

**REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES 2020**

**INTRODUCTION OF MAYOR & COUNCIL**

Council Member Joseph Vartolone introduced by Councilman DiPiazza  
Council Member Jeanne Weber introduced by Councilman DiPiazza

**Presentation of Colors:**

Paramus Colors presented by Police Honor Guard at 12:08 P.M.

**Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Borough Administrator and Veteran Joseph D'Arco**

**OATH OF OFFICE**

- a. Administration of Oath of Office to Council Member Joseph Vartolone by Assemblyman Jack Ciattarelli
- b. Administration of Oath of Office to Council Member Jeanne Weber by Assemblyman Jack Ciattarelli

**Mayor LaBarbiera dismisses the colors at 12:12 P.M.**

**Invocation:** Led by Rabbi Weiner at 12:14 P.M.

**Certification of Election:** Annemarie Krusznis, Borough Clerk at 12:16 P.M.

**Officials and Dignitaries to be recognized:** Assemblyman Jack Ciattarelli, County Executive Jim Tedesco, Former Councilwoman Maureen O'Brien, Former Councilman and Paramus Judge Richard Conte, South Hackensack Councilman Mayor James Anzevino, Former Councilman Rich Lambert, Former Councilwoman Kathy Bentz

**Mayor LaBarbiera invites dignitaries up to speak at 12:18 P.M.**

County Executive Jim Tedesco congratulates the newly elected Council members, Councilwoman Weber and Councilman Vartolone. Mr. Tedesco says that the Council will continue to do the best for the community and thanks the Mayor for his leadership over the past nine years. He continues that Paramus is the focal point of Bergen County and that he is proud to call Paramus his home. He continues that a lot is happening right now in this country and world with hatred, violence and anti-Semitism. Bergen County is going to continue to lead in fighting hatred and anti-Semitism and will be calling on people to come together. He asks the Mayor and Council to follow him to fight hate and anti-Semitism. Mr. Tedesco continues that he will be announcing leaders throughout Bergen County to work together to come up with a plan to fight and bring us all together. He gives the new Council members certificates from the County and the Board of Chosen Freeholders and congratulates them again. The Mayor advises we fully support Mr. Tedesco's initiative.

Salvatore Moretti- Gives some historical background about himself and a letter that he put together for the Mayor. Mr. Moretti continues to present his letter to the Mayor.

**Mayor LaBarbiera asks if any other dignitaries would like to speak.**

**MESSAGES:**

- A. Councilwoman Jeanne Weber- Congratulates Councilman Vartolone on winning the election and states how he will be a great asset to the governing body. Councilwoman Weber continues to thank her campaign managers, Brian Giblin and Maureen O'Brien and all her supporters that supported her for her reelection. Councilwoman Weber thanks Assemblyman Jack Ciattarelli for being here today to administer her oath of office. She is humbled and thankful for the support she has received and is happy to be able to serve Paramus again. Councilwoman Weber continues, that everyone that serves on the Boards and

Committees help make Paramus the best place to live in Bergen County, along with our stellar Police Department. She looks forward to continue to be the voice of the residents. Councilwoman Weber speaks of our Affordable housing program. She looks forward to working with the Mayor and Council again for the good of our residents and assures everyone she will always vote by conscience and in the best interest of Paramus. Councilwoman Weber wishes everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous new year. Mayor LaBarberia wishes Councilwoman Webers son Ronnie safe travels back home.

- B. Councilman Joseph Vartolone- Mr. Vartolone is extremely excited and says it's been a long journey and thanks everyone for being here. Councilman Vartolone thanks his family for their support. He continues to thank Councilman DiPiazza for encouraging him to come forth. He thanks Brian Giblin for being his campaign manager and continues to thank Nick Iometti and Maureen O'Brien for their support, along with Councilwoman Weber for being such a strong partner in their campaign. Councilman Vartolone thanks Assemblyman Jack Ciattarelli for being here today and for swearing him in. He continues to thank friends and the community for their support and encouragement in his campaign. Councilman Vartolone continues, he believes he had a strong foundational presence in the town going into this. He tried to meet as many residents as he could to convey his experience and how he would complement the duties in the current leadership team of the Mayor and the Council. He also got to hear and get a better understanding of the current priorities and challenges of the residents. He thanks the Mayor and Council for their support and believes and hopes he will balance the decision making for the Council. Councilman Vartolone commits to being accessible and responsive to our residents and employees of the Borough. He continues that he is committed to acting in the interests of the people and the Borough first and is anxious to begin his term.

**State of the Borough Message: Mayor LaBarbiera-** Thanks everyone for coming and thanks the Color Guard and Borough Clerk's office for putting everything together. He continues to thank the dignitaries that have come out today. Mayor LaBarbiera pays tribute to Veteran's Affairs officer Sam Casiello who passed away in 2019. He continues to congratulate Councilwoman Weber and Councilman Vartolone and extends his best wishes for success. Mayor LaBarbiera continues to look back on 2019. He thanks the employees in the Borough and the governing body. He continues that he trusts and hopes 2020 will be a productive year and we work together to provide what is in the best interest of the Borough and its residents. Mayor LaBarbiera looks ahead for goals for 2020, including finishing up the renovation of the Senior Center, the new hospital and will push to finalize and start improvements to our roadways and utilities. He will be asking the Council to approve traffic signal upgrades and we will work together with the County for grants and funding. We will have to make the necessary investments to our roadways. He continues that in 2020 we will see our first bike lane on Midland Avenue. We have had a long range plan and after making many needed improvements to the library, Senior Center, fields and Borough equipment, it is now time to explore our wants. Something the Borough has always wanted is a Recreation facility. Mayor LaBarbiera is asking the Council to support an expletory committee and its members, for a recreation and cultural center, the cost he is hoping to have funded and sponsored as much as possible by businesses from the Borough. He continues he will be adding an advisory board for our turf division and a Mayor's committee to plan the Boroughs centennial. Mayor Labarbiera says he will be pushing this year for 5g network, to provide our emergency services with the best communication and that we are very close and he hopeful to have an approved settlement with Fair Share Housing. Mayor LaBarbiera continues that we have an ambitious agenda for 2020 and is confident that together we can get it done. As we say goodbye to not only 2019 but also single use plastic bags and Styrofoam in Paramus. Mayor LaBarbiera wishes everyone a happy and healthy new year.

**Installation of Fire Officials: Sworn in by Mayor LaBarbiera at 12:47 P.M.**

Department Chief – Guy Picone  
Assistant Chief – Michael Cleenput  
Deputy Chief – Luigi (Gino) DeGennaro

**Mayor LaBarbiera offers his condolences to the Cleenput family on the passing of Louise Suppo**

Installation of Rescue Chief: Sworn in by Mayor LaBarbiera at 12:49 PM  
Chief – John Pecoraro

Call to Order

Roll Call for 2020:

Present: Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos, Councilman Vartolone, Councilman Verile, Councilwoman Weber, Mayor LaBarbiera

Also Present: Borough Clerk Annemarie Krusznis, Borough Administrator Joseph D'Arco, Associate Borough Attorney Justin Santagata

Absent: Borough Attorney Paul Kaufman, Deputy Borough Clerk Nicolette Riggi

**NOTIFICATION OF MEETING:** This is the Reorganization Meeting of the Mayor and Council and notice thereof has been given by the following: Read by Mayor LaBarbiera at 12:51 P.M.

- a. In a notice filed with The Bergen Record on November 13, 2019.
- b. Posting of copy on Bulletin Board.
- c. Reserving copy of same in Borough Clerk's office.

**ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT- Mayor LaBarbiera asks for a motion to appoint Councilwoman Bellinger as Council President**

Motion: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos

Second: Councilman Verile

Yeas: Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos, Councilman Vartolone, Councilman Verile, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Absent: None

**Motion carries 6-0**

Mayor LaBarbiera asks to move on the appointments to the Boards and then vote as a block.

**MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS TO OFFICIAL BOARDS WITH AND WITHOUT THE ADVICE & CONSENT OF THE COUNCIL:**

**BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT:**

James McKenna	Four (4) Year Term
Anthony Ricchiuti	Four (4) Year Term
Matthew Ivanicki	Two (2) Year Term

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION:**

Anthony Landa	Three (3) Year Term
Melissa Marte	Three (3) Year Term
Mark Cristaldi	Three (3) Year Term

**ETHICS BOARD:**

Mark Cristaldi	Five (5) Year Term (D)
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**GOLF COURSE COMMISSION:**

Stuart Clark Three (3) Year Term  
Timothy White Two (2) Year Term

**HEALTH:**

Dr. Eric Nazziola Three (3) Year Term  
Neil Javed Three (3) Year Term

**HISTORIC COMMISSION:**

Karen Delamater Four (4) Year Term

**LIBRARY BOARD:**

Madeline Caminiti Five (5) Year Term  
Darlene Dorgan- Mayor's Alternate One (1) Year Term  
Cynthia Hulse- Alternate for Superintendent One (1) Year Term

**PLANNING BOARD:**

Aleksander Les- Mayor's Designee One (1) Year Term  
Ken Hook- Municipal Official One (1) Year Term  
Peter Caminiti Four (4) Year Term  
Richard Conte Sr. Four (4) Year Term  
Mike Blitzstein Four (4) Year Term  
Nick Matahen Two (2) Year Term

**POOL COMMISSION:**

Katie Barkel Unexp. Term Exp 2021  
Todd DeMatteo Three (3) Year Term

**RECREATION COMMISSION:**

Vince Feorenzo Five (5) Year Term  
Dennis Arslanian Five (5) Year Term  
Josie Giugliano Five (5) Year Term

**SHADE TREE:**

Dennis Preis Five (5) Year Term  
Dominick Minervini Five (5) Year Term

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

Michael Blitzstein- Trustee One (1) Year Term  
Joseph Garcia- Trustee Two (2) Year Term

Motion: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos

Second: Councilwoman Bellingher

Yeas: Councilwoman Bellingher, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos, Councilman Vartolone, Councilman Verile, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Absent: None

**Motion carries 6-0**

Other Appointments

**School Crossing Guards:**

Luis Andaluz	Gabriel Barchetto	Lorry Bauer
Catherine Bentz	Joanne Blundo	Lisa Brodarzon
Rosa Caravella	Han Choo	James Creighton
George DiNapoli	Royal Ehrenberg	Romano Gonnella
Nicholas Iula	Robert Kaszubski	Seinwoon Lay
Michael Maher	David Manzo	Carrie Mendell
Frank Miller	Patrick Mormino	Mel Mullins
Ronald Natale	Annie O'Connor	Michael Secreti
Linda Skene	Robert Sottman	Richard Swanson
Pedro Velarde	Wayne Wray	Jose Zambrana

**Special Police Officers:**

Austin Berninger	Nicholas Bucci	Camille Calupad	Michael DiPalma
Gaetano Fernandes	Jason Gailles	Christopher Gentile	Jason Hall
Raymond Hortian	Thomas Latrella	Matthew Lewis	Dawn Manna
Justine Matulewicz	Richard Miller	Paige Montillo	Nina Noy
Al Raimondi	Deborah Ryen	Restituto Ruiz	Jamie Takahashi
David Wolfson	Zachary Yabroudy	Daniel Zak	Louis Albanese
Benito Asuncion	Matthew Bonanno	Milagros D'Ambrogio	Justin Cochran
Kenneth Frohnapfel	Sean Griffin	Nicolette Kupersmith	

**2020 Emergency Management Staff**

Joseph D'Arco	Borough Administrator
Ken Ehrenberg	Chief of Police
Robert Guidetti	Deputy Chief of Police
Steve Mehl	Deputy Coordinator
Harold "Skip" Cherven	Deputy Coordinator
William Stallone	Deputy Coordinator
Eric Picone	Deputy Coordinator
James Tedesco	County Liaison
Stuart Blank	Assistant Coordinator
William Rice	Assistant Coordinator
Brian Niland	Assistant Coordinator
Gary Mullay	Assistant Coordinator

**2020 Emergency Management Staff**

Dan Conway	Assistant Coordinator
Ken Hook	Assistant Coordinator
Robert Scheper	Assistant Coordinator
John Smith	Assistant Coordinator
Richard Clark	Assistant Coordinator
Matt Parrello	Assistant Coordinator
Tom Metzler	Assistant Coordinator

Rev. Donald Hummel	Support Chaplain
Shawn Herrick	Support IT
Larry Leib	Support Resource
Frank Lynch	Support PIO
Thomas Damato	Support PIO
Eric Boettcher	Support CERT

Motion: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos

Second: Councilwoman Bellinger

Yeas: Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos, Councilman Vartolone, Councilman Verile, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Absent: None

**Motion carries 6-0**

**APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES:**

**POLICE:** Court, OEM, Rescue, EMS

Chairperson: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos

Member: Councilwoman Weber

Member: Councilwoman Bellinger

**FIRE:** Fire Prevention, Fire Department

Chairperson: Councilman Verile

Member: Councilman Vartolone

Member: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos

**RESCUE SQUAD:**

Chairperson: Councilman Verile

Member: Councilwoman Weber

**BUILDING:** Engineering, Electrical Inspection, Plumbing Inspection, Zoning Inspection

Chairperson: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos

Member: Councilman Vartolone

**SHADE TREE & PARKS:**

Chairperson: Councilman Vartolone

Member: Councilman DiPiazza

**DPW:** Fleet Maintenance, Buildings & Grounds, Traffic Maintenance, Roads, Sewer, Sanitation, Recycling

Chairperson: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos

Member: Councilwoman Weber

**ADMINISTRATION:** Borough Clerk, Finance, Insurance, IT

Chairperson: Councilman DiPiazza

Member: Councilman Verile

**LABOR NEGOTIATIONS:** PSEA, PEA, Teamsters, PBA, Confidential

Chairperson: Councilwoman Bellinger

Member: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos

**BUDGET COMMITTEE:**

Chairperson: Councilman Verile  
Member: Councilman Vartolone  
Member: Councilwoman Weber

**COUNCIL LIAISONS:**

Board of Health/Human Services: Councilwoman Bellinger  
Library: Councilman DiPiazza  
Recreation: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos  
Senior Citizens/Advisory Committee: Councilwoman Bellinger  
Pool Commission: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos  
Board of Education: Councilman DiPiazza  
Chamber of Commerce: Councilman Verile  
Golf Course: Councilman Verile  
Parade, Block Party & Cultural Arts: Councilman Verile  
Borough Information Systems: Councilman DiPiazza  
T. V. Advisory Committee: Councilman Vartolone  
Fritz Behnke Museum: Councilwoman Weber

Mayor LaBarbiera adds the following Committees and Advisory boards and advises the Clerk's office to create Resolutions approving them

**ADVISORY BOARD FOR THE TURF DIVISION:**

Member: Councilman Vartolone  
Member: Councilman Verile

**RECREATION/CULTURAL ARTS CENTER**

Member: Dominick Minervini

**MAYORS 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE**

Member: Maryann LaBarbiera  
Member: Kevin Behnke  
Member: Jim Tedesco

Motion: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos

Second: Councilwoman Bellinger

Yeas: Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos, Councilman Vartolone, Councilman Verile, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Absent: None

**Motion carries 6-0**

**Appointment of Police and Fire Chaplains:**

**Police Chaplain:**

Father Larry Evans

**Fire Chaplain:**

Father Donald Hummel

Mayor LaBarbiera adds that the appointments were geared towards the strengths of the Council and he hopes we get a lot done. Mayor LaBarbiera continues to read Council Liaisons that he previously missed

Veteran's Affairs: Councilwoman Bellinger  
Environmental Commission: Councilwoman Weber  
Substance Awareness Committee: Councilwoman Weber  
Historical Commission: Councilman DiPiazza

Motion: Councilwoman Bellinger

Second: Councilwoman Weber

Yeas: Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos, Councilman Vartolone, Councilman Verile, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carries 6-0

A CONSENT AGENDA WILL BE ADOPTED FOR ITEM 22:

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION No. 20-01-01: SCHEDULE OF COUNCIL MEETINGS, EXECUTIVE SESSIONS AND WORK SESSION

RESOLUTION NO. 20-01-02: ORDER OF BUSINESS.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-01-03: DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS.

RESOLUTION NO 20-01-04: RESOLUTION DESIGNATING DEPOSITORIES

RESOLUTION NO 20-01-05: AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES ON BOROUGH DRAFTS/CHECKS

RESOLUTION NO 20-01-06: RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING PETTY CASH FUND

RESOLUTION NO 20-01-07:A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTINUATION WITH THE COUNTY OF BERGEN IN THE COOPERATIVE PURCHASING

RESOLUTION NO 20-01-08: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO PROCESS VOUCHERS FOR PAYMENT FOR SERVICES PERFORMED UNDER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

RESOLUTION NO 20-01-09 : RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX ASSESSOR TO FILE TAX ASSESSOR APPEALS FOR THE PURPOSE OF CORRECTING ASSESSMENTS

RESOLUTION NO 20-01-10: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO DISBURSE FUNDS IN CASE OF EMERGENCIES

RESOLUTION NO 20-01-11: AUTHORIZING INTEREST RATE AND GRACE PERIOD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES

RESOLUTION NO 20-01-12: CANCELLING SMALL BALANCES

RESOLUTION NO 20-01-13: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A STANDARD TAX SALE

RESOLUTION NO 20-01-14: DESIGNATION OF TAX SEARCHER



RESOLUTION NO 20-01-15: DESIGNATION OF BOROUGH CLERK - ASSESSMENT SEARCHER

RESOLUTION NO 20-01-16: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MILEAGE ALLOWANCE TO ALL OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS

RESOLUTION NO 20-01-17: TEMPORARY INVESTMENT OF EXCESS FUNDS IN ALL ACCOUNTS

RESOLUTION NO 20-01-18: RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING NEW CHANGE FUND (Tax Collector)

RESOLUTION NO 20-01-19: RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING POOL PETTY CASH FUND

RESOLUTION NO 20-01-20: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT-MUTUAL AID PLAN AND RAPID DEPLOYMENT FORCE

RESOLUTION NO 20-01-21: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX ASSESSOR, SPECIAL TAX ATTORNEY, OR BOROUGH ATTORNEY TO SIGN STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENTS FOR SINGLE AND TWO FAMILY HOMES ONLY

RESOLUTION NO. 20-01-22: RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING 2020 TEMPORARY BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS.

RESOLUTION NO 20-01-23: RESOLUTION APPOINTING A STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR TO SERVE THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS

RESOLUTION NO 20-01-24: APPOINTING A FUND COMMISSONER TO REPRESENT THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS IN THE NJ MUNICIPAL SELF INSURERS' JOINT INSURANCE FUND

RESOLUTION NO. 20-01-25: APPOINTING SAFETY DELEGATES FOR THE JOINT INSURANCE FUND

RESOLUTION NO. 20-01-26: RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE IN THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS FOR THE YEAR 2020

RESOLUTION NO. 20-01-27: DESIGNATION OF PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER

RESOLUTION NO 20-01-28: A RESOLUTION FIXING THE 2020 CLOTHING ALLOWANCE FOR MEMBERS OF THE PARAMUS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND RESCUE SQUAD

RESOLUTION NO 20-01-29: AUTHORIZING GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE UNITED STATES EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION'S "ENFORCEMENT GUIDANCE ON THE CONSIDERATION OF ARREST AND CONVICTION RECORDS IN EMPLOYMENT DECISIONS UNDER TITLE VII OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964"

RESOLUTION NO 20-01-30: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO EXECUTE DEVELOPER'S AGREEMENTS

Motion: Councilwoman Bellinger

Second: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos

Yeas: Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos, Councilman Vartolone, Councilman Verile, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carries 6-0

Mayor LaBarbiera opens to the public for comment at 12:57 P.M.

(inaudible) Prospect St – wishes everyone a Happy New Year and a much successful year. He continues to wish the Mayor and Council good luck. He thanks the Mayor and Council for always being helpful and reachable. He continues to talk about the County Executive Jim Tedesco's beautiful speech and speaks about hatred and how we have to get closer.

**PRESENTATION BY THE LIBRARY BOARD TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL at 1:02 P.M.**

**Benediction:** Led by Father Hummel at 1:09 P.M.

**Imam of Elzahra Islamic Center- Shaykh Moutaz Charaf extends a blessing at 1:10 P.M.**

**Mayor LaBarbiera thanks everyone for coming.**

**ADJOURNMENT: 1:15 P.M.**

Motion: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos

Second: Councilwoman Bellinger

Yeas: Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos, Councilman Vartolone, Councilman Verile, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Absent: None

**Motion carries 6-0**

APPROVED: JANUARY 21, 2020

Respectfully Submitted,

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ANNEMARIE KRUSZNIS, RMC  
BOROUGH CLERK