

Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale  
Work Session Meeting Minutes  
May 23, 2019

PRESENT: Mayor Ari Bernstein and Councilmembers Matthew O'Toole, Steve Sasso, Jim Strauch and Amy Wilczynski

ABSENT: Councilmembers Liz Homan and Edward O'Connell

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 May 25, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 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:**

Michael O'Reilly, 85 Elmwood Avenue, advised that June 7<sup>th</sup> is National Gun Awareness Day and requested that the governing body support this cause. He provided a proclamation to the governing body and asked that it be listed on the next meeting agenda.

Mayor Bernstein responded that the governing body is in support of this cause and will list the proclamation on the agenda.

**Presentations**

A. Deer Sign Presentation

Mayor Bernstein explained that he was contacted by 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Brookside School students who are here this evening to present information as part of their school project regarding deer-related vehicle accidents.

Michael Braun, 104 Green Way, Aryaman Sareen, 151 Donnybrook Drive, Cooper Shirvan, 50 Gloria Drive, and Blake Chalfin, 26 Iroquois Avenue, presented information on the reasons that deer-related collisions occur. They provided statistics on the number of deer-related accidents in both New Jersey and across the country as well as the number of deaths and property damage that result. They offered helpful tips on how to avoid a deer-related collision which included placing bright yellow deer crossing signs on Franklin Turnpike near the entrance to the Celery Farm and on E. Allendale Avenue near Rt. 17. They also requested that information from this presentation be posted onto the Borough website, noting that they have created an Instagram account focusing on this issue.

Mayor Bernstein advised that he will put Ron Kistner, Administrative Officer/Director of Operations, and Tyler Yaccarino, Borough Webmaster, in touch with this group to have information posted to the website. He will also have Mr. Kistner work with this group regarding installation of the signs and will also have the topic placed on the Public Safety Committee agenda for discussion.

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As Mr. Kistner and Chief Scherb were both present in the audience, they advised that they will work with these students to get this project underway.

B. Presentation of Allendale Police Department Accreditation Certificate – Presented by Harry Delgado, Accreditation Program Director, NJ State Association of Chiefs of Police

Harry Delgado, Accreditation Program Director, NJ State Association of Chiefs of Police, commented that it is a pleasure to be at a Mayor and Council meeting again as he attended a meeting three years ago to present the Allendale Police Department with its Accreditation Certificate. He noted that this department joins a very exclusive group, expressing that tonight is significant as the department is being reaccredited. He advised that only 40-42% of police departments are accredited and the percentage drops with respect to those who achieve reaccreditation. He explained that, as part of the process, there is an onsite inspection with 105 standards that must be met and advised that the Allendale Police Department did not have one blemish. He reviewed the reaccreditation process as well as the benefits to being an accredited agency. He also reviewed the report generated regarding the findings of the reaccreditation process, noting, once again, that no issues were found. On behalf of the NJ State Association of Chiefs of Police, he congratulated Chief Scherb, Sgt. Kroepke the entire department, and governing body on this achievement. He then presented Chief Scherb with the Reaccreditation Certificate.

Mayor Bernstein noted that this achievement does not come easily as it is an arduous task. He thanked Chief Scherb and Sgt. Kroepke for their hard work in attaining this honor.

**Administration:**

A. Agenda Review

Mayor Bernstein reviewed the Regular Session. He advised that Resolution #19-140 authorizes the submission of a Bergen County Open Space grant application for the Crestwood Lake Playground Improvement project. He advised that this application is for a matching \$50,000 grant, and as part of the process, there will be a time to receive public comment on this grant application.

With respect to the adoption of Ordinance 19-08, Mayor Bernstein explained that the regulations governing COAH have been amended and certain revisions are required to bring Chapter 81 of the Borough Code into compliance with the current version of the Statute. He noted that that the revisions are ministerial in nature and the language was recommended by Mary Beth Lonergan, COAH Planner.

Mayor Bernstein then reviewed the resolutions on the Consent Agenda. Councilwoman Wilczynski advised that she will need to add a resolution to the Consent Agenda and inquired how this matter should be handled.

Borough Attorney Wiss advised that, as this resolution is not currently listed, either before the Consent Agenda is moved or immediately after, it should be handled as a speaking motion.

With respect to Resolution #19-143, Mayor Bernstein announced that the title of this resolution should read a Fire Department vehicle in place of Police Department. He also noted that there was a typo in Resolution #19-147 and this resolution will be increasing the Webmaster's salary from \$1,500 to \$2,700. In regard to Resolution #19-151, Mayor Bernstein explained that the proposed

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plan is to develop 220 West Crescent Avenue and Bruno Cividini is being appointed to be the Construction Consultant. Mr. Cividini will assist the Borough in the design and construction aspects of this project. The purpose of Resolution #19-152 is to increase the expenditure limit for the agreement with Benecke Economics. He explained that this increase is due to the decision to move forward with next phase of the project which is to draft the PILOT agreement. Resolution #19-153 authorizes the Tax Collector to send estimated tax bills for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter as information is still awaited from the County to determine the tax rate. Resolution #19-155 authorizes the adoption of the amended spending plan component of the 2018 Housing Element and Fair Share Plan. Mayor Bernstein noted that this plan is being adopted pursuant to the settlement, and in order to receive court approval, the Borough needs to have an updated spending plan. He explained that this resolution ties in with Resolution #19-156, the purpose of which is to express a commitment to fund the Borough's affordable housing obligations.

Borough Attorney Wiss advised that Resolution #19-157 authorizes the engagement of a field consultant with respect to environmental matters at 220 and 230 West Crescent Avenue.

B. Mayor's Report

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

C. Council Reports

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

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 Strauch, second by Councilwoman Wilczynski, and unanimously carried, to adjourn this meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Anne Dodd, RMC  
Municipal Clerk