



**MAYOR & COUNCIL
THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE,
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 17, 2024**



The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone was held on Tuesday, December 17th, 2024 and began at 7:07P.M. Borough Clerk Nancy Bretzger read the Sunshine Notice. Mayor Corigliano asked the audience to silence their cell phones and stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken and the following Council members were present: Mark Corigliano, Jamie Murphy, Sergio Silva, Julie Sueta, John Sweeney and Jill Weible. Also present were: Borough Administrator/Clerk Nancy Bretzger and Borough Attorney Steve Warner.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lynne Perry, 59 Main Street. She inquired about drones activity. She requested any guidance regarding them being planes or drones. Mayor Corigliano told her about PG Notify and all of the information that has been released on that service. He detailed an emergency meeting, held last week, for Mayors of New Jersey, but stated he had nothing new to report from the meeting. Lynne asked if there is any way to tell the difference between manned or unmanned aircraft. Mayor Corigliano explained what he understood are the differences

PROCLAMATION

- Gill St. Bernard's School Boys Soccer Team

Mayor Corigliano began by talking about the Head of School of Gill St. Bernard's School, Sid Rowell. He has been the Head of School for the last 25 years, and the Mayor wanted to recognize his service. Following that was the reading of a proclamation honoring the Boys Soccer Team win. Mayor Corigliano stated they were honoring their accomplishment of having 9 Titles since 2010. A framed proclamation was presented to the team and their coaches.

OLD BUSINESS

- Tree Ordinance (Councilwoman Murphy): This discussion was tabled pending additional information

NEW BUSINESS

- Speeding on Main Street (Councilman Silva)" Councilman Silva talked about the speeding limit changes being suggested by the County Engineer on Main Street and Peapack Road, from 45 miles per hour (MPH), to 35 MPH near the Natirar entrance. He reported a Police study indicating that the average speed southbound was between 40-44 MPH. The northbound speed was between 37-40 MPH. The report concluded that there is no noticeable speeding issue on the road the majority tracks within safe measurements. He went on to say that current traffic



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speeds don't indicate any change in speed limits is warranted, and people that do speed on the roads are likely not residents. Councilman Silva said he was impressed with how quickly the officers were able to give reports on the data as well. Due to the information, he recommends no change. Mayor Corigliano asked if the speed limit changes in Far Hills would be changed in specific areas, for instance 35 MPH areas would be turned into 25 MPH. He asked Councilman Silva if it would be better to change it from 45 MPH to 40 MPH because it would address the speed limit worries with the residents in that area. Councilwoman Murphy agreed that the speed limit moved down to 40 MPH was a better idea than bringing it down to 35 MPH. The Council discussed different changes to the speed limits between Chester, Peapack and Gladstone, and Far Hills. They agreed that having five (5) different speed limits over the stretch of 2 miles is a drastic change. Councilman Silva said he would talk to the Chief about the speed limits and see how he felt about it coming down to 35 MPH. He would then correspond with the County Engineer on our recommendations

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION/APPROVALS

● Raffle License Application 04-2024 from HSA-Immaculate Conception School for a 50/50 Raffle to be held on February 1, 2025 at Natirar, 200 Natirar Drive, Peapack, NJ. Clerk Nancy Bretzger related information regarding the Raffle and that the application may be sent for State approval if the council concurs. All concurred to have the Raffle License passed.

MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes for November 26, 2024.

Mayor Corigliano asked for a motion to have the Minutes approved. The motion was made by Council President John Sweeney, and was seconded by Councilwoman Murphy. All voted to approve the minutes.

ORDINANCE

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ORDINANCE 1147-2024 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER XXIII, LAND DEVELOPMENT, ARTICLES III AND IV, REGULATING LAND DISTURBANCE AND LOT GRADING.

This ordinance is being tabled at this time and will be re-introduced in 2025.

Mayor Corigliano asked for a consent agenda for the following resolutions: **RESOLUTION NOS. 214-24 and 215-24, then RESOLUTION NOS. 217-24 through 221-24, and RESOLUTION NOS. 223-24 and 224-24, and RESOLUTION NOS. 226-24 through 229-24.** Councilman Silva confirmed that **RESOLUTION 222-24** was tabled for this meeting. The Council voted on the consent agenda of these Resolutions and it passed unanimously. Mayor Corigliano confirmed one last time that **RESOLUTION 222-24** was tabled.



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RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 214-24 RESOLUTION APPROVING A "NEW" LICENSE FOR A PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSE FOR HEG BEVERAGE, LLC FOR THE LICENSE TERM JULY 1, 2024 TO JUNE 30, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. 215-24 RESOLUTION AMENDING THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS OF THE MAYOR & COUNCIL FOR THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE FOR THE YEAR 2025

RESOLUTION NO. 217-24 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING RESIGNATION FROM SUZANNAH GIVONE, DEPUTY CLERK/REGISTRAR

RESOLUTION NO. 218-24 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TIMOTHY RUSSO TO BE ACCEPTED AS A MEMBER OF THE PEAPACK & GLADSTONE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION NO. 219-24 RESOLUTION TO REFUND MONEY DUE TO OVERPAYMENT OF TAXES

RESOLUTION NO. 220-24 RESOLUTION TO REFUND LIENHOLDER FOR REDEMPTION OF LIEN #22-00006 ON BLOCK 8.03 LOT 6

RESOLUTION NO. 221-24 AUTHORIZING BOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN END OF YEAR DRIVE SOBER EVENT DECEMBER 12, 2024 THROUGH JANUARY 1, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. 223-24 RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MUNICIPAL PROSECUTOR FOR THE SHARED MUNICIPAL COURT FOR 2025

RESOLUTION NO. 224-24 RESOLUTION APPOINTING A PUBLIC DEFENDER FOR THE SHARED MUNICIPAL COURT IN THE YEAR 2025

RESOLUTION NO. 226-24 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING PAYMENT FROM PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY ("PSE&G") IN LIEU OF HALF-ROAD WIDTH PAVEMENT RESTORATION OF HOLLAND ROAD AND FOWLER ROAD AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH PSE&G

RESOLUTION NO. 227-24 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL FROM ANDERSON & DENZLER ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR SURVEYING WORK AND PREPARATION OF STORMWATER MAPPING FOR THE ENTIRE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE

RESOLUTION NO. 228-24 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, BOROUGH CLERK, OR MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ON BEHALF OF THE BOROUGH A CERTAIN CONTRACT FOR SALE OF REAL ESTATE AND ANY OTHER RELATED DOCUMENTS FOR THE SALE BY THE BOROUGH TO THE BUYERS, MARIUSZ AND ELZBIETA GRABOWSKI OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 5 WILLOW AVENUE IN THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK AND GLADSTONE, DESIGNATED AS BLOCK 8, LOT 16.02 ON THE TAX MAPS FOR THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK AND GLADSTONE

RESOLUTION NO. 229-24 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Corigliano suggested RESOLUTION NO. 216-24 be kept out of a consent agenda. Clerk Nancy Bretzger and Attorney Steve Warner also advised that RESOLUTION NO. 222-24 be tabled. Councilwoman Murphy said she wanted to pull RESOLUTION 225-24 to be discussed separately.



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RESOLUTION NO. 216-24 *RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AMENDMENT OF THE FAIR HOUSING ACT (FHA) AS PROPOSED BY THE NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ATTORNEYS (NJILG)*

Borough Attorney, Steve Warner explained that the Fair Housing Act was amended for the fourth round Affordable Housing Obligations for all municipalities throughout the state. This resolution compels the legislature to adopt a methodology to set the obligation based on a less arbitrary number. After Steve was finished talking, Mayor Corigliano stated that Council President Sweeney was overseeing the 4th round obligation deadline that the Borough must comply with. Motioned by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Sweeney, said motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 222-24 *AUTHORIZATION TO PAY WESTCRAFT BUILDERS, INC. FOR WORK ASSOCIATED WITH THE LIBRARY RENOVATION PROJECT – PAYMENT NO. 3* was TABLED.

RESOLUTION NO. 225-24 *RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL FROM PRINCETON HYDRO FOR GRANT MANAGEMENT AND ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR PEAPACK BROOK PEDESTRIAN BRIDGES*

Councilwoman Jamie Murphy spoke about the contemplated pedestrian bridges at Rock-A-Bye Meadow and by the former County DPW lot. She says the bridges are large and expensive, and that funding is a challenge. This resolution allows for the hiring of Princeton Hydro to assist in obtaining grants monies for these projects, as well as engineering services to scale down the design so the cost can be brought down. Councilwoman Weible stated she had thought the Rock-A-Bye bridge was not going to be built. Councilwoman Murphy said that they were going to only do one bridge and not the two, but the ideal circumstance is to build both, but that decision is for a future discussion. Motioned by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Silva, said motion passed unanimously.

BILLS LIST

RESOLUTION NO. 230-24 *Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List Total Amount: \$1,374,114.26*

Councilwoman Murphy motioned, Council President Sweeney seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Clerk Nancy Bretzger started the conversation off by saying we had received the last payment of \$63,426.70 from our \$100,000 Liberty and Green Acres Grant last week.



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MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Corigliano began by speaking on the drones. He stated that the information he spoke about earlier with Lynne Perry was all of the information he had on this subject. He added He and the other Mayors of the Somerset Hills are very proactive when it comes to the issue. Also mentioning that they speak almost every other day about the topic.

He advised that there was a fire in the Municipal Building on Saturday December 14, 2024. He explained that the contractor working on the library renovation caused it. There were several fire departments that answered the call and was able to put the fire out, limiting the damage done to the building. There was water damage unfortunately that was caused by the fires. A remediation firm sent in by the insurance company temporarily sealed the building overnight, and came back on Sunday to properly seal it. It was very minor damage, but he stated how there is concern about this delaying the completion of the library. Mayor Corigliano then asked Steve Warner if he had anything to add.

Mayor's Executive Summary

He reminded the Council that the Tree Ordinance discussion will be on for the next meeting, and that Councilman Silva should have another report prepared for the speed limit. Councilman Silva asked if he was able to meet with the resident, and Mayor Corigliano urged him to do so.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Carol Lane, 1 Hillard Lane, gave a question about a follow up regarding the speed limit. She wanted to know if there was anything regarding visibility for this resident's complaint. Since it is just one resident, as far as she knows, it doesn't seem very necessary to change the speed limit of the whole road instead of finding a way to make it more visible. Instead of punishing everyone for one person's complaint, would it not be better to find a solution for both parties.

Lynne Perry, 59 Main Street, spoke up for the speed limit. She said that it was around Railroad Avenue when speeding usually occurs. Even though the 35-mph sign is further towards Natitar. She does say that people speed in both directions around that location because of going from 45 mph and accelerating to 35 mph depending on the way you are coming from. She mentioned someone had been involved in an accident on that road when coming out of their driveway. She stated she is not sure if there's anything that can be done around that section. However, would like to have something done about it due to the danger it poses for residents. Mayor Corigliano stated that the topic of discussion was more passed her house, but would be willing to meet regarding her house as well. They had previously done a study and noticed there were no serious enforcement violations regarding that location but will look towards a permanent solution



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Andrew Pfitzmeyer, 5 Brook Street, also spoke about the speed limit. He wanted to make sure that a certain part of the street is also known to be in Bedminster Township just to make sure there was no confusion. He also mentioned that anytime you use a GPS up Old Dutch Road to get onto Route 206, there are several places that attract out of town people who don't know the area. If there is an ability to change the GPS mappings, maybe we can do that for them since that turn is so difficult to make if you are taking it to Bedminster.

With no further comments or business from the Council a motion to adjourn at 8:03 P.M. was made by Council President Sweeney, seconded by Councilwoman Weible. Motion was passed unanimously.

Mayor Corigliano thanked the audience for being with them tonight seeing as it is the Holidays and it's extremely busy. He wished them a Happy Holidays and the meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Bretzger, Borough Clerk