

Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale
Regular Session Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2019

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

ABSENT: Councilmember Liz Homan

ALSO PRESENT: Borough Attorney Raymond Wiss
Municipal Clerk Anne Dodd

A Regular 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 September 12, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 8:03 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.”

The Mayor led those present in a salute to the flag.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Councilman Sasso, second by Councilman O’Connell, that the Minutes of August 22, 2019 Work Session and August 22, 2019 Regular Session are approved.

On a roll call, the vote was recorded as follows:

Councilwoman Homan:	absent	Councilman Sasso:	aye
Councilman O’Connell:	aye	Councilman Strauch:	abstain
Councilman O’Toole:	aye	Councilwoman Wilczynski:	aye

Public Comment

No one came forward.

Public Hearings for Advertised Ordinances:

Ordinance 19-14

The Municipal Clerk read into the record:

The following ordinance published herewith was first read by title only on August 22, 2019 and posted on the bulletin board of the lobby of the municipal building.

ORDINANCE 19-14 – AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL ARTICLE II, ENTITLED "SHADE TREE COMMISSION", OF CHAPTER 6, ENTITLED "BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS", OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE

Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale
Regular Session Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2019

Public Comments on Ordinance 19-14

No one came forward.

Motion by Councilwoman Wilczynski, second by Councilman Strauch, that Ordinance 19-14 be passed on second and final reading and is hereby adopted and notice of same shall be published according to law.

On a roll call, the vote was recorded as follows:

Councilwoman Homan:	absent	Councilman Sasso:	aye
Councilman O'Connell:	aye	Councilman Strauch:	aye
Councilman O'Toole:	aye	Councilwoman Wilczynski:	aye

(See Ordinance 19-14 attached and made a part hereof.)

Consent Agenda

- A. **19-218**/Approval of Bill List
- B. **19-219**/Authorize Refund – Overpayment of 2019 Taxes – Block 1604 Lot 8

Motion by Councilman Sasso, second by Councilman O'Toole, that the Consent Agenda be approved.

On a roll call, the vote on the Consent Agenda was recorded as follows:

Councilwoman Homan:	absent	Councilman Sasso:	aye
Councilman O'Connell:	aye	Councilman Strauch:	aye
Councilman O'Toole:	aye	Councilwoman Wilczynski:	aye

All members present voting in favor, the Consent Agenda was approved.

Resolution 19-218

List of Bills

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, that it hereby approves the Bill List dated September 12, 2019 in the amounts of:

Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale
 Regular Session Meeting Minutes
 September 12, 2019

Current Fund	\$856,162.61
Payroll Account	\$183,990.87
General Capital	\$12,904.15
Animal Fund	\$16.20
Grant Fund	\$6,195.00
COAH/Housing Trust	\$122.00
Improvement & Beautification	\$1,100.00
Unemployment Fund	\$0.00
Trust Fund	\$10,075.00
Water Operating	\$0.00
Water Capital	\$5,245.00
Total	\$1,075,810.83

Resolution 19-219

OVERPAYMENT

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Allendale that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to issue the following check on the property listed below and charge same to Overpayment of 2019 Taxes:

Block/Lot	Name	Amount
1604/8	FIS Accounting Dept. PO Box 4535 Carol Stream, IL 601-4535	\$3,080.12

Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business.

New Business:

There was no new business.

Council Committee Reports and Comments

Councilman Strauch – Public Safety

Councilman Strauch noted that the Public Safety team continues to provide assistance with the ever-increasing needs associated with community events. He reported that there have been a few recent arrests. A second house of worship has requested a security audit by the Allendale Police Department. The next Public Safety Committee meeting is scheduled at 5:30 p.m. on September 16th.

Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale
Regular Session Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2019

Councilman O'Toole – Public Works

On behalf of Councilwoman Homan, Councilman O'Toole reported that there was a miscommunication regarding water shutoffs necessary for Suez to perform work associated with the drainage project along Franklin Turnpike. This issue has been addressed with Suez. Councilwoman Homan, Ron Kistner, Administrative Officer/Director of Operations, Mike Vreeland, Borough Engineer, and Layne Simon, Water Projects Coordinator, attended a workshop on water quality testing and reporting on August 28th. Residents are reminded that sump pumps can use large quantities of water which may result in a large water bill for which residents are responsible. An advisory regarding this issue has been included in the 3rd quarter water bills. Councilwoman Homan and Mayor Bernstein will be meeting with Suez representatives on October 4th and September 16th will be the next Water, Sewer and Public Utilities Committee meeting.

With respect to the Public Works Committee, Councilman O'Toole advised that this committee met last Friday. There was discussion regarding ongoing projects within the Borough, personnel matters, and budget status. Potholes will begin to be patched next week. The Franklin Turnpike Drainage project is progressing and is expected to be completed before the end of the month. Paving of W. Orchard and Brookside was completed yesterday. The County has informed the Borough that Hillside Avenue will not be completed this year. Monthly street sweeping is scheduled to take place during the week of September 23rd. Dan Richards, Crew Chief, is preparing the fleet ready for snow removal. Councilman O'Toole expressed appreciation to the DPW for their assistance during the Holiday Observers' 100th Anniversary Celebration.

Councilwoman Wilczynski – Facilities, Parks and Recreation

Councilwoman Wilczynski advised that the due diligence period continues with respect to 220 and 230 West Crescent Avenue. She and Mayor Emeritus Barra will be meeting with the potential purchasers tomorrow. Documents continue to be reviewed and a meeting was held today to discuss the environmental aspect of this project. Crestwood Lake is closed for the season and revenues were up this year. She noted that closing day was a great afternoon and was well attended. She commended Rich McDowell, DPW Laborer, for maintaining excellent water quality despite the hot temperatures and rainy weather. The 9/11 Ceremony was held last night and she acknowledged Rich McDowell and Ray Frazier of the DPW who helped to set up and prepare the memorial for this ceremony. She thanked all those who were involved in making this event special. She expressed that she was happy to be a part of the Holiday Observers' 100th Anniversary Celebration, noting that it was a fabulous day for Allendale. She commended Ray Frazier for his hard work during this event. Festival Day will take place soon. The band shell is complete and a ribbon cutting is hoped to be held in the fall.

Councilman Sasso – Administration, Finance and Human Resources

Councilman Sasso reported that the Administration, Finance and Human Resources Committee met on Monday. There was discussion regarding the review of our Borough Code by General Code. The committee continues to be laser-focused on spending and expenses. The implementation of GovPilot continues to go well and may be expanded.

Councilman O'Connell – Land Use and Construction Code

Councilman O'Connell advised that Mr. Kistner is currently reviewing the portion of the legal analysis of the Borough Code pertaining to the Land Use and Construction Code Committee. The

Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale
Regular Session Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2019

committee met on Monday. The sign in the nail salon continues to stay down. Councilman O'Connell commented that Mike Limatola, Property Maintenance Officer, continues to do an excellent job of enforcing the Borough Code. The committee is exploring ways to address sump pumps that are pumping water onto properties and into the street. Salt will be applied to icing in the street resulting from this issue. Councilman O'Connell advised that he has been a Holiday Observer since 2013 and stated that, although he is always proud to be a part of this organization's events, nothing made him prouder than to participate in the 100th Anniversary Celebration.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Bernstein reported that final tax bills were mailed on Monday. He advised that the records pertaining to a block and lot that have been scanned by Accuscan are currently being uploaded into GovPilot for easy storage and retrieval. He commented on what a benefit GovPilot is to both residents and Borough Hall staff. Mayor Bernstein advised that he attended the 4th Annual Hope & Healing candlelight vigil held on September 4th and thanked Lani Bonifacic and Gail Cole for planning this moving event. He also thanked Councilwoman Wilczynski and Councilwoman Homan for their work in making the Crestwood Lake season wonderful. He recognized Ron Kistner and the Allendale Police Department for their efforts in coordinating the recent paving of Brookside and Orchard within the Borough to keep the inconvenience to the residents as minimal as possible.

Staff Reports:

Ray Wiss, Municipal Attorney, advised that a lot of time was spent on 220 and 230 West Crescent Avenue, noting that there are multiple, contractual aspects to this project as well as aspects involving the Borough's low- and moderate-housing obligation and statutory redevelopment. The Borough is working across the aisle with the prospective purchaser to address these issues. There was discussion with Mr. Kistner on personnel and property maintenance issues as well as discussions with the Borough Clerk on OPRA requests. There has also been discussion on upcoming collective bargaining negotiations and possible ordinance revisions.

Anne Dodd, Municipal Clerk, reported that she has received 30 OPRA requests since the last meeting and 345 requests to date this year. She reminded the governing body that submissions for the Fall newsletter must be submitted by tomorrow.

Borough Attorney Wiss noted that, although the number of OPRA requests being reported is large, many OPRA requests are multifaceted and require a lot of time and interface with other departments as well as his office in order to fulfill. He commented on the fact that OPRA has become a vehicle for commercialization and businesses attempting to gain a competitive advantage which was not the original intention of the law.

Ron Kistner, Administrative Officer/Director of Operations, advised that he has no report.

Public Comment on any issue:

No one came forward.

Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale
Regular Session Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2019

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 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Dodd, RMC
Municipal Clerk