

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF HAMBURG HELD ON DECEMBER 4, 2023 AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 16 WALLKILL AVE., HAMBURG, NJ**

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**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".

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Attorney Clemack offered the following resolution to enter into executive session later this evening. WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hamburg find it necessary to enter into executive session for the reasons hereafter cited:

- 1. Litigation Postorino vs Hamburg Governing Body Members**
- 2. Confidential Legal Advice**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:14012(b) of the Open Public Meetings Act provided for matters of this nature to be discussed in closed session; and

WHEREAS, the minutes of the closed session be taken and made available to the Public upon conclusion of the matter.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council advises the public that formal action may be taken later this evening on the matters discussed in closed session or on other matters.

Attorney Clemack read a resolution to go into Executive Session regarding litigation Postorino versus members of the governing body and confidential legal advice.

A motion was made by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Oehler, to enter into the executive session. All were in favor.

A motion was made to come out of executive session by Councilmember Endres, and seconded by Councilmember Oehler. All were in favor.

**November 6, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

Motion by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Endres to approve the November

6, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes. All in favor.

### **November 20, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

Motion by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to approve the November 20, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes. All in favor.

### **APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

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

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

### **ORDINANCES:**

There were no ordinances on this agenda.

### **RESOLUTIONS:**

#### **2023-97 Appointing Risk Management Consultant and authorizing the Risk Management Agreement**

Motion by Councilmember Haig, seconded by Councilmember Endres to accept Resolution 2023-97 Appointing Risk Management Consultant and authorizing the Risk Management Agreement. All Councilmembers present in favor.

#### **2023-98 Appointing Fund Commissioner Mayor Rich Krasnomowitz and Alternate Fund Commissioner Doreen Schott**

Motion by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to accept Resolution 2023-98 Appointing Fund Commissioner Mayor Rich Krasnomowitz and Alternate Fund Commissioner Doreen Schott. All Councilmembers present in favor.

#### **2023-99 December Budget Transfer Resolution**

Councilmember Sena read Resolution 2023-99 into the record.

Motion by Councilmember Sena, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to accept Resolution 2023-99 December Budget Transfer Resolution. All Councilmembers present in favor.

Mayor Krasnomowitz explained at the November meeting, a resolution was passed to purchase 15 air bottles for the fire department. Arrangements have been made to have 10 on loan to the fire department. This resolution, 2023-99, allows for the purchase of the Borough to purchase 15 more. The fire department currently has 13 bottles. The purchase of the 15 in November and the 15 this month, and the 10 bottles on loan, gives a total of 38 bottles. Mayor Krasnomowitz thanked the finance department and Councilmember Sena on their hard work to make this happen. He stated this will never happen again because there is now a program which manages the fire department equipment.

A motion was made by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Law, to purchase 15 bottles from New Jersey Fire Equipment, Co, which is a state contract. All were in favor. Councilmember Sena stated there are an undetermined number of bottles that hold air, but cannot be refilled due to the expiration date. With this number of bottles, there are over 56 bottles for the fire department.

**2023-100 Resolution authorizing a letter of intent to purchase 2024 GMC Sierra 1500**

**Letter of Intent to purchase 2024 GMC Sierra 1500**

Motion by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to accept Resolution 2023-100 Resolution authorizing a letter of intent to purchase 2024 GMC Sierra 1500 Letter of Intent to purchase 2024 GMC Sierra 1500. All Councilmembers present in favor.

Councilmember Sena explained the purchase of this vehicle was done mostly with grant money and will have no net effect on the 2024 budget.

Councilmember Law explained this vehicle will be of multi-purpose, such as OEM, Police Department, and for any employee who has to take out of borough training.

**ATTORNEY HOUR:**

79 Bluffs Court – Wave Tax Interest

A motion was made by Councilmember Sena, seconded by Councilmember Oehler, to waive the added assessment interest for 79 Bluffs Court. All councilmembers present were in favor.

**ENGINEERING:**

There was no engineering report at this time.

**MAYOR'S AGENDA:**

**Halloween Contest Decorating Winners:**

Mayor Krasnomowitz announced the winners of the Halloween Decorating Contest. The winners were 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: 116 Rt 23, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: 22 Hamilton Ave, and 1<sup>st</sup> Place: 69 Bluffs Court.

Congratulations to all the winners.

**Tax Assessor Shared Service Agreement:**

Mayor Krasnomowitz explained the shared service agreement is due to expire and another one for another four years requires a motion. A motion was made by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Law, to accept the shared service agreement with Lafayette Township to have Jason Laliker as the Tax Assessor. All councilmembers present were in favor.

**Basketball & Pickle Ball Court Improvement Re-Bid (November 30, 2023)**

Mayor Krasnomowitz explained there were two bidders for the Re-Bid of the basketball & pickle ball court improvements. The high bidder, Harshi Construction came in at \$298,944.00, and the low bidder, Superior Play Systems, came in at \$86,508.00. A motion was made by Councilmember Haig, seconded by Councilmember Oehler, to accept the bid from Superior Play Systems. A roll call vote was done: Councilmember Burd: YES; Councilmember Oehler: YES; Councilmember Endres: YES; Councilmember Law: YES; Councilmember Haig: YES; Councilmember Sena: YES. Councilmember Sena expressed there is \$50,000 in grant money to be used on this project.

**Quotes for Fencing of Pickleball/Basketball Courts**

Mayor Krasnomowitz explained the fencing will be completed through state contract, the Morris County Co-Op, with the quotes provided for both sets of courts. There were two quotes per court for different gauges of fencing. The council want to go with the strong gauge fencing. The two quotes for the stronger gauge were \$32,280 for the basketball court, and \$18,000 for the pickleball court. Mayor Krasnomowitz made a recommendation to accept these quotes and not to exceed \$35,000 for the basketball court, and \$20,000 for the pickleball court. A motion was made by Councilmember Law, and seconded by Councilmember Oehler, to accept the quotes from Morris County Co-Op, Challenger Fence, for the fencing of the basketball and pickleball court fence not to exceed \$35,000 and \$18,000 respectfully. 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: October 2023

Construction Report:

Treasurer Report: November 2023

Tax Report: October 2023

Police Report: November 2023

EMS Report: October 2023

Court: October 2023

Board of Health: October 2023

OEM Report

Animal Control:

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

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **COUNCILMEMBER BURD:**

Councilmember Burd read the fire report into the record. There were 7 total calls for the month of November. There were 2 fires, 1 alarm, 2 smoke conditions, 1 smell of gas/smoke, and 1 assist with EMS.

Councilmember Burd stated there was an application to the Fire Department for Jacob Mosher. His background check came back clean from the police department. A motion was made by Councilmember Burd, seconded by councilmember Law, to accept the applicant pending his medical check comes back clean to the fire department. All were in favor.

### **COUNCILMEMBER OEHLER:**

Councilmember Oehler stated the tree lighting took place on Friday December 1, 2023. There were approximately 70 people in attendance. The fire department auxiliary would like to thank everyone and every department who had a hand in making it possible. Mayor Krasnomowitz expressed his gratitude about how well it was attended and went off, and wants it to be bigger and better in the coming years. Councilmember Oehler suggested making it a town involved event, include the recreation commission, fire department auxiliary, police department, fire department, and council, in planning for future events. Mayor Krasnomowitz agreed.

Councilmember Oehler reminded everyone Breakfast with Santa will take place on Saturday December 9, 2023. At this time there are approximately 125 people registered. The plan is to have enough seating for 100 in the firehouse and then the over flow of tables will be set up in the truck bays.

### **COUNCILMEMBER ENDRES:**

Quarry Update

Councilmember Endres gave an update on the quarry. He has spoken with the district manager of the quarry who is asking for addresses and permission to call residents to alert them to the blasting that will be taking place. The OEM Reverse 911 will be sending out a message the morning of the blast. A seismograph was placed on a house on Holly Drive to measure the blasts. There was one on November 27. Councilmember Endres spoke with John Babcock, from Deep Earth Logic, the company who measures the blast, and will get the results sometime this coming week. Councilmember Sena questioned the meeting of the residents and the quarry to see a blast.

Councilmember Endres explained this time of year that part of the quarry is starting to shut down so the best time for the residents to do this would be late February or early March.

Councilmember Sena asked about the progress of the ramp the quarry is building, as the quarry has stated that is the main reason for the closeness of the current blasting. Councilmember Endres will speak with the quarry again on this matter and get an update. Mayor Krasnomowitz stated according to the ordinance with Hardyston township the hammer drilling cannot start prior to 7am, and if it does to call Hardyston.

#### **COUNCILMEMBER LAW:**

Councilmember Law read the monthly police report into the record. There was a total of 685 calls for the month of November. There were 6 arrests, 12 motor vehicle accidents, 208 motor vehicle stops, 113 tickets issued, 20 walk-ins to headquarters, and 57 correspondences received. All officers received multiple different trainings for the month including range, use of force, vehicle pursuit, and workplace harassment.

Councilmember Law thanked the OEM for all their hard work on the soccer tournament, tree lighting, and traffic issues in the past month.

#### **COUNCILMEMBER HAIG:**

Councilmember Haig stated the Holiday lights are up on Rt 23 and Rt 94, and look great.

#### **Snow Removal Procedure**

Councilmember Haig stated the DPW has the snow removal procedure printed out and available to the public. This give guidelines of what can and cannot be done during a snow storm and afterwards for cleanup. It will be posted on the website and be available at borough hall for the public.

Councilmember Law let the public know OEM and DPW will be placing signs with some of the guidelines listed, in areas of problem snow removal to give warning about the upcoming winter.

Councilmember Haig reminded the town Santa Claus will be doing the Santa Run on the Fire Truck beginning at 10 am on December 16, 2023.

#### **COUNCILMEMBER SENA:**

Councilmember Sena mentioned the rabies clinic took place on November 15, 2023 and there was a total of 66 dogs/cats vaccinated. Councilmember Sena thanked Doreen Schott, Beth Martin, and Scott Knapp for their assistance in the event.

Councilmember Sena mentioned the Skylands Cross County Tournament, which took place on both Hardyston's park and Hamburg's park. There were approximately 1200 people present at the tournament. Councilmember Sena thanked everyone who was involved in planning and managing the amount of people in the area to keep everyone safe.

Councilmember Sena stated there was another budget meeting held on November 29 and a lot of progress has been made so far. This year there was only a 2.3% increase, which is the lowest increase in four years. With that increase a lot was accomplished this year, and it was a great year. The levy for the borough is 23%, so the rest of the taxes collected goes to the school, county, the library, and open space county. Councilmember Sena stated the fire truck purchased in 2016 has three years left to pay on it and hoping to have it paid off in two years. Councilmember Sena thanked all the departments for the corporation.

**PUBLIC PORTION:**

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

A resident from 30 Fairview, questioned who is responsible for damage done to the house. Mayor Krasnomowitz explained if you feel the damage is caused by the quarry, then the quarry is the main point of contact.

Charlie Kazella, 42 Holly Drive, questioned what the progress is on the property by DOC's, the paradise pool site. Mayor Krasnomowitz stated the application for that property is in front of the Land Use Board and that is where the answer can come from. The Land Use Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 11, 2023.

A motion by Councilmember Law, 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. Jersey Central Power and Light (11/7/2023)
2. Sussex County Planning Board Minutes September 2023 (11/8/2023)
3. NJ Transit Public Information Notice (11/9/2023)
4. SCUMA FY2024 Final Rate Schedule (11/17/2023)
5. Township of Vernon Ordinance 23-22 (11/28/2023)
6. Township of Vernon Resolution 23-251 (11/30/2023)
7. State of NJ – RE: Rt 23 & Rt 94 Rockfall Mitigation, Hardyston Township (11/30/2023)

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

Date Approved 1-3-24

Date Released 1-3-24

  
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 Doreen Schott, RMC  
 Municipal Clerk

Submitted by Beth Martin, Deputy Clerk