

**BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON**  
**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**OCTOBER 3, 2023**  
**7:00 PM**

The Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington was held on Tuesday, October 3, 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 7:01PM.

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 10, 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.”

Mr. Christopher Merring Jr. led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Stanzilis then asked everyone to remain standing to observe a moment of silence for all United States servicemen and servicewomen around the world who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Roll Call was taken for attendance:

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

**Absent:** Councilman Loughridge

**Present from Administration:** Administrator/CFO Ms. Rinaldi, Fire Chief Lima, Borough Attorney Mr. Kevin McManimon and Borough Clerk Mr. Bansch

**Presentations**

**Melissa Eckert, Board of Education Liaison Monthly Report:**

Ms. Eckert reported the following:

- The Board of Education will be scheduling 2-3 dates for Strategic Planning. This is a 5-year plan where community members and stakeholders can meet and discuss where they see the schools in 5 years. It will be broken into 2-3 meetings.
- Start of School
  - Fall sports are off to a good start. The Cross Country Club has had two scrimmages.
  - The Decker Book Fair raised \$3,600. The PTO will reach out to administration to see what there is a need for.

- MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) Growth Testing is this week in Grades 3-8. It is a diagnostic test that gives an individualized indication where students are academically in ILA and Math.
- Upcoming Events
  - Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup> the Rotary Club of Lake Hopatcong will be hosting a 5K Run/Walk. 8th grade students will be helping and Cross Country Club members are running.
  - Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> is the Yard Sale at the Civic Center from 9am-3pm. Proceeds will benefit the 8th grade class.
  - October 27<sup>th</sup> is the Fall Dance from 6pm-7:30pm for Pre-K-5.

**Appointments - Add-On:**

2023-153 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Appointing Christopher Merring Jr. as Volunteer Fire Fighter

*Motion to Appoint:* Cangiano  
*Second:* Council President Delaney  
*Council Discussion:* None

*Roll Call:*  
 Aye: Galate, Cangiano, Fostle, BaRoss, Council President Delaney  
 Opposed: None  
 Abstain: None  
 Motion Approved

Mayor Stanzilis administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Merring. He stated Mr. Merring grew up in Mount Arlington and was an Eagle Scout. He thanked Mr. Merring for his service as a United States Marine.

**Approval of Minutes**  
**September 5, 2023 - Regular Council Meeting**

*Motion to Approve:* Council President Delaney  
*Second:* BaRoss  
*Council Discussion:* None

*Roll Call:*  
 Aye: Fostle, BaRoss, Council President Delaney  
 Opposed: None  
 Abstain: Galate, Cangiano  
 Motion Approved

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Stanzilis attended the Morris County League of Municipalities event last week at the Lake Hopatcong Yacht Club with keynote speaker Morris County Sherrif James Gannon. Mayor Stanzilis is currently President of the League. He attended an event called Table of Hope at County College of Morris where they gave out 1,300 backpacks to students in need before the start of the school year.

On December 1<sup>st</sup> he will be spending the night outside with Homeless Solutions for their annual A Night in the Cold fundraising event to help raise awareness and funds for our homeless neighbors in need. He attended a meeting with Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill and was happy to report Jefferson Township was getting \$91 million from the Federal Government to install public sewers around Lake Hopatcong. Tomorrow he would again be attending the Roxbury Land Use Board meeting. Mayor Stanzilis was attending the Roxbury Land Use Board meetings and speaking up, as a resident, and on behalf of the residents of Mount Arlington. Currently, he was adamantly opposed to the development of these warehouses as he believed Howard Boulevard was not safe for increased commercial traffic. However, if Hartz Mountain Industries were to widen and install a median on Howard Boulevard, in addition to ensuring trucks could not access the Quick Check in Mount Arlington before turning onto Route 80, then perhaps it could be feasible. Until that point, though, he would continue to voice his opposition at Roxbury Land Use Board meetings, and he encouraged his fellow Mount Arlington residents to attend as well. Lastly, Kristin Eannetta resigned from the Board of Recreation Commission. He thanked her for all her hard work.

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

Ms. Rinaldi attended a meeting yesterday with the County Administrator and other Business Administrators from Morris County Municipalities. It was a great meeting and opportunity to share information and support one another. Last week was the quarterly meeting with the four Lake Hopatcong municipalities and representatives from the DEP. Several topics were discussed including generic ordinances to address noise on the lake, house boats and dock maintenance. The McGregor Avenue Road Improvements and Watermain Extension project was on schedule to break ground in the next week or two. She met with the Borough Engineer and Mr. Quillinan regarding draft plans for the water and sewer improvements on Hover Drive and Floyd Drive. Before year-end there will be a contract renewal for a shared service agreement between Mount Arlington, Wharton, Netcong, Byram and Stanhope with Hopatcong for Animal Control Services. The iWork system has been expanded to include a roadway management program. It will be another tool to provide an assessment of the roads and help the Borough with its capital forecasting. The Rotary Club of Lake Hopatcong would be hosting a 5k Run/Walk on October 7, 2023 and the Lake Hopatcong Elks would be hosting a 5k Run/Walk on October 21, 2023. Shred Day is October 14<sup>th</sup>. The Halloween Bash is October 21<sup>st</sup>.

### **Police Chief's Report**

*Councilwoman Galate*

As the Public Safety Committee Chair, Councilwoman Galate gave the Police report:

- September Training:
  - Motor vehicle Crash Report training - provided officers the most recent updates to the newest crash reporting form.
  - Arrest Search and Seizure update course - provided new information on recent case laws and updated policies from the Attorney General.
  - Sovereign Citizen training - specialty training on how to identify and handle sovereign citizens.
  - Internal Affairs training – Sergeant Sherburne and Sergeant Farina are now internal affairs officers for the department.
  - Tactical Firearms training - the department attended an outdoor range in Warren County. Officers did tactical drills with rifles and handguns.

- Police Licensing Training for 2024 mandate - on January 1, 2024 all police officers in the state of New Jersey will have to get licensed in order to remain police officers. In the initial phase, all current officers will receive a license, if eligible, for 3 years. The training highlighted the administrative side of handling mandatory training, license renewals, denials and procedures for new hires (which will require more extensive background checks for new and current employees).
- Defensive Tactics training – Sergeant Farina has been the Defensive Tactics instructor at the Morris County Police Academy for the past 6 years. This past month, he led training to teach other towns’ instructors for licensing purposes, proper training and policy to be used by law enforcement.
- Physical Fitness Instructor certificate – Patrolman Kaiteris volunteered to become the PT instructor for the department and will be instrumental in Police Licensing for new hires going forward.
- Basic Marine Law Enforcement certificate for Sergeant McCoach and Patrolman Pizzuta - the New Jersey State Police put together a course for all the municipalities on Lake Hopatcong to get officers certified to enforce Marine laws on the lake. The Morris County Sheriff’s Department also asked for assistance going forward in possibly supplementing their certified officers on the lake through the summer months to assist in calls for service, issue local ordinance violations and patrol the lake with their officers.

**Fire Chief’s Report**

Chief Lima reported, for the month of September, there were 17 calls totaling 62.01 man-hours. Year-to-date there were 122 calls totaling 543.32 man-hours. Chief Lima claimed Saint Clare’s has had some slower response times than normal recently. He did not specify any incidents. The 2003 truck was red-tagged and when asked to explain what that means Chief Lima said it is inoperable. Lastly, the Fire Department would be at the Halloween Bash and 5k events.

Ms. Rinaldi replied she would follow up with Chief Lima regarding Saint Clare’s and the ladder truck.

**Council Committee Reports**

*Councilman BaRoss*

Councilman BaRoss had nothing new to report.

*Councilwoman Fostle*

Councilwoman Fostle encouraged her fellow Mount Arlington residents to attend the Roxbury Land Use Board meetings regarding the proposed construction of massive warehouses on the former Hercules property. As a Land Use Board member in Mount Arlington, she knows firsthand, that when residents attend Land Use Board meetings, the Board takes notice.

*Councilman Cangiano*

Councilman Cangiano reported he met with Ms. Rinaldi to discuss Water and Sewer related projects. He was very pleased with the progress Ms. Rinaldi and the County had made on the WMP amendment (Wastewater Management Plan Chapter). This is another step towards including Lake Rogerene in the Borough’s sewer service area. Also great news about the amended water allocation

agreement now signed with MCMUA. With the additional allocation finalized, several projects can move forward. Ms. Rinaldi advised Councilman Cangiano she had met with the Borough Engineer and our Water Operator to review a draft plan for water and sewer installation on Hover and Floyd Drive.

Councilwoman Galate had nothing else to report beyond what was in her Police Report.

*Council President Delaney*

Council President Delaney reported the increased police presence on Lake Hopatcong was great to see.

**Public Comment** – None

**Ordinance – Introduction** – None

**Ordinance – Second Reading** – None

**Resolutions – All Vote by Consent**

- 2023-143 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 October 3, 2023
- 2023-144 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Solicitation of Qualifications for Professional Services Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4, 20.5 Et Seq. Pursuant to a “Fair and Open” Process
- 2023-145 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Receipt of Bids for Water and Sewer Systems Emergency Repair Services
- 2023-146 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Hiring Part-Time Seasonal Help for DPW
- 2023-147 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, to Redeem a Third Party Tax Lien Certificate of Sale# 21-00010 for Property Known as Block 113 Lot 26
- 2023-148 A Resolution of the Mayor and 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 Construction of Rain Gardens
- 2023-149 A Resolution of the Mayor and 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 Recreation Equipment
- 2023-150 A Resolution of the Mayor and 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 Reba Road and Eric Lane Repaving

2023-151 A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Authorizing a Settlement Agreement Between the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the Borough of Mount Arlington

2023-152 A Resolution of the Mayor and 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 McGregor Avenue Trails Design

*Motion to Approve:* Cangiano

*Second:* Fostle

*Council Discussion:* None

*Roll Call:*

*Aye:* Galate, Cangiano, Fostle, BaRoss, Council President Delaney

*Opposed:* None

*Abstain:* None

*Motion Approved*

**Motion** – None

**Adjourn**

*Motion to Adjourn:* Council President Delaney

*Second:* Cangiano

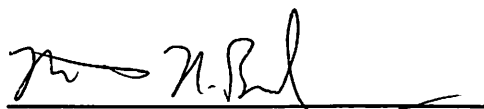
*Roll Call:*

*All in Favor:* Aye

*Opposed:* None

*Motion Approved*

The meeting adjourned at 7:36PM.



Matthew N. Bansch, Borough Clerk

CC: Website

Minutes Approved at Council Meeting of November 8, 2023