notes to Finance Such Purpose

The Mayor opened the Hearing to the Public and read Ordinance 15-2021 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 15-2021 be introduced, and will be further considered after a public hearing held on December 7, 2021 at the Municipal Building at 7:00PM.”

Second: Councilwoman Galate

There was no Council discussion.

Roll Call:

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None
Motion Approved

16-2021 An Ordinance of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Amending Chapter 135, Sewers, of the Code of the Borough of Mount Arlington

The Mayor opened the Hearing to the Public and read Ordinance 16-2021 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 16-2021 be introduced, and will be further considered after a public hearing held on December 7, 2021 at the Municipal Building at 7:00PM."

Second: Councilwoman Galate

There was no Council discussion.

Roll Call:

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

Ordinance – Second Reading

12-2021 An Ordinance of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Authorizing Adoption of Revised Chapter 191, Food Handling Fees

The Mayor opened the Hearing to the Public and read Ordinance 12-2021 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 12-2021"

Second: Councilwoman Galate

There was no Council discussion.

Roll Call:

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

13-2021 An Ordinance of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Creation of an Economic Development Advisory Committee

The Mayor opened the Hearing to the Public and read Ordinance 13-2021 by Title.

There was no public comment.

The Mayor closed the Hearing to the Public.

Motion: Councilman Loughridge stated: "I move for adoption and final passage of Ordinance 13-2021"

Second: Councilwoman Fostle

Council discussion: Mayor Stanzilis thanked the Council for their support to further the Borough's economic quest to be one of the lowest-taxed towns in Morris County.

Roll Call:

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

14-2021 An Ordinance of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Authorizing Adoption of Revised Chapter 17, Article VII Design Standards for Development, to Create Aesthetic Design Standards Applicable to All Site Plan Applications

The Mayor opened the Hearing to the Public and read Ordinance 14-2021 by Title.

There was no public comment.

The Mayor closed the Hearing to the Public.

Motion: Councilwoman Fostle stated: "I move for adoption and final passage of Ordinance 14-2021"

Second: Councilman Loughridge

Council discussion: Councilwoman Galate stated this ordinance was the endgame of a long process which took years. There were many presentations and people involved to make this come to fruition.

Roll Call:

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

Resolutions – All Vote by Consent

- 2021-106 A Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey Approving Transfer of Funds
- 2021-107 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 November 9, 2021
- 2021-108 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 2021 Water and Sewer Systems Emergency Repair Services to John Garcia Construction Co.
- 2021-109 A Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Hiring Part-Time Seasonal Help for DPW
- 2021-110 A Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Requesting Approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriation NJS 40A:4-87 for Click It or Ticket 2021 Seat Belt Mobilization
- 2021-111 A Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Requesting Approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriation NJS 40A:4-87 for Acquisition of In-Vehicle and Body Cameras for the Police Department Adopted April 6, 2021
- 2021-112 A 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 with Lake Hopatcong Elks for 2022 Senior Citizens Meetings
- 2021-113 A Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey Canceling Prior Years Grant Receivable and Appropriation Reserve Balances
- 2021-114 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# 19-00004 for Property Known as Block 31 Lot 11

Motion to Approve: Councilwoman Galate

Second: Councilman Cangiano

Council Discussion: None

Roll Call was taken.

Roll Call:

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

Mayor Stanzilis commended the Fire Department for their courageousness, bravery and volunteerism.

Fire Chief Giacobbe called up each Firefighter in attendance to receive a stipend check as a thank you for their service. All Firefighters not in attendance were instructed to go to the Municipal Building to pick up their stipend check.

Executive Session

2021-115 A Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Authorizing an Executive Session of the Mayor and Borough Council and Excluding the Public from that Portion of the Meeting

Anticipated Litigation and Contract Negotiation Topics in Executive Session:

- Review of Borough Property/Potential Property Negotiations
- Discussion of Executive Meeting Minutes:
 - o November 10, 2020
 - o June 1, 2021

Action May or May Not Be Taken

Motion to Enter into Executive Session: Councilman Cangiano

Second: Councilwoman Galate

Roll Call:

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

Executive Session commenced at 7:53PM.

Motion to Return to Open Session: Councilwoman Galate

Second: Council President Delaney

Roll Call:

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

Open Session commenced at 9:11PM.

Motion to Approve, but Not Release to Public, Executive Session Minutes of

November 10, 2020: Councilwoman Galate

Second: Council President Delaney

Roll Call:

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

Motion to Approve, and Release to the Public, Executive Session Minutes of

June 1, 2021: Councilman Cangiano

Second: Councilman Loughridge

Roll Call:

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Council President Delaney

Second: Councilwoman Galate

Roll Call:

All in Favor: Aye

Opposed: None

Motion Approved

The meeting adjourned at 9:12PM.



Matthew N. Bansch, Borough Clerk

CC: Website