

Joint Meeting at end of Regular Meeting section

**MINUTES OF THE PEAPACK & GLADSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL
JANUARY 13, 2015, COUNCIL CHAMBERS
REGULAR MEETING**

The Borough Council of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, convened in a regular session meeting on Tuesday, January 13, 2015, at 7:30 p.m., in Council Chambers in the Municipal Complex, located at 1 School Street, Peapack, New Jersey 07977.

NOTICE OF MEETING

The following statement was read by the Borough Clerk:

Adequate notice of this meeting of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Peapack and Gladstone was given to the Courier News, Newark Star Ledger and the Bernardsville News on December 25, 2014 was posted at the Municipal Complex, School Street, the Peapack Post Office, Main Street, Peapack and the Gladstone Post Office, Main Street, Gladstone, New Jersey on December 25, 2014 and was mailed on December 25, 2014 to all those people who have requested individual notice and paid the required fee.

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Muller led the salute to the flag.

ROLL CALL

On the call of the roll, the following were present:

William Muller, Mayor
Gian Paolo Caminiti
Mark Corigliano
Gerald J. Gunning
T. William Simpson (absent / arrived at 8:27 p.m.)
Royal Smith
Anthony Suriano

Also present on the dais were Borough Clerk/Administrator Hector A. Herrera and Borough Attorney John Bruder.

MINUTES

A motion by Cm. Gunning that the reading of the minutes be dispensed with, and that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 23 and Budget Meetings of November 10 and December 15, 2014 stand approved as submitted by the Borough Clerk to the Mayor and Borough Council. Councilman Corigliano seconded that motion.

On call of the roll, the following vote was cast:

AYE: Caminiti, Corigliano, Gunning, Suriano

NAY: None

ABSENT: Simpson

ABSTAINED: Smith

PUBLIC COMMENT FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Muller announced this is the portion of the meeting for the public to inquire about matters they would like discussed but do not appear on the agenda.

No one wanted to be heard.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

The Clerk's Office received a resignation from Liz Gehringer of the Historic Preservation Commission.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES / RESOLUTIONS

FINANCE: (Suriano/Corigliano)

A RESOLUTION TO REFUND LIENHOLDER FOR REDEMPTION OF LIEN #00031 ON BLOCK 1 LOT 8 IN THE AMOUNT OF IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,488.88

Councilman Suriano moved to adopt resolution #030-15. Councilman Corigliano seconded that motion.

On call of the roll, the following vote was cast:

AYE: Caminiti, Corigliano, Gunning, Smith, Suriano

NAY: None

ABSENT: Simpson

ABSTAINED: None

Resolution #030-15 was adopted.

A copy of resolution #030-15 is appended to the official minutes.

Councilman Suriano announced the Special Budget Meeting scheduled for January 12, 2015, was cancelled and will be tentatively rescheduled for January 28 at 7 p.m.

SANITATION/SEWER: (Smith/Caminiti)

Councilman Smith reported Borough of Peapack and Gladstone Public Works Manager Rodney McCatharn had provided him with a tour of the Borough.

BOROUGH PROPERTY: (Corigliano/Smith)

Councilman Corigliano reported an application has been received from the Knights of Columbus for a free-throw basketball event in the gym on Saturday, January 24 and Saturday, February 7 from 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. A fee waiver has been requested.

Council approved the application and waived the fee for the use of the facility.

FIRE/INFORMATION SYSTEMS: (Simpson/Gunning)

No report

POLICE: (Gunning/Suriano)

No report

ROADS/TRANSPORTATION: (Caminiti/Simpson)

No report

LEGAL: (John Bruder, Esq.)

Mr. Bruder reported that Fibertech Networks contacted him after their presentation and proposal to install a fiber optic network throughout the Borough. Mr. Bruder indicated he has had several discussions with Fibertech and he has made several revisions to their proposed right-of-way agreement. He asked for Council concurrence to continue discussions with Fibertech Networks. Council concurred to have Mr. Bruder continue discussions.

MISCELLANEOUS COUNCIL BUSINESS:

APPOINTMENT TO BOROUGH IT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mayor Muller recommended Mr. Herrera be appointed to the IT Advisory Committee. Council concurred with this appointment.

RESOLUTIONS

APPOINTMENT OF KINGSLEY HILL AS THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

Councilman Gunning moved to adopt resolution #031-15. Councilman Smith seconded that motion.

On call of the roll, the following vote was cast:

AYE: Caminiti, Corigliano, Gunning, Smith, Suriano

NAY: None

ABSENT: Simpson

ABSTAINED: None

Resolution #031-15 was adopted.

A copy of resolution #031-15 is appended to the official minutes.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE SOMERSET HILLS MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE AND YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE GRANT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016

Councilman Suriano moved to adopt resolution #029-15. Councilman Gunning seconded that motion.

Mr. Bruder provided Council with more information regarding this resolution. Drug Enforcement Demand Reduction is a grant program run by the State of New Jersey that provides funds to municipalities for drug awareness and treatment programs. The funds are generated from drug-related convictions. Peapack & Gladstone's matching portion of the grant is \$673.14.

On call of the roll, the following vote was cast:

AYE: Caminiti, Corigliano, Gunning, Smith, Suriano

NAY: None

ABSENT: Simpson

ABSTAINED: None

A copy of resolution #029-15 is appended to the official minutes.

**AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENT OF JOHN P. SZABO AS BOROUGH PLANNER
AND AWARD OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT**

Councilman Suriano moved to adopt resolution #032-15. Councilman Caminiti seconded that motion.

Council clarified that Mr. Szabo would be serving as the Planner for both the Land Use Board and the Council at the same rate of \$155 per hour.

Councilman Smith asked if he would have an opportunity to ask Mr. Szabo questions before formalizing the resolution; specifically how Mr. Szabo would make the transition between his extensive experience in Bergen County, a New York City bedroom community, to Peapack and Gladstone, an agricultural, rural community.

Councilman Suriano and Councilman Caminiti stated the committee asked Mr. Szabo that question and were satisfied with his experience with farmland/open space preservation.

Council deferred the vote on this resolution until Mr. Szabo arrived at the meeting.

Mr. Szabo arrived at the meeting during the following discussion on The Land Conservancy of New Jersey. After the discussion, Councilman Suriano introduced Mr. Szabo as the candidate chosen by the search committee to find a new Borough planner.

Mr. Szabo addressed Councilman Smith's question regarding his transition to a small rural community like Peapack & Gladstone. He stated he brings a good combination with a background as an environmental planner. He stated the importance of understanding the context and unique character of each community.

On call of the roll, the following vote was cast:

AYE: Caminiti, Corigliano, Gunning, Smith, Suriano

NAY: None

ABSENT: Simpson

ABSTAINED: None

DISCUSSION

The Land Conservancy of New Jersey

Councilman Gunning made a motion to not renew the contract with The Land Conservancy of New Jersey. Councilman Corigliano seconded that motion.

Council received clarification this contract was paid out of the Open Space Trust Fund and not paid out of the general fund.

Councilman Corigliano provided the past year's background on the contract with TLC. He stated the contracts have been one-year contracts. After discussion last year, Council renewed the contract for six months. After that time, Council attempted to negotiate an hourly rate for compensation and TLC rejected the proposal. The contract was not renewed for another six-month term.

Council had a discussion on the value and quality of the services provided by TLC and pointed out that TLC is eligible for certain grants because of its nonprofit status. Council agreed TLC is not uniquely qualified to provide this service, however, it had yet to identify another organization.

Councilman Suriano recused himself from this discussion at 8:10 p.m. due to a conflict with Villa / Blue Bird Farm.

Mayor Muller opened the discussion to the public:

John Sweeney, Chair of the Open Space Advisory Committee, volunteered to have the Open Space Advisory committee conduct a search for another firm to provide this open space consultation services.

Anne van den Bergh volunteered to have the Farmland Preservation & Agricultural Committee assist with the search.

Ms. van den Bergh spoke in favor of the TLC. She stated that during its tenure with the Borough, it has brought in over \$10 million. Additionally, Ms. van den Burgh stated that do to the nature of their work as open space advocates for the Borough, it cannot be tracked / billed on an hourly basis. She stated she is in favor of renewing the contract.

Mayor Muller closed the public portion.

Council agreed to form an ad hoc committee to conduct a search for another firm to provide this service. Councilman Gunning and Councilman Smith volunteered to be part of this committee and would report their findings back to the Council at the February 10, 2015 regular meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Muller opened the meeting to the public.

Ms. van den Bergh asked for the status of a grant to help pay the debt incurred by the purchase of the Komline property.

Mayor Muller stated we would research the status of that grant.

No one else from the public wanted to be heard.

AUDITING OF CLAIMS:

Councilman Gunning motioned that the payment of interim claims be approved and all vouchers submitted this date, as per voucher list, be paid after proper audit. Councilman Gunning seconded that motion.

On call of the roll, the following vote was cast:

AYE: Caminiti, Corigliano, Gunning, Simpson, Smith, Suriano

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Councilman Gunning, second by Councilman Simpson, the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:36 p.m.

APPROVED:

HECTOR A. HERRERA
BOROUGH CLERK

WILLIAM MULLER
MAYOR

**MINUTES OF THE PEAPACK & GLADSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL
JANUARY 13, 2015, COUNCIL CHAMBERS
SPECIAL MEETING
JOINT MEETING WITH LAND USE BOARD**

The Borough Council of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, convened in a regular session meeting on Tuesday, January 13, 2015, at 8:30 p.m., in Council Chambers in the Municipal Complex, located at 1 School Street, Peapack, New Jersey 07977.

NOTICE OF MEETING

The following statement was read by the Borough Clerk:

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of New Jersey, adequate notice of this special joint meeting of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone and the Land Use Board of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone was provided on January 9, 2015, by sending notice to the Courier News, posting on the Borough website, and posting on the official bulletin board in the Municipal Complex, School Street, on January 9, 2015.

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Muller led the salute to the flag.

ROLL CALL

On the call of the roll, the following were present:

William Muller, Mayor
Gian Paolo Caminiti
Mark Corigliano
Gerald J. Gunning
T. William Simpson
Royal Smith
Anthony Suriano

Also present on the dais were Borough Clerk/Administrator Hector A. Herrera and Borough Attorney John Bruder.

On the call of the roll, the following Land Use Board members were present:

ROLL CALL (Borough Land Use Board):

Mayor William Muller
David DiSabato
Councilman Gerald Gunning

Joan Dill
Kingsley Hill (absent)
Donald Lemma - Secretary
Stephen Neville - Vice Chairperson
Susan Rubright
Gregory Yannaccone - Chairperson (absent)
Lisa Saunders (absent)
Christopher Downing
James Heck
Judith Silacci

Also present:

Barbara Osmun - Board Secretary (absent)
John Szabo - Planner
Roger Thomas - Attorney

MISCELLANEOUS COUNCIL BUSINESS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one from the public wanted to be heard.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: *Litigation*

On the motion of Councilman Corigliano, seconded by Councilman Caminiti, the Council moved into executive session to discuss litigation.

On the motion of Ms. Dill, seconded by Mr. Lemma, the Land Use Board moved into executive session to discuss litigation.

Ms. Silacci recused herself from the executive session and left the meeting.

RECONVENED IN REGULAR SESSION

On the motion of Councilman Corigliano, seconded by Councilman Gunning, the Council moved reconvened into an open session.

MISCELLANEOUS COUNCIL BUSINESS

Councilman Corigliano moved to appoint Councilman Suriano and Mr. Bruder to the joint negotiating committee with the Land Use Board in regards to the Matheny litigation. Councilman Caminiti seconded that motion.

On call of the roll, the following vote was cast:

AYE: Caminiti, Corigliano, Gunning, Simpson, Smith

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: Suriano

Mr. Neville moved to appoint Mr. Lemma and Mr. Thomas to the joint negotiating committee with the Borough Council in regards to the Matheny litigation. Ms. Dill seconded that motion.

On call of the roll, the following vote was cast:

AYE: Neville, Muller, Gunning, Dill, Rubright, DiSabato, Downing, Heck

ABSENT: Yannaccone, Saunders, Hill, Silacci

ABSTAINED: Lemma

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Councilwoman Gunning, seconded by Councilman Caminiti, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:29 p.m.

On the motion of Ms. Dill, second by Mr. Lemma, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:29 p.m.

APPROVED:

HECTOR A. HERRERA
BOROUGH CLERK

WILLIAM MULLER
MAYOR