

**Borough of Paramus  
Mayor and Council Public Meeting  
Work Session held in Caucus Room  
February 19, 2019, 7:00 P.M.  
MINUTES**

Work Session

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** 7:06 PM

**RESOLUTION NO: 19-02-155:** Notification of meetings as required by “The Open Public Meetings Act.”

In Accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting of The Borough of Paramus Mayor and Council was transmitted to the Bergen Record on January 7, 2019. Notice was posted on the bulletin board of the municipal building and on the Borough of Paramus website. Read by the Borough Clerk at 7:08 PM

**ROLL CALL:**

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

Also Present: Borough Administrator Joseph D’Arco, Borough Attorney Paul Kaufman, Borough Clerk Annemarie Krusznis, Deputy Borough Clerk Nicolette Riggi, Associate Borough Attorney Justin Santagata

Absent: None

**PRESENTATION:**

**a. Radha Sanjay Shah - Silver award project for Girl Scouts**

Ms. Shah explains the Silver Award Project as a Girl Scout program that identifies problems in the community and makes an effort to resolve them. Her presentation is titled “Tree Root Growth Affecting Sidewalks”. Ms. Shah explains how roots of trees grow under sidewalks and expand, and gives options for solutions. Mayor LaBarbiera and Council commend Ms. Shah on a wonderful presentation.

**b. Paramus Library – Len LoPinto and Library Board of Trustees**

Library Board of Trustees is present to discuss a potential RFP for a children’s room at the main library. Adele Hook explains that an architect is needed for this project as one is required to apply for a certain grant. The Paramus Library re-opened its doors in 2017 after a 10 month renovation. The renovation has been very successful and attendance has skyrocketed. Juvenile programs have remained level, but adult programs have more than doubled. There is not enough space to offer more juvenile programs. Space is very tight, and ideally these programs can have their own area and avoid over-crowding. The Library would love the ability to have more middle school programs and space for them to do their homework and work on group projects. They are desirous of having an architect perform a feasibility study and help apply for the necessary grant. Mayor LaBarbiera asks Mr. LoPinto what would be needed to apply for this grant. Mr. LoPinto explains the study that needs to be done by an architect and an estimate will be needed. Mayor LaBarbiera would like to figure out what we would be able to get with the grant. We will work with our bond counsel and review past grants. Mr. LoPinto advises that he got an estimation of \$8,000 for a feasibility study.

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Sam Casiello – Are these programs specifically for Paramus children only? Mr. LoPinto advises that the majority of their programs are only for Paramus residents.

**BOROUGH CLERK’S REPORT:**

- a. Request received from Goodwill Industries to conduct overnight work starting February 25, 2019 and ending June 28, 2019 Monday through Friday from 9PM to 8AM for remodeling of entire store. **Approved. All activities must be contained indoors.**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORTS:**

Councilwoman Bellinger February 22, 2019 there will be blood pressure screenings at the Health Department. The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Weight Loss challenge will begin in March. Valley Hospital will host its stroke pulmonary screening in April. Councilwoman Bellinger gives Police Department numbers. The six new officers began their solo patrol earlier this month.

Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos Shade Tree – 131 Ash trees have been removed. Crews are continuing mulching. There have been four winter weather events which have required salting and plowing since the start of 2019.

Councilman DiPiazza gives an update along with Mr. Santagata about a demo permit for 527 Paramus Road as it relates to being historically designated. The update is that it has to go through the process. The commission will have to get an expert to expand on why it was designated.

Councilman Amato DPW road division worked 18 hours with the last snow event. Over 300 tons of salt were used. One employee was injured during the salting process but is expected to make a full recovery. The annual tonnage report is being prepared. The recycling center has 24 hour drop off service. Pothole repairs continue and can be reported on the Borough website. Two sewer division employees will be retiring. The Building Department issued 90 new permits. There is a new Planning Board Secretary. There have been 10 resales and 7 business CCO’s. The Golf Course received a check from PSEG for damages to the irrigation pump house from last July. January golfing income was up 110 percent compared to the last five years. Fourteen bids were received for the ice cream concession stands and were all above the bonded amount and need to be re-bid.

Councilman Verile Fire Department responded to mutual aid on January 30<sup>th</sup>. There were three vehicle fires and one extrication. Rescue had 106 man hours and twenty one calls. There will be six concerts for the Cultural Arts summer concerts this year. Last year there were five. Things are going smoothly with Recreation. They have reviewed costs of different programs and matched it up with costs of other municipalities.

Councilwoman Weber The Environmental Commission reports that there are 4 clubs from the high school involved in Earth Day in April. They will be giving away door prizes. Vendors are having trouble with the fee required of them for such a small event.

Justin Santagata discusses a potential plastic bag ordinance and gives examples of how some other municipalities are doing it. Straws and Styrofoam are not covered under the plastic bag ordinances. Councilman Amato inquires if there were any challenges to these ordinances. Councilman DiPiazza suggests rewarding the businesses who choose to use reusable bags rather than forcing everyone to. His concern is placing an undue burden on our businesses. Mayor LaBarbiera expresses that there would

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need to be a very aggressive rollout plan if we adopt an ordinance like this. Mr D'Arco discusses ShopRite and Kohl's recycling their own products and doing more research on these types of programs. Councilwoman Weber will bring this back to the Environmental Commission and see what research they can come up with.

Roy Hegg – inquires if meat and fish will still be allowed to be in plastic bags. Council advises yes.

**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 above. Comments will be made at the public portion of tonight's Public Meeting in the Council Chambers.**8:17 PM**

Roy Hegg – Presents pictures to the Council of Concord and Farview. There is a cutout for a crosswalk but no crosswalk painted on the road. Mr. D'Arco will find out what happened. Mr. Hegg advises the Council that our code reflects that the Mayor & Council should meet 4 times a month. Mr. Kaufman advises that this will be changed that the Council shall meet as determined by the Council annually in accordance with the law.

Mr Kaufman advises we introduce Ordinance 19-05 amending section 6-1 of the Code to reflect that the Mayor & Council shall meet as determined by the Council annually in accordance with the law.

**ORDINANCE ON INTRODUCTION**

**ORDINANCE 19-05:** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND REPLACING SECTION 6-1 OF THE PARAMUS CODE: PUBLIC MEETINGS; WORK SESSIONS

Motion: Councilman Amato

Second: Councilwoman Bellinger

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

Nays: None

**Motion carries 6-0**

**MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION:**

- a. Ethics Opinion – UNLMTD Real Estate Group Proposed Affordable Housing Project

Mr. Kaufman expands on an email that was sent yesterday regarding getting an opinion by a judge to make sure there is no conflict with him working on the above referenced matter. Resolution 19-02-185 will be added to the Consent Agenda.

**BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** Advises that the Golf Concession bid has been rejected. The low bidder left out a crucial part of the bid. Discusses creating 501 C3s to receive donation money.

**MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. Mayor & Council Meeting Minutes- January 23, 2019

Motion: Councilman Amato Second: Councilman Verile  
Yeas: Councilman Amato, Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos, Councilman Verile, Councilwoman Weber  
Nays: None  
**Motion carries 6-0**

- b. Mayor & Council Meeting Minutes- February 5, 2019

Motion: Councilman Amato Second: Councilwoman Weber  
Yeas: Councilman Amato, Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos, Councilman Verile, Councilwoman Weber  
Nays: None  
**Motion carries 6-0**

**NON-CONSENT:**

RESOLUTION NO 19-02-184: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS TO CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES OF ETHICS BOARD ATTORNEY FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2019 (Weiner Law)

Motion: Councilman Amato Second: Councilwoman Weber  
Yeas: Councilman Amato, Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos, Councilman Verile, Councilwoman Weber  
Nays: None  
**Motion carries 6-0**

**A CONSENT AGENDA WILL BE ADOPTED FOR ITEM NUMBERS 16 AND 17**

**RESOLUTIONS:**

RESOLUTION NO 19-02-157: AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS

RESOLUTION NO 19-02-158: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COMMERCIAL TAX APPEAL ATTORNEY TO SETTLE TAX APPEAL FOR TAX YEARS 2010, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 CAPTIONED AS: Fonder Realty Corp. v. Borough of Paramus Docket Nos. 005377-2010, 004134-2011, 007638-2013, 009131-2014, 005772-2015, 004042-2016, 006658-2017 & 003810-2018

RESOLUTION NO 19-02-159: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COMMERCIAL TAX APPEAL ATTORNEY TO SETTLE TAX APPEAL FOR TAX YEARS 2013-2018 CAPTIONED AS: Syms Inc. v. Borough of Paramus Docket Nos. 003530-2013, 001049-2014, 005741-2015 - Trinity Place Holdings v. Borough of Paramus Docket No. 003724-2016 - TPH Route 17, LLC v. Borough of Paramus Docket Nos. 005984-2017, 005984-2018

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**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-160:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REFUND TO THE FOLLOWING TAXPAYERS DUE TO TAX COURT APPEALS (Paramus Road IV)

**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-161:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REFUND TO THE FOLLOWING TAXPAYERS DUE TO TAX COURT APPEALS (Mack Cali Realty Corp)

**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-162:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REFUND TO THE FOLLOWING TAXPAYERS DUE TO TAX COURT APPEALS (Mack Paramus Affiliates)

**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-163:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REFUND TO THE FOLLOWING TAXPAYERS DUE TO TAX COURT APPEALS (Mack F. Properties)

**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-164:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF A PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE FOR DAY CARE CENTER- THE LEARNING EXPERIENCE, 278 AND 280 E. MIDLAND AVENUE, BLOCK 5716, LOTS 8 & 9 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOROUGH ENGINEER (PAES-2514)

**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-165:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF ENGINEERING ESCROW MONEY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$74.00 TO A. PUNTASECCA CONTRACTORS FOR BLOCK 2502- LOT 13 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOROUGH ENGINEER (PAES-2895)

**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-166:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF TREE PRESERVATION DEPOSIT FROM SHADE TREE ESCROW ACCOUNT #T-22-56-286-850-802 TO THE FOLLOWING AS RECOMMENDED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE SHADE TREE & PARKS COMMISSION

**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-167:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS THROUGH THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT TO FILE AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FEDERAL 1033 PROGRAM TO ENABLE SAID DEPARTMENT TO REQUEST AND ACQUIRE EXCESS DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EQUIPMENT

**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-168:** RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING DENIAL OF APPLICATIONS FOR 2019 ROTATIONAL TOWING LIST

**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-169:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF MUNICIPAL PERSONAL PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE ON AN ONLINE AUCTION WEBSITE

**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-170:** 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 19-02-171:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS AND LA GUARDIA & ASSOCIATES ENTERTAINMENT AND PRODUCTIONS FOR PERFORMANCES AT THE 2019 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-172:** RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE RESIGNATION OF MICHELE A. SARRACINO FROM THE POSITION OF EMT STEP 4 FOR THE PARAMUS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

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**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-173:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF ROBERT SOBOCINSKI TO PATROL OFFICER STEP 4 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT- PATROL DIVISION AT A SALARY OF \$77,539.00 ANNUALLY

**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-174:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF THOMAS HOLDEN TO PATROL OFFICER STEP 4 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT- PATROL DIVISION AT A SALARY OF \$77,539.00 ANNUALLY

**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-175:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF LOUIS CARDONE TO PATROL OFFICER STEP 4 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT- PATROL DIVISION AT A SALARY OF \$77,539.00 ANNUALLY

**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-176:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF DONALD LIU TO PATROL OFFICER STEP 4 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT- PATROL DIVISION AT A SALARY OF \$77,539.00 ANNUALLY

**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-177:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF NICOLE CAPONE TO PATROL OFFICER STEP 4 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT- PATROL DIVISION AT A SALARY OF \$77,539.00 ANNUALLY

**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-178:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF MATTHEW LOMBARDO TO PATROL OFFICER STEP 4 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT- PATROL DIVISION AT A SALARY OF \$77,539.00 ANNUALLY

**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-179:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF TAYLOR ANZILOTTI TO PART TIME RECORD'S CLERK STEP 2 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT- RECORD'S BUREAU AT A SALARY OF \$11.50 PER HOUR

**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-180:**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF COURTNEY SIERO TO PART TIME RECORD'S CLERK STEP 2 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT- RECORD'S BUREAU AT A SALARY OF \$11.50 PER HOUR

**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-181:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF SANDRA GOLDMAN TO PART TIME RECORD'S CLERK STEP 3 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT- RECORD'S BUREAU AT A SALARY OF \$12.50 PER HOUR

**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-182:**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF LAURA MONGELLO TO THE POSITION OF CLERICAL SENIOR OFFICE CLERK FOR THE PARAMUS AFFORDABLE HOUSING AT A SALARY OF \$39,992.26 ANNUALLY

**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-183:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SEPARATION OF JEFFREY HUGABOOM FROM THE PARAMUS GOLF COURSE

**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-185:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RETENTION OF HON. DANIEL MECCA, J.S.C. (RET.) TO PROVIDE LEGAL OPINION

**RESOLUTION NO 19-02-186:** REJECTING BIDS FOR GOLF CONCESSION

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**APPLICATIONS:**

**GOLD/SILVER**

Esmer Bekdas

2019-GS-10

Councilwoman Weber inquires why we are contracting with Ramapo to use their range facility when we have one here. Mayor LaBarbiera calls Chief Ehrenberg to explain. It is for our heavier weapons, as our range is not suitable for those types of weapons. There is no charge.

Resolution 19-02-186 rejecting golf concession bids is being added to the Consent Agenda.

**Motion to Approve Consent Agenda as Amended to include Resolution 19-02-185 and Resolution 19-02-186**

Motion: Councilman Amato

Second: Councilwoman Weber

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

Nays: None

**Motion carries 6-0**

Open to the public 8:35 – None

**RESOLUTION No. 19-02-156:** Closing the meeting of the Mayor and Council to the public.

Motion: Councilwoman Bellinger

Second: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos

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

Nays: None

**Motion carries 6-0**

**ADJOURNMENT: 8:52 PM**

APPROVED: MARCH 19, 2019

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

*Annemarie Krusznis RMC*

BOROUGH CLERK