

**Borough of Paramus
Mayor and Council Public Meeting
Council Chambers
September 20, 2022, 6:30 P.M.
MINUTES**

Resolution No: 22-09-560: Notification of meetings as required by “The Open Public Meetings Act.” Read by the Borough Clerk at 6:30 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilman Antonio, Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilman Kaiser, Councilman Quintana, Mayor LaBarbiera

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

Absent: Councilwoman Weber

Councilman DiPiazza is present via phone conference

PRESENTATION:

- A. New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police Accreditation Program Director, Mr. Harry Delgado – Mayor LaBarbiera introduces Chief Ehrenberg

Chief Ehrenberg gives background on the work the Paramus Police Department has done to earn this accreditation. He thanks the accreditation manager Brian McGovern and his assistant Amit Vaidya.

Mr. Delgado from the NJ Association of Chiefs of Police explains the rigorous process of obtaining this accreditation. He provides background on what the Paramus Police has accomplished. This program is designed to enhance professionalism in police departments throughout the state. Less than 50% of municipalities have achieved it due to the rigorous proofs of compliance required. Mr. Delgado believes Paramus has met and exceeded state and national standards. The leadership of Chief Ehrenberg

Councilwoman Weber enters the meeting at 6:38 PM

Mayor LaBarbiera congratulates the Police Department and explains what an achievement this is. He thanks and congratulates Chief Ehrenberg, Deputy Chief Guidetti & the command staff for their work in getting this done.

- B. Police Promotions – Mayor LaBarbiera introduces Chief Ehrenberg, who thanks the Mayor & Council and the union leadership to improve the promotion system. This system benefits the residents who are protected by the department.

Chief Ehrenberg gives a brief background of the achievements of each officer being promoted.

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Gregory Hooper – Patrol Sergeant
Ryan Hayo – Patrol Sergeant
Christopher Zuck – Detective Sergeant
Jeffrey Lattanzi – Detective Sergeant

BOROUGH CLERK'S REPORT:

- A. Request received from Edison Heating and Cooling to replace a rooftop unit at Lincoln Technical Institute on October 7th from 6:00 PM to 7:00 AM. Said work will utilize a crane and is expected to be noisy. **Approved.**
- B. Request received from Dana Folcarelli to hold a Fall Festival/Block Party on Mayfair Road, between Mason and Morningside, from 1PM to 9PM on Saturday, October 1, 2022 with a rain date of Sunday, October 2, 2022. **Approved.**
- C. Request received from Just Jersey Fest to hold a Food Truck Festival at the Paramus Park Mall on Sunday November 6, 2022 from 11AM to 6PM. **Approved.**
- D. Request received from The Valley Hospital to perform work on several Sundays as specified on application to replace a CT Simulator and HVAC upgrades in the Luckow Pavilion. **Approved.**
- E. Request received from Hermanson Company to perform overnight Sunday work at Nordstrom at the Garden State Plaza beginning Saturday March 18, 2023 at 10PM through Sunday, March 19th, 2023 to 12AM for HVAC roof top equipment change out. **Approved.**

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORTS:

Councilwoman Bellinger the library summer reading program was a great success. The Library has been chosen to be a recipient of a grant award of \$12,239.00 for hybrid ESL classes.

Councilwoman Bellinger moves resolution 22-09-562 Payment of Bills to non-consent.

Her concern regarding purchasing Borough vehicles, is that she was told it was part of the capital budget. Department heads were encouraged not to spend money unless it was a necessity. Her concern is that there was a purchase that was not necessary and they were not made aware of. Mr. Kaiser met with Borough CFO and she said the process was that fleet services requested vehicles to be purchased. They came in, and the vehicles got divvied up. Affordable Housing requested a vehicle. The vehicles Affordable Housing had needed work and was junked. Money was taken out of the trust. Councilwoman Bellinger asked and Affordable Housing did not request a car. The bill is on tonight's bills list. Councilwoman Bellinger inquires how we have a vehicle that has not been paid for. She also brings up the purchase order. The purchase order originally listed a vehicle for the borough administrator. On September 13th the same purchase order number was changed to the description of "COAH administration". Ms. Bellinger would like to know who made the directive to make this change and if anyone on the council was aware of it.

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Mr. Kaiser advises Ms. Bellinger that he could ask questions about the surplus that is gone when Ms. Bellinger was previously on the budget committee. Mayor LaBarbiera explains that the decisions made regarding the surplus are not on any one person as the governing body has voted unanimously on most budgets.

Ms. Bellinger asks again if anyone is aware of the decision to purchase this vehicle and to change the purchase order. No one on the council says that they were aware.

The Council agrees to pull that one item off the bills list.

The Council agrees to leave the resolution on the consent agenda as long as that one item is pulled.

Ms. Bellinger inquires about a topic she raised last meeting about something regarding the DPW garage. She would like an update about the status of an investigation. Mr. Giblin advises that this can not be discussed because the individual it pertains to has not been issued a Rice Notice. She explains that she requested information from Mr. Giblin via email and he did not respond. Mr. Giblin states that he will talk with the Councilwoman after the meeting but can't discuss it in front of a quorum at a meeting.

Councilman Quintana no report

Councilman Antonio no report

Councilman Kaiser Recreation announced that registration is up for fall sports. Mayor LaBarbiera met with the Board of Ed regarding field usage and they did not push back at all. They approved a new policy regarding the order of field usage.

Councilman DiPiazza no report. Congratulations to the police department on the well-deserved promotions.

Councilwoman Weber Congratulations to the police officers who received a promotion tonight. The Chamber of Commerce is holding their Taste of Paramus dinner tomorrow September 21st which will support the Education Foundation. The Behnke Museum is introducing "Hop the Trolley" which is a historical tour of the town. The DPW reported that road resurfacing began September 19th. Curbside leaf collection begins October 2nd. Residents should be aware that they shouldn't mix branches with leaves to avoid damage of automated trucks. The Shade Tree Commission have removed nearly 100 stalks from residential locations. The contractor provided a truck and driver. The shade tree crew removed the stalks and cleaned up the locations. The Health Department launched a Paramus Walks program at Van Saun Park on September 12th. This program promotes a healthy and active lifestyle. The flu vaccine clinic for seniors will be held on October 1st. Thank you to all who supported the Pancreatic Cancer walk this year. Every dollar raised is going to research.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor LaBarbiera appoints Kim Benacquista to the unexpired term on the Recreation Commission. October 15th is the centennial fall fest.

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ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Mr. Olmo received interest from someone wanting to purchase the property on Farview Terrace. There needs to be a new appraisal. The Golf Course Pond project will be getting ready for bid. The work will be done during the slow season and be ready for next year. The Road program is underway. There will be paving on Trinity Court & Sorbello Road. It's a tricky area because it's the entrance to New Bridge Medical Center. The senior lot is going to be reconfigured to change the entrances and add 20 or more spaces. The part time salary ordinance will need to be done again. The law provides for an indexing which now makes the rate \$14.13. We will have to amend the ordinance to include this.

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

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

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO 22-09-562: AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS

RESOLUTION NO 22-09-563: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REFUND TO THE FOLLOWING TAXPAYERS DUE TO TAX COURT APPEALS (Barnes & Noble)

RESOLUTION NO 22-09-564: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REFUND TO THE FOLLOWING TAXPAYERS DUE TO TAX COURT APPEALS (G&I IX East Midland LLC)

RESOLUTION NO 22-09-565: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REFUND TO THE FOLLOWING TAXPAYERS DUE TO TAX COURT APPEALS (1922 Paramus Partners LLC)

RESOLUTION NO 22-09-566: 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 22-09-567: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF MUNICIPAL PERSONAL PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE ON AN ONLINE AUCTION WEBSITE

RESOLUTION NO 22-09-568: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF CHRISTIAN DANSBACH TO THE POSITION OF FULL-TIME POLICE TELECOMMUNICATOR STEP 4 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT- COMMUNICATIONS AT A SALARY OF \$47,647.48 PER YEAR

RESOLUTION NO 22-09-569: RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE RESIGNATION OF CAMILLE CALUPAD FROM THE POSITION OF SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER CLASS 1B FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT – TRAFFIC DIVISION

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RESOLUTION NO 22-09-570: RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE RESIGNATION OF FRANK J. PISERCHIA FROM THE POSITION OF PART TIME SUMMER – RECORD'S CLERK STEP 1 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT – RECORD'S DIVISION

RESOLUTION NO 22-09-571: RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE RESIGNATION OF GREGORY OREFICE FROM THE POSITION OF SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT – TRAFFIC DIVISION

RESOLUTION NO 22-09-572: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RETIREMENT OF DAVID LAGRONE FROM THE POSITION OF CAPTAIN FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT – CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU

RESOLUTION NO 22-09-573: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RETIREMENT OF JOHN TOOHEY FROM THE POSITION OF DETECTIVE LIEUTENANT FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT – CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU

RESOLUTION NO 22-09-574: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF AMIT VAIDYA TO THE POSITION OF DETECTIVE STEP G FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT – CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU AT A SALARY OF \$159,894 PER YEAR

RESOLUTION NO 22-09-575: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF DEAN AVAGNANO TO THE POSITION OF TRAFFIC SERGEANT STEP G FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT – TRAFFIC SAFETY UNIT AT A SALARY OF \$172,455 PER YEAR

RESOLUTION NO 22-09-576: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF ELLIOT COLON TO THE POSITION OF PATROL LIEUTENANT STEP G FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT – PATROL DIVISION AT A SALARY OF \$186,052 PER YEAR

RESOLUTION NO 22-09-577: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF JOHN DEVINE TO THE POSITION OF CAPTAIN STEP G FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT – OPERATIONS DIVISION AT A SALARY OF \$214,243 PER YEAR

RESOLUTION NO 22-09-578: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF MATTHEW PARRELLO TO THE POSITION OF SERGEANT STEP G FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT – TRAINING UNIT AT A SALARY OF \$168,814 PER YEAR

RESOLUTION NO 22-09-579: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF MICHAEL CEBULSKI TO THE POSITION OF DETECTIVE LIEUTENANT STEP G FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT – CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS/JUVENILE BUREAU AT A SALARY OF \$194,326 PER YEAR

RESOLUTION NO 22-09-580: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF STEVEN NEPOLA TO THE POSITION OF PATROL SERGEANT STEP G FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT – PATROL DIVISION AT A SALARY OF \$168,814 PER YEAR

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RESOLUTION NO 22-09-581: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO THE POSITION OF DETECTIVE STEP F FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT – CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU AT A SALARY OF \$152,293 PER YEAR

RESOLUTION NO 22-09-582: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO THE POSITION OF DETECTIVE LIEUTENANT STEP G FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT – CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU AT A SALARY OF \$194,326 PER YEAR

RESOLUTION NO 22-09-583-A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PROMOTION OF KEVIN OSIADACZ TO THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF OPERATIONS STEP 2 FOR THE PARAMUS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AT A SALARY OF \$84,043.69 PER YEAR

RESOLUTION NO 22-09-584-A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS TO ENTER INTO A DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH PARAMUS DEVELOPMENT GROUP, LLC

RESOLUTION NO 22-09-585-RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH CLERK TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR A REPLACEMENT GENERATOR AT GROVE STREET PUMP STATION

APPLICATIONS:

RAFFLE

College Club of Northern NJ	File # 888
College Club of Northern NJ	File # 889
Greater Bergen County YMCA	File # 890
Closter Animal Welfare Society	File # 891
Paramus Catholic High School	File # 892

SOLICITOR

Christopher De La Cruz 2022-SL-26

Motion: Councilwoman Weber

Second: Councilman Quintana

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion carries 6-0

ADJOURNMENT: 7:35 PM

APPROVED: NOVEMBER 22, 2022

Respectfully submitted:
Annemarie Krusznis RMC
Borough Clerk