

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield held on Monday, **June 10, 2024** at 9:11 p.m. at North Plainfield Council Chambers, 263 Somerset Street, North Plainfield, New Jersey.

PRESENT:

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

Also Present: Lawrence La Ronde, Mayor
David Hollod, Borough Administrator
Phil George, Esq., Associate Borough Attorney
Michele Irby-Garry, Acting Borough Clerk

Council President Stabile read the following Notice of Compliance:

“This 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, the Alternative Press and also to the Star Ledger on December 11, 2023 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 Council President noted that an Executive Session on the topic of **Pending Litigation** would be held at the close of regular business of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:

The Council President called for a roll call on the Executive Session for April 22, & May 6, 2024 and Regular Meeting minutes of May 6, 2024:

Aye: Corzo, Given, McIntyre, Merrill, Stabile
Abstain: Miller, Schaefer

HEARING & FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 24-11 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND, REVISE AND SUPPLEMENT ORDINANCE NO. 24-01, GOVERNING THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD.

The Acting Clerk read the ordinance by its title.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

Motion to close public comment by Ms. Schaefer, seconded by Mr. McIntyre on roll call carried unanimously.

Mr. Merrill presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTIONS NO. 06-10-24-01 BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that Ordinance numbered 24-11 be adopted and advertised as required by statute.

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

HEARING & FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 24-12 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING APPLICATION FOR A LONG-TERM TAX EXEMPTION AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A FINANCIAL AGREEMENT WITH CAROL GARDENS AT NORTH PLAINFIELD URBAN RENEWAL LLC.

Reading of title by Acting Clerk

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Francine Gargano 57 Willow Avenue is it mandatory to give them Tax exemption?

Mayor LaRonde responded: this is not a tax break, this is payment in lieu taxes. For affordable housing we will renegotiate between a 20 year pilot. Estimated payment has around \$69,000 and will increase over the years.

Motion to close public comment by Ms. Miller, seconded by Ms Corzo on roll call carried unanimously.

Ms Schaefer presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 06-10-24-02 BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that Ordinance numbered 24-12 be adopted and advertised as required by statute.

Seconded by Ms. Miller on roll call carried unanimously.

Mr. McIntyre presented the following Resolution to be removed:

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 24-13 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND, REVISE AND SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER THREE OF THE BOROUGH CODE, ENTITLED "POLICE REGULATIONS," MORE SPECIFICALLY, BY AMENDING, REVISING AND SUPPLEMENTING § 3-7 OF THE BOROUGH CODE, ENTITLED "DISORDERLY CONDUCT".

Seconded by Ms. Miller on roll call carried unanimously to table this ordinance.

Reading of title by Acting Clerk

Mr. Merrill presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 24-14 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND, REVISE AND SUPPLEMENT ARTICLE I OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF THE BOROUGH CODE, ENTITLED "ADMINISTRATIVE CODE", MORE SPECIFICALLY CHAPTER 2-6, ENTITLED "DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION," AND MORE PARTICULARLY § 2-6.5, ENTITLED "ESTABLISHMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE".

Reading of title by Acting Clerk

Seconded by Mr McIntyre on roll call carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Council President 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. Given presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption

RESOLUTION NO. 06-10-24-05 BE IT RESOLVE by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that resolutions numbered

06-10-24-05 a,b,c,d,e,f,g,h,i,j,k,

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

Seconded by Ms. Miller on roll call carried unanimously.

APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA AND RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 06-10-24-05a A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO REFUND TAXES

WHEREAS, the owner of 95 Harrison Avenue, also known as Block 114 Lot 4 was deemed a 100% Disabled Veteran and is now exempt from property taxes per the Assessor and;

WHEREAS, the property taxes were paid on the aforementioned parcel for 2024 2nd quarter:

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 and refund overpayments on this parcel:

Refund Overpayments to:

Peterson, Wayne T. \$ 3,655.37
95 Harrison Avenue
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

RESOLUTION NO. 06-10-24-05b A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO REFUND TAXES WHEREAS, the owner of 175 Clinton Avenue, also known as Block 182 Lot 15 was deemed a 100% Disabled Veteran effective April 11, 2024 per the Assessor and;

WHEREAS, the property taxes were paid on the aforementioned parcel for 2024 2nd quarter

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 refund taxes on this parcel:

Refund Overpayments to:

Bernabela, Shaniyah	\$2,097.95
175 Clinton Avenue	
North Plainfield, NJ 07060	

RESOLUTION NO. 06-10-24-05c 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 20th day of May 2024 the same be paid; and that the Mayor and Chief Financial Officer are hereby authorized to sign and deliver warrants for the same.

RESOLUTION NO. 06-10-24-05d BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that it does hereby grant permission for the public display of fireworks on July 6, 2024 with a rain date of July 7, 2024; and BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that any fees regarding these municipally sponsored activities are hereby waived.

RESOLUTION NO. 06-10-24-05e RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH CLERK TO EXECUTE A LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF UNION FOR THE USE OF GREEN BROOK PARK FOR ITS ANNUAL FOURTH OF JULY FIREWORKS DISPLAY IN THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2024.

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield desires to have fireworks display in honor of the 4th of July in Green Brook Park (hereinafter referred to as the “Fireworks”) to be held on Saturday, July 6, 2024, with a proposed rain date of Sunday, July 7, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Union, a body politic of the State of New Jersey, with offices at the Union County Administration Building, 10 Elizabethtown Plaza, Elizabeth, New Jersey is the current lessee of Green Brook Park; and, WHEREAS, the County of Union requires that the Borough of North Plainfield have a license agreement to use a portion of Green Brook Park for its Fireworks, a copy of said license agreement 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 using Green Brook Park for its Fireworks and entering into said license agreement with the County of Union for calendar year 2024.

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 license agreement with the County of Union, without the need for any further action of this Borough Council, for the purposes cited above for calendar year 2024.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 06-10-24-05f BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that it does hereby authorize the Mayor and Borough Clerk to execute an Agreement with Garden State Fireworks, Inc., P.O. Box 403, 383 Carlton Road, Millington, NJ 07946-2002 for the public display of fireworks on July 6, 2024 with a rain date of July 7, 2024 for an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 06-10-24-05g RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR THE MAYOR AND ACTING BOROUGH CLERK AND/OR THE BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR TO ACT ON AND/OR EXECUTE AGREEMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE BOROUGH DURING THE TIME THE BOROUGH COUNCIL IS NOT IN SESSION.

WHEREAS, there are certain periods of time when the North Plainfield Borough Council is not in session and no meetings are scheduled and/or held by the Borough Council; and,

WHEREAS, during such time when the Borough Council is not in session, or where otherwise appropriate and/or necessary, certain actions may need to be taken by the Borough of North Plainfield with respect to paying bills, executing agreements and other such items; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to authorize the Mayor and/or Mayor and Borough Clerk and/or the Borough Administrator to take any and all such necessary actions on behalf of the Borough during the time the Borough Council is not in session including, but not limited to, the paying of bills and executing agreements on behalf of the Borough,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Mayor and/or the Mayor and Borough Clerk and/or the Borough Administrator are hereby authorized to pay bills, execute any and all agreements and/or take any other action on behalf of the Borough that becomes necessary during the time the Borough Council is not in session and no meetings are scheduled and/or held by the Borough Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 06-10-24-05h BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized and directed to create duplicate tax sale certificate(s) as follows:

Block 3.04 Lot 12 161 Mali Drive # 13-00011 issued 12/4/201

RESOLUTION NO. 06-10-24-05i

WHEREAS, Jeremias Segura inadvertently paid on taxes for Block 92 Lot 14 and has requested refund of that payment, and;

WHEREAS, his mortgage company had already paid the taxes as they should have;

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 Erroneous Tax Payments:

Jeremias Segura \$1200.00 115 Somerset Street North Plainfield, NJ 07060

RESOLUTION NO. 06-10-24-5j

WHEREAS, Angel Guaman inadvertently paid second quarter taxes on Block 97 Lot 21 and has requested refund of that payment, and;

WHEREAS, his mortgage company had already paid the taxes as they should have;

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 Erroneous Tax Payments: Angel Guaman \$ 2,606.76 112 Duer Street North Plainfield, NJ 07060

RESOLUTION NO. 06-10-24-05k

WHEREAS, the following applicants have applied for renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption or Plenary Retail Distribution Licenses for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 and the submitted application forms are complete in all respects; and

WHEREAS, the applicants are qualified to be licensed according to all statutory, regulatory and local government ABC laws and regulations; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to issue licenses in accordance with the filed applications to the following applicants for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025:

1814-32-011-012 J & N Wine and Spirits LLC, t/a Buy Rite 967 US Highway 22 West,

1814-33-003-004 El Salvador Inc, t/a Tesoro Salvadoreño Restaurant 64 Somerset Street,

1814-33-008-006 Mi Mundo Latino LLC, t/a Mi Mundo Latino 375 Somerset Street,

1814-33-010-012 Texas Roadhouse Holdings LLC 1258 Route 22 Eastbound,

1814-33-007-009 Paradise Club & Sports Bar LLC 403 Somerset Street,

1814-44-005-009 Clinton Liquors of North Plainfield Inc, t/a Clinton Liquors 64 Watchung Avenue,

1814-44-006-007 R&R Spirits Inc., t/a Star Discount Liquors 25 Greenbrook Road,

1814-44-012-006 Shivaam LLC, t/a Herb's Liquor 194 Somerset Street,

1814-44-013-013 NB Liquors Inc. 1290 US Highway 22,

1814-33-004-005 Toson Food & Beverages-Pocket License North Plainfield LLC,

1814-33-001-003 L. Penaloza, LLC. t/a The Bridge

Ms Corzo presented the following resolution

06-10-24-06 Convening Executive Session: (Attorney/Client Privilege)

Executive session would be held at the close of this meeting. Not open to the public.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pending Litigation - (P.G)

Seconded by Ms. Miller on roll call carried unanimously.

RECONVENE

COMMUNICATIONS:

NJDEP Office of Local Government Service Assistance	Weekly Newsletter
New Jersey League of Municipalities	OPRA Modernization
Somerset County for Aging & Disabilities	Wellness Center in June

Somerset County

Free Document Shredding

Letter from Arthur Stone & Geri Modell

Parking Issues

REPORTS:

POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT – MARCH 2024

REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS:

Mr. Hollod requested a Resolution for the town wide yard sale waiving the fees.

Mr. Miller requested a presentation from the Park and Recreation Directors, Special Events will covered.

Ms. Corzo requested Bianco gets his title.

PUBLIC COMMENT

General public comments shall be limited to five minutes for each individual.
(Rule 29 of the Borough Council's Rules of Order)

COMMENTS BY MAYOR, ADMINISTRATOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor La Ronde noted this is the last week schedule for bulk pick up and next deadline will be in September, deadline for town yard sale June 19, Special Events free summer concert starts at 7:00 on June 26th, on that evening probable will be ribbon cutting celebration for our new patio.

Mr. Merrill congratulations for the administration for the grants brought in to the NP Borough.

Ms. Corzo all grants are quality of life issues. Spanish Festival will be September 21. Flyers and Website available.

Ms. Miller stated this month is the Caribbean American month.

Mr. McIntyre thanks for the Pride Proclamation on agenda and everyone support.

Council President Stabile thanks the administration for the all the work on the grants, Mr. McIntyre thanks for the proclamation.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Council President Stabile.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.



Council President



Acting Clerk