

**Borough of Paramus
Mayor and Council Public Meeting
Council Chambers
February 28, 2023, 6:30 P.M.
MINUTES**

The Public May Participate In The Mayor And Council Meeting By Telephone:

Phone Number 866-390-1828

Participation Access Code: 3083465

Resolution No: 23-02-173: Notification of meetings as required by “The Open Public Meetings Act.” **Read by the Borough Clerk at 6:28 PM**

Mayor DiPiazza introduces the Paramus Police Honor Guard

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Councilman Antonio

ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilman Antonio, Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman Kaiser, Councilman Nadera, Councilman Quintana, Councilwoman Weber, Mayor DiPiazza

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

Absent: None

OATH OF OFFICE: Paramus Police Officers: NICHOLAS BUCCI, FRANK LICARI, JR, HUGO RODRIGUEZ, TIMOTHY ERSTLING

Mayor DiPiazza along with Police Chief Ehrenberg say a few words regarding the Paramus Police Department new hires. Chief Ehrenberg thanks the Mayor & Council, and the residents of the Borough for consistently supporting the department.

Mayor DiPiazza administers the Oaths of Office to the new officers.

Present: Councilman Antonio, Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman Kaiser, Councilman Nadera, Councilman Quintana, Councilwoman Weber, Mayor DiPiazza

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

Absent: None

BOROUGH CLERK’S REPORT:

- a. Request received from Go the Distance for Autism to hold their annual charity bike ride at Bergen Community College on Sunday June 4th, 2023 from 10 AM to 12 PM. – **Approved.**

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORTS:

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Councilman Antonio Mr. Antonio commends the Paramus DPW on this morning's snow event. There is an ordinance on introduction regarding the Pool Commission rates. The fees are going to be raised this year due to the current rise in the financial climate. The Pool rate is still low compared to others in Bergen County. The Fire Administrator Position will be discussed tonight. There has been some interest already with applicants. The Borough Administrator will draft an ordinance under the OEM budget to create that position.

Councilwoman Bellinger Kudos to the employees working the roads last night. The roads looked immaculate. The Library Board meeting got canceled due to the weather event and will be held later this week. Ms. Bellinger inquires about a Library Grant and asks the Borough Administrator if the department head and the CFO are on the same page. Mr. Olmo advises that a meeting was had and everything is taken care of.

Councilman Nadera Kudos to the DPW for their work plowing the roads.

Councilman Quintana there was a meeting held regarding Construction permit fees that haven't been changed since 2011. Mr. Quintana was given a tour by the Shade Tree department.

Councilwoman Weber Congratulations to the officers sworn in tonight, and also congratulations to the DPW on their excellent work. Also congratulations to the Shade Tree who performed snow removal as well. The Behnke Museum did four trolley tours for the centennial.

Councilman Kaiser The Golf Course and Recreation had nothing to report. Mr. Kaiser wishes congratulations to the Deputy Clerk Nicolette Riggi for accepting a position as Clerk in another municipality and expresses that she will be missed.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Congratulations to the Police Officers sworn in tonight, and also congratulations to the DPW for their work in the recent snow event. Mayor DiPiazza thanks and congratulates the Deputy Clerk on her new position and wishes her luck. Mayor DiPiazza appoints Councilman Nadera onto Council Committees as a member for the Police: OEM, EMS and Rescue Squad.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Reports that there has been more interest in the admin OEM position. Mr. Olmo continues that the Municipal Court- Paramus Municipal Prosecutor for both criminal and traffic will be appointed to judgeship so there will be a vacancy for Prosecutor that we will have to go back out for. Mr. Olmo has spoken with Shade Tree and Traffic Maintenance and they will be taking down the anniversary banners and be giving them back to the Committee. He continues he's been working with Bruno & Associates and we have a lot of Open Space Grants with the County that have deadlines and he's working on trying to consolidate the amounts. There has been a request from Valley Hospital to add two additional lightings and they also want to pave Winters Avenue. Mr. Olmo reached out to PSE&G and Veolia to make sure they don't have additional projects before it gets paved.

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

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RESOLUTION No. 23-02-174: Closing the meeting of the Mayor and Council to the public. **7:00**

- a. Contract Negotiations
- b. Personnel

Motion: Councilman Antonio

Second: Councilman Kaiser

Yeas: Councilman Antonio, Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman Kaiser, Councilman Nadera, Councilman Quintana, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Motion carries 6-0

Open 7:29 PM

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION: Ken Raschen – Shade Tree Department

Mr. Raschen is present to discuss the emerald ash borer tree history, as many of the Council members were not present when this begun. Mr. Raschen recalls a presentation made to the Mayor & Council in 2017 regarding the future need for funding, equipment and labor. Mr. Raschen advises that they have been very limited over the last 8 years since the initial presentation was made. They are still waiting for a truck that was scheduled for delivery in the summer of 2023, which has now been pushed back to fall of 2024. There are several aspects to this problem. Number 1, they have been denied funding. They submitted backup documents to support their requests and were denied. Number 2, equipment was denied. They requested to replace the truck in 2017 and it wasn't done until 2021. Number 3, they are lacking in labor. The department is down six workers. Mr. Raschen believes the department receives a lot of criticism for not addressing the ash tree problem but it is hard to perform with these problems. The depleted crew removed 1,586 trees. The majority of the work was done in-house by Borough employees. Mr. Raschen believes they don't deserve the criticism they are receiving. Mr. Raschen also believes the salaries of the open positions aren't competitive. People are leaving for other towns. Employee Glen Shore advises that other municipalities pay more money and have the same benefit packages available. Mayor DiPiazza advises that Mr. Olmo will put together some comparisons with other municipalities for the next meeting.

ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE ON INTRODUCTION:

ORDINANCE 2023-09: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION N.J.S.40A:4-53 FUNDING OF TERMINAL PAY FOR RETIRED EMPLOYEES

Motion: Councilman Kaiser

Second: Councilwoman Weber

Yeas: Councilman Antonio, Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman Kaiser, Councilman Nadera, Councilman Quintana, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Motion carries 6-0

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ORDINANCE 2023-10: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 2021-08 ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 395 ENTITLED SWIMMING POOLS, ARTICLE I ENTITLED SWIMMING POOL FACILITIES, SECTION 5 FEES

Motion: Councilman Kaiser

Second: Councilman Antonio

Yeas: Councilman Antonio, Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman Kaiser, Councilman Nadera, Councilman Quintana, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Motion carries 6-0

ORDINANCE 2023-11: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 259 OF THE PARAMUS BOROUGH CODE RELATED TO THE GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

Motion: Councilman Kaiser

Second: Councilman Nadera

Yeas: Councilman Antonio, Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman Kaiser, Councilman Nadera, Councilman Quintana, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Motion carries 6-0

ORDINANCE 2023-12: AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE 2022-09 AND ADDING A NEW CHAPTER 57 TO BE TITLED "HEAD GOLF PROFESSSIONAL"

Motion: Councilman Kaiser

Second: Councilwoman Weber

Yeas: Councilman Antonio, Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman Kaiser, Councilman Nadera, Councilman Quintana, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Motion carries 6-0

ORDINANCE ON FINAL:

ORDINANCE 2023-07: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 429 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS TITLED "ZONING" AND SPECIFICALLY SECTION 429-6 TITLED "DEFINITIONS", SECTION 429-121 TITLED "PERMITTED USED" AND SECTION 429-135 TITLED "REGULATIONS APPLICABLE" AND ADDING A NEW SECTION 429-124.1 TITLED "DESIGN STANDARDS FOR SELF-STORAGE BUILDINGS"

Motion: Councilman Kaiser

Second: Councilman Quintana

Explanation by Council President

Open to Public for Comment on Ordinance 2023-07:

Tom Locicero – Inquires about the specific amendments to the ordinance. Borough Attorney Mr. Giblin responds and details the changes.

Yeas: Councilman Antonio, Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman Kaiser, Councilman Nadera, Councilman Quintana, Councilwoman Weber

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Nays: None

Abstain: None

Motion carries 6-0

ORDINANCE 2023-08: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING CHURCHILL COURT AS A BOROUGH OF PARAMUS OWNED STREET

Motion: Councilman Kaiser

Second: Councilwoman Weber

Explanation by Council President

Open to Public for Comment on Ordinance 2023-08: None

Yeas: Councilman Antonio, Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman Kaiser, Councilman Nadera, Councilman Quintana, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Motion carries 6-0

Council votes to move non-consent items to the Consent Agenda.

Motion: Councilman Antonio

Second: Councilman Nadera

Yeas: Councilman Antonio, Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman Kaiser, Councilman Nadera, Councilman Quintana, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Motion carries 6-0

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

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-175: AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-176: RESOLUTION PROVIDING SPECIAL EMERGENCY – TERMINAL PAY

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-177: AUTHORIZE THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS TO ENTER INTO A TO ENTER A CDBG GRANT AGREEMENT

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-178: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN AND THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS, IN THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS, COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-179: RESOLUTION ACCEPTING QUOTE FROM NEW JERSEY FIRE EQUIPMENT CO. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$221,853.50 FOR FIREFIGHTER PROTECTIVE CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-180: RESOLUTION ACCEPTING QUOTE FROM MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$49,840.00 FOR RADIO UPGRADE

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RESOLUTION NO 23-02-181: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF THE 2023 GROVE STREET PUMP STATION GENERATOR BID TO ACADEMY ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$59,310.00

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-182: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF THE 22-23 RE-BID LOG TRAILER WITH GRAPPLE LOADER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$61,799.58 FOR THE SHADE TREE & PARKS COMMISSION

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-183: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RE BID FOR ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES FOR THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-184: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH CLERK TO ADVERTISE BIDS FOR 2023 JANITORIAL SERVICES FOR THE PARAMUS MUNICIPAL POOL

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-185: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH CLERK TO ADVERTISE BIDS FOR 2023 SURFACE PREPARATION AND PAINTING OF THE PARAMUS MUNICIPAL POOL

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-186: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH CLERK TO ADVERTISE BIDS FOR 2023 FOOD AND BEVERAGE CONCESSION SERVICES AT THE PARAMUS MUNICIPAL POOL

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-187: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH CLERK TO ADVERTISE BIDS FOR 2023 SUMMER PREPARATION AND WINTERIZATION OF THE PARAMUS MUNICIPAL POOL

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-188: 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 (BUILT FOR SUCCESS, LLC)

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-189: 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 (HENRY KWANSNIK)

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-190: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS TO APPLY FOR THE 2022 RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-191: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A DISCHARGE OF MORTGAGE FOR 176 HEBBARD AVENUE, IN THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS, COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-192: A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE FEES FOR THE USE OF THE PISTOL RANGE

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-193: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS AND THE U.S. PROBATION OFFICE- SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK FOR USE OF THE POLICE PISTOL RANGE LOCATED IN THE JAMES J. TEDESCO III LIFE SAFETY COMPLEX

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-194: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS AND BERGEN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR OFFERING/PROVIDING SERVICES RELATED TO GRANT PROGRAMS

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RESOLUTION NO 23-02-195: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS AND THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH HACKENSACK FOR THE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF RECYCLABLE MATERIALS

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-196: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,184.51 FOR THE INCREASE IN THE CONSTRUCTION COSTS FOR THE 2021 CDBG-TRINITY COURT IMPROVEMENTS

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-197: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SICK/VACATION TIME PAYOUT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,512.57 TO DANIEL CONTE

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-198: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SICK TIME PAYOUT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$96,110.40 TO FRANCIS PISERCHIA

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-199: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF ARIDIO VALDEZ TO THE POSITION OF FULL TIME LABORER II STEP 1 FOR THE PARAMUS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS-SANITATION/RECYCLING DIVISION AT A SALARY OF \$36,671.00 ANNUALLY

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-200: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF CATHERINE KARROS TO THE POSITION OF EMT FOR THE PARAMUS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT A SALARY OF \$20.40 HOURLY

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-201: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PROMOTION OF MITCHELL TRIMM TO THE POSITION OF IRRIGATION TECHNICIAN FOR THE PARAMUS GOLF COURSE AT A SALARY OF \$54,021.71 ANNUALLY

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-202: RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE RESIGNATION OF STEPHANIE HOOK FROM THE POSITION OF PART – TIME 911 TELECOMMUNICATIONS OPERATOR 1 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT – COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-203: RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE RESIGNATION OF OLIVIA STRAMA FROM THE POSITION OF PART – TIME 911 TELECOMMUNICATIONS OPERATOR 3 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT – COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-204: RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE RESIGNATION OF OLIVIA STRAMA FROM THE POSITION OF SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER-CLASS 1B FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT – TRAFFIC DIVISION

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-205: RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE RESIGNATION OF NICOLETTE RIGGI FROM THE POSITION OF DEPUTY MUNICIPAL CLERK FOR THE PARAMUS CLERK'S OFFICE

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-206: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RETIREMENT OF KEVIN SHEEHAN FROM THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF FIRE PREVENTION FOR THE PARAMUS FIRE PREVENTION DEPARTMENT

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RESOLUTION NO 23-02-207: RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE TRANSFER OF ERIC HICKS FROM THE POSITION OF HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR FOR THE PARAMUS SHADE TREE DEPARTMENT TO THE POSITION OF FIRE INSPECTOR STEP 10 FOR THE PARAMUS FIRE PREVENTION DEPARTMENT AT A SALARY OF \$70,299.56 ANNUALLY

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-208: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PROMOTION OF DANIEL PEREZ TO THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR STEP 1 FOR THE PARAMUS FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU AT A SALARY OF \$85,650 PER YEAR

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-209: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DESIGNATION OF A BUS STOP IN PARAMUS ALONG WINTERS AVENUE

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-210: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS TO ACCEPT A SUBGRANT AWARD OF THE FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2022 OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY ASSISTANCE

RESOLUTION NO 23-02-211: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF CERTAIN PERSONNEL FROM THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT TO THE GOLF COURSE

APPLICATIONS:

RAFFLE

Happy Tails Animal Rescue	File # 910
Paramus Scholarship Show Fund	File # 911
Paramus Scholarship Show Fund	File # 912
Paramus Scholarship Show Fund	File # 913
Hackensack University Medical Center	File # 914
Parkway PTA	File # 915
Orthodox Christian Church of Christ the Savior	File # 916
Orthodox Christian Church of Christ the Savior	File # 917
Wyckoff PTO Coordinating Council	File # 918
Wyckoff PTO Coordinating Council	File # 919

Approval of Consent Agenda as Amended

Motion: Councilwoman Weber

Second: Councilman Antonio

Yeas: Councilman Antonio, Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman Kaiser, Councilman Nadera, Councilman Quintana, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Motion carries 6-0

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ADJOURNMENT: 8:02 PM

APPROVED: MARCH 14, 2023

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:
ANNEMARIE KRUSZNIS RMC
BOROUGH CLERK