

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF HAMBURG HELD ON NOVEMBER 6, 2023 AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 16 WALLKILL AVE., HAMBURG, NJ

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Krasnomowitz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG:

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Krasnomowitz requested a roll call:

Councilmember Law	Councilmember Endres
Councilmember Burd	Councilmember Haig
Councilmember Sena	Councilmember Oehler

Absent: None

Also Present: Attorney Clemack
Doreen Schott, RMC

STATEMENT OF CERTIFICATION:

Clerk advised:

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided to the public and the press January 11, 2023 by delivering to the New Jersey Herald and the Sunday Herald and posting at the Municipal Building a copy of the “Annual Notice of Meetings” pursuant the provisions of the “Open Public Meetings Act”.

October 2, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Endres to approve the October 2, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes. All in favor.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

There are no additions or deletions to the bill list. Motion by Councilmember Haig, seconded by Councilmember Law to open the meeting to the public with regards to the bill list only. All in favor. Hearing no comment, motion by Councilmember Haig, seconded by Councilmember Law to close the meeting to the public. All in favor.

Motion by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Law to approve the bill list. All in favor.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Professional Service Proposal – Borough Planner – Jessica Dykstra

Mayor Krasnomowitz introduced Jessica Caldwell Dykstra to the rest of the council. Jessica introduced herself and gave a little background on her past work experience and what she is currently doing. She works with many municipalities in Sussex County. Jessica has done a lot of master planning, center designation work, and redevelopment planning. Councilmember Law questions what experience she has with grants. Jessica answered they have grant writers on staff to help write the grants and they also have administrative staff to help with once the grant is achieved. Some of the grant Jessica has experience with are small cities, state DEP grants, and open space grant. Mayor Krasnomowitz is hopeful to get the Wallkill Valley trail to go through the Borough of Hamburg, with the help of Jessica and her team. Jessica has experience working with the Borough

Engineer, John Ruschke. Jessica will be the main contact person in the firm, and herself or her associate Alison will be the ones who attend the meetings.

ORDINANCES:

There were no ordinances this agenda.

RESOLUTIONS:

2023-90 – Crossing Guard Hire – Sam Villagomez

Motion by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Endres to accept Resolution 2023-90 – Crossing Guard Hire. All Councilmembers present in favor.

2023-91 – FY 2023 EMMA Grant to accept

Motion by Councilmember Haig, seconded by Councilmember Sena to accept Resolution 2023-91 – FY 2023 EMMA Grant to accept. All Councilmembers present in favor.

ATTORNEY HOUR:

The attorney had nothing to report at this time.

ENGINEERING:

There was no engineering report at this time.

MAYOR'S AGENDA:

Basketball / Pickleball Court Bid:

Mayor Krasnomowitz made a recommendation to reject the bid that came in at \$359,444.00. A motion was made by Councilmember Haig, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to reject the bid for the basketball / pickleball court. All were in favor.

Volunteer Citizen Leadership Form – Board Vacancy:

Mayor Krasnomowitz appointed Kami Wolf to the Recreation Commission.

Shared Service Agreement – Renewal of Commodity Resale Agreement:

Mayor Krasnomowitz discussed the Shared Service Agreement with Hardyston Township for the gas for the town vehicles for the year 2024. The cost of the gas is \$2.3512 per gallon, and the cost of diesel is \$3.5506 per gallon, both are plus a ten cent per gallon administrative fee. A motion was made by Councilmember Haig, seconded by Councilmember Law to accept the Shared Services agreement with Hardyston Township for fuel. All were in favor.

Vulcan Quarry:

Mayor Krasnomowitz, Attorney Clemack, Councilmember Endres, and Councilmember Sena met with members from Vulcan Quarry in regards to the blasting. They advised the councilmembers present there are three separate entities who measure the blasting taking place. These entities are the state, Vulcan Quarry, and they company used for blasting. These three entities are reporting the blasting levels are within the blasting allowed requirements. The most recent blasting is close to the Hamburg border as they are creating a road which runs from the bottom of the quarry to the top of the quarry. Once the road is completed the blasting will be further away from the Hamburg line and closer to Vernon, therefore the strength of the blast will not be as strong. The quarry is planning a few months, bur could not give an exact date, on when the road should be completed. The quarry is going to be sending out a mailing to all Hamburg residents with a survey to sign up for alerts when the blasting will be taking place. Mayor Krasnomowitz encouraged all residents to also sign up for the reverse 911 app, which the OEM coordinator will be sending out alerts on as well, along with

other important Borough related information. Councilmember Endres explained any resident who would be interested in having a seismograph in their home, this would be measured, with a person from Vulcan present at the time of blasting. Residents are instructed to contact Vulcan to set this procedure up in their homes. Vulcan Quarry is having an open house to having people come to the quarry the day of a blast, please contact the quarry to schedule this. Councilmember Sena reiterated Vulcan is building a road which runs from the top to the bottom of quarry, and as they make the road longer, they will be moving further away from the Hamburg boundary. Attorney Clemack stated no one wants disruption in their lives. He explained there are two problems, one the state sets the standards for blasting, and two, the quarry does not sit within the borders of Hamburg Borough. The state has set the standards for many years. There are three entities which check these ratings and currently the quarry is within these standards. He stated there could be a fourth check by putting the seismograph on your street or house. Attorney Clemack explained, to the public, the first step, if they feel there is damage to their house or foundation due to the blasting, is to file an insurance claim. Attorney Clemack explained cause and effect have to be proven for an insurance claim. Residents have to be able to prove the cracks in the houses and foundation are not from naturally settling of the house, for insurance claims. The borough and the residents are all entitled to look at the readings sent to the state for the standards check. Attorney Clemack recommended to the residents to put the seismograph on their houses and if there is serious damage done to one's home to alert the borough immediately so it can get handled. Mayor Krasnomowitz explained if a resident feels there was damage done to the home, the quarry wants to talk to the resident. He went on to explain the quarry is very interested in educating the public and working with the public the best they can.

AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA

Shared Service Agreement – Construction Official:

The Shared Service agreement is the same as the previous year with a 2% increase. A motion was made by Councilmember Haig, seconded by Councilmember Law, to accept the shared service agreement with Hardyston Township for the Construction Official. All were in favor.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ALL MATTERS LISTED BELOW ARE CONSIDERED TO BE ROUTINE IN NATURE AND WILL BE ENACTED BY ONE MOTION, THERE WILL BE NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF THE ITEMS. IF ANY DISCUSSION IS DESIRED, THAT PARTICULAR ITEM WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA AND WILL BE CONSIDERED SEPARATELY.

Zoning Report: September 2023
Construction Report: September 2023, October 2023
Treasurer Report: September 2023, October 2023
Tax Report: September 2023
Police Report: October 2023
EMS Report: September 2023
Court: September 2023
Board of Health: September 2023
OEM Report: October 2023
Animal Control:

Motion by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Endres to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. All Councilmembers present in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COUNCILMEMBER BURD:

Hamburg PTA Color Run – April 13, 2024:

The PTA is asking permission to use the park, again this year, for their Color Run. It is scheduled

for April 13, 2024, with a rain date of April 14, 2024. A motion was made by Councilmember Burd, and seconded by Councilmember Oehler, to approve the PTA Color Run Application. All were in favor.

Councilmember Burd read the Fire Report for October into the record. There were 13 calls for the month/ There were 2 fire calls, 2 MVA calls, 5 alarm, 2 smoke condition, 2 gas smell calls. There are a total of 94 calls for the year so far.

Councilmember Burd explained the Fire Department is in need of 16 new air bottles totaling \$22,315.20. Mayor Krasnomowitz diverted to Councilmember Sena in regards to transferring money to afford these bottles. Councilmember Sena reviewed the transfer of funds resolution. Councilmember Sena made a motion to accept Resolution 2023-89 Transfer Resolution – Balance Transfer, seconded by Councilmember Haig. All were in favor. Mayor Krasnomowitz diverted back to Councilmember Burd to finish his report. A motion was made by Councilmember Burd, seconded by Councilmember Law to purchase the air bottles from North Jersey Fire Equipment at a cost of \$22,315.20. All were in favor.

Councilmember Burd explained the current fire chief is not running for chief again next year. The fire department will vote on the new chief for the year 2024 at the end of this year.

COUNCILMEMBER OEHLER:

The Trunk-or-Treat took place on October 29, 2023. There were approximately 45 kids in attendance. It rained, but the kids had fun anyway.

The tree lighting will take place on December 1, 2023. There is confirmation the Grammer School choir will be in attendance to sing three songs. The information for this event will be put on the Facebook page, the Borough website and digital sign. Flyers will be sent to the school. Walkkill High School has also been asked to bring their choir and there has been no response from them.

Councilmember Oehler had a question in regards to where the Recreation Commission stores all of their things. Everything is stored in the OEM building. There is a shelf there labeled Rec and there is a bunch of things stored there for future events.

Breakfast with Santa is scheduled for December 9, 2023. Registration for this event is now open.

COUNCILMEMBER ENDRES:

The Land Use Board had their meeting on the second Monday in October. There were two no shows. These were both postponed to the November meeting.

COUNCILMEMBER LAW:

Councilmember Law read the police report for the month of October into the record. There was a total of 654 for the month. There were 5 arrests, 13 motor vehicle accidents, 204 motor vehicle stops, 112 motor vehicle tickets issued, 14 walk-ins to headquarters, and 62 correspondences received and processed.

Councilmember Law reported OEM and the Fire Department did a hands-on training with NY Susquehanna and Western Railroad. This training was all about train safety.

There has been an on-going appeal to FEMA for Covid monies. The appeal was won and the original amount will be received by the Borough. Councilmember Law thanked Keith Sukennikoff and the rest of OEM for all of their hard work on this appeal.

Crossing Guard Hire:

Councilmember Law asked permission to hire a substitute crossing guard to have available is someone calls out or is on vacation. The current ordinance would need to be amended to include this additional staff. A motion was made by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Oehler, to hire an as needed crossing guard. All were in favor.

COUNCILMEMBER HAIG:

Quote – Cleaning of multiple lift stations: Wind River Environmental dba Earthcare and TAM: There were two quotes for the cleaning of the lift stations. One of the quotes was from Wind River Environmental and the other quote is from TAM Enterprises. A motion was made by Councilmember Haig, seconded by Councilmember Law to accept the quote from Wind River Environmental for the cleaning of the lift stations. All were in favor.

Councilmember Haig thanked the DPW for doing a great job with the most recent water main break. It took 12 hours to get the water shut off properly and to find the break to fix it.

Memo from BPW regarding Fire Department Water Bill:

Councilmember Haig referred to Councilmember Sena. Councilmember Sena explained the DPW uses a road that goes behind the pavilion. The Fire Department is asking to split the water bill. Mayor Krasnomowitz recommended splitting the bill. The municipal clerk will speak with the water/sewer collector and figure out what the best laid plan is.

COUNCILMEMBER SENA:

Resolutions 2023-89 Transfer Resolution – Balance Transfer:
Discussed under Councilmember Burd’s report.

Quote from New Jersey Fire Equipment Co. for Carbon Cylinder Bottles:
Discussed under Councilmember Burd’s report.

T-007-2023 Resolution authorizing Tax Exception Block 16, Lot 5:

A motion was made by Councilmember Sena, and seconded by Councilmember Oehler, to accept Resolution T-007-2023. All were in favor.

2024 – 2026 Animal Control Shared Service Agreement:

A shared service agreement with Vernon Animal Control for the time period of 2024-2026 with the costs per year as follows, 2024 - \$13,250, 2025 - \$13,500, and 2026 - \$13,750. A motion was made by Councilmember Sena, seconded by Councilmember Haig to accept the Shared Services Agreement with Vernon Animal Control. All were in favor.

There is a free rabies clinic being held Wednesday November 15, 2023 from 3p to 5p.

The first 2024 budget meeting was held on October 30, 2023. The next one is scheduled for November 29, 2023.

PUBLIC PORTION:

A motion by Councilmember Endres, seconded by Councilmember Law to open the meeting to the public. All in favor.

Anthony Saliba questioned the maintenance of a sub pump on Holly Drive. Mayor Krasnomowitz stated the DPW only mows the front portion. The builder was the one who was responsible for the maintenance of the basin.

Anthony Saliba suggested having some sort of tracking sheet for inventory, with the fire department, allowing you to proactively keep track of upcoming supplies and other inventory that may be expiring. Mayor Krasnomowitz stated that is exactly what they plan to do moving forward.

Carrie Sugar stated she has recently been working from home and has been noting the blasting more

now that she is home. She stated she doesn't hear a whistle every time the quarry blasts. She has been recording during the blasts. She also questioned why they are drilling so early in the morning for hours on end. Mayor Krasnomowitz stated they were unaware of the drilling, but will look into it and contact Hardyston to see if there is a way to control the start times of the quarries. Attorney Clemack stated it is not in our jurisdiction and we can check with Hardyston to see what their regulations are on start times.

Charlie Kazella still is requesting reports from September 11, 2001 to submit for the ambulance. He also asked before he leaves office as Chief, he is asking the council to reconsider allowing junior members of the fire department.

Charlie Kazella stated he took responsibility for the air bottles situation and mentioned he should have been more proactive with checking expiration dates of the bottles. Councilmember Sena stated the council took immediate action in order to handle the emergent situation at hand. Mayor Krasnomowitz stated moving forward this is not going to take place again and from here on out there will be a plan in place to prevent this type of situation from happening again. Mayor Krasnomowitz let Charlie know he appreciates everything he has done as chief of the fire department.

Charlie Kazella asked what the status of the fire department clothing allowance was. Mayor Krasnomowitz stated the air bottles were of more importance at this moment.

A motion by Councilmember Haig, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to close the meeting to the public. All in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE (Parenthesis indicate correspondence already copied and the date it was copied to Council)

1. Sussex County Resolution RE: Support of Assembly Bill No. 5548 Prohibiting the State from Imposing a Mileage-based User Fee (10/13/2023)
2. FY2024 Proposed Rate Schedule Effective December 1, 2023 (10/13/2023)
3. State of NJ – NJDOT Fiscal Year 2024 Local Freight Impact Fund (10/13/2023)
4. NJLM – Notice of Proposed Membership Dues (10/13/2023)
5. Hardyston Ordinance 2023-13 (10/13/2023)
6. State of NJ – Certification of the Table of Equalized Valuations (10/13/2023)
7. Sussex County Board of Taxation 2023 (10/17/2023)
8. Application for Preliminary and Final Site Plan Approval Block 14, Lot 21.02 (10/17/2023)
9. 2022-2023 Legislative Session Bulletin (10/17/2023)
10. State of New Jersey – Rt 23 and 94 Rockfall Mitigation (10/23/2023)
11. JCP&L Notice of Public Hearing – 2023 Base Rate Filing (10/24/2023)
12. State of New Jersey – Verified Petition of CSC TKR, LLC (10/26/2023)
13. Letter from Hamburg School (10/26/2023)

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Sena to adjourn the meeting. All in favor.

Date Approved 12/4/23

Date Released 12/4/23



Doreen Schott, RMC
Municipal Clerk

Submitted by Beth Martin, Deputy Clerk