

DRAFT MINUTES

These are the Draft Minutes of the Agenda Conference of the North Plainfield Borough Council held on Monday, 22 May 2017. Every attempt has been made to make these as comprehensive and conclusive as possible. However, as it is a draft document, it is not to be construed as a formal depiction of the official conduct of business and is subject to revision up to and following the Governing Body's actual approval of same. If changes are necessary, revised minutes will be posted to the website.

MINUTES of the Agenda Conference of the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield held on Monday, **May 22, 2017** at 7:35 p.m. at the North Plainfield Council Chambers, 263 Somerset Street, North Plainfield, New Jersey.

PRESENT:

Council Members: Everett Merrill
Keiona R. Miller
Frank Righetti (absent – excused)
Wendy Schaefer
Douglas M. Singleterry
Frank “Skip” Stabile
Lawrence La Ronde, Council President

Also Present: Michael Giordano, Jr., Mayor
David E. Hollod, Business Administrator
John Kaplan, Esq., Associate Borough Attorney
Richard K. Phoenix, RMC, Borough Clerk

Council President La Ronde acknowledged that Hon. Peter Palmer, Somerset County Freeholder, was in attendance.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Mr. Merrill.

Council President La Ronde requested a moment of silence for the men and women serving in our Armed Forces.

The Council President read the following Notice of Compliance:

"This is an Agenda Meeting of the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, scheduled by resolution of the Council adopted on November 28, 2016. Adequate notice of this meeting was given pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.* by transmitting said notice to the *Courier News*, *The Star-Ledger*, *The Alternative Press* and *WKMB* Radio on November 29, 2016, by publication of the

announcement in the Courier News on December 1, 2016 and by posting a copy of this notice on the bulletin boards in the Municipal Building and Memorial Library reserved for such purpose."

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Honorable Peter Palmer, Bernardsville, reported that of the twenty-one municipalities within Somerset County, he had now attended five different governing body meetings. He then recognized the Rodriguez family, noting that three of the sisters are currently on Active Duty. Mayor Giordano thanked Freeholder Palmer for his work, especially the shuttle bus for Raritan Valley Community College students.

Frank D'Amore, Sr., 40 Willow Avenue, North Plainfield, reported that several of the concrete markers in the west end side of town need repainting.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Amending Professional Services Agreement with Suburban Consulting Engineers – D.E.H.** Mr. Hollod explained that the amendment would allow them to prepare construction plans and specifications for underground storage tanks for the fueling station, as well as the coordination for field changes of the new generator.

2. **Capital Projects – 2017 – D.E.H.** Mr. Hollod advised of a 2.1 million dollar down payment in the current budget for various capital projects. The Police Department had requested new video equipment and the Fire Department a new ambulance. Funds would be used for the Memorial Library main floor design improvements and the resurfacing of approximately fifteen roads. The Bond Counsel should have the ordinance ready for the first meeting in June, he concluded.

Responding to the Council President's inquiry regarding the replacement of the electronic sign at Borough Hall, Mr. Hollod noted that it may be moved to the other side of the street. Responding to Mr. Merrill's question of Green Brook sharing in the cost of a new ambulance, Mr. Hollod acknowledged discussions regarding the use of one of their ambulances. Mayor Giordano noted that FEMA is currently investigating the whereabouts of the Rescue Squad's ambulance. Mr. Stabile recalled a clause in the contract which would return the ambulance to the Borough.

3. **An Ordinance to Amend, Revise and Supplement the Code of the Borough of North Plainfield, Chapter X Entitled "Building and Housing," Article I Entitled "State Uniform Construction Code Enforcing Agency," Section 10-1.2 Entitled "Fees for a Construction Permit"** – D.E.H. Mr. Hollod noted that it had been quite some time since the fees had been adjusted, further noting their caution to increase fees during the recession. Confirming the robust construction going on within town and on Route 22, he stated the Borough would now look to increase fees.

REPORTS OF BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS:

Mr. Merrill reported that Somerset School would be named a school of character. Bi-lingual Spanish classes would be added in the fall and outdated laptops had been donated to Recreation.

Ms. Schaefer reported that Katherine Miller, the Historic Preservation Commission Chair, had applied for and obtained a federal grant to conduct a survey of the Historic District.

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Miller, seconded by Mr. Merrill and carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Borough Clerk

Council President