

**Borough of Paramus
Mayor and Council Public Meeting
Council Chambers
February 22, 2022, 6:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

Resolution No: 22-02-138: Notification of meetings as required by “The Open Public Meetings Act.” Read by the Borough Clerk at 6:03 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: led by Mayor LaBarbiera

ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilman Antonio, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilman Kaiser, Councilman Vartolone, Councilwoman Weber, Mayor LaBarbiera

Also Present: Borough Clerk Annemarie Krusznis, Borough Attorney Brian Giblin, Deputy Borough Clerk Nicolette Riggi

Absent: Councilwoman Bellinger

PRESENTATION:

- a. Koteen and Rotto Associates; utility bill audit presentation

Rick Darminio – 65-year-old company that reviews utility bills for municipalities, schools, housing authorities, etc. They’ve worked for Hackensack, River Edge, Bloomfield, Newark, and several more. They have successfully secured refunds & credits for different authorities. They review 12 months of bills from the municipality for accuracy. The only way they get compensated is if they get refunds/credits secured for the municipality going back 6 years. The biggest exposure for municipalities are buildings and traffic signals. Mayor LaBarbiera believes the entire council prioritizes saving money. This company also deals with 3rd party energy providers. Mayor LaBarbiera asks the Borough Administrator if we would need to issue an RFQ for this. Mr. Giblin believes an RFQ might be necessary and will look into it. Councilman Vartolone suggests including a multi-year option in the RFQ so we don’t have to issue it again in future years if the Borough would like to utilize this service again. Mr. Giblin doesn’t believe that can be done.

BOROUGH CLERK’S REPORT:

- b. Request received from Glass Gardens, Inc. to sell Easter flowers outside of Shoprite from April 8th to April 18th, and Mother’s Day flowers from April 29th to May 9th, 2022. **Approved.**
- c. Request received from Just Jersey Fest to hold a food truck festival at the Paramus Park mall on Sunday April 24th from 11AM- 7PM. **Approved.**

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- d. Request received from MegaBite Events to hold food truck and music festivals at the Garden State Plaza on Sunday May 15th, July 3rd, October 2nd and November 18th from 11AM- 7PM. **Approved with the exception of July 3rd.**

MAYOR'S REPORT:

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORTS:

Councilman Vartolone inquires about resolution 22-02-123 and whether or not Closed Session is required to discuss. Mr. Giblin advises yes. The same applies to resolution 22-02-124. Both resolutions will be discussed in Closed Session. Mr. Vartolone would also like to table 22-02-149 because he believes there is an alternative way to get these services. 22-02-122 was tabled from a previous meeting and Mr. Vartolone would like the new engineer to review this prior to voting on it. Mr. Vartolone inquires about the resolution regarding our pistol range. Mr. Kaiser responds. Mr. Vartolone believes the contract price on resolution 22-02-148 is low and should be looked into.

Councilman Antonio Rescue & EMS performed an extraction and everyone was safe. Response time was great. The Board of Education approved four new holidays.

Councilman Kaiser the Golf Course needs to hire a Golf Pro. This year they want to do a 50/50 split with the lessons. The Police Department had 28 cars stolen in January which is extremely high. This could be attributed to the no chase policy that started in NJ in January of this year. Recreation started football & cheerleading registration. Congratulations to Oliva (inaudible) and the Lady Spartans Wrestling.

Councilman DiPiazza the Pool Commission meets Thursday. Paramus Varsity basketball plays Paramus Catholic on Saturday in the Bergen Invitational tournament championship.

Councilwoman Weber Pruning and mulching has been continuing at Shade Tree. Behnke Museum will be thinking of ways to participate in the Paramus Centennial celebration. The Health Department has been tracking Covid numbers in the community. Hackensack Meridian opened a mega testing site. Cases have significantly lowered. Go Red for Women will be February 25th and the Health Department will be hosting a breakfast.

RESOLUTION No. 22-02-139: Closing the meeting of the Mayor and Council to the public. 6:36 PM

Motion: Councilman Vartolone

Second: Councilwoman Weber

Yeas: Councilman Antonio, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilman Kaiser, Councilman Vartolone, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilwoman Bellinger

Motion carries 5-0

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Open 6:55 PM

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. None

ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE ON INTRODUCTION:

ORDINANCE 2022-07: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE No. 2020-01 AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH, CREATE AND RATIFY AND CONFIRM CERTAIN POSITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS, COUNTY OF BERGEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, NOT COVERED BY ANY COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UNIT AND TO PROVIDE AND DETERMINE THE RATE AND METHOD OF PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION TO SUCH OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES."

Motion: Councilwoman Weber

Second: Councilman DiPiazza

Yeas: Councilman Antonio, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilman Kaiser, Councilman Vartolone, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilwoman Bellinger

Motion carries 5-0

ORDINANCE 2022-08: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 2021-09, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER A460 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS TITLED "FEES" (Recreation Programs)

Motion: Councilwoman Weber

Second: Councilman DiPiazza

Yeas: Councilman Antonio, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilman Kaiser, Councilman Vartolone, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilwoman Bellinger

Motion carries 5-0

ORDINANCE ON FINAL:

ORDINANCE 2022-06: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER A460, FEES, §A460-21, GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUBS, OF THE APPENDIX OF THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS (GOLF FEES)

Motion: Councilwoman Weber

Second: Councilman DiPiazza

Explanation by Council President

Open to Public for Comment – None

Yeas: Councilman Antonio, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilman Kaiser, Councilman Vartolone, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilwoman Bellinger

Motion carries 5-0

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NON-CONSENT:

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-123: TABLED 2/8/2022- RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TREASURER TO MAKE ACCUMULATED VACATION TIME PAYOUT TO JOSEPH D'ARCO

Motion to take from table as modified

Motion: Councilman Antonia

Second: Councilwoman Weber

Yeas: Councilman Antonio, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilman Kaiser, Councilman Vartolone, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilwoman Bellinger

Motion carries 5-0

Motion to approved as modified

Motion: Councilman DiPiazza

Second: Councilman Antonio

Yeas: Councilman Antonio, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilman Kaiser, Councilman Vartolone, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilwoman Bellinger

Motion carries 5-0

No action taken on Resolution Nos 22-02-109, 22-02-122 and 22-02-124

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-109: TABLED 2/8/2022- RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COMMERCIAL TAX APPEAL ATTORNEY TO SETTLE 2020 AND 2021 TAX APPEAL CAPTIONED: Marks Realty, LLC A. Marks v. Borough of Paramus Docket Nos. 009381-2020 and 008761-2021

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-122: TABLED 2/8/2022- A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY BOSWELL ENGINEERING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$35,000.00 FOR INVESTIGATION AND SERVICES FOR SANITARY SEWER PUMPING STATIONS

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-124: TABLED 2/8/2022- RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TREASURER TO MAKE ACCUMULATED VACATION TIME PAYOUT TO GUY PICONE

Motion to table Resolution No. 22-02-145

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-145: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH CLERK TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR RECREATION VEHICLES

Motion: Councilman Vartolone

Second: Councilman DiPiazza

Yeas: Councilman Antonio, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilman Kaiser, Councilman Vartolone, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilwoman Bellinger

Motion carries 5-0

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Motion to table Resolution No. 22-02-148

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-148: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO SIGN AGREEMENT WITH RIDGEWOOD YMCA SWIM TEAM FOR USE OF THE PARAMUS MUNICIPAL POOL IN ACCORDANCE TO THE ATTACHED SCHEDULE FOR A RENTAL FEE OF \$14,000.00

Motion: Councilman Vartolone

Second: Councilman DiPiazza

Yeas: Councilman Antonio, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilman Kaiser, Councilman Vartolone, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilwoman Bellinger

Motion carries 5-0

Motion to table Resolution No. 22-02-149

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-149: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF THE 2022 REMOVAL OF GRASS, LEAVES AND BRUSH BID

Motion: Councilman Vartolone

Second: Councilman DiPiazza

Yeas: Councilman Antonio, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilman Kaiser, Councilman Vartolone, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilwoman Bellinger

Motion carries 5-0

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

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-140: AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-141: 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 (Matkal)

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-142: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SETTLEMENT AND RELEASE AGREEMENT REGARDING CELIA AND RAUL TORRES V. BOROUGH OF PARAMUS BER-L-000910-20

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-143: PULLED PRIOR TO MEETING

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-144: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH CLERK TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR 2022 ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-145: TABLED AT MEETING

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-146: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH CLERK TO SIGN PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2022

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RESOLUTION NO 22-02-147: 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 22-02-148: TABLED AT MEETING

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-149: TABLED AT MEETING

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-150: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF CHRISTOPHER KENYON TO THE POSITION OF PART TIME LABORER STEP 1 FOR THE PARAMUS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS-RECYCLING DIVISION AT A SALARY OF \$15.00 PER HOUR

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-151: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF JENNY HO NG TO THE POSITION OF PART TIME LIBRARY ASSISTANT FOR THE PARAMUS PUBLIC LIBRARY AT A SALARY OF \$16.47 PER HOUR

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-152: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF THE FOLLOWING SEASONAL POSITIONS FOR PARAMUS RECREATION 2022 WINTER STAFF

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-153: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF ERIK BOETTCHER TO THE POSITION OF PROBATIONARY MEMBER FOR THE PARAMUS RESCUE SQUAD

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-154: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF ZACHARY YABROUDY TO THE POSITION OF PART TIME 911 TELECOMMUNICATION OPERATOR 3 GRADE 3 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT- COMMUNICATIONS AT A SALARY OF \$19.33 PER HOUR

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-155: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF NICOLA MANOCCHIO TO THE POSITION OF PART TIME 911 TELECOMMUNICATION OPERATOR 1 GRADE 1 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT-COMMUNICATIONS AT A SALARY OF \$14.22 PER HOUR

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-156: RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE FOLLOWING APPLICANTS AS A PROBATIONARY REGULAR MEMBERS OF THE PARAMUS FIRE DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-157: RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE FOLLOWING AS PROBATIONARY JUNIOR MEMBER OF THE PARAMUS FIRE DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-158: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP UP OF THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO THE POSITION OF PATROL OFFICER STEP 7 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT- PATROL DIVISION AT A SALARY OF \$117,701.00 PER YEAR

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-159: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF MARYELLEN PARENTE TO CLERICAL PLANNING/ZONING BOARD 3 STEP 1 FOR THE PARAMUS BUILDING DEPARTMENT AT A SALARY OF \$33.00 PER HOUR

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RESOLUTION NO 22-02-160: RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE TRANSFER OF WAYNE JOHNSON FROM THE POSITION OF TRAFFIC MAINTAINER FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT TO TREE CLIMBER FOR THE PARAMUS SHADE TREE & PARKS DEPARTMENT AT A SALARY OF \$46,933.00 ANNUALLY

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-161: RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE RESIGNATION OF JUSTINE MATULEWICZ FROM THE POSITION OF SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER CLASS 1 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT-TRAFFIC DIVISION

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-162: RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF THE FOLLOWING FROM THE PARAMUS AUXILLARY POLICE

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-163: RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE RESIGNATIONS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE PARAMUS FIRE DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-164: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RETIREMENT OF NINA NOY FROM THE POSITION OF SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER-CLASS 1 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT-TRAFFIC DIVISION

RESOLUTION NO 22-02-165: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TERMINATION OF SAMANTHA STEEN FROM THE PARAMUS PUBLIC LIBRARY

APPLICATIONS:

GOLD/SILVER

Guitar Center 2022-GS-3

RAFFLE

Paramus Sunrise Rotary Club File #853

Paramus Fire Dept Co #1 File #855

SOLICITOR

Jing Jing 2022-SL-1

Motion: Councilman DiPiazza

Second: Councilman Vartolone

Yeas: Councilman Antonio, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilman Kaiser, Councilman Vartolone, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilwoman Bellinger

Motion carries 5-0

ADJOURNMENT: 7:00 PM

APPROVED: APRIL 6, 2022

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:
ANNEMARIE KRUSZNIS RMC
BOROUGH CLERK