

**BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 17, 2023
7:00 PM**

The Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington was held on Tuesday, January 17, 2023. This meeting was held in-person at the Municipal Building at 419 Howard Boulevard, Mount Arlington, New Jersey.

Mayor Stanzilis called the meeting to order at 7:04PM.

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 on January 10, 2023 and the Roxbury Register on January 12, 2023, and posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Borough Municipal Building on January 4, 2023; 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 honor the Veterans in the room.

Roll Call was taken for attendance:

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

Absent: Councilman Loughridge, Councilman Cangiano

Present from Administration: Administrator/CFO Ms. Rinaldi, Police Sergeant Fortunato, Fire Chief Lima, Borough Attorney Ms. Cofoni, Borough Engineer Mr. Puszcz and the writer.

Presentations:

Colleen Lyons, Lake Hopatcong Commission Administrator Monthly Report:

Ms. Lyons gave the following updates:

- She attended a Safety Meeting with the New Jersey State Police (NJSP) and Local Police on November 21st to review safety on the lake for this upcoming season.
 - Personal Floatation Devices (PFDs) were available through Atlantic Health's Safe Kids program. There was also mention of a BoatUS PFD lending program. She had contacted the NJSP and was awaiting a response.

- House Boat and Noise Ordinances were sent to the mayors and administrators of the four Lake Hopatcong municipalities on January 15, 2023 for Council review and comment.
- NJDEP Commissioner LaTourette held his End of Year Meeting on December 21st. They updated the Commissioner on current and upcoming projects.
- Goose Management – the Lake Hopatcong Commission formed a goose management committee. This year they would be working with the USDA (US Department of Agriculture) on an egg addling program. They hoped to continue the addling program with volunteers each season.
- Trout Study – the Commission continued its 2022 trout project with proposed stocking in March 2023. The Commission asked that any tagged trout be reported through their website. Data collected in 2022 indicated, between late July and mid-August, carry-over habitat shrunk significantly and was non-existent at times due to high temperatures and low dissolved oxygen. However, there still may be refuge areas within the lake where trout would hold over until conditions improved. Data from reported tagged trout would indicate whether trout survived the stressful summer conditions.
- Grants
 - HAB Grant
 - The grant period had closed and the Commission would be transferring ownership for the aeration units installed at three beaches around the lake. Winterization of the aeration units were completed in December. Princeton Hydro met with representatives of Mount Arlington and showed them how to winterize and start the systems in the spring. Transfer of ownership would be March 1, 2023 and the Commission would be forwarding a memorandum of understanding (MOU) and an operation manual to each beach. Ms. Lyons stated she was reviewing the draft MOU and would forward this month for the Borough's review.
 - Lake Funding
 - \$1 million was awarded to the LHC in December and they were waiting to hear when contracts would be issued. The three projects were nutrient inactivation treatment to reduce nutrients available for algae and cyanobacteria; biochar installation in catch basins (continued HAB Grant work); and removal of sediment from catch basin outfalls during the five-year drawdown.
 - 319 Grant
 - An internal load study was completed last year, but three small scale watershed projects would be implemented in the spring. This included plantings along the banks of Memorial Pond.

Melissa Eckert, Board of Education Liaison Monthly Report

Ms. Eckert reported the Mount Arlington Schools held two very successful charitable donations in December: Kindness for Christopher Pajama Drive and Sharing Snowman Tags. The winter concert on December 20th was a big success. The concert featured the Concert Band, Percussion Ensemble, the 8th Grade Chamber Singers and the Concert Choir. Congratulations to three 7th graders who took 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in the annual Patriot's Pen Essay competition, sponsored by the Kenvil VFW. Riley Matthews was the first-place winner whose essay was forwarded to be judged on the District, State, and National levels. At yesterday's Staff Professional Development, the focus for the staff was on their new math program, Reveal Math, which was the same program Roxbury Township also adopted this year. This way, students from both Mount Arlington and

Roxbury schools would enter Roxbury High School with the same knowledge base. Love of Reading week was coming up at MAPS from February 27th through March 3rd. If the Mayor or any Council members were interested in coming in to the school to be a guest reader, she asked anyone interested to contact the school principal, Mr. Grillo. The 6th grade science students were learning about the reproduction of plants and animals. Students got to dissect a lily and identify all the parts of a flower. Then, students were asked to use every day materials to design a model of a perfect flower and pollinator relationship. Congratulations to Mrs. Miranda on being nominated Mount Arlington Public Schools Teacher of the Year.

Appointments:

Fire Department Officers: 1-year term, expiring 12/31/23:

- Fire Chief – Nick Lima
- Assistant Fire Chief – Mike D’Arco
- Captain – Mario Marcano
- 1st Lieutenant – Wes Martin
- 2nd Lieutenant – Eric Fowler

Mayor Stanzilis administered the Oath of Allegiance individually to the five new Fire Department Officers.

Mayor Stanzilis thanked the Fire Department. As he always said: God forbid your house was on fire, as you’re rushing out, they are rushing in, and they are all volunteers.

Board of Health – Bob Cantangallo, Member, 3-year unexpired term expiring 12/31/23

Mayor Stanzilis administered the Oath of Allegiance to Board of Health Member Bob Cantangallo.

Tax and Utility Report for the Month of December

December Total Tax Collections: \$ 283,044.00

December Total Utility Collections: \$ 132,749.10

Finance Report for the Month of December

December Receipts: \$ 1,126,516.15

December Disbursements: \$ 1,959,563.96

Approval of Minutes - None

Mayor’s Report

Mayor Stanzilis reported he attended the County Reorganization Meeting and saw the County Commissioners get sworn in.

Borough Administrator’s Report

Ms. Rinaldi reported the Borough was off to a great start in 2023. There were lots of preliminary budget planning going on. There was a grant application on tonight’s agenda for recreational improvements to Fireman’s Field including the existing playground, potentially adding some exercise stations and lighting on the walking path. She had a great meeting with the Mayor,

Councilwoman Galate and Fire Department earlier this evening. The Borough would be applying for more grants and they could expect to see some resolutions to execute grant applications in the next month or so.

Police Chief's Report

Sergeant Fortunato reported in Chief LaBruno's absence. He thanked the Fire Department and looked forward to continuing their great relationship in 2023. The Police Department finished the year strong with trainings including Annual Rifle Training, Trauma for Law Enforcement, Fingerprint and DNA and Investigative Report Writing. He thanked the Mayor, Council and Ms. Rinaldi for using the new PoliceApp for new police hires. PoliceApp was an all-digital, user-friendly, online application process and was free to the Borough. Chief LaBruno's retirement walk-out ceremony would be Friday, February 24th at Police Headquarters at 3:30pm. Last week was Police Week and Borough Police Officers were invited to the Mount Arlington School for breakfast. Students made them lots of nice pictures which were hung all over Police Headquarters.

Fire Chief's Report

Chief Lima thanked the Police Department for their great relationship with the Fire Department. In 2022 the Fire Department responded to 171 calls totaling 859.59 man hours. The Santa Tour was great and everyone had a blast. Yesterday, the Fire Department held its yearly Right to Know and Bloodborne trainings. There were two Junior Firefighters who would be attending Fire School in July for five weeks. The Fire Department was in the process of getting a new app from the County, called Rover, that would replace Active911. Rover was paid for by the County.

Council Committee Reports

Councilwoman Fostle

Councilwoman Fostle didn't have anything new to report since the Council met so recently.

Councilwoman Galate

Councilwoman Galate announced, if anyone had family or friends who were suffering with memory loss, that on Monday, January 23rd, Notre Dame of Mount Carmel Church in Cedar Knolls was hosting a social support group, which originated in England, for people who were handling loved ones dealing with memory loss.

Council President Delaney

Council President Delaney also didn't have anything new to report since the Council met so recently. Committee Reorganization meetings were underway and things would get busy soon.

Public Comment –

Clinton Hill, 352 Howard Boulevard – Mr. Hill asked about the status of the street lighting that was down by the Mount Arlington Library. He also asked about the street sign at the corner of Howard Boulevard and Chestnut Avenue which was missing. Lastly, he wanted to follow up regarding the removal of a dead ash tree located behind his house on Borough property. He stated he asked the DPW about two years ago to take the tree down. He gave Ms. Rinaldi some pictures of the dead ash tree.

Ms. Rinaldi replied she would look into these three items.

Ordinance – Introduction - None

Ordinance – Second Reading- None

Resolutions – All Vote by Consent

- 2023-33 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Approving Transfer of Funds
- 2023-34 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 January 17, 2023
- 2023-35 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, for Refund of Tax Sale Payment Made on Property Known as Block 57 Lot 7
- 2023-36 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Approving Participation Within the County of Morris Office of Planning & Preservation, 2022 Trails Construction Grant Program, for the McGregor Trails Project
- 2023-37 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Authoring Application and Participation Within the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Grant for Recreational Improvements to Fireman’s Field
- 2023-38 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Authorizing Receipt of Bids for the Mount Arlington High Pressure Booster Station
- 2023-39 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Appointing John Horan, Esq. as Alternate Municipal Prosecutor
- 2023-40 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Hiring Joan Egan as Temporary Part–Time Deputy Court Administrator
- 2023-41 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Execution of a Separation Agreement with Christopher Coupe
- 2023-42 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Appointing the Local Emergency Planning Council & OEM Coordinators
- 2023-43 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Appointing Lauren Schaeffner as Assistant Administrator

2023-44 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Appointing Ashley Todd as Recreation Clerk

Motion to Approve: Councilwoman Galate

Second: Councilwoman Fostle

Council Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Aye: Galate, Fostle, Council President Delaney

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

2023-45 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Appointing a Successor Council Member to Fill a Vacancy

Mayor Stanzilis read into the record three nominees submitted by the Morris County Mount Arlington Republican Committee: Dave BaRoss, Rockie Fuller and Gary Giacobbe.

Motion: Council President Delaney stated: "I make a motion to nominate Dave BaRoss to serve as a Successor Council Member."

Second: Councilwoman Galate

Council Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Aye: Galate, Fostle, Council President Delaney

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Approved

Mr. BaRoss was not present for the meeting. Mayor Stanzilis stated Mr. BaRoss would be sworn in at the next Borough Council Meeting.

Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Council President Delaney

Second: Galate

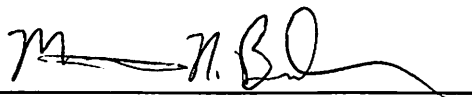
Roll Call:

All in Favor: Aye

Opposed: None

Motion Approved

The meeting adjourned at 7:38PM.



Matthew N. Bansch, Borough Clerk

CC: Website

Minutes Approved at the Regular Council Meeting of February 7, 2023