

Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale
Regular Session Meeting Minutes
October 24, 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 Thomas Bouregy
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 October 24, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 8:01 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 O’Connell, second by Councilman O’Toole, that the Minutes of October 10, 2019 Work Session and October 10, 2019 Regular Session are approved.

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

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

Public Comment

No one came forward.

Consent Agenda

- A. **19-230**/Approval of Bill List
- B. **19-231**/Authorize Refund – Water Overpayment
- C. **19-232**/Authorize Auction – GovDeals.com
- D. **19-233**/Establish Halloween Curfew

Motion by Councilman Strauch, second by Councilwoman Homan, that the Consent Agenda be approved.

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

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Councilwoman Homan:	aye	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 19-230

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 October 24, 2019 in the amounts of:

Payroll Account	\$243,105.85
General Capital	\$137,182.40
Animal Fund	\$0.00
Grant Fund	\$494.19
COAH/Housing Trust	\$125.00
Improvement & Beautification	\$7,000.24
Unemployment Fund	\$0.00
Trust Fund	\$0.00
Water Operating	\$479,816.11
Water Capital	\$1,400.00
Total	\$2,779,277.40

Resolution 19-231

Water Overpayment

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Allendale that the Water Collector is hereby authorized to issue the following refund check for overpayment on the account listed below and charge same to Water Rents/Overpayments for 2019:

Account Number	Name	Amount
31103643720966	Stiles Thomas 30 Louise Ct. Allendale, NJ 07401	\$72.85

Resolution 19-232

Authorize GovDeals.com Auction

WHEREAS, the Borough of Allendale is the owner of certain surplus property which is no longer needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A 11-36 authorizes municipalities to offer for sale, public property which is no longer needed for public service; and

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WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale is desirous of selling said surplus property in an “as is” condition without express or implied warranties.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale, County of Bergen, as follows:

- (1) The sale of the surplus property shall be conducted through GovDeals.com pursuant to State Contract A-83453/T2581 in accordance with the terms and conditions of the State Contract. The terms and conditions of the agreement entered into with GovDeals is available online at govdeals.com and also available from the Borough Clerk.
- (2) The sale will be conducted online and the address of the auction site is govdeals.com.
- (3) The sale is being conducted pursuant to Local Finance Notice 2008-9.
- (4) A list of the surplus property to be sold attached as Exhibit A.
- (5) The surplus property as identified shall be sold in an “as-is” condition without express or implied warranties with the successful bidder required to execute a Hold Harmless and Indemnification Agreement concerning use of said surplus property.
- (6) The Borough of Allendale reserves the right to accept or reject any bid submitted.

Resolution 19-233

Halloween Curfew

Whereas, the Police Chief has requested a Halloween Curfew for children under the age of eighteen for the purpose of maintaining order beginning October 30th and extending through October 31st, 2019 to be put into effect starting at 8:00 p.m. until sunrise.

Whereas, the Governing Body believes that this curfew is in the best interest of the Borough.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that a curfew shall be in place from October 30th through October 31st, 2019.

Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business.

New Business:

There was no new business.

Council Committee Reports and Comments

Councilman O’Connell – Land Use and Construction Code

Councilman O’Connell reported that the Land Use and Construction Code Committee met on October 21st. The section of the Borough Code pertaining to noise was reviewed. Mike Limatola, Property Maintenance Officer, has been addressing issues with signs. Although the Construction

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Office has issued fewer permits this year, revenue has increased, making it one of the best years over the past twelve years for revenue.

Councilwoman Homan – Water, Sewer and Public Utilities

Councilwoman Homan announced that the Water, Sewer and Public Utilities Committee met on October 15th. In compliance with the Water Accountability Act, the 12-inch water valves have been checked, fire hydrant flushing is in the process of being completed, and the asset management plan has been created and implemented and continues to be a living document. She noted that a group of contaminants known as PFAS have recently come under scrutiny. As a result, PFNAs have become part of the Borough's standard testing in 2019 and the Borough's levels have tested within the NJ DEP's limits. Councilwoman Homan explained the various ways in which the Borough is working to address these emerging contaminants. She noted that there continue to be a large number of water meters in need of replacement. This issue is being addressed and she commended Ron Kistner, Administrative Officer/Director of Operations, and Layne Simon, Water Projects Coordinator, for working with Suez to have these meters replaced. She requested that residents review their water bill and contact Suez if they see an estimated reading.

Councilman Sasso – Administration, Finance and Human Resources

Councilman Sasso advised that the Administration, Finance and Human Resources Committee met this past Monday. There was discussion regarding staffing issues. Accuscan continues to scan documents so that paper copies can be destroyed. Expanding the use of online forms through GovPilot was discussed as well as the implementation of online payments. The committee is starting to look at the 2020 budget and Councilman Sasso noted that there will be a laser focus on services and expenses. Internal improvements were discussed with respect to the No Knock Registry to make it a better experience for those residents who do not wish to have solicitors come to their doors.

Councilwoman Wilczynski – Facilities, Parks and Recreation

Councilwoman Wilczynski stated that, in the area in which Thomas Lucas refurbished the shuffle board courts, the playground area will be refurbished and the surround around the band shell will be completed through the use of two pending grants. She noted that they are in the process of closing out a 2017 grant which was used to refurbish the floors and purchases picnic tables for the Red Barn. With the remaining funds, she advised that they will be purchasing garbage cans. The ARC 5K run is scheduled to take place this Sunday, rain or shine, and the proceeds will go to Brookside School for mental health programs. Jim Wright was recently appointed to the Library Board. The due diligence period is winding down with respect to 220 and 230 West Crescent Avenue. She reviewed the various meetings that have been held, noting that they are working to review and complete the necessary documents in order to close with the prospective purchasers. The Constant Contact program has been rolled out as an additional avenue to communicate with residents.

Councilman O'Toole – Public Works

Councilman O'Toole reported that street sweeping was completed yesterday in preparation for the ARC 5k run. Rich McDowell and Layne Simon of the DPW have also been cleaning and preparing the route as well as getting the Red Barn ready. The semi-annual insurance inspection of the Borough playgrounds and parks took place and recommendations made by the inspector have already been addressed. The fall/winter leaf pickup program is in its third week and is going smoothly. He advised that the compost area is open on the weekends through December 16th and a

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permit is required to gain access to this area. The Recycling Center was found to be in compliance after an inspection by the NJ DEP. The items that were noted in the inspection will be addressed this week. The next Public Works Committee meeting is scheduled on November 1st.

Councilman Strauch – Public Safety

Councilman Strauch advised that he attended the ribbon cutting this evening for the fourth special needs housing facility in Allendale known as the Hamilton House. He commented that it was a wonderful event. He acknowledged the efforts of the members of the committee who are involved with 220 and 230 West Crescent Avenue, commenting that he believes that taking control of this property's destiny was the best decision for Allendale. He remarked that the presentation held during the Work Session is a shining example of how Allendale works with both the surrounding communities and the County with respect to public safety. The Public Safety Committee meeting was held last Wednesday. He noted that a recent arrest is requiring a lot of time and resources as the case is being heard in Hackensack. The next Public Safety Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled on November 20th.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Bernstein reported that the Senior Flu Clinic is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, October 29th from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. in the Council Chambers. He advised that the Allendale Free Rabies Clinic, which had been previously held in November, has been moved to January so that residents can also obtain their 2020 pet license at the same time. This clinic will take place on Saturday, January 11th from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Ambulance Corps Building. 4th Quarter Taxes are due on November 1st with the last day to pay without a penalty being November 12th. Mayor Bernstein advised that he also attended the ribbon cutting earlier this evening, commenting that it was a great event. He thanked Mayors Emeritus Barra and White for starting this relationship with Eastern Christian Children's Retreat. The first 2020 budget meeting will take place on December 1st. He reminded residents to be careful driving on Halloween as children will be trick or treating. He expressed that he is very happy for Jim Wright's willingness to serve on the Library Board. He urged residents to vote in the General Election which is on Tuesday, November 5th.

Staff Reports:

Thomas Bouregy, Municipal Attorney, expressed that a lot of time and effort continues to go into 220 and 230 West Crescent Avenue, noting that progress is being made.

Anne Dodd, Municipal Clerk, reported that she has received 38 OPRA requests to date this month and 413 requests to date this year. She advised that her office is busy preparing for General Election which is on November 5th. Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Voting machines were delivered yesterday.

Councilman Sasso reminded residents that it is currently deer mating season and to be mindful of deer running out onto the roadway.

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

Public Comment on any issue:

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Walter Widmer, 38 Hamilton Street, commented that they did a beautiful job with the Hamilton House and inquired whether the property will be maintained. He was advised that this property will be required to be maintained.

Kevin Wood, 57 Meeker Avenue, inquired what is being done to address the deer crisis.

Mayor Bernstein responded that the Borough has been working to address the increasing deer population for years and he will be meeting with Mayor Emeritus White and Councilman Sasso to further discuss this issue next week. There has been discussion at the Northwest Bergen Mayors' meetings regarding this issue as well and options are actively being explored. He advised that there have been town hall meetings held on ways to address this issue, noting that it is tough to do in a vacuum and would need to be a collective effort.

Councilwoman Wilczynski commented that cooperation from the County is necessary, and although the Borough sent them a letter to request this cooperation, there was no response.

Frank Paarozzi, 25 Vreeland Place, expressed concern that the Borough permits two, non-family members to reside within a home. He asked that the governing body consider amending this ordinance as he feels that it poses a safety concern.

Mayor Bernstein and Councilman O'Connell advised that this topic is currently being discussed in the Land Use Committee. The committee is working to address this issue in a manner that will be in the best interest of the community.

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 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Dodd, RMC
Municipal Clerk