



**MAYOR & COUNCIL  
THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE,  
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 10, 2018**

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The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone was held on Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at the Municipal Complex, 1 School Street, Peapack, New Jersey and began at 7:02 p.m.

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 2018 Meeting Dates was published in the Courier News and Bernardsville News on December 28, 2017, 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 Corigliano, Councilman Caminiti, Councilwoman Dietrich, Councilman Simpson, Councilman Smith

Absent: Councilman Lemma

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Resolution No. 83-18** Authorization for Executive Session for Certain Specified Purposes – Personnel was read. Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Public Meeting reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

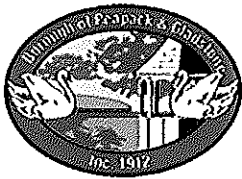
**PUBLIC COMMENTS – 5 MINUTES PER PERSON – NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

No one came forward at this time.

**PROCLAMATIONS**

Mayor Muller presented the proclamation to Police Officer Anthony Damiano, in appreciation of his dedication and hard work in obtaining, transporting, and installing furniture in the Police Department and the Tax Assessor's office which was donated by Aventis. Officer Anthony Damiano thanked the Council for the proclamation.

Mayor Muller stated that no one was able to attend from the Prosecutor's Office tonight due to prior engagements. He read the second proclamation for the Somerset County Prosecutor's Office thanking them for their assistance with the Police Department.



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**ORDINANCES**

In advance of the reading of Ordinance 1050-2018 - An Ordinance Amending Portions of Chapter XXIII, Article IV, Titled "Land Development Ordinance" of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Peapack and Gladstone Permitting a Residential Housing Community on Certain Lands in the ORL and RR-5 Zoning. Councilman Caminiti stated that we are in excess of the requirement of room capacity, which is 66 people. Mr. Bruder, the Borough Lawyer, explained that we are trying to see if we could get set up in the gym for the hearing on the ordinance. He proposed that if there are 66 or less people we can do the balance of the agenda and then move the hearing to the gym if it can be set up. Mayor Muller stated that there will be a recess for ten minutes.

Meeting reconvened at 7:55pm

Mayor Muller stated that the ordinance will be tabled to a future date since we cannot get the gym set up in a timely manner. Councilman Simpson stated that there is going to be a continuation of misinformation disseminated regarding this ordinance.

Motion was made to table Ordinance 1050-2018 by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Mayor Muller stated that Ordinance 1050-2018- An Ordinance Amending Portions of Chapter XXIII, Article IV, Titled "Land Development Ordinance" of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Peapack and Gladstone Permitting a Residential Housing Community on Certain Lands in the ORL and RR-5 Zoning has been tabled. The meeting will be postponed to the last meeting in May.

Rob Simon said that he is here on behalf of numerous property owners and can't make the rescheduled meeting in May and considering the amount of public interest displayed he asked that a special meeting be scheduled for this ordinance. Mr. Bruder asked Mr. Simon who he represents. They are Hamilton Farm Golf Club, HF Cottages, Mr. and Mrs. Kalifur, Mr. and Mrs. Beletta, Mr. and Mrs. Turnball, Mr. and Mrs. Boyer, Mr. Kerner, Ms. Gallo, Mr. Cerente, and Brick Development LLC. The Mayor stated that the Council will get a special meeting scheduled for this ordinance.

Mayor Muller asked for a motion and second to open the Public Hearing for Ordinance 1053-2018 – Calendar Year 2018 – Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a CAP Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5.14

Councilman Caminiti moved to open the Public Hearing for Ordinance 1053-2018 – Calendar Year 2018 – Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a CAP Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5.14), seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Mayor Muller asked for any comments from the audience.

No one from the public came forward.



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Councilman Caminiti moved to close the Public Hearing for Ordinance 1053-2018 – Calendar Year 2018 – Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a CAP Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5.14), seconded by Councilman Smith. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Councilman Caminiti moved to Adopt Ordinance 1053-2018 – Calendar Year 2018 – Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a CAP Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5.14), seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was carried unanimously.

**ADOPTION OF THE 2018 BUDGET**

**Resolution No. 84-18** A Resolution to Read the 2018 Budget by Title Only was read. Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Mayor Muller asked for a motion and second to Open the Public Hearing on the Adoption of the 2018 Budget. Motion was made by Councilwoman Dietrich, seconded by Councilman Smith. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Council President/Finance Chairman Corigliano showed a presentation on the 2018 Budget. Council President Corigliano did a synopsis of the 2018 budget. He acknowledged Roy Smith, Chris Tietjen, Nancy Bretzger, Heidi Wollub from Nisivoccia, and Mary Robinson the CFO for their work preparing the budget. Municipal taxes and budgeting is extremely complex and confusing. He offered a presentation on how taxes are used. Taxes are collected on homes, businesses, farms, and vacant lots. We are collecting for three different entities-the Borough, the school district in Bernards and the County. The Borough collects money to run the operations of the Borough and money for a fund that goes into open space and recreation. The County tax includes their operation taxes, the County library, and open space and recreation. The Borough also operates the sewer utility which is funded by user-fees.

Council President Corigliano stated taxes are paid quarterly to the Borough, with approximately 30% going to the Borough, 48.2% to schools, and 21.4% to the County. He explained tax rates and levies. The Borough plans to raise \$14 million in taxes in 2018. The current tax rate is \$1.92 per \$100 of assessed value of property. He went through the budget process and what the Borough is spending and receiving. He thanked former Councilman Anthony Suriano for everything that he has learned was from him.

He discussed appropriations, which are budgeted expenses to run the Borough. He discussed how constrained the Council is in setting up the budget. The budget is set up by departments. The state requires that certain expenses are put into a department of their own. We have an operating budget and a capital budget. He discussed the state statute mandated caps that were put into effect ten years ago that caused municipalities to rethink how they operate and provide services.

Council President Corigliano ended his presentation and answered questions. When asked how much debt the Borough has, he answered approximately \$4.4 million plus notes of approximately \$300,000.

Council President Corigliano answered a question regarding accumulated leave time stating that up to 90 days sick time can be carried over except this does not apply to police.



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John Skinner, 20 Pottersville Rd., asked about the reserve account for 2018 and if that money was typically spent. Mr. Skinner also asked about the court and legal expenses. Council President Corigliano explained that legal expenses are higher as a result of the Matheny settlement, affordable housing, COAH, cleanup issues, and other issues.

Councilman Smith stated that we worked very hard on this budget and that Council President Corigliano put his heart and soul into this budget.

Ms. Wollub, the auditor from the firm of Nisivoccia, said that the budget was explained very well.

Councilman Caminiti stated that we are often surprised at how much money goes to the schools. We are trying to manage and rein in some of the costs that are going into the school district. The Council will work hard on this and keep the public informed. Councilman Smith stated that we would like to have the school board members come in to speak about the school portion.

Mayor Muller said that when we had the prosecutor's office at the Borough it cost nothing and they were well received. He also stated that shared services do work, with the shared court saving approximately \$70,000 each year. Shared services for the Sewer Utility is also bringing money into the Borough.

Council President/Finance Chairman Corigliano asked the Public if they had any questions regarding the 2018 Budget.

Council President/Finance Chairman Corigliano asked the Council if they had any questions regarding the 2018 Budget.

Mayor Muller asked for a motion and second to Close the Public Hearing on the Adoption of the 2018 Budget. Motion was made by Councilman Simpson, seconded by Councilman Smith. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Mayor Muller asked for a motion and second to Adopt the 2018 Budget. Motion was made by Councilman Simpson, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Mayor Muller stated that the 2018 Budget is adopted and shall be published by Title only in the Bernardsville News in accordance with law.

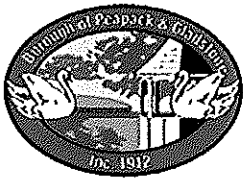
**OLD BUSINESS**

No old business at this time

**NEW BUSINESS**

**MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION/APPROVALS**

Application for Facilities Usage of Baseball/Softball Fields from Somerset Hills Little League for Softball



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Council asked the Clerk if she received the answers to the questions from the last meeting. The Clerk stated that yes, she did, and a resolution is ready if the Council wants to go forward on it.

Councilman Smith asked that a discussion on Administrator and Clerk posting links to the Borough website on NextDoor be deferred to next meeting. He ceded his time to Councilwoman Dietrich. Councilwoman Dietrich asked if she could work on a Women's Club request to set up a display of pinwheels to bring awareness of child abuse in the month of April. The Council was in concurrence.

Councilman Smith was asked to not defer his discussion about NextDoor. He stated that NextDoor has an application for government entities that could be used by the Administrator and Clerk. Mayor Muller does not feel that administration should be posting on NextDoor. Kingsley Hill stated that there is a portion of NextDoor that is OPRA-able. Councilman Smith would like Administrator and Clerk to use NextDoor to let the community know when the Borough website has new information. Mr. Tietjen will research NextDoor and other notification systems and submit analysis to Council for review. Councilwoman Dietrich noted that for many users of PG Notify messages go into spam and this needs to be resolved.

#### Bond Counsel

Council President Corigliano explained that they interviewed three firms for new bond counsel. He believes that Matthew Jessup at McManimon, Scotland and Baumann represented the best selection. Mr. Jessup responded promptly to adjust attorney and para-legal rates to match the other firms' rates. The finance committee, Councilman Smith and Council President Corigliano, needs Council consensus to appoint Mr. Jessup as bond counsel. A resolution will be on the next meeting if they agree with this selection. Council consented.

#### RESOLUTIONS

**Resolution No. 85-18** Resolution Providing for the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the 2018 Budget for the UDrive, UText, UPay Distracted Driver Enforcement Grant Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (Chapter 159, P.L. 1948) was read. Motion was made by Councilman Simpson, seconded by Councilman Smith. Said motion was passed unanimously.

**Resolution No. 86-18** Authorize Use of Fields for the Somerset Hills Little League for Softball was read. Motion was made by Councilman Simpson, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was passed unanimously.

**Resolution No. 87-18** Approval of LOSAP Payment for Peapack & Gladstone First Aid and Rescue Squad and Peapack & Gladstone Fire Department for 2017 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Simpson, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was passed unanimously.

**Resolution No. 88-18** Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Sign an Amendment to the Borough's Recreation Open Space Inventory was read. Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Simpson. Said motion was passed unanimously.

**Resolution No. 90-18** Resolution Allowing Matheny to Hang Banner over Main Street from Monday, May 21 through June 4, 2018 for *Miles for Matheny* was read. Motion was made by Councilman Simpson, seconded by Councilman Caminiti. Said motion was passed unanimously.



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**BILLS LIST**

**Resolution No. 89-18** Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List in the amount of \$571,310.79 was read. Motioned by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS – 3 MINUTES PER PERSON – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

John Skinner – 20 Pottersville Road – Mr. Skinner stated that he called the Government Records Council (GRC) and asked their opinion on NextDoor. He feels that the Borough should move to NextDoor because the residents want them to.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no further need for executive session.

There being no other matters to be addressed by the Governing Body at this time, a motion was made by Councilwoman Dietrich, seconded by Councilman Caminiti, that this meeting be adjourned at 9:30 p.m. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy A. Bretzger, Borough Clerk