



**MAYOR & COUNCIL
THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE,
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 8, 2019**



The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone was held on Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at the Municipal Complex, 1 School Street, Peapack, New Jersey and began at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Skinner called the meeting to order. Borough Clerk Nancy A. Bretzger read the Sunshine Notice "Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, Adequate notice of 2019 Meeting Dates was published in the Courier News and Bernardsville News on December 13, 2018, and posted at the Municipal Complex and the Borough Library. Action may be taken."

Mayor Skinner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call indicated the following present:

Present: Mayor Skinner, Council President Corigliano, Councilman Caminiti, Councilwoman Dietrich, Councilwoman Murphy, Councilman Smith, Councilman Sweeney

Absent: No one was absent

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution No. 26-19 – Authorization for Executive Session for Certified Specified Purposes – Contract Negotiations – Potential Collective Bargaining with Department of Public Works was read. Motion was made by Councilwoman Dietrich, seconded by Councilman Sweeney. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Public Meeting reconvened at 7:32 p.m.

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

Michael Seboria – 10 Tiger Hill Drive, Gladstone – Mr. Seboria stated that he forwarded to Council members proposed regulation updates for bee keeping. He also forwarded the information to the Land Use Board (LUB) for their consideration at their next meeting and would like some feedback from the LUB and council on the regulations. He added that there was a problem on Tiger Hill Drive when a neighbor had 12 bee hives with approximately 750,000 bees. He requests that the Council and Mayor make a statement to the state opposing the new rules with a deadline of February 1, 2019. LUB had restricted the neighbor to two bee hives but under the new proposals the state has overridden what is in the Borough ordinances. Council President Corigliano noted the LUB issued a letter about a year and half ago and he thinks that they should do that again because Council has no experience with this. Mr. Seboria stated that LUB may run out of time and also that under the new rules LUB would have no authority on these regulations, so Council President Corigliano said he will draft a letter for the Council's review to send to the state.



**MAYOR & COUNCIL
THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE,
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 8, 2019**



Peggy McFarland – 50 Mendham Road, Gladstone – Ms. McFarland asked about Liberty Park improvements and was told that this will be discussed as per the agenda.

MINUTES

Mayor Skinner asked if there was a motion and second to accept the Executive Session Meeting minutes of October 9, 2018. Councilwoman Dietrich motioned to accept the minutes, seconded by Councilman Smith. Said motion was passed with Councilwoman Murphy and Councilman Sweeney abstaining.

Mayor Skinner asked if there was a motion and second to accept the Executive Session Meeting minutes of October 23, 2018. Councilman Caminiti motioned to accept the minutes, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was passed with Councilwoman Murphy, Councilman Smith and Councilman Sweeney abstaining.

Mayor Skinner asked if there was a motion and second to accept the Executive Session Meeting minutes of November 20, 2018. Councilman Caminiti motioned to accept the minutes, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was passed with Councilwoman Murphy and Councilman Sweeney abstaining.

Mayor Skinner asked if there was a motion and second to accept the Regular Meeting minutes of December 4, 2018. Councilwoman Dietrich motioned to accept the minutes, seconded by Councilman Caminiti. Said motion was passed with Councilwoman Murphy and Councilman Sweeney abstaining.

Mayor Skinner asked if there was a motion and second to accept the Executive Session Meeting minutes of December 4, 2018. Councilman Caminiti motioned to accept the minutes, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was passed with Councilwoman Murphy abstaining.

Mayor Skinner asked if there was a motion and second to accept the Regular Meeting minutes of December 18, 2018. Councilman Caminiti motioned to accept the minutes, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was passed with Councilwoman Murphy abstaining.

Mayor Skinner asked if there was a motion and second to accept the Executive Session minutes of December 18, 2018. Councilman Caminiti motioned to accept the minutes, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was passed with Councilwoman Murphy abstaining.

OLD BUSINESS

Liberty Park Improvements – Councilman Smith stated he has three items. First, he said that based on the Letter of Interpretation that the Borough received from the DEP there were two areas that had special restrictions set on them and the Borough wants to get those removed. There will be a phone call tomorrow between several Borough representatives and the DEP and he would like to get from the DEP the reason why these areas were designated that way. Mr. Bruder stated that the purpose of tomorrow's call between the borough and the DEP is to set up an organizational call to set a mediation date and he doesn't know if the DEP will get into any specifics.

Councilman Smith continued with his second item, water quality. He noted that during the second public meeting with Carter van Dyke and Dr. Souza from Princeton Hydro it was discussed that a plan was



**MAYOR & COUNCIL
THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE,
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 8, 2019**



needed to remove the excess phosphorus that is causing the mat algae to grow. He is waiting to get this plan from Princeton Hydro and will bring it in front of Council as soon as possible.

Councilman Smith stated his third item concerns the final park design based on the public meetings. He personally thinks that we lost some focus on our mission and he is disheartened by the costs. He wants to know if Council would like to have the Liberty Park Steering Committee review the proposal before Carter van Dyke presents it to the public and Council members agreed that this would be a good idea.

Ms. McFarland wanted to know if activities scheduled in the park in 2019 could still go on with upcoming construction. Councilman Smith noted that we do not have a final construction schedule yet and he'd like to see that we work around what's scheduled.

Roof for the Municipal Building – Councilman Caminiti noted that he provided everyone with a handout from Nations Roof concerning the roof work. The borough had another assessment for repairs that was over \$100,000. This work is broken into emergency work for \$4,500 and remedial work for \$23,900. He recommends that council takes action at the next meeting to approve the \$4,500 to pay for fixing the water that is flowing into the building at this time. He added that this will buy more time to review other options along with solar that we may be able to roll into one event at no capital expense to the borough.

Councilman Caminiti noted that correspondence has been initiated with Matheny again to try to get traffic counter into service. There has been no response yet but we're on it.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Smith stated that the borough received a letter from the New Jersey Public Employment Relations Committee (PERC) advising that the International Brotherhood of Teamsters is interested in unionizing our blue-collar DPW workers. They are talking to our Labor Attorney and will keep us apprised of options.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 27-19 – Resolution to Enter Into an Agreement with DMC Associates, Inc., Land Surveyors for the Purpose of a Survey of Liberty Park was read. Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy. Council President Corigliano asked how did the Borough determine this contractor. Mr. Tietjen noted that this surveyor has done all the other work for the park and works with other municipalities. Said motion was passed unanimously.

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION/APPROVALS

Facilities Usage Application from Knights of Columbus for use of the Gym on January 19, 2019 and February 2, 2019 for a Free Throw Contest. There was discussion amongst the council regarding this application. It was stated that there should be an announcement on the website and Nextdoor so that residents know that the gym will be in use. There was a consensus to allow the use of the gym for this event.



**MAYOR & COUNCIL
THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE,
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 8, 2019**



BILLS LIST

Resolution No. 28-19 Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List in the amount of \$920,040.35 was read. Councilwoman Murphy asked about the payment to the rec coach and was pointed to the page that indicated this was taken from the trust fund. Councilman Caminiti asked about the dog waste bags that cost over \$1,000 through U-Line. Council discussed the quantity purchased and that this is probably about a one-year supply. Councilman Caminiti asked about a bill paid to the power company and was informed that Bedminster pays the borough back for their portion. Councilman Caminiti also asked about e-ticket costs which are based on the number of tickets the police write. Council President Corigliano asked about the cell phone bill for the Tax Assessor and Mr. Tietjen said that what is considered a fair reimbursement has been determined. Motioned by Councilwoman Dietrich, seconded by Councilman Caminiti. Said motion was passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – 3 MINUTES PER PERSON – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

John Kappler – 25 Holland Ave. – Mr. Kappler stated that he is Chair of the Environmental Commission. He wished everyone a happy new year and congratulated Councilwoman Murphy, Councilman Sweeney, and Mayor Skinner. Mr. Kappler asked when the steering committee reviews what has been submitted by Carter van Dyke, he'd like if the Environmental Commission and Open Space Advisory Council could also review the proposal. Council agreed that this would get done.

Bill Muller – 24A Pottersville Rd. – Mr. Muller asked for clarification on the water needing to get fixed before the Borough proceeds. He asked if we have to go through a summer with no algae before proceeding with construction in the park. Councilman Smith stated that we have several options that can be used that will provide fairly quick results and will not delay moving forward with construction.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Skinner stated that there was no need to go back into Executive Session at this time.

Council President Corigliano stated that as Council people we respect our chairmanship and do not step over other Council members. He stated that the Council people do not go to the staff members; instead we should go through the Administrator. Lastly, he noted that we are an exceptional municipality because we get things done and are very hands on. Alternately, he said that we tend to get wrapped up in a project and we need to keep Mr. Tietjen and Ms. Bretzger in the loop with emails and paperwork.

Council President Corigliano also noted that he is giving a lecture on Monday, 7 p.m. at the library on the 150th anniversary of the Transcontinental Railroad.

Mayor Skinner noted that on Saturday night the fire department, first aid squad and police department were dispatched to a residence in town on Old Chester Road for a house fire. It was relatively minor but the fire department had to do a lot of work to make sure that the fire was extinguished. Everybody did a great job. Three people were displaced. We had to shut the power off to the house because of damage to the electrical lines. Through the Office of Emergency Management, Red Cross was called to help them get placement, provide them with gift cards and whatever to put them up in a hotel. No one was hurt, first responders or public. Councilman Smith stated that he understands that we had a young hero



**MAYOR & COUNCIL
THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE,
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 8, 2019**



involved in this incident, the only person in the home who spoke English made the 911 call. Mayor Skinner stated that he believes he was a six or seven year old, and he'd heard that a dispatcher called a police officer who was working and said that this child did a phenomenal job. The initial dispatch was very specific. He continued that we're going to be looking to do something for him. Councilman Smith noted that he thinks there's an initiation to recognize him with a commendation possibly here or at the firehouse.

There being no other matters to be addressed by the Governing Body at this time, a motion was made by Councilman Caminiti, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich, that this meeting be adjourned at 8:20 p.m. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy A. Bretzger

Nancy A. Bretzger, Borough Clerk