

**BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 2, 2022
7:00 PM**

The Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington was held on Tuesday, August 2, 2022. This meeting was held in-person at the Municipal Building at 419 Howard Boulevard, Mount Arlington, New Jersey and commenced at 7:00PM.

Mayor Stanzilis called the meeting to order.

Mr. Bansch stated, “adequate notice of this meeting of the Mayor and 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 13, 2022 and posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Borough Municipal Building on January 6, 2022; notice of this meeting is on file in the Office of the Borough Clerk. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings 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 remain standing to observe a moment of silence to remember those who lost everything in the recent Kentucky floods.

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, Borough Attorney Mr. Jessup, Borough Engineer Mr. Puszcz, Borough Auditors Bud Jones and Brian Ko and the writer.

Presentations:

Colleen Lyons, Lake Hopatcong Commission Administrator Monthly Report:

Ms. Lyons reported on July 15th the NJDEP confirmed a Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) on Crescent Cove at the Advisory Level. Treatment would be applied to approximately 5 acres around the lake.

Mayor Stanzilis asked what the holdup was with getting NJDEP permits for applying the treatment. Ms. Lyons replied there was a required notice in the newspapers of about 1 week prior

to treatment. They were looking to get a waiver from the NJDEP for this requirement, but it had not yet been granted. A treatment was scheduled for August 8th.

Ms. Lyons reported Congressman Tom Malinowski recently hosted a field hearing with the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment at the Lake Hopatcong Yacht Club to discuss combating HABs on Lake Hopatcong. He was joined by representatives from the NJDEP, Lake Hopatcong Foundation, Lake Hopatcong Commission, and the NY-NJ Harbor and Estuary Program.

Ms. Lyons reported the projects the Commission and Foundation had applied for under the 2020 319 Grant were unfortunately not selected this time around for funding. This included the enhancement of two stormwater basins in Roxbury Township and a large biofiltration system at Lakeside Field in Jefferson Township. They would be applying again the next time around. On July 13th the New Jersey Boat Regulation Commission held its annual meeting at the Lake Hopatcong Yacht Club. The major topic of discussion was noise on the lake, specifically in Byram Cove. They also discussed updates to boating violation fines. Lastly, Ms. Lyons reported the weed harvesting program continued to move throughout the lake from south to north.

Councilman Cangiano asked, with the increased law enforcement patrols on the lake, if there were any ways to measure if the lake was actually safer. Ms. Lyons replied she had heard from many people that the lake was not as busy as last year. She confirmed there were more patrols on the lake than ever before. She stated they would have to wait until the end of the season for any reports or statistics from the State Police and Morris County.

Melissa Eckert, Board of Education Liaison Monthly Report: - None

Appointments: - None

Tax and Utility Report for the Month of June

June Total Tax Collections: \$74,837.05
June Total Utility Collections: \$71,350.31

Finance Report for the Month of June

June Receipts: \$253,970.29
June Disbursements: \$1,960,780.47

Approval of Minutes -

July 5, 2022 – Regular Council Meeting

Motion to Approve: Galate

Second: Farris

Council Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Aye: Farris, Galate, Council President Delaney

Opposed: None

Abstain: Loughridge, Cangiano, Fostle
Motion Approved

Mayor's Report

Mayor Stanzilis reported he gave a presentation for the Parsippany Economic Development Committee where he spoke about the positive momentum around Morris County at-large with developing mixed use, high density residential buildings. The Motor Vehicle Mobile Unit "Agency on Wheels" was in town July 8th and was a success. The Mayor had been invited to be on the panel at the field hearing hosted by Congressman Malinowski, but had to decline as he was already scheduled to meet with Governor Murphy, the three other mayors of Lake Hopatcong municipalities, and NJDEP Commissioner LaTourrette. At their meeting they discussed many issues, including the current HAB and urgency to apply algaecide treatment. Mayor Stanzilis stated the NJDEP was taking too long.

Borough Administrator's Report

Ms. Rinaldi announced the Borough had submitted an application for the McGregor Trails. She and Councilwoman Fostle recently met with John Thomas, Landscape Architect, to discuss the phase and development of a plan for Borough park properties. Ms. Rinaldi displayed a map of four proposed trails and provided an overview. The trails would expand and increase the connectivity around Lake Hopatcong. It would offer offsite parking as well as hiking for many different skill levels. Ms. Rinaldi stated she had some very helpful meetings with Denise Chaplick and the Trails Committee. The Borough was hoping to hear back in the Fall about the status of the proposal.

Councilman Cangiano asked how much the design and construction would cost. Ms. Rinaldi replied it was estimated to cost about \$200,000 which was less than they had previously proposed. The grant required a 20% match.

Ms. Rinaldi reported there were about twenty ash trees located close to the Community Garden which had to be removed. Regarding the Municipal Beach, even though there was currently a HAB Watch in effect on Lake Hopatcong, the beach had been at its 90-person capacity almost daily. There appeared to be lifeguard staffing issues some days at the State Park which caused overflow to the Municipal Beach. The implementation of Beach Attendants at the Municipal Beach was absolutely helping to control the situation with overcrowding. Lastly, there was a Change Order of approximately \$100,000 for road improvements, as part of the Windemere I Water Main Extension Project, due to the County having already paved Altenbrand Avenue. The Borough modified the remaining work required by Shauger Property Services, Inc., removing the Altenbrand Avenue paving no longer required, and instead, completing curb-to-curb pavement on the remainder of the project. Shauger expected to resume work before the end of the month.

Police Chief's Report

Councilwoman Galate gave a report on behalf of Chief LaBruno. Last month, members of the Police Department attended various trainings including Firearms Instructor; Gang Intelligence; Legal Updates; Alcotest; Mental Health and Special Needs; Domestic Violence; De-Escalation and Crisis Intervention. Chief LaBruno attended the training conference in Atlantic City. He attended the Veteran's Cruise and was proud to shake the veterans' hands before they departed on the cruise. The Police Department hosted Police Officer for a Day, which was organized by Sergeant Sherburne.

They had a great day with this year's winners which included a canine demonstration, tour of Lake Hopatcong on the State Police boat and a tour of the Police Station. Lastly, the Rock the Flag Summer Concert Series event at Fireman's Field was a success. There was a table for the kids in attendance, as well as free ice cream for the kids from Dolly Jingle's Ice Cream Truck. Special thanks to Homes for Heroes for their generous donation to the Joseph Wargo Memorial Fund.

Mayor Stanzilis read aloud a letter from the Lake Hopatcong Yacht Club thanking Officer Nicholas Pizzuta for his assistance at their Annual Antique Classic Boat Show.

Fire Chief's Report - None

Council Committee Reports

Councilwoman Farris

Councilwoman Farris had nothing new to report.

Councilman Loughridge

Councilman Loughridge reported Mr. Rinaldi put on another great Summer Concert Series in July, with another scheduled in August. Senior Chair Yoga was Fridays from 10:00am-11:00am. Sunday Yoga was still running as well. The Summer Soccer Camp ran for one week in July and would also be running for one week in August.

Councilwoman Galate

Councilwoman Galate commended the Fire Department for their successful Hose and Shows Movie Night event on July 29th at Fireman's Field. She also commended Mr. Rinaldi for helping with a very successful Summer Concert Series event. The parking lot was full, and everyone who showed up had a great time. Lastly, she encouraged anyone looking for employment to contact the Board of Education who was actively looking to hire for multiple positions.

Councilwoman Fostle

Councilwoman Fostle reported she had met with Landscape Architect John Thomas back in May to discuss ways to make improvements to Borough parks and public spaces. Mr. Thomas was working on the proposal which would be coming soon. Hopefully there would be something to share in September.

Councilwoman Cangiano

Councilman Cangiano reported the Windemere I Water Main Extension Project should be completed soon. Assuming there were no hiccups, the water would hopefully be turned on soon. He was receiving lots of questions from Lake Rogerene residents regarding the status of public water and sewer coming to their section of town. He stated it was a reminder for the Borough to remain diligent in its goal to eventually bring these services to that section of the Borough.

Council President Delaney

Council President Delaney stated the new streetsweeper was a fantastic piece of equipment and would be a big help to the town. The Summer Concert Series Event was great; each event was

getting better and better. He encouraged everyone to come out and attend the next concert. Lastly, Council President Delaney thanked everyone for wearing their Hawaiian shirts to this meeting. Mayor Stanzilis added that the annual Hawaiian shirt tradition, which was usually at the August Council Meeting, was originally started by former Councilman Bob Sorge.

Public Comment –

Joe Rutkoski, 503 Windemere Avenue – Mr. Rutkowski inquired about the status of the new water lines coming to his area on Windemere Avenue. Councilman Cangiano replied the project had been stalled due to the County having paved that section of Windemere Avenue before the Borough could secure I-Bank funding to complete the water main extension project on that end of Windermere Avenue. There was a moratorium by the County where the Borough could not open a newly-paved road for about 3 years. Councilman Cangiano estimated construction would resume after the moratorium ended.

Gail Delaney, 375 Howard Boulevard – As a member of the Recreation Commission, Ms. Delaney wished to thank Mark Rinaldi for all of his hard work and help with the Summer Concert Series event. She also wished to thank the Fire and Police departments for their help. It was a great community event. She encouraged everyone to attend the next one.

Ordinance – Introduction - None

Ordinance – Second Reading - None

Mr. Ko from Nisivoccia & Co. gave an overview of the 2021 Annual Audit. Mr. Ko thanked the Mayor and Council for having them at tonight's meeting. He thanked Ms. Rinaldi and her staff for being so accommodating, flexible and hard working all year long.

The Borough's fund balance was in a very wholesome position, having increased by approximately 9% from the previous year. This was accomplished while maintaining important reserves such as for litigation, pending tax appeals and the new reevaluation of real property. The Borough had five (5) new capital projects in the Capital Projects Fund: Windemere II Water Main Extension; Police Body Cameras; Hover and Floyd Drive Feasibility Study; Replacement Light Tower of Rescue 8; and Logan Way Road Restorations. Overall, the Borough was in a very healthy financial position.

Mayor Stanzilis thanked Mr. Ko and Nisivoccia for their great work; they were a real partner for the Borough. Mr. Ko thanked the Mayor and Council for their continued faith in Nisivoccia.

Resolutions – All Vote by Consent

2022-106 A Resolution of the Mayor and 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 2021

2022-107 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Approving the Check Register Dated August 2, 2022

- 2022-108 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, to Cancel Future Property Taxes Due to 100% Disabled Veteran Exemption Approval Block 39 Lot 12 Qual C028
- 2022-109 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, for Refund of Final Water Utility Payment for Property Known as Block 22 Lot 11.01
- 2022-110 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Replacing Resolution 2022-76 to Redeem a Third-Party Tax Lien Certificate of Sale# 21-00008 for Property Known as Block 84 Lot 1
- 2022-111 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Assignment and Sale of Certificate of Tax Sale #10-00002 Held by the Borough for the Property Located at Block 14, Lot 13.01
- 2022-112 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Authorizing Execution of a Lease Agreement Between the Borough and the Board of Education

Motion to Approve: Council President Delaney

Second: Galate

Council Discussion: None

Roll Call:

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

Motion - None

Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Council President Delaney

Second: Galate


Roll Call:

All in Favor: Aye

Opposed: None

Motion Approved

The meeting adjourned at 7:47PM.



Matthew N. Bansch, Borough Clerk

CC: Website

Minutes Approved at Council Meeting of September 6, 2022