

DRAFT MINUTES

These are the Draft Minutes of the Agenda Conference of the North Plainfield Borough Council held on Monday, 26 March 2018.

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, **March 26, 2018** at 7:30 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 (absent – excused)
Lawrence La Ronde, Council President

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

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

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 27, 2017. 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 28, 2017, by publication of the announcement in the *Courier News* on December 1, 2017 and by posting a copy of this notice on the bulletin boards in the Municipal Building and Memorial Library reserved for such purpose."

Mayor Giordano presented the following Mayoral Proclamation to Mayor Haggerty:

WHEREAS, James Freeman was a lifelong resident of our community, graduated from North Plainfield High School and distinguished himself by giving over 35 years of dedicated, loyal and outstanding service to the Borough of North Plainfield; and

WHEREAS, James Freeman was dedicated to North Plainfield children and served as a member of the Board of Education from 1979 to 1985, serving as Vice President of the Board from 1984 to 1985; and

WHEREAS, James Freeman served with distinction as a member of the Borough Council from January 1, 1993 through December 31, 1996, serving as Vice President for the year 1995 and President for the year 1996; and

WHEREAS, James Freeman was a member of the Planning Board, the Independence Day Committee, the Mayor's Special Events Committee, the Somerset County Community Development Committee, the Community Center Subcommittee, and liaison to the Parking Authority. He was instrumental in the completion of the North Plainfield Community Center, chaired the Annual Street Fairs and was an active leader in the North Plainfield 100th Anniversary Celebration; and

WHEREAS, James Freeman was North Plainfield's representative to the Plainfield Area Regional Sewer Authority (PARSA) and its predecessor organization, The Plainfield Joint Meeting, for over 20 years; and

WHEREAS, James Freeman served his country honorably during the Vietnam Era and was also a long time member of the American Legion's Ball-Kirch Post 265, having been appointed to various positions, including Commander of the post. He presided over the Borough's Memorial Day services, had taken the lead on the Legion's annual flag retirement ceremony, and had researched the service of North Plainfield Veterans.

THEREFORE, on behalf of the North Plainfield Borough Council and the citizens of North Plainfield, I wish to recognize and applaud the dedication of James Freeman who passed away January 27th, 2018 and call upon all of our citizens to do the same in recognition of his devotion to our community and efforts to make it a better place for all.

Mayor Giordano presented the following Mayoral Proclamation:

Colorectal Cancer Awareness March 2018

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is third most commonly diagnosed cancer and the second most common cause of cancer deaths for men and women in the United States and New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer affects men and women equally. It is estimated there will be over 140,000 new cases with a death rate of over 50,000; and

WHEREAS, every 3 minutes, someone is diagnosed with colorectal cancer and every 10 minutes someone dies from colorectal cancer; and

WHEREAS, four cancers account for 51.4% of new cancer diagnoses in Somerset County and 45.2% of all deaths, colon cancer accounts for over 10% of all cancer cases and deaths in the county; and

WHEREAS, in Somerset County 30 individuals are diagnosed with cancer each week, ten individuals die of cancer each week and the annual incidence has increased; and

WHEREAS, only 39 percent of colorectal cancer patients have their cancers detected at an early stage; and

WHEREAS, the survival rate of individuals who have early stage colorectal cancer is 90 percent which is why there are over one million colon cancer survivors in the United States however 5 percent of those diagnosed later will have cancer spread to other organs; and

WHEREAS, if the majority of people in the United States age 50 or older were screened regularly for colorectal cancer, the death rate from this disease could plummet by up to 70 percent; and

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is preventable, treatable, and beatable in most cases; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Chronic Disease Coalition along with its partners are encouraging residents to spread the word, get screened for colon cancer and incorporate a healthy diet, including fiber and whole grains, to reduce the risk of developing cancer. They also remind residents to talk to your doctor about getting screened as the vast majority of cancer deaths can be prevented through early detection.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael Giordano, Mayor of the Borough of North Plainfield, do hereby proclaim March 2018 as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month and urge all citizens to get regular screenings to help save lives.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Frank D'Amore, 40 Willow Avenue, North Plainfield, called for salary control as a means to provide property tax relief for residents.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Award of Public Works Yard Fueling Station Bid** – D.E.H. Mr. Hollod explained that this resolution authorizes the execution of a contract with T. Slack Environmental Services, Inc. for the Department of Public Works Yard Fueling Station project.

2. **Authorizing a Professional Services Agreement with Somerset County – Certified Recycling Professional Services** – D.E.H. Mr. Hollod explained that this agreement authorizes a contract with Somerset County for the services of the County’s Certified Recycling Professional to sign the Borough’s Annual Recycling Tonnage Report.

3. **Authorizing Shared Services Agreement with PARSA for Sewer Cleaning and Maintenance Services** – D.E.H. Mr. Hollod advised that this resolution authorizes a Shared Services Agreement with the Plainfield Area Regional Sewerage Authority for the cleaning of the Borough’s sewerage lines.

4. **Agreement with Revenue Guard for EMS Billing Services** – D.E.H. Mr. Hollod explained that this resolution authorizes an agreement with Revenue-Guard for the Borough’s ambulance billing and accounts receivable.

REPORTS OF BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS:

Mr. Merrill reported on several upcoming events, including the Easter egg hunt, a parade for opening day of baseball and softball season, and the fishing derby.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Borough Clerk

Council President