

# ***DRAFT MINUTES***

*These are the Draft Minutes of the Agenda Conference Meeting of the North Plainfield Borough Council held on Monday, 11 March 2019.*

*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 11, 2019** at 7:56 p.m. at the North Plainfield Council Chambers, 263 Somerset Street, North Plainfield, New Jersey.

## **PRESENT:**

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

Also Present: Michael Giordano, Jr., Mayor  
David Hollod, Business Administrator  
Eric M. Bernstein, Esq., Borough Attorney  
Richard K. Phoenix, RMC, Borough Clerk  
Stephanie Sherwood, RMC, CMR, Deputy Clerk

The meeting was called to order by Borough Attorney, Eric M. Bernstein, Esq., who then read the following Statement 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 19, 2018. 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 20, 2018 by publication of the announcement in the *Courier News* of November 24, 2018 and by posting a copy of this notice on the bulletin boards in the Municipal Building and Memorial Library reserved for such purpose."

## **ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO-TEMPORARE**

Mr. Bernstein called for nominations for Council President Pro-Temporare.

Ms. Corzo nominated Mr. La Ronde (there were no further nominations), seconded by Ms. Schaefer with Roll Call as follows:

Aye: Corzo, Schaefer, Singleterry  
Abstain: La Ronde.

Mr. La Ronde assumed the Chair Pro-Temporare.

Mayor Giordano presented the following Mayoral Proclamation:

### RED CROSS MONTH

WHEREAS, more than 137 years ago, the American Red Cross was established as a humanitarian organization, guided by seven fundamental principles—including humanity, impartiality and independence—to provide services to those in need regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or citizenship status. Today, the American Red Cross is one of the largest humanitarian organizations in the world, and delivers its mission every day to prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies.

WHEREAS, every year, the American Red Cross responds to an average of more than 62,000 disasters across the country, from small home fires to devastating massive disasters. Last year's large crises included mudslides in California, a volcano in Hawaii, wildfires in Colorado and California, destructive hurricanes in Florida and the Carolinas, and a devastating typhoon in U.S. territories. Thousands of American Red Cross volunteers provided around-the-clock shelter for disaster victims, served millions of meals and snacks with partners, and distributed millions of relief items.

WHEREAS, in New Jersey, the Red Cross has a long history of helping our neighbors in need. The Red Cross New Jersey Region assisted with 902 local disasters in the past year alone and helped save lives through our Home Fire Campaign. Since the campaign launched in October 2014, the New Jersey Region has worked with community partners to install more than 31,761 smoke alarms. Meanwhile, in our area, the Red Cross handles an average of 5,100 emergency military calls every year and collects an average of 95,000 units of blood from our generous blood donors.

WHEREAS, March is Red Cross Month, a special time to recognize and thank the Red Cross volunteers and donors who give of their time and resources to help members of the community. The Red Cross depends on these local heroes to deliver help and hope during a disaster. We applaud our heroes here in New Jersey who give of themselves to assist their neighbors when they need a helping hand.

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families.

WHEREAS, we dedicate the month of March to all those who support the American Red Cross mission to prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies. Our community depends on the American Red Cross, which relies on volunteers and the generosity of the public to perform its mission.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael Giordano Jr., Mayor of the Borough of North Plainfield, do hereby proclaim March, 2019 as Red Cross Month. I encourage all Americans to support this organization and its noble humanitarian mission.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Frank D'Amore, 40 Willow Avenue, North Plainfield, asked the Council to use their investigative authority to determine why the Construction Official has not complied with section 22-122.14d of the Borough Code. He explained that the Construction Official is required to submit reports to the Historic Preservation Commission regarding applicants' adherence to the provisions set forth in Certificates of Appropriateness.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Award of Bid to Jo-Med Construction Corp. for Harmony Street Sanitary/Storm Sewer Improvements** – D.E.H. Mr. Hollod indicated that this resolution would authorize the execution of an agreement with Jo-Med Construction Corp. for the Harmony Street Sanitary and Storm Sewer Improvements project.
2. **Agreement with Board of Education for Use of Recreational Facilities** – D.E.H. Mr. Hollod noted that this is a standard agreement with the Board of Education which allows for use of the athletic fields. The Board of Education has already endorsed the continuation of the agreement.
3. **Agreement with CTS Group Architects to Provide Design and Construction Services for Phase 2 Renovations and Improvements to the North Plainfield Memorial Library** – D.E.H. Mr. Hollod explained that this resolution authorizes the execution of an agreement with CTS Group Architecture/Planning PA for the second phase of renovations and improvements at the library. Thanks to the passage of the Bond Act, the Borough would qualify for up to fifty percent of the improvement costs through State funding.
4. **Closeout Resolution Authorizing Final Payment for CCM Contracting for 2017 Capital Road Improvement Projects** – D.E.H. Mr. Hollod advised that this resolution would approve final payment and the closing out of the contract with CCM Contracting, Inc. for the 2017 Capital Road Improvement Projects.

**REPORTS OF BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS:** None.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

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Borough Clerk

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Council President