



**MAYOR & COUNCIL  
THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE  
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 17, 2019**

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The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone was held on Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at the Municipal Complex, 1 School Street, Peapack, New Jersey and began at 7:01 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: Mayor Skinner, Councilman Caminiti, Council President Corigliano, Councilwoman Dietrich, Councilwoman Murphy, Councilman Smith, Councilman Sweeney

No one was absent.

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Resolution No. 190-19** – Authorization for Executive Session for Certified Specified Purposes – (1) Contract Negotiations – (a) Affordable Housing (2) Personnel was read. Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Public Meeting reconvened at 7:31 p.m.

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

Mayor Skinner asked if any member of the Public wishes to speak about non-agenda items.

Kingsley Hill – 13 Brookside Dr., Gladstone – Mr. Hill stated that he is very concerned that the Council has a crisis on their hands. Mr. Hill talked about the departure of the Administrator, alleged over 100% turnover in Public Works, retention of a Labor Attorney by the Borough, DPW union negotiations, and poor employee morale. Mr. Hill continued that he feels the problem is not salaries, and that it is the work environment that stimulates people. He brought up examples of what he believes is poor management. He said you need people working in this town who know the town and are committed, loyal and experienced. He brought up the Director of DPW Scott Hanna's impending retirement. Mr. Hill said that he has seen miserable people-management practices that need to be fixed because the town can't afford the turnover.



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**PROCLAMATIONS**

Mayor Skinner stated that he will present Pfizer with a proclamation. He read portions of the proclamation and explained that the Somerset County Business Partnership had also presented Pfizer with a proclamation for their "Extraordinary Efforts in Support of a Sustainable Future"

The Mayor read a proclamation for Christopher J. Tietjen, and he presented Mr. Tietjen with the proclamation.

**MINUTES**

Mayor Skinner asked if there was a motion and second to accept the Regular Meeting minutes of November 26, 2019. Council President Corigliano motioned to accept the minutes, seconded by Councilman Sweeney. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Mayor Skinner asked if there was a motion and second to accept the Executive Session Meeting minutes of November 26, 2019. Councilman Smith motioned to accept the minutes, seconded by Councilman Sweeney. Said motion was passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Councilman Caminiti said that the details for the enrollment in the co-op for the energy aggregation program are being reviewed by legal counsel. Council discussed what the Borough is putting together. It was discussed that information will be provided by the Borough on the website and by mail.

Councilwoman Dietrich spoke about getting a quote for the cleaning of the welcome signs discussed at the last meeting, and the cost is \$845 per sign. The DPW will try to clean up the signs first. Councilwoman Dietrich stated that Bill Simpson's daughter spoke at a meeting last year about the lighting being dim in the parking lot and she agrees. Councilman Smith stated that there is the same problem at the Fire House parking lot. There was discussion about the lighting. Councilman Caminiti said that he and Councilman Smith will put together information and recommendations for the Council.

Councilman Smith said that all of the permitting has been received for the drilling of the test well at Liberty Park and the current installation date is the second week of January.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION/APPROVALS**

There were no miscellaneous discussion/approvals.

**ORDINANCES**



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Mayor Skinner asked for a motion and second to open the Public Hearing for **Ordinance 1084-2019** – An Ordinance Appropriating Certain Monies Held by the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone for the Purchase of Digital Speed Signs.

Councilwoman Murphy moved to open the hearing for Public Comment for **Ordinance 1084-2019** An Ordinance Appropriating Certain Monies Held by the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone for the Purchase of Digital Speed Signs, seconded by Council President Corigliano. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Dietrich stated that these are speed signs that show the driver's speed, capture data, and are effective in slowing cars down. The Borough would like to get two more to use.

Councilwoman Dietrich moved to close public comment for **Ordinance 1084-2019** An Ordinance Appropriating Certain Monies Held by the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone for the Purchase of Digital Speed Signs, seconded by Councilman Caminiti. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Councilman Sweeney moved to Adopt **Ordinance 1084-2019** – An Ordinance Appropriating Certain Monies Held by the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone for the Purchase of Digital Speed Signs, seconded by Councilman Caminiti. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Mayor Skinner asked for a motion and second to open the Public Hearing for **Ordinance 1085-2019** – An Ordinance Amending Chapter XV, Titled, "Streets and Sidewalks" of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, By Providing for the Recovery Costs of Cleanup of Hazardous Materials.

Councilman Sweeney moved to open the hearing for Public Comment for **Ordinance 1085-2019** An Ordinance Amending Chapter XV, Titled, "Streets and Sidewalks" of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, By Providing for the Recovery Costs of Cleanup of Hazardous Materials, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Kingsley Hill, OEM Coordinator, thanked Council for doing this ordinance with which he has been very involved. He continued that he is concerned about a roll-over of a gasoline tanker on Route 206 and the need for a foam tanker from a task force. Mr. Hill said that he is not sure the ordinance covers this. There was discussion regarding this question. Mr. Hill also asked about monies collected; they would go back to the Borough into the general fund.

Councilwoman Dietrich moved to close public comment for **Ordinance 1085-2019** An Ordinance Amending Chapter XV, Titled, "Streets and Sidewalks" of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, By Providing for the Recovery Costs of Cleanup of Hazardous Materials, seconded by Councilman Sweeney. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Council President Corigliano moved to Adopt **Ordinance 1085-2019** – An Ordinance Amending Chapter XV, Titled, "Streets and Sidewalks" of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, By Providing for the Recovery Costs of Cleanup of Hazardous Materials, seconded by Councilwoman Dietrich. Said motion was carried unanimously.



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**RESOLUTIONS**

Mayor Skinner asked if **Resolutions 191-19 through 199-19 and 202-19 through 204-19** could be considered as a consent agenda. Motion to approve these was made by Council President Corigliano, seconded by Councilman Sweeney. Said motion was passed unanimously.

**Resolution No. 191-19** Resolution for Authorization to Pay Accumulated Leave to Mary P. Robinson.

**Resolution No. 192-19** Resolution for Authorization to Pay Accumulated Leave to Scott Bowerbank.

**Resolution No. 193-19** Resolution Accepting a Resignation Letter from Christopher J. Tietjen, Borough Administrator.

**Resolution No. 194-19** Resolution for Authorization to Pay Accumulated Leave to Christopher J. Tietjen.

**Resolution No. 195-19** Resolution Authorizing Borough Police Department to Participate in Somerset County End of Year DWI Enforcement Grant.

**Resolution No. 196-19** Resolution Providing for the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the 2019 Budget for the Driving While Intoxicated Enforcement Grant Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (Chapter 159, P.L. 1948).

**Resolution No. 197-19** Resolution Amending Article VI, Section 5 Entitled Sick Leave, of the Personnel Policies of the Borough of Peapack and Gladstone.

**Resolution No. 198-19** Resolution to Enter Into an Agreement with Robert F. Heffernan Associates Real Estate Appraisers and Consultants for the Purpose of a Appraisal of Nelson Parcel Block 8, Lot 2.03.

**Resolution No. 199-19** Resolution to Refund Lienholder for Redemption of Lien #00041 on Block 8.03, Lot 4.

**Resolution No. 202-19** Resolution to Enter Into an Agreement with Norman J. Goldberg, Inc. Real Estate Appraisers for the Purpose of an Appraisal of Nelson Parcel, Block 8, Lot 2.03.

**Resolution No. 203-19** Resolution Appointing Randy W. Bahr as Interim Borough Administrator for the Borough of Peapack & Gladstone.

**Resolution No. 204-19** Resolution for Authorization to Increase Salary for Nancy A. Bretzger, Borough Clerk/Assistant Administrator.

**Resolution No. 200-19** Resolution for Year End Budget Transfers was read. Motioned by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Sweeney. Said motion was passed unanimously.



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**BILLS LIST**

**Resolution No. 201-19** Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List in the amount of \$968,700.75. Council President Corigliano asked about two of the bills, one from Dolan & Dolan regarding St. Brigid which was agreed to be done pro bono. The other was from Motorola for an OEM handheld radio for over \$7,000, and he has a problem with the cost. Council discussed. Motion to approve payment was made by Council President Corigliano, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy. Said motion was passed unanimously.

**COUNCIL REPORTS**

Finance – Council President Corigliano stated that he is working on the budget. He also stated that he was disturbed to find out that his name is on the CJIS system and he has never had access to this and doesn't want access, and this troubled him. He wanted this noted for the record and said that his name should be removed immediately.

Sanitation & Sewer – Councilwoman Murphy stated that she has no report.

Borough Property – Councilman Caminiti stated that the Borough is still working on getting the front door of the fire department replaced. He stated that Matheny has installed the posts for the traffic counters and that the vendor will be installing the counters soon.

Fire – Councilman Smith noted that this Sunday at 3 p.m. is the joint Christmas party for the Fire Department and First Aid Squad and all members of the governing body are invited.

Police – Councilman Sweeney stated that he has no report.

Roads & Transportation – Councilwoman Dietrich stated that she has no report.

Zoning & Construction – Mayor Skinner stated that he has no report.

Legal – Mr. Bruder stated that he has no report.

Administrator's Report – Mr. Tietjen stated that he provided Council with a transitional status report and he'd be happy to answer any questions, and he thanked Council for the opportunity to serve as Administrator.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Skinner stated that he has no report.

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

Mayor Skinner asked if any member of the Public wishes to speak about agenda items.

Ron Hill – Gladstone – Mr. Hill said that he is using resolution numbers instead of names. He asked about 191-19, and said that this payment is because the individual retired. He asked about 192-19 and 193-19 and said these payments are because the people are leaving. Mr. Hill continued that when we hire it costs the town money, and when they leave it costs money and that he agrees with what Kingsley



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said. He said that he understands the increase in salary for 204-19. Mr. Hill asked if personnel in the Roads Department have gotten an increase this year and Councilman Sweeney stated that we are in negotiations. Council President Corigliano stated that they are trying to come up with a solution to this problem. Mr. Hill said that there should be a decent pay raise for DPW workers.

There was discussion as to whether Council needs to go back into Executive Session.

The Mayor asked if there was any further business for discussion.

Councilman Caminiti thanked the people responsible for Christmas tree placed at the Lime Kiln. It is noted that the tree was donated by the P&G Christmas tree farm and mounted and decorated by Councilpersons Dietrich, Murphy, Caminiti and Corigliano as a Council project.

Mayor Skinner stated that Comcast is coming to the January 7th meeting for a public hearing regarding renewal of the franchise agreement. He also noted that the reorganizational meeting is on January 2nd at 7:00 p.m. and the Fire Department reorganizational meeting is on January 8th. Council meetings will be at 7:00 p.m. moving forward.

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 8:29 p.m. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy A. Bretzger, Borough Clerk