

Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale
Work Session Meeting Minutes
March 14, 2019

PRESENT: Mayor Ari Bernstein and Councilmembers Liz Homan, Edward O’Connell, Matthew O’Toole, Steve Sasso, Jim Strauch and Amy Wilczynski

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Borough Attorney Raymond 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 March 14, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. by Mayor Ari Bernstein 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 – Girl Scout Week

Councilwoman Wilczynski recommended that Councilwoman Homan read the proclamation in honor of Girl Scout Week, noting that Councilwoman Homan has been both a Girl and Boy Scout leader in Allendale for over a decade.

Councilwoman Homan welcomed the Girl Scouts and commented that being a Girl Scout leader in Allendale for 16 years has been one of her most rewarding experiences. She expressed her opinion that that the Girl Scouts are such an asset to this community and, on behalf of Mayor Bernstein, read the following proclamation into the record:

**Proclamation
Girl Scout Week 2019**

WHEREAS, March 12, 2019, marks the 107th anniversary of Girl Scouts of the United States of America, founded by Juliette Gordon Low in 1912 in Savannah, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, throughout its distinguished history, Girl Scouting has inspired millions of girls and women with the highest ideals of courage, confidence, and character; and

WHEREAS, through Girl Scouting, girls discover, connect and take action to make their local communities and the world a better place; and

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WHEREAS, more than 3.2 million current Girl Scout members nationwide will be celebrating 107 years of this American tradition, with 59 million women who are former Girl Scouts and living proof of the impact of this amazing movement; and

WHEREAS, there are more than 200 Girl Scouts in the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, Allendale Service Unit, who make significant contributions to this community.

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, I, Ari Bernstein, Mayor of the Borough of Allendale, do hereby applaud the commitment that Girl Scouting has made to America's girls and proudly proclaim the week of March 10-16, 2019 as **"GIRL SCOUT WEEK"** and March 12th as **"GIRL SCOUT BIRTHDAY"** in the Borough of Allendale.*

Administration:

A. Agenda Review

Mayor Bernstein reviewed the Regular Session agenda. He advised that the February 28th Work and Regular Session Minutes are listed for approval.

Mayor Bernstein then reviewed the resolutions on the Consent Agenda. With respect to Resolution #19-94, he explained that an agreement was entered into for commercial grounds maintenance in 2017 and the Borough is exercising the option within the agreement to extend the contract for an additional year. He advised that Resolution #19-98 authorizes an agreement with TSS for street sweeping services. Ron Kistner, Administrative Officer/Director of Operations, noted that this company submitted a quote that came in lower than what was paid in 2018. In terms of Resolution #19-99, Mayor Bernstein explained that, at the Reorganization Meeting, a temporary budget is established. This resolution authorizes additional funds in order to carry the municipality through until the permanent budget can be adopted.

B. Mayor's Report

Due to time constraints, this agenda item was carried to the Regular Session.

C. Council Reports

Councilman Strauch – Public Safety

Councilman Strauch reported that the Public Safety Committee will be scheduled to meet the first Tuesday of every month. The Allendale Police Department finished its accreditation review and the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police Accreditation Committee unanimously voted to give the department accreditation status. Councilman Strauch announced that the Paulius family was featured in the Town Journal for their donation of outer carrier vests to the Police Department. The Police Department is continuing to implement components of GovPilot. Chief Scherb and Sgt. Mattiace visited the AT&T FirstNet Global Network Operations Center in Bedminster at which time they received a tour and gained insight into the FirstNet system which is a parallel wireless communications system for first responders. Councilman Strauch remarked that they were both very impressed by the system and are excited for it to be rolled out.

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Councilman O'Toole – Public Works

Councilman O'Toole announced that the Public Works Committee held its first meeting last Friday. There was discussion regarding personnel matters as well as equipment that is in need of either repair, replacement, or repurposing. There was a demonstration of a new street sweeper following this meeting which went well. The DPW handled another storm that involved snow and ice and Councilman O'Toole commented that the department did a fantastic job of clearing the roadways. The Superintendent of Schools, Michael Barcadepone, is in close contact with Mr. Kistner when storms occur which is a tremendous help in making decisions as to whether to close schools. Repairs to the docks at Crestwood Lake were made today.

Councilwoman Wilczynski – Facilities, Parks and Recreation

Councilwoman Wilczynski read some complimentary posts regarding the DPW that she found on social media. She advised that the Crestwood Lake Newsletter is about 75% complete, noting that some rate adjustments will need to be made due to the \$15 minimum wage law that recently went into effect. She, together with Councilwoman Homan, attended an Allendale Chamber of Commerce meeting during which the restoration of the mural in the downtown was discussed. While State Farm will be handling the wall repair, she advised that the assistance of businesses and residents will be sought to complete this project. The Historical Society will also be assisting with this project to ensure that the mural is kept intact with the exception of adding Crestwood Lake and the Fell House. She announced that this year marks the 100th anniversary of the Holiday Observers as well as the 125th anniversary of the Borough of Allendale. A meeting with the Holiday Observers has been scheduled to discuss all of this organization's upcoming events. An ASA meeting is scheduled next week which Mr. Kistner will be attending on Councilwoman Wilczynski's behalf. Opening Day is planned to take place on April 1st. A new furnace is being installed at the Allendale Police Department and a preconstruction meeting for the band shell took place. The Borough was notified that it was awarded the 2018 Open Space grant which Councilwoman Wilczynski advised is planned to be repurposed to install a new playground.

Councilman Sasso – Administration, Finance and Human Resources

Councilman Sasso reported that the Administration, Finance and Human Resources Committee met on March 6th and the main focus of this meeting was on the 2019 budget as well as capital requests. He advised that Department Heads have been asked to reduce their respective requests.

With respect to Public Safety, Councilman Sasso stated that both the Allendale Police and Fire Departments responded to a call in which a car went down an embankment and the victim needed to be extracted. He noted that the victim is expected to be okay. The Allendale Fire Department will be holding an Italian Night on April 26th from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. with food from Mezza Luna. The cost for adults is \$20/person in advance or \$25 at the door and for children ten years old and younger is \$5.

Councilman Sasso thanked Michael Limatola, Marsh Warden, who assisted him in finding care for an injured bird.

Due to time constraints, the remaining staff reports were carried to the Regular Session.

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D. Staff Reports

Due to time constraints, this agenda item was carried to the Regular Session.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, on a motion by Councilman Sasso, second by Councilman O'Connell, and unanimously carried, to adjourn this meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Anne Dodd, RMC
Municipal Clerk