

# ***DRAFT MINUTES***

*These are the Draft Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
of the North Plainfield Borough Council held on Monday, 13 December 2021.*

*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 Regular (virtual) Meeting of the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield held on Monday, **December 13, 2021** at 7:38 p.m. via Zoom.

## **PRESENT:**

Council Members: Aimee Corzo  
Suzette Given  
Steven McIntyre  
Everett Merrill, Council Vice President  
Keiona R. Miller  
Wendy Schaefer  
Frank "Skip" Stabile, Council President

Also Present: Lawrence La Ronde, Mayor  
David Hollod, Business Administrator  
Phil George, Esq., Associate Borough Attorney  
Richard K. Phoenix, RMC, Borough Clerk  
Stephanie Sherwood, RMC, CMR, Deputy Clerk

Council President Stabile read the following Notice of Compliance:

"This virtual meeting is being held in compliance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. Adequate notice of this meeting was provided by transmitting notice to the official newspapers of the Borough, The Courier News, WKMB Radio, WJLP-TV, the Alternative Press and also to the Star Ledger on December 9, 2021 and by posting a copy of this notice on the bulletin boards in the Municipal Building and the Memorial Library reserved for such purpose."

The Pledge to the Flag was led by Council Vice President Merrill.

All then joined in a moment of silence for the Men and Women serving in our Armed Forces.

Mr. Phoenix read the following:

“A statement of the determination of the Board of Canvassers of Somerset County, New Jersey, relative to an election held in the County of Somerset on November 2, 2021 for the election of the following mentioned offices in the Borough of North Plainfield.

Two (2) One-Year (Unexpired Terms) Borough Council Seats  
The said Board does determine that

STEVEN MCINTYRE

SUEZETTE GIVEN

were duly elected to the Borough Council.

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true, full and correct statement of the determination of the Board of Canvassers of Somerset County, New Jersey.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 15<sup>th</sup> day of November 2021.”

Mayor Lawrence La Ronde administered the Oath of Office to Council Members-Elect:

STEVEN MCINTYRE

SUEZETTE GIVEN

The Clerk had submitted copies of the minutes of the Agenda Conference and Regular Meeting November 15, 2021.

The Council President called for a roll call on the minutes: All in favor.

**HEARING:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 21-15** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND, REVISE AND SUPPLEMENT THE BOROUGH CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD, CHAPTER XI, PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE, MOST NOTABLY SECTION 11-13, TITLED “VACANT PROPERTY REGISTRATION.”

The Clerk read the ordinance by its title.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

Motion to close public comment by Ms. Schaefer, seconded by Ms. Corzo and on roll call carried all seven voting aye.

Ms. Given presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-13-21-01** BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that an ordinance numbered 21-15 be adopted and advertised as required by statute.

Seconded by Ms. Miller and on roll call carried unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Council President Stabile stated that all matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If any discussion is desired by Council, that particular item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

Ms. Schaefer presented the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-13-21-02** BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that resolutions numbered

12-13-21-02 a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, p

having been placed on the Consent Agenda and there having been no objection thereto, the same are hereby approved.

Seconded by Ms. Miller and on roll call carried unanimously.

**APPROVED RESOLUTIONS:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-13-21-02a** AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A REVISED SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR THE RESALE OF COMMODITIES AND OTHER RELATED SERVICES WITH THE SOMERSET COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, JANUARY 1, 2022 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2026

WHEREAS, the County of Somerset is a leader in the concept of shared services as evidenced by a history of Inter-local Services Agreements; and

WHEREAS, the County of Somerset is desirous of contracting public works services to the county municipalities and public units in accordance with P.L. 2007, C.63, Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act, and the terms of an agreement, copy of which is on file with the Clerk of the Board; and

WHEREAS, the County of Somerset is desirous of implementing Commodity Resale System #201SCCRS, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:34-17.1 for the resale of gasoline, diesel fuel, snow removal chemicals and public works materials and supplies; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield wishes to enter into this revised Master Agreement for services as described above;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of North Plainfield that we do hereby authorize execution of the revised Agreement by the Mayor and Clerk to accept public works commodities and services with Somerset County as per letter dated November 9, 2021 for the period of January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2026.

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-13-21-02b** WHEREAS, Corelogic and Nationstar both paid taxes on Block 203.03 Lot 11, in error, Corelogic has requested refund of that over payment, and;

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, that the Treasurer is authorized to make the following refunds:

Refund Real Estate Over Tax Payment:

Corelogic                   \$ 2,311.70  
Attn: Refund Unit (Loan# 0424207728)  
3001 Hackberry Road  
Irving, Texas 75063

Re: 450 Oakridge Avenue

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-13-21-02c** Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

WHEREAS, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

WHEREAS, The Borough Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Council further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Somerset;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough of North Plainfield, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Borough Council does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the North Plainfield Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2022 - 2023 in the amount of:
  - DEDR \$ 7,879.99
  - Cash Match \$ 1,969.00
  - In-Kind \$ 5,910.00
2. The Borough Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.
3. The Borough Council accepts subsequent award of this grant.

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-13-21-02d** BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that it does hereby adopt the following schedule as a schedule of agenda conferences and regular council meetings for the year 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk is hereby directed to post copies of said Schedule on the bulletin board in Borough Hall reserved for said purpose, to forward copies of same to the *Courier News*, *The Star Ledger*, *WKMB Radio*, *WJLP-TV*, *The Alternative Press* and the North Plainfield Memorial Library and to take such other steps as shall be required by law to comply with the Open Public Meetings Act.

*COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE*

Agenda Conferences and Regular Meetings of the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield for the year 2022 shall be held in the Community Center, 614 Greenbrook Road, North Plainfield, New Jersey. Agenda Conferences shall begin at 7:30 p.m., immediately followed by Regular Meetings. Executive Sessions and meetings of the Borough Council acting as the local Board of Health may be convened as announced. Said meetings shall be held on the following dates:

January	10	24	February	14	28
March	14	28	April	11	25
May	9	23	June	13	27
July	11		August	15	
September	12	26	October	11	24
November	14		December	12	

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-13-21-02e** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACTS APPROVED STATE CONTRACT VENDORS FOR CONTRACTING UNITS PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A 40A:11-12a

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12a and N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.29(c), may by resolution and without advertising for bids, purchase any goods or services under the State of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program for any state contracts

entered into on behalf of the State by the Division of Purchase and Property in the Department of the Treasury; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield has the need on a timely basis to purchase goods or services utilizing State contracts; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield intends to enter into contracts with the attached referenced State Contract Vendors through this resolution and properly executed contracts, which shall be subject to all the conditions applicable to the current State contracts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of North Plainfield pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.5(b), the certification of available funds, shall either certify the full maximum amount against the budget at the time the contract is awarded, or no contract amount shall be chargeable or certified until such time as the goods or services are ordered or otherwise called for prior to placing the order, and a certification of availability of funds is made by the Chief Finance Officer; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the duration of the contracts between the Borough of North Plainfield and the referenced State Contract Vendors shall be for the 2021 Year, and:

<u>A/C #</u>	<u>Name</u>		
88273	AK Equipment	69944	Highpoint Furniture
74018	Absolute Fire	83930	Home Depot
80963	Air & Gas Technologies	82693	Horizon Blue Cross & Blue Shield
65808	Air Purifiers, Inc.	63522	Innovation Doc Imaging, LLC
69942	All Steel Inc.	87466	John Deere Landscapes
68766	Allied Oil, Co.	74012	Kaldoz
61419	American Tire Service	69923	KML Technology, Inc.
71048	Approved Fire Protection	69531	Kova Corp.
V41144	Asia Trading	67875	Lanigan Assoc. Inc.
83331	Atlantic Salt	81322	Laser Technology, Inc.
73991	Atlantic Tactical	67872	Lawman Supply Co.
A79161	Beyer Bros	85850	Lawson Products
01785	Bodyworks by Tiffany	62423	Lifesavers
63767	Boises Bus Interiors	70142	Mayline Furniture
85017	Broadview Network	77814	Messercola Excavating
81413	BSN Sports	81520	Morpho Trak
71054	Cairns	T0213	Morton Salt Inc.
T2085	Cambria Truck Center	53804	Motorola
78848	Celebrity Fleet Operations LLC	83909	Motorola Solutions
68645	Cintas Fire Protection	69830	Office Business Systems
80977	CMF Business	42285	Office Solutions
27171	Computer Systems Method	47705	Pitney Bowes
71056	Continental Fire & Safety	82709	Ricoh Americas Corporation
70137	Dell Marketing, LP (70256)	80866	Rutgers the State University
81301	Draeger Safety Inc.	81408	Safety Down Under Inc.
67873	Eagle Point Gun/TJ Morris-Son	68461	Sagem Morphotrak
81338	East Coast Emergency Lighting	71063	Scott
72300	Elite Tree Service	64040	Sharpe Electronic Corp.
84698	Emerald City Auto Spa	82236	Sherwin Williams
75248	Ergo Space Design Inc.	89851	SHI International
67899	ESI Equipment	82226	Siperstein's
81357	Firefighter One	71057	Stanfield
81397	Finch Fuel Oil Co. Inc.	76921	Storr Tractor Company
T0106	Flemington Department Store	A75551	T Slack Environmental Services
15/16-08	Foley Incorporated	85193	Traffic Safety Services
70462	Ford Motor Credit	67765	Trico Equipment
		76669	Turnout Fire & Safety
73032	Garden State Highway	82583	Verizon Wireless
71062	Gen-el Safety & Ind.	69933	WB Mason Co, Inc.
71048	Globe Manufacturing	71642	WE Timmerman Co.
73783	Hertrich Fleet Services	73902	Weldon Asphalt
70262	Hewlett Packard		

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the referenced State Contract Vendors are projected to exceed the bid threshold for the 2021 Year:

68766 Allied Oil, Co.

70462 Ford Motor Credit

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-13-21-02f** Resolution Supporting the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2021 Year End Holiday Crackdown

Whereas, approximately one-third of all fatal traffic crashes in the United States involve impaired drivers; and

Whereas, impaired driving crashes killed 10,142 people in the United States in 2019; and

Whereas, impaired driving crashes cost the United States almost \$44 Billion a year; and

Whereas, during the past five years New Jersey's roadways experienced 35,307 crashes and 618 fatalities involving impaired drivers; and

Whereas, an enforcement crackdown is planned to combat impaired driving; and

Whereas, the year end holiday season is traditionally a time for social gatherings which include alcohol; and

Whereas, the State of New Jersey, Division of Highway Traffic Safety, has asked law enforcement agencies throughout the state to participate in the *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2021 Year End Holiday Crackdown*; and

Whereas, the project will involve increased impaired driving enforcement from December 3, 2021 through January 1, 2022; and

Whereas, an increase in impaired driving enforcement and a reduction in impaired driving will save lives on our roadways;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Borough of North Plainfield declares its support for the *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2021 Year End Holiday Crackdown* from December 3, 2021 through January 1, 2022 and pledges to increase awareness of the dangers of drinking and driving.

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-13-21-02g** RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH CLERK TO EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH UTILITY ADVANTAGE, TO ASSIST THE BOROUGH IN OBTAINING INCENTIVES FROM NEW JERSEY'S ELECTRIC VEHICLE INCENTIVE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield intends to purchase several electric vehicles and the associated charging infrastructure for the Borough's proposed Electric Vehicle Incentive Program to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the Borough's day-to-day operations; and,



WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield is in need of assistance in obtaining incentives from New Jersey's Electric Vehicle Incentive Program; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield has received a proposal from Utility Advantage, dated August 26, 2021, to provide professional services relative to obtaining incentives from New Jersey's Electric Vehicle Incentive Program; and,

WHEREAS, Utility Advantage proposes that they will provide a list and description of all available incentives for Electric Vehicles and Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure for the Borough's vehicle use that are offered by the NJBPU, NJOCE, and NJDEP, along with program updates. Utility Advantage estimates approximately five (5) hours for this service; and,

WHEREAS, Utility Advantage will engage with qualified suppliers to obtain three (3) competitive proposals for the electric vehicle charging station infrastructure and identify minimum requirements to obtain incentives as well as brief technical specification of components to meet the Program objectives. Utility Advantage estimates twenty-five to thirty (25-30) hours for this service; and,

WHEREAS, Utility Advantage will provide a turnkey set of services to support the application process. Utility Advantage estimates fifteen to twenty (15-20) hours to provide for this service, which shall include;

- Coordination with Borough staff to capture the required information to complete incentive applications;
- Complete the application forms and submit to associated programs; and
- Participate in any follow up communications and meetings associated with the applications through application approval.

WHEREAS, Utility Advantage offers additional Electric Vehicles, Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure and Best Practices Education and provides a report of select municipal Electric Vehicle programs strategies, practical advice on use of Electric Vehicles for various types of vehicles (cars for safety/policing or business use, light duty trucks, heavy duty trucks), types and application of various charging infrastructure, and estimates of upfront and maintenance/operating costs. Utility advantage estimates twenty to thirty (20-30) hours for this service; and,

WHEREAS, Utility Advantage offers technical specifications and RFP development for procurement of Electric Vehicle charging equipment and associated services. The estimated hours of this services are to be determined based on the scope of the procurement; and,

WHEREAS, Utility Advantage has submitted schedule of hourly rates reflecting a ten (10%) percent reduction of their fees as follows;

Hourly Rates:

Executive/Sr. Consultant - \$175 per hour – Laurie Wiegand-Jackson

Sr. Engineer/Consultant - \$165 per hour – Dan Weeden

Travel expenses shall be at the IRS mileage reimbursement rate plus tolls for travel to/from North Plainfield for meetings.

Estimated Cost:

1. Incentive Program overview estimated five (5) hours = \$875.00
2. EV Charging Station Proposals, estimated twenty-five (25) to thirty (30) hours = \$4,375.00 to \$5,250.00
3. Incentive Application Processing estimated fifteen (15) to twenty (20) hours = \$2,625.00 to \$3,500.00
4. EWV Practices Education, estimated twenty (20) to thirty (30) hours = \$3,500.00 to \$5,250.00.
5. Procurement support - TBD

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Borough Council hereby accepts the proposal submitted by Utility Advantage to perform the professional services associated with the Borough's Electric Vehicle Program as set forth in the Proposal dated, August 26, 2021, for an estimated amount not to exceed Fourteen Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy-Five Dollars (\$14,875.00); and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Council hereby authorizes the Mayor and the Borough Clerk to sign and/or execute any and all contracts to memorialize the proposal submitted by Utility Advantage; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the award of this proposal shall be subject to the certification of the Borough's Chief Financial Officer as to the availability of funds for payment for same; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the award and the proposal and its performance shall be consistent with all applicable laws and the bid proposal of Utility Advantage, dated August 26, 2021, for the services set forth herein.

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-13-21-02h RESOLUTION APPOINTING BRIAN LEVINE AS NORTH PLAINFIELD MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE**

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield has a shared municipal court with the Borough of Watchung and the shared municipal court requires the appointment of a municipal court judge. The Borough of North Plainfield wishes to make such an appointment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor hereby nominates, and the Borough Council hereby appoints Brian Levine, Esq. as Municipal Judge for the Borough of North Plainfield for the annual salary of Sixty-Six Thousand Forty (\$66,040.00) Dollars, of which the Borough of North Plainfield's share of said salary is seventy (70%) percent or Forty-Six Thousand Two Hundred Twenty-Eight (\$46,228.00) Dollars. Judge Levine's appointment

shall begin January 1, 2022 and he shall continue to serve a three (3) year term ending December 31, 2024 and until a successor is qualified and appointed.

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-13-21-02i** RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH CLERK TO EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH MOTT MACDONALD FOR GENERAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2022 FOR THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield is in need of a Professional Engineer to provide certain General Engineering Services for the period between January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022; and,

WHEREAS, Mott MacDonald, with a principal place of business located at 3 Paragon Way, Freehold, New Jersey 07728, is in the business of providing Engineering Services and submitted a proposal, dated December 2, 2021 for 2022 General Engineering Services for the Borough of North Plainfield, Somerset County, New Jersey, a copy of said proposal being maintained in the Office of the Borough Clerk and the contents of which are incorporated herein; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield is desirous of obtaining the services of Mott MacDonald to perform all of those services contemplated in the afore-referenced proposal.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Borough Council does hereby award said contract to Mott MacDonald, 3 Paragon Way, Freehold, New Jersey and authorizes the Mayor and the Borough Clerk to sign and/or execute a Professional Services Agreement with Mott MacDonald without the need for any further action of this Borough Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the award of this Contract shall be subject to the Certification of the Borough's Chief Financial Officer as to the availability of funds for payment for same.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the award is made pursuant to and consistent with the Local Public Contracts Laws of the State of New Jersey.

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-13-21-02j** RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH CLERK TO ACCEPT A CHANGE ORDER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$27,508.56 RELATED TO THE GROVE STREET SANITARY SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT AND TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE BOROUGH TO EFFECTUATE SAME

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield is in need of certain improvements throughout the Borough as part of the Grove Street Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield has entered into an agreement with Messercola Excavating Co. to perform the work related to the Grove Street Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield has received a request for a change order, dated December 2, 2021, from Borough Sewer Engineer Mott MacDonald to accept a change order in the amount of \$27,508.56 received from Messercola Excavating Co., related to the unforeseen requirement to utilize a larger than normal eighteen (18) inch diameter for the existing sanitary sewer main; and,

WHEREAS, under this change order, Messercola Excavating Co. Inc. shall be compensated for additional work identifying the larger than normal pipe size and adjustment of contract process to reflect the change from the normal pipe size increase from fifteen (15) inches to eighteen (18) inches in diameter. The total cost of additional materials and excavation to install the larger pipe is \$27,508.56; and,

WHEREAS, Bryan Oakes, Jr., PE, Project Engineer of Mott MacDonald Engineering, recommends the approval of this change order in the amount of \$27,508.56 to Messercola Excavating as compensation for the unforeseen necessary services in association with the Grove Street Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Borough Council hereby accepts Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$27,508.56 and approves Payment No. 1 to Messercola Excavating Co. Inc. in the amount of \$108,899.37, in accordance with the recommendation made by Mott MacDonald, LLC, as set forth in the proposal of Project Engineer, Bryan Oakes Jr., PE, dated December 2, 2021.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Council hereby authorizes the Mayor and the Borough Clerk to sign and/or execute any and all other necessary documents related to the payment for the services of Messercola Excavating Co. Inc. for the Grove Street Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the payment for these services shall be subject to the certification of the Borough's Chief Financial Officer as to the availability of funds for payment for same; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the payment for said services shall be consistent with all applicable laws, the Borough's bid documents and the recommendation of Mott MacDonald LLC pertaining to the Project known as the Grove Street Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project.

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-13-21-02k** RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH CLERK TO EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH GROTTO ENGINEERING

ASSOCIATES, LLC FOR MUNICIPAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2022 FOR THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD.

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield is in need of a professional engineer to provide certain general engineering services for the period between January 1, 2022 and December 31, 2022; and,

WHEREAS, Grotto Engineering Associates, LLC, with a principal place of business located at 340 North Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016, is in the business of providing engineering services and has submitted a proposal for the 2022 Municipal Engineering Services for the Borough of North Plainfield, Somerset County, New Jersey, dated October 29, 2021, in the amount of One Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$1,820.00) per month (hereinafter referred to as the "Retainer") for certain services and on an hourly basis for certain other non-retained services, all of which are contemplated and set forth in the afore-referenced proposal, a copy of said proposal being maintained in the Office of the Borough Clerk, and the contents of which are incorporated herein; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield is desirous of obtaining the engineering services of Grotto Engineering Associates, LLC to perform all of those services contemplated in the afore-referenced proposal.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Borough Council does hereby authorize the Mayor and the Borough Clerk to sign and/or execute a Professional Services Agreement with Grotto Engineering Associates, LLC, 340 North Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016, as contemplated in the afore-referenced proposal, without the need for any further action of this Borough Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the award of this Contract shall be subject to the Certification of the Borough's Chief Financial Officer as to the availability of funds for payment for same.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the award is made pursuant to and consistent with the Local Public Contracts Laws of the State of New Jersey.

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-13-21-02/** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL TAXES

WHEREAS, the owner of 758 Taft Avenue also known as Block 190 Lot 22 was deemed as a 100% Disabled Veteran and is now exempt from property taxes per the Assessor and;

WHEREAS, preliminary taxes have already been levied on the aforementioned parcel for first and second quarter of 2022;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield of Somerset County, State of New Jersey, that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to cancel taxes on this parcel.

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-13-21-02m PROVIDING FOR THE TRANSFER OF SURPLUS FUNDS**

WHEREAS, N.J.S. 40A:4-58 provides for the transfer of surplus funds from one account to the other during the last two months of the calendar year:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that transfers be made in the Boroughs' 2021 budget appropriations in accordance with the following schedule:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect upon adoption.

<u>A/C #</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
<u>CURRENT FUND</u>			
23-220-200	Group Insurance	\$13,000.00	
25-275-101	Prosecutor-S&W		\$3,000.00
26-290-200	Streets & Roads-OE		10,000.00
Totals			<u>\$13,000.00</u>

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-13-21-02n RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF NORTH PLAINFIELD SUSPENDING THE BUSINESS HOUR RESTRICTION ON THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AT CERTAIN PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSEES' ESTABLISHMENTS**

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield has an ordinance prohibiting the sale of alcoholic beverages on January 1, New Year's Day, between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. unless January 1<sup>st</sup> is a Sunday; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough has received written requests from The Bridge, Plenary Retail Consumption License No. 1814-33-001-003, and Dombar LLC, t/a International Club and Sports Bar, Plenary Retail Consumption License No. 1814-33-007-008 to allow the extension of their hours of operation on Saturday, January 1, 2022 to better enable them to serve their clientele and to improve their receipts during difficult financial times; and

WHEREAS, The Bridge, Plenary Retail Consumption License No. 1814-33-001-003 and Dombar LLC, t/a International Club and Sports Bar, Plenary Retail Consumption License No. 1814-33-007-008 have requested permission to close at a later hour on Saturday, January 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, New Year's Eve generates a large amount of business for alcoholic beverage licensees in the Borough; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to grant the requests of The Bridge and International Club and Sports Bar to remain open until a later hour on January 1, 2022;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that the business hours restriction on the sale of alcoholic beverages is hereby suspended on January 1, 2022 to allow The Bridge, and International Club and Sports Bar to sell alcoholic beverages until last call at 2:00 a.m. with non-alcoholic sales permitted until 3:00 a.m. closing at that time.

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-13-21-02o RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING “WINDOW” CONTRACTS**

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. (New Jersey Local Unit Pay-To-Play Laws), the Borough of North Plainfield must award by resolution all goods and services contracts with a dollar amount between \$17,500 and \$43,999. These contracts are not bid, but vendors are still responsible to provide political contribution and company disclosure information in order to do business with the Borough.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq., when the cost of goods and/or services that fall between \$17,500 and the bid threshold of \$44,000 in the aggregate, an approval by resolution must be in place; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield retained the services of

Confires Fire Protection Service, LLC  
 Moody’s Investors Service  
 North Plainfield Graphics  
 Revenue Guard Medical Claims  
 Sunrise Cooling and Heating, LLC  
 United Business System

WHEREAS, a request for quotes for the required work to be performed was requested from several contractors; and

WHEREAS, the above mentioned vendors completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies the business entity has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit the above said vendors from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Borough authorized the Purchasing Agent on behalf of the Borough to issue and execute a Purchase Order for the foregoing to the above vendors with funds certified available by the Chief Financial Officer; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CFO has been authorized to arrange to pay for the foregoing in accordance with the terms of the purchase order in the amount not to exceed of \$44,000.

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-13-21-02p** BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that the attached bills of the accounts named and for the amounts stated, having been duly audited and found to be correct as of this 13<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2021 the same be paid; and that the Mayor and Chief Financial Officer are hereby authorized to sign and deliver warrants for the same.

Ms. Corzo introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-13-21-03** BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that prior to the adjournment of this meeting it shall convene in executive session from which the public will be excluded for the purpose of discussion on:

Attorney/Client Privilege (Real Estate/Affordable Housing)

Exclusion of the public for this purpose is specifically permitted by N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. The contents of this discussion will not be disclosed until such time as the disclosure of same will not adversely affect the public interest and upon resolution of the Council. Formal action may be taken following end of executive session.

Seconded by Ms. Schaefer and on roll call carried unanimously. Executive Session convened at 7:53 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion to come out of Executive Session by Mr. McIntyre, seconded by Ms. Miller and carried unanimously.

Council President Stabile reconvened the meeting at 9:05 p.m. with all seven council members present.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

NJ State League of Municipalities Trenton, NJ	Newsletters & Advisories Membership Dues Invoice
County of Somerset, Somerville, NJ Plainfield Area Humane Society Plainfield, NJ	Newsletters & Communications Report and Invoicing
Plainfield Area Regional Sewerage Authority Middlesex, NJ	Minutes and Agenda
Somerset County Business Partnership Somerville, NJ	Meeting Announcements
Frank D'Amore Sr., North Plainfield	Property Maintenance Report



Tina Totten, North Plainfield NJ State Comptroller, Trenton Rebenack, Aronow & Mascolo, LLP New Brunswick, NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection Trenton, NJ Somerset County Governing Officials Somerville Somerset County of Bd. of Elections Somerville Sustainable Raritan River, New Brunswick Somerset County Sheriff, Somerville International Club & The Bridge (PRC licensees), North Plainfield	Green Brook Flood Control Meeting Holding Government Accountable in 2021 Civil Action Summons  Remedial Action Permit modification: former Getty Station Dinner Meeting honoring Sen. Kip Bateman Certificate of Election for Council Members Given and McIntyre R3C Webinars Toys for Tots Requests to extend New Year's Opening Hours
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### **REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS:**

Mr. Merrill requested that Superintendent of Schools Michelle Aquino attend a meeting to discuss the Borough's taxpayer funded full-day pre-school program. The Council Vice President also requested a presentation from the new members of the Recreation Department, Dennis Jackson and Jenn DeJesso.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

### **COMMENTS BY MAYOR, ADMINISTRATOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Mayor La Ronde announced the launching of the new notification system for the Borough, encouraging residents to visit the website or Facebook for more information. He offered congratulations to Dennis Jackson, Recreation Director and Jenn DeJesso, Recreation Assistant. He then thanked all involved with the Santa Comes to Town event which was well attended and enjoyed by all. He wished everyone happy holidays.

All Council members wished everyone a very happy and healthy Holiday season.

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Miller, seconded by Mr. McIntyre and on voice vote carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

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Borough Clerk

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Council President