

Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale
Work Session Meeting Minutes
August 27, 2020

PRESENT: Mayor Ari Bernstein
(*in person*)

PRESENT: Councilmembers Liz Homan, Edward O'Connell, Matthew O'Toole,
Steve Sasso, Jim Strauch and Amy Wilczynski
(*via teleconference*)

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Borough Attorney Raymond Wiss
(*in person*) Acting Municipal Clerk Michelle Ryan
Chief of Police George Scherb

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 August 27, 2020. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, access to the public was provided via GoToMeeting video and teleconferencing only, with adequate notice of same posted for public viewing. The meeting was called to order at 7:34p.m., due to technical difficulties, by Mayor Bernstein who reminded the public to mute their devices so as not to distract from the business at hand. Mayor Bernstein advised the public that they would have an opportunity at an appropriate time to be heard.

Mayor Bernstein asked that the Acting 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:

Kristen Tsarnas, 74 Heights Road, requested an update on 47 Heights Road. Mayor Bernstein advised that Mr. Kistner, who was not in attendance, would provide an update to the neighbors tomorrow. Councilwoman Wilczynski responded to Ms. Tsarnas' request for an update on 230's remediation and the timeline for an application before the Land Use Board. The paperwork is being finalized for the remediation and a pre-construction meeting is scheduled for next week. The project itself should take 30 – 60 days to complete. The tenant at 220 moved out and the building has been cleared. There is a hope that Hampshire's application will be on the Land Use Board's October agenda. Mayor Bernstein confirmed to Ms. Tsarnas that the SLEO's would be stationed at Northern Highlands and clarified that since the position is a yearly appointment, one SLEO is being reappointed and another is being added for a total of two SLEO's.

No other public came forward for comment.

Presentations:

Mayor Bernstein invited Chief Scherb to join with him to honor the heroic acts by Officers Alex Helmer and Sean Hubbard at Mezza Luna Restaurant on the night of July 25, 2020. Mayor Bernstein expressed his eternal gratitude and read a letter written by Officer Paul Stettner, attached and made a part hereof, on behalf of the Chief and the entire Police Department. Chief Scherb conveyed his admiration and

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presented each officer with a Life Saving Award pin for their heroism. The meeting paused for picture-taking of the officers with their families as well as with elected officials and Chief Scherb.

When the meeting resumed, Mayor Bernstein read a proclamation, attached and made a part hereof, declaring September as Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month and also recognizing the Allendale Woman's Club's efforts to raise awareness of the disease.

Administration:

A. Agenda Review

Before thorough review of the Regular Session agenda, Mayor Bernstein advised that the Minutes of the August 13th Work and Regular Sessions would be listed for the September 10th meeting. Due to the pandemic, the commuter parking permit period and fees need adjusting, which are reflected in Resolution 20-193 and the introduction of Ordinance 20-12. As an added security measure to address COVID-19 protocols, Resolutions 20-194, 20-195, 20-196 and the introduction of Ordinance 20-13 effectuate the stationing of two SLEO's at the high school, the cost of which will be borne by Northern Highlands. Mr. Wiss affirmed Resolution 20-194 fills the gap period until the amendment of the ordinance to add the second SLEO is adopted. Mayor Bernstein thanked Chief Scherb and Councilman O'Connell for their work with the Public Safety Committee on these items. Of particular note on the Consent Agenda, Mayor Bernstein shared the governing body's joy to approve the Woman's Club's town-wide garage sale via Resolution 20-199. Resolution 20-200 authorizes the hiring of Blake Smith as a replacement Full-Time Police Radio Dispatcher. Chief Scherb revealed a bonus is that Mr. Smith is already trained and has been working in the position for a nearby town. Resolutions 20-201 and 20-202 extend, until October 30th, the outdoor cafe and temporary signage modifications and relaxations made to accommodate businesses during these COVID-19 times.

B. Council Reports

Due to time constraints, this Agenda item was addressed during the Regular Session.

C. Mayor's Report

Due to time constraints, this Agenda item was addressed during the Regular Session.

D. Staff Reports

Due to time constraints this agenda item was addressed during the Regular Session.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, on a motion by Councilwoman Wilczynski, second by Councilwoman Homan, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Ryan
Acting Municipal Clerk