

Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale
Work Session Meeting Minutes
May 10, 2018

PRESENT: Mayor Elizabeth White and Councilmembers Ari Bernstein, Edward O'Connell, Jim Strauch, and Amy Wilczynski

ABSENT: Councilmembers Liz Homan and Steve Sasso

ALSO PRESENT: Borough Attorney Ray Wiss
Municipal Clerk Anne Dodd

A Work Session Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale was held in the Municipal Building at 500 West Crescent Avenue, Allendale, NJ on May 10, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 7:31 p.m. by Mayor White who asked that the Municipal Clerk read the open public meetings statement:

“In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the notice requirements have been satisfied. The meeting dates for the year are confirmed at the Annual Meeting, are posted on the public bulletin board in the Municipal Building, published in the Record within the first 10 days of the New Year, and copies are sent to the Ridgewood News and Star Ledger.”

Public Comment:

No one came forward.

Presentations:

A. Proclamation – National Skilled Nursing Care Week

Mayor White read the following proclamation into the record:

**Proclamation in Honor of
National Skilled Nursing Care Week**

Whereas, we honor and respect our elders and citizens of any age with physical or intellectual disabilities who reside in the Allendale Community for Senior Living, a skilled nursing care center located in the Borough of Allendale; and

Whereas, skilled nursing care centers throughout our area are holding events in observance of National Skilled Nursing Week, May 13th to May 19th, using this year's theme of “Celebrating Life's Stories;” and

Whereas, all citizens are urged to visit a loved one, family member or friend residing in any care setting and offer a kind word, a personal touch, and time spent participating in various activities as a way to help in uniting all walks of life in need of our continuing love and support; and

Whereas, as the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale are committed to quality health care, we take this moment to embrace the spirit of the theme “Celebrating Life's Stories” and join all residents, clients, caregivers, nurses, other staff, and visitors in celebrating their special week.

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Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale do hereby proclaim the week of May 13, 2018 to May 19, 2018 as National Skilled Nursing Care Week, a week to honor our vulnerable citizens who receive care and the dedicated ones giving care.

B. Proclamation – Arbor Day

Mayor White read the following proclamation into the record:

Proclamation

Whereas, in 1872 J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees, and

Whereas, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting more than a million trees in Nebraska, and

Whereas, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, and

Whereas, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife, and

Whereas, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products, and

Whereas, trees in our communities increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community, and

Whereas, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that I Elizabeth White, Mayor of the Borough of Allendale, do hereby proclaim that Arbor Day will be celebrated on May 14th and May 15th within the Borough of Allendale, and

Be it Further Resolved that I urge all citizens to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands and to support our Borough's forestry program, and

Be It Further Resolved that I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden hearts and promote the wellbeing of present and future generations.

Councilwoman Wilczynski advised that trees and plants will be planted near the Library on Tuesday.

Administration:

A. Bond Anticipation Note Sale – Determination & Award Certificates

Mayor White explained that a Bond Anticipation Note Sale was held to renew the notes for 220 and 230 W. Crescent Avenue. She advised that, due to the Borough's AAA bond rating, a favorable rate was received. She noted that more than the required interest was paid in 2017 due to the rental income received and the same is anticipated in 2018.

(See Determination & Award Certificate, attached and made a part hereof.)

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B. Agenda Review

Mayor White reviewed the Regular Session agenda. She advised that the April 26th Work and Regular Session Minutes are listed for approval.

Mayor White advised that Ordinance 18-12 is scheduled for second reading and adoption and noted that this ordinance prohibits the ground feeding of wildlife on private property. She commented that positive feedback on this ordinance was received from both the Board of Health and Carol Tyler of Tyco, the Borough's Animal Control Officer.

Mayor White explained that Rite Aid was sold to Walgreens and Resolution #18-129 transfers the liquor license previously held by Rite Aid to Walgreens.

With respect to the Consent Agenda, Borough Attorney Wiss advised that Resolution #18-131 amends the meeting schedule to add a special joint meeting with the Land Use Board on May 16, 2018. He explained that this meeting is being held in connection with the Borough's ongoing review and preparation for the Third Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan. He noted that this meeting is a concept review meeting during which a presentation will be heard and no action will be taken.

Mayor White advised that Mary Beth Lonergan, Affordable Housing Consultant, will be attending this meeting to review the proposed plan.

Mayor White then highlighted Resolution #18-133 and explained that the special event food permit fee is being amended from \$50 to \$10 for Festival Day only.

Councilwoman Wilczynski advised that Resolution #18-134 authorizes refunds for Veterans who receive a discounted membership rate to Crestwood Lake.

C. Council Reports

Councilman Strauch – Land Use and Construction Code

Councilman Strauch reported that the Land Use and Construction Code Committee met last Friday and had a busy agenda. He advised that there are several issues being addressed by this committee. The next committee meeting is scheduled on 7:30 a.m. on June 1st.

With respect to the Allendale Volunteer Goose Patrol, the new vests have been ordered and will be received soon. There are 64 dogs registered on the patrol with 41 contributing families. Each dog has been inspected and approved prior to becoming a part of the patrol. In 2020, it is anticipated that the inspection process will parallel the AKC Good Citizenship certification process.

Councilwoman Wilczynski – Facilities, Parks and Recreation

Councilwoman Wilczynski advised that a new roof is being installed at the Concession Stand and the new game tables have been delivered. Spring sports have been going well and compliments have been received on the fields. The next Facilities, Parks and Recreation meeting will need to be rescheduled.

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Councilman Bernstein – Administration, Finance and Human Resources

Councilman Bernstein reported that all those who were required to file Financial Disclosure Statements have done so, and as such, the Borough is in compliance. The Editorial and Legal Analysis of the Borough Code has been sent to all governing body members for review and follow-up in their respective committees as well as to the Borough Attorney for his review and comment. Councilman Bernstein and Councilwoman Homan attended the AFEE dinner on Friday which he commented was a great event for a good cause. Councilman Bernstein also attended the Northern Highlands Hall of Fame Biannual Banquet to induct new members. He commended Chris Kunisch for the great job that he did in putting this event together. The next Administration, Finance and Human Resources Committee is scheduled on May 15th.

Councilman O'Connell – Public Works

On behalf of Councilwoman Homan, Councilman O'Connell advised that the April water report was received from Suez and there are no issues with the water system. Two improvements are scheduled to be completed at the Fairhaven Booster Station this summer. The hydrant flushing will begin next month.

With respect to the Public Works Committee, Councilman O'Connell reported that a quarter of the Borough's catch basins are scheduled to be cleared by the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority in June. Pothole repairs are being completed. The spring cleanup of Borough properties has been completed.

D. Mayor's Report

Mayor White advised that the request from the VFW to hold the Memorial Day Parade was approved, and following the parade, the Firehouse will be dedicated to George Higbie.

The Borough participated in the Bergen County Cooperative Electrical Supply Service bid and a \$20,000 per year savings in energy costs is expected. This bid is for a 24-month term.

An invitation was received for residents to review the Bergen County Parks Master Plan. This event will take place on May 17th at 7 p.m. in Hackensack. Information has been posted to the Borough website.

E. Staff Reports

Ray Wiss, Municipal Attorney, reported that he reviewed annual contracts that were due for renewal at the Administrative Officer's request. He has also spent time addressing land use issues as well as working on development plans for 220 and 230 West Crescent Avenue and the draft Housing Element and Fair Share Plan with the Affordable Housing Consultant.

Anne Dodd, Municipal Clerk, advised that 15 OPRA requests have been received so far this month and 167 requests have been received to date this year. Her office has been busy issuing compost permits and garage sales as well as registering residents for Crestwood Lake. The last day to register to vote for the Primary Election is May 15th and the Borough Clerk's office will be open until 9 p.m. for Late Night Voter Registration. A late night for Crestwood Lake photos will be held on the same evening.

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F. Correspondence

There were no correspondence items.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, on a motion by Councilman Strauch, second by Councilman O'Connell, and unanimously carried, to adjourn this meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Anne Dodd, RMC
Municipal Clerk