

**Borough of Paramus  
Mayor and Council Public Meeting  
Work Session held in Caucus Room  
February 18, 2020, 7:00 P.M.  
MINUTES**

(Subject to change pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-8(d) – this agenda is tentative to the extent known at time of posting)

**Work Session**

**Resolution No: 20-02-144:** Notification of meetings as required by “The Open Public Meetings Act.” Read by the Borough Clerk at 7:03 PM

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** led by Elaine Casiello

**ROLL CALL:**

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

Also Present: Borough Administrator Joseph D’Arco, Borough Clerk Annemarie Krusznis, Borough Attorney Daniel Lagana, Deputy Borough Clerk Nicolette Riggi, Associate Borough Attorney Katie Mocco

Absent: None

**BOROUGH CLERK’S REPORT:**

- a. Millennium Strategies – January 2020 Grant Report and Notice of 2019 grant awards. \$180,000 Acquisition of 286 Paramus Road and \$127,000 for Petruska Park Improvements.
- b. Request received from Glass Gardens, Inc. for exemption from Ordinance 19-16-A. The recommendation from the Environmental Commission is to deny the request. **Members from the Environmental Commission are present to discuss the recommendation. Council is in agreement with the Environmental Commission. Request is denied.**

Environmental Chair Tony Landa advises the Council that the state plastic bag ban did not get passed.

Borough Attorney Daniel Lagana advises the Council why the request letter from Glass Gardens does not meet the exemption requirements as written in the ordinance.

Environmental Commission member mentions LED lighting programs and Bergen County water contaminants.

- c. Request received from Mega Bite Events to hold a Craft Beer Festival inside the Garden State Plaza on Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 from 12 PM to 5 PM. **Approved.**
- d. Request received from Mega Bite Events to hold a Food Truck Festival at the Garden State Plaza on Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 from 11 AM to 7 PM. **Approved.**
- e. Request received from Just Jersey Fest to hold a Food Truck Festival at the Paramus Park Mall on Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 from 11 AM to 7 PM. **Approved.**
- f. Request received from McCloskey Mechanical Contractors to do a helicopter lift at the Garden State Plaza on Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 at 9:00 AM to bring in new air conditioning unit with a backup date of Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020. **Approved.**

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**CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. Letter received from the Township of Fredon for consideration to return school board election to April.

David (inaudible) - Waldwick – starting a YouTube channel for journalism and is here to observe. Brings up a Styrofoam recycling machine and inquires whether the Borough has looked into this.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORTS:**

Councilwoman Bellinger The Health Department announces the Mayor's Wellness Campaign. There is still a limited supply of flu shot left. The annual weight loss challenge will begin March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Valley Hospital is sponsoring free stroke and COPD screening at the Luckow Pavilion on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos The Police had 5,315 calls for service and 474 motor vehicle summonses. The police hiring process is moving along. There is a brand new ESU truck purchased without using any taxpayer dollars.

Councilman DiPiazza Paramus is a Tree City of the World community. There have been 501 ash trees cut down to date and more are being evaluated. There is Title 1 funding being given to certain schools in town. Mayor LaBarbiera has heard that the high school field may be due for new turf.

Councilman Vartolone Mentions a tree at the Golf Course that needs cutting. Discussed resident awareness regarding the ash trees with Jay Sexton. There is an article that was published a while back that is going to be republished. Discussed implementing special needs programs for soccer and basketball with Megan at Recreation.

Councilman Verile Fourth of July is meeting regarding fundraising for this year's celebration. Golf restaurant bid is out. There were 426 rounds played at the Golf Course.

Councilman DiPiazza inquires about Resolution 20-02-154. Mayor LaBarbiera explains the Affordable Housing Rehabilitation program. Borough Administrator Joseph D'Arco further explains the program and how the applicants are vetted.

**Councilman Verile exits the meeting at 7:51 PM**

Councilwoman Weber The DPW Road Division is continuing the repair of potholes. There will be a shredding event on April 4<sup>th</sup> at the recycling center. The clothing bin has generated over \$1,200 for the Food Pantry. Ridge Ranch School has created a native meditation garden in cooperating with the Board of Education.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor LaBarbiera appoints Ralph Amato to the unexpired term of Fred Hayo on the Golf Commission. The vow renewal event at Stew Leonard's was a success. There was a meeting with Bergen County and the Engineer regarding Midland Avenue and Forest Avenue intersection. Regarding the bike lane on Midland, Pete Ten Kate is putting

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together some options in response to resident concerns. There will be a meeting shortly to explore improvements at the Spring Valley intersection as well as Ridgewood Avenue.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** The Senior Center should be ready for a temporary C.O. There is furniture ordered and lined up. The delivery dates are in sync with the repaving of the parking lot. The electric vehicle charging stations will be coming in shortly. The Part Time Salary Ordinance is being introduced tonight mainly for lifeguard salaries. Step 1 is being eliminated and the maximum is being raised to compete with the American Dream pool. Boswell agreements and pumping station upgrades will be on next meeting. We are waiting on the PSE&G Agreement. Bond ordinance number one should be ready by next meeting. The piece of property owned by the Borough behind La Bella Roma pizzeria would be a good property to sell. They are appraising a minimum bid of \$187,500.00. Mayor LaBarbiera believes we should not set a minimum that low if it is a buildable lot. He believes we should go with the valuation as the minimum. Closed session items: Teamsters contract, Paramus Fabric Center property negotiations, employee discipline, confidential employee salary request

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Citizens are welcome to address the Mayor and Council on any governmental item of concern to them, whether or not it is scheduled on the agenda. Comments will be made at the public portion of tonight's Public Meeting in the Council Chambers. **8:09 PM**

Nicole Bruno 353 Verona Way – will be working on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee this year. Ms. Bruno offers her services to any Borough department or committee that may need her help. Ms. Bruno inquires if there are any plans to improve a Recreation building. Mayor LaBarbiera advises there are plans to pursue a Recreation/cultural building. There is a new committee that is looking into it and will be bringing recommendations. Mayor LaBarbiera agrees with Ms. Bruno that a facility like this is needed, but needs to make sure that there is a return on investment, as with any other improvement in town. Councilman DiPiazza suggests traveling to other municipalities to view examples. Councilwoman Bellinger uses Fair Lawn as an example. Their facility gets plenty of use but was a financial burden to the town.

Mr. D'Arco advises the Council that the committee fundraising for 4<sup>th</sup> of July wants to host a food truck festival. They also would like to charge admission to the fireworks. The Council does not want anyone charged to enter the fireworks.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes- January 21, 2020

Motion: Councilwoman Bellinger    Second: Councilwoman Weber

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

Nays: None

Absent: Councilman Verile

**Motion Carries 5-0**

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b. Mayor and Council Special Meeting Minutes – January 27, 2020

Motion: Councilwoman Bellinger    Second: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos  
Yeas: Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos, Councilman Vartolone,  
Councilwoman Weber  
Nays: None  
Absent: Councilman Verile  
**Motion Carries 5-0**

**ORDINANCES:**

**ORDINANCE ON INTRODUCTION:**

**ORDINANCE 2020-02:** AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR REDEVELOPMENT AREA 4 ON COLOMBUS WAY (BLOCK 204, LOT 1, AND A PORTION OF BLOCK 204, LOT 2.01) IN THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW

Motion: Councilwoman Bellinger    Second: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos  
Yeas: Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos, Councilman Vartolone,  
Councilwoman Weber  
Nays: None  
Absent: Councilman Verile  
**Motion Carries 5-0**

**ORDINANCE 2020-03-:** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 19-35 AND FIX THE SALARY, WAGE AND COMPENSATION OF CERTAIN PART-TIME EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS

Motion: Councilwoman Bellinger    Second: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos  
Yeas: Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos, Councilman Vartolone,  
Councilwoman Weber  
Nays: None  
Absent: Councilman Verile  
**Motion Carries 5-0**

**ORDINANCE 2020-04:** AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR REDEVELOPMENT AREA 3, BLOCK 4808, LOTS 6.Q AND 6.QQ OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 578 PARAMUS ROAD, IN THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW

Motion: Councilwoman Bellinger    Second: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos  
Yeas: Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos, Councilman Vartolone,  
Councilwoman Weber  
Nays: None  
Absent: Councilman Verile  
**Motion Carries 5-0**

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**NON-CONSENT:**

**RESOLUTION NO 20-02-146:** AUTHORIZING A ONE YEAR CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES OF A MAYWOOD PUBLIC DEFENDER NO. 3 FOR THE PARAMUS MUNICIPAL COURT FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2020 – Denise Travers

Motion: Councilwoman Bellinger    Second: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos

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

Nays: None

Absent: Councilman Verile

**Motion Carries 5-0**

**A CONSENT AGENDA WILL BE ADOPTED FOR ITEM NUMBERS 15 AND 16**

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**RESOLUTION NO 20-02-147:** AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS

**RESOLUTION NO 20-02-148:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH CLERK TO SIGN PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2020

**RESOLUTION NO 20-02-149:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COMMERCIAL TAX APPEAL ATTORNEY TO SETTLE 2018 AND 2019 TAX APPEALS CAPTIONED: GMGM Management, LLC v. Borough of Paramus  
Docket Nos.: 004218-2019 & 002205-2019

**RESOLUTION NO 20-02-150:** AUTHORIZING THE PERSON TO PERSON TRANSFER OF LIQUOR LICENSE NO. 0246-33-005-006 LOCATED AT CORPORATE ADDRESS: 350 N. ORLEANS STREET, SUITE 300 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60654.

**RESOLUTION NO 20-02- 151:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 12 IN THE AMOUNT OF (\$4,448.70) FOR THE ADDING OF CURB AT BOCCE COURT OUTSIDE WALLS FOR THE PARAMUS SENIOR CENTER EXPANSION

**RESOLUTION NO 20-02- 152:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REFUND TO THE FOLLOWING TAXPAYERS DUE TO TAX COURT APPEALS (Klaatsch Regina Trust)

**RESOLUTION NO 20-02-153:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REFUND TO THE FOLLOWING TAXPAYERS DUE TO TAX COURT APPEALS (Astros 3, LLC)

**RESOLUTION NO 20-02-154:** RESOLUTION APPROVING TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO THE PARAMUS AFFORDABLE HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM

**RESOLUTION NO 20-02-155:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE 2020 SUSTAINABLE JERSEY GRANT PROGRAM, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,000.00

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**RESOLUTION NO 20-02-156:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT TO THE PARAMUS GOLF COURSE OUTING POLICY

**RESOLUTION NO 20-02-157:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH BERGEN COUNTY FOR OPEN SPACE RECREATION FLOODPLAIN PROTECTION FARMLAND AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST FUND GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$127,000

**RESOLUTION NO 20-02- 158:** A RESOLUTION RESCINDING RESOLUTION 19-12-756 AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE AMENDED SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR A MUNICIPAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR AND SUPPORT SERVICES BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS AND THE BOROUGH OF ORADELL

**RESOLUTION NO 20-02-159:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS AND THE TOWN OF RAMAPO FOR USE OF THE RAMAPO POLICE RANGE FACILITY

**RESOLUTION NO 20-02-160:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH D&L PAVING CONTRACTORS, INC. FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE ROAD RESURFACING PROJECT IN CONNECTION WITH THE PASCACK VALLEY COOPERATIVE PRICING PROGRAM

**RESOLUTION NO 20-02-161:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS AND LA GUARDIA & ASSOCIATES ENTERTAINMENT AND PRODUCTIONS FOR PERFORMANCES AT THE 2020 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

**RESOLUTION NO 20-02-162:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF MELISSA BRANDT TO THE POSITION OF PART TIME RECORD'S CLERK FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT- RECORD'S BUREAU AT A SALARY OF \$18.20 PER HOUR

**RESOLUTION NO 20-02-163:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF ARACELIS CEPEDA TO THE POSITION OF PAGE FOR THE PARAMUS PUBLIC LIBRARY AT A SALARY OF \$11.00 PER HOUR

**RESOLUTION NO 20-02-164:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF DAVID NIZBORSKI TO THE POSITION OF PART TIME BUILDING INSPECTOR STEP 6 FOR THE PARAMUS BUILDING DEPARTMENT AT A SALARY OF \$34.13 PER HOUR

**RESOLUTION NO 20-02-165:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PROMOTION OF LISA SEDITA TO THE POSITION OF ADULT SERVICES LIBRARIAN FULL TIME FOR THE PARAMUS PUBLIC LIBRARY AT A SALARY OF \$68,000.00 ANNUALLY

**APPLICATIONS:**

**MECHANICAL AMUSEMENT DEVICE**

CEC Entertainment

2020-M-085 through 2020-M-178

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**RAFFLE**

St. Athanasios Greek Orthodox Church	File # 787
Community School Parents Association Inc.	File # 788
Community School Parents Association Inc.	File # 789
Paramus Catholic Parent Council	File # 790
Paramus Catholic Parent Council	File # 791
Paramus Sunrise Rotary Foundation	File # 792

**SOLICITOR**

Richard T. Sloezen	2020-SL-6
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**Motion to Approve Consent Agenda**

Motion: Councilwoman Bellinger    Second: Councilwoman Weber

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

Nays: None

Absent: Councilman Verile

**Motion Carries 5-0**

Mayor LaBarbiera opens to the meeting to the public for comment at 8:26 PM – None.

**RESOLUTION No. 20-02-145:** Closing the meeting of the Mayor and Council to the public to discuss:

- a. Teamsters Contract
- b. Fabric Center Property
- c. Employee Discipline
- d. Employee Salary Review
- e. DOJ Advisory Memo

Motion: Councilwoman Bellinger    Second: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos

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

Nays: None

Absent: Councilman Verile

**Motion Carries 5-0**

**ADJOURNMENT: 9:01 PM**

APPROVED: MARCH 3, 2020

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:  
ANNEMARIE KRUSZNIS, RMC  
BOROUGH CLERK