



**MAYOR & COUNCIL
THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE,
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 19, 2017**



The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone was held on Tuesday, December 19, 2017 at the Municipal Complex, 1 School Street, Peapack, New Jersey and began at 7:01pm.

Mayor Muller called the meeting to order. Borough Clerk Nancy A. Bretzger read the Sunshine Notice "Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, Adequate notice of 2017 Meeting Dates was published in the Courier News and Bernardsville News on December 22, 2016, and posted at the Municipal Complex and the Borough Library. Action may be taken."

Mayor Muller led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call indicated the following present:

Present: Mayor Muller, Council President Suriano, Councilman Caminiti, Councilman Corigliano, Councilman Lemma, Councilman Smith

Absent: Councilman Simpson

Also present were: Mr. Randy Bahr, Acting Administrator, Christopher Tietjen, Assistant Administrator, Mr. John Bruder, Esq., Borough Attorney and Nancy A. Bretzger, Borough Clerk

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution No. 197-2017 – Authorization for Executive Session for Certified Specified Purposes – Personnel – Police Chief Succession – Night Custodian; Affordable Housing Settlement; Contract Negotiations - PBA was read. Motion was made by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Council President Suriano. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Public Meeting reconvened at 7:31pm

PROCLAMATION FOR COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANTHONY SURIANO

Mayor Muller read the proclamation for Council President Suriano for his last meeting as Councilman since he decided not to run again for the position.

Council President Suriano said that he has been his distinct pleasure to serve the people of Peapack & Gladstone. He stated that he and his wife have never looked back and glad that they made the decision to move here. Council President Suriano said that it has been an honor to serve the borough.

Mayor Muller stated that he has worked with Anthony Suriano for many years and there is no one that works harder.



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On August 28, 2017 – Peapack and Gladstone officers responded to a Gladstone residence for a report of an overdose. Officers assisted with providing first aid for the victim and Narcan was deployed. As a result of the actions of the Peapack and Gladstone officers, the victim's life was saved.

Officer Dirk Sheasley, Officer Adam Caruso, Detective Anthony Damiano, Corporal Thomas Scanlon

On June 19, 2017 – Officer Dirk Sheasley responded to a Gladstone residence for a report of an unconscious male. He arrived to find the victim experiencing agonal breathing and was un-responsive. Utilizing training and experience, Officer Sheasley deployed Narcan which saved the victim's life.

Officer Dirk Sheasley

On September 15, 2016 – Police were dispatched to a Peapack residence for an unconscious female. Officers arrived to find the female unresponsive in the front yard. Officers provided first aid and deployed Narcan to the victim. Due to the use of the Narcan, the victim's life was saved.

Officer Dirk Sheasley, Officer Adam Caruso, Sergeant Stephen Ferrante, Chief Gregory Skinner

Paramedic/EMT Awards

The Paramedic/EMT Award will be awarded to any member of the Peapack and Gladstone Police Department who is a NJ Department of Health Certified Paramedic or EMT.

Officer Adam Caruso, Special Officer Richard J. Potts

Good Conduct Award

The Good Conduct Award will be issued to an officer who has compiled an exemplary departmental service record, and who has received no written reprimands, nor other sustained disciplinary action against him, or her, for a 2-year period.

Chief Gregory Skinner, Sergeant Stephen Ferrante, Corporal Thomas Scanlon, Corporal Owen Duff, Officer Dirk Sheasley, Detective Anthony Damiano, Detective Paul Morris, Officer Adam Caruso, Special Officer Richard Potts

Chiefs Achievement Award

The Chief's Achievement Award may be awarded by the Chief of Police to a member of the Police Department for an outstanding act or achievement, not meeting the criteria for any other award, which brings public acclaim to the officer, the Peapack and Gladstone Police Department or the police profession, in general, through programs that further police efficiency or contributions to the welfare and advancement of the profession.

Corporal Owen Duff, Detective Anthony Damiano for their efforts while assigned to the Somerset County Organized Crime and Narcotics Strike Force



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Detective Anthony Damiano for redesigning the interior office spaces of Police Headquarters by obtaining a complete office furniture set from a local corporation. On his own time, he removed all of the old furniture and installed the new furniture creating a more modern and efficient office space.

Honorable Service Award

The Honorable Service Award may be awarded for a creditable act in the line of duty, showing initiative and accomplishment.

Officer Adam Caruso responded to assist Chester Police Department with a burglary in progress on Old Chester Road. Officer Caruso and the Chester Officers were confronted with an individual under the influence of mind altering substance inside the residence. After several minutes of a violent physical encounter, multiple officers were able to subdue the individual who was taken into custody.

Meritorious Service

The Meritorious Service Award may be awarded for a highly unusual accomplishment under adverse conditions with some degree of hazard to life and limb to the nominee, or where death or injury to a third party is prevented.

On October 5, 2016, Officers responded to Tiger Hill Drive for a report of a cyclist down. They encountered an unconscious individual with severe facial trauma and agonal breathing. Utilizing their training, Peapack and Gladstone officers administered life-saving first aid to the victim prior to the arrival of EMS and the Fire Department. The rescuers were able to establish an airway which saved his life.

Corporal Thomas Scanlon, Officer Adam Caruso

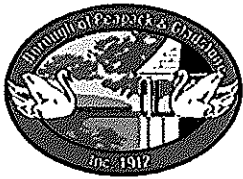
On December 21, 2014, Officer Paul Morris assisted Bedminster Township Police with a motor vehicle crash. Officer Morris responded to find an individual trapped in a vehicle with a head injury. He assisted an EMT with first aid by providing airway management and neck stabilization inside the vehicle.

Detective Paul Morris

On March 3, 2016, police responded to the Hunt Club on Holland Road for a structure fire. Detective Paul Morris arrived to find a barn was on fire and that there were approximately 150 dogs in the adjoining barns. Detective Morris assisted in removing all the animals from the barns before any harm could come to them.

Detective Paul Morris

On August 12, 2016, police responded to Rt. 206 near Pottersville Road. It was reported that a male with a knife threatened to hurt himself and was walking up Rt. 206. Detective Paul Morris located the



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male just into Bedminster Township. Detective Morris, along with a Bedminster Township Officer, were able to subdue the combative male prior to anyone being injured.

Detective Paul Morris

On September 20, 2015, Detective Anthony Damiano responded into Bedminster Township to assist with a suicidal male. Det. Damiano arrived to find a male in the garage of the residence with a knife to his throat. Det. Damiano climbed a fence and gained entry to the residence through sliding door. Once inside, he assisted in subduing the individual before he could harm himself.

Detective Anthony Damiano

Unit Citations

The Unit Citation may be awarded to the entire Department or certain members who participated in an operation as a group which distinguished themselves in performance of their duties as law enforcement officers.

Chief Gregory Skinner, Sgt. Stephen Ferrante, Corporal Thomas Scanlon, Corporal Owen Duff, Officer Dirk Sheasley, Detective Anthony Damiano, Special Officer Richard Potts

Super Bowl XLVIII Counter Terrorism Detail

For efforts in providing 24-hour security at the New Jersey Transit Gladstone Rail Yard during the week leading up to Super Bowl 48 (January 27-February 2, 2014) which was dubbed the Mass Transit Super Bowl. The Super Bowl is designated a National Special Security Event by the US Department of Homeland Security due to the national or international significance to be a potential target for terrorism or other criminal activity.

Chief Gregory Skinner, Sgt. Stephen Ferrante, Corporal Thomas Scanlon, Corporal Owen Duff, Officer Dirk Sheasley, Detective Anthony Damiano, Special Officer Richard Potts

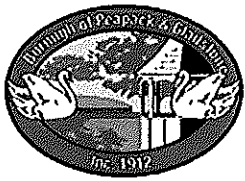
Chief Skinner stated that this is probably one of the most gratifying thing a Chief can do. It makes his day when they can be recognized for a job well done over the last few years.

Mayor Muller asked that the Chief extend to the members of the department the Councils thanks for a job well done.

PROCLAMATION FOR POLICE CHIEF GREGORY J. SKINNER

Chief Skinner's mother, father, sister, son and daughter joined the Chief on the dais when the Mayor read the Proclamation to the Chief.

Chief Skinner thanked his family for their support. He stated that he could not have made it this far without the support of his family. Chief mentioned that he attended elementary school in this building for 8 years and then worked for 30 years in the Police Department.



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The Mayor stated that there will be a short break for pictures at 7:55pm.

The meeting reconvened at 8:08pm.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – 5 MINUTES PER PERSON – NON-AGENDA ITEMS

No one came forward.

MINUTES

Councilman Caminiti moved to accept the minutes from the Regular Meeting of November 21, 2017, seconded by Council President Suriano. The Council members made mention of some changes to be made to the minutes. Said motion was passed with Councilman Smith abstaining.

Councilman Caminiti moved to accept the minutes from the Executive Session of November 21, 2017, seconded by Councilman Lemma. Said motion was passed with Councilman Smith abstaining.

OLD BUSINESS

Cottage School Request for Use of 2nd Floor rooms

Phil Rosenbach introduced himself to the Council as the attorney representing the Cottage School. He stated that the Director of the School as well as parents of children in the school are at the meeting tonight and will like to say a few words.

Tony Welsh have 2 children attending the school. We would like to see the school expand.

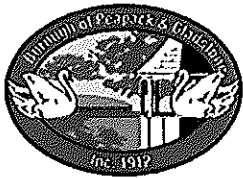
Melony Maran her child has been attending for 5 years.

Mr. Rosenbach stated that this is a follow up to Mrs. Solage appearance at the November 21 meeting. He stated that he is asking the Council to agree in principal for the use of 1 classroom from mid-September 2018 to June 2019. Mr. Rosenbach stated that The Cottage School has been part of the town for the past 15 years. He explained that the school which is located at the church is within walking distance of Borough Hall. He stated that they will work with the town officials to make every effort to upgrade the building, this is a legitimate use of the school room.

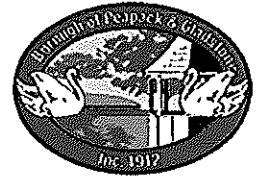
Mayor Muller stated that he should recuse himself for this discussion.

Council President Suriano stated that there were a few obstacles that the building may not be up to standards for a classroom setting. He said that the Borough received a list of risk management concerns from their Risk Manager. Council President Suriano read a few of the concerns from the Risk Manager. Councilman Smith explained that there was a study done several years ago and they are concerned with the structure of the second floor.

Mr. Rosenbach asked for a copy of those concerns. Council President Suriano said that the Borough Clerk would forward him a copy.



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Councilman Caminiti stated that the primary concern is the safety of the children.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution No. 198-2017 – Resolution Authorizing the Cancellation of Grant Receivables and Appropriation Balances was read. Motion was made by Council President Suriano, seconded by Councilman Caminiti. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution No 199-2017 Authorization to Increase Salary – Michael J. Madalone was read. Motion was made by Council President Suriano, seconded by Councilman Corigliano. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution No 200-2017 Open Public Meetings Resolution for 2018 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Lemma, seconded by Councilman Caminiti. Said motion was passed with Council President Suriano abstaining.

Resolution No. 201-2017 Setting the 2018 Holiday Schedule for the Borough of Peapack and Gladstone was read. Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Caminiti. Said motion was passed with Council President Suriano abstaining.

Resolution No. 202-2017 Resolution to Appoint Anthony Duarte as a Borough Department of Public Works Laborer in the Amount of \$36,000 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Lemma. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 203-2017 Resolution to Appoint Daniel J. Hart as a Brough Department of Public Works Laborer in the Amount of \$36,000 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Council President Suriano. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 204-2017 Resolution Appointing a Municipal Court Judge for the Period January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018 was read. Motioned was made by Councilman Lemma, seconded by Council President Suriano. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 205-2017 Resolution Appointing a Municipal Prosecutor for the Shared Court in the Year 2018 was read. Motioned was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Council President Suriano. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 206-2017 Resolution Appointing a Public Defender for the Shared Court in the Year 2018 was read. Motioned was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Lemma. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 207-2017 Resolution to Appoint Zoning Officer and Rental Housing Administration for January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018 was TABLED.

Resolution No. 208-2017 Resolution to Declare Pacesetter Custom Homes, Inc. and its Co-Principals to be in Default of their Obligations Pursuant to a Developer's Agreement and Related Documents Entered into Between the Borough and Said Developer was read. Motion was made by Council President Suriano, seconded by Councilman Lemma. Said motion was passed unanimously.

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION/APPROVALS

Councilman Lemma explained that with the Rental Ordinance approved last year there is factual data to back up the numbers and he would like to raise the fees to from \$25.00 and \$50.00 for inspections to \$50.00 and \$100 respectively. He would like if the Council is in agreement with these increases. If so, there will be an ordinance at the January 9, 2018 meeting for introduction.



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There was discussion amongst the Council. Councilman Lemma stated that for the most part there was inspections done on 123 rentals that the Borough is aware of. He said that this increase would cover the cost of the inspections. The Council agreed with the increase.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Finance – Council President Suriano stated that this is his last meeting. He explained that the 2018 budget has already been started and he has every reason to believe that it will be a flat tax rate.

Sanitation & Sewer – Councilman Lemma stated that there was STAB meeting this past week and that they are moving forward with capital improvements and there should be a \$100 decrease to all resident's sewers bills.

Borough Property – Councilman Smith stated that Princeton Hydro will be sending to paperwork to the DEP once the check has been approved tonight for Liberty Park for the Letter of Interpretation.

Councilman Smith stated that the breeder for the swans have been called to see if they would like the baby swans. The breeder said he would take them but the Borough would have to pay the cost of transporting them. Councilman Smith feels it would be inappropriate to transport the swans with taxpayer's dollars.

Fire – Councilman Caminiti stated that he has nothing to report at this time.

Police & Information Systems – Councilman Corigliano stated that he is still working on the PBA agreement and hoping that there will be a MOU before the end of the year.

Roads & Transportation – Councilman Smith stated that he has reached out to Bill Ryden and told him that he would like to receive the specs for Willow Ave. out for bid by February. He would like to see that contract awarded by the middle of March.

Zoning & Construction - Councilman Lemma stated that he has nothing to report at this time.

Legal – Mr. Bruder stated that he has nothing to report at this time.

Administrator's Report – Mr. Bahr, Acting Administrator stated Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone. He said that the generators at the Trimmer Lane and Brook Street should be completed by the end of January.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Muller stated that the Matheny Settlement is completed. He wants to make sure that the terms of this agreement are met. He feels that the ownness should be on Matheny for the recordings of the traffic and the enforcement will have to be long term on the behalf of the Borough.

BILLS LIST

Resolution No. 209-2017 Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List in the amount of \$302,157.93 was read. Motioned by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Councilman Lemma.



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Councilman Lemma asked for the payment to DiFrancesco, Bateman, Cooley be pulled. Said motion was passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – 3 MINUTES PER PERSON – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Kingsley Hill – OEM Coordinator stated that a requirement of the Hazard Mitigation Program that there is discussion at 2 Mayor and Council meetings, plus a Land Use Board meeting. He is asking to schedule these 2 meetings. The Council said that they will let him know which meetings the discussion will take place.

Anthony Durate – Thanked the Council for appointing him tonight to the DPW.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Caminiti motioned to reconvene in Executive Session, Resolution No. 182-2017 – Authorization for Executive Session for Certified Specified Purposes – Personnel – Police Chief Retirement and Succession – Night Custodian; Affordable Housing Settlement; Litigation; Contract Negotiations; seconded by Council President Suriano. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Executive Session reconvened at 9:39pm

The public portion of the meeting was opened again at 10:59pm.

There being no other matters to be addressed by the Governing Body at this time, a motion was made by Council President Suriano, seconded by Councilman Caminiti, that this meeting be adjourned at 11:00pm. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy A. Bretzger, Borough Clerk