

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE
BOROUGH OF HAMBURG HELD ON FEBRUARY 5, 2024 AT THE MUNICIPAL
BUILDING, 16 WALLKILL AVE., HAMBURG, NJ**

CALL TO ORDER:

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

SALUTE TO THE FLAG:

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Krasnomowitz requested a roll call:

Councilmember Burd

Councilmember Endres

Councilmember Haig

Councilmember Law

Councilmember Oehler

Councilmember Sena

Mayor Krasnomowitz

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 9, 2024 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".

January 3, 2024 Reorganization Meeting Minutes

Motion by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to approve the January 3, 2024 Reorganization Meeting Minutes. All in favor.

January 3, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Burd to approve the January 3, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes. All in favor.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Motion by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Burd to approve the bills list as presented. All in favor.

ORDINANCES:

Ordinance 01-2024 2nd Reading

**ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS
AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK**

Attorney Clemack offered a resolution to read the ordinance by title only. A motion to read by title only was made by Councilmember Burd, and seconded by Councilmember Oehler. All were in favor. After reading by title only, a motion by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Law to open the meeting to the public for any comments. All in favor. No public comment. This ordinance was introduced at the January 3, 2024 regular meeting and published as proved by law.

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

Motion by Councilmember Law, seconded by Sena to approve Ordinance 01-2024 on second reading. All in favor.

Ordinance 02-2024 2nd Reading

CAPITAL ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR PAVING AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE BASKETBALL COURTS AND VARIOUS OTHER PROJECTS AS NEEDED IN THE BOROUGH BY THE BOROUGH OF HAMBURG, IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$50,000 THEREFORE FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND OF THE BOROUGH AND \$50,000. FROM THE OPEN SPACE ACCOUNT AND \$50,000. FROM THE LOCAL RECREATION GRANT FOR A TOTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$150,000. TO PAY FOR THE COST THEREOF.

Attorney Clemack offered a resolution to read the ordinance by title only. A motion to read by title only was made by Councilmember Endres, and seconded by Councilmember Law. All were in favor. After reading by title only, a motion by Councilmember Haig, seconded by Councilmember Law to open the meeting to the public for any comments. All in favor. No public comment. This ordinance was introduced at the January 3, 2024 regular meeting and published as proved by law.

Motion by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Haig to close the meeting to the public. All in favor.

Motion by Councilmember Law, seconded by Oehler to approve Ordinance 02-2024 on second reading. All in favor.

Ordinance 03-2024 – 1st Reading

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 203 – VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HAMBURG TO LIMIT PARKING AT THE MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT AT 16 WALLKILL AVENUE, HAMBURG, NEW JERSEY

Attorney Clemack offered a resolution to read the ordinance by title only. A motion was made by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to read ordinance by title. All were in favor. Councilmember Law questioned if signs were going to be put up. Attorney Clemack stated you had to after adoption, by law. After read by title a motion was made by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to introduce Ordinance 03-2024: An Ordinance Amending Chapter 203 – Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of the Borough of Hamburg to Limit Parking at the Municipal Parking Lot at 16 Wallkill Avenue, Hamburg, New Jersey. All were in favor.

Ordinance 04-2024 – 1st Reading

ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN OFFICIAL'S, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF HAMBURG, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Attorney Clemack offered a resolution to read the ordinance by title only. A motion was made by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to read ordinance by title. All were in favor. Councilmember Sena requested discussion. His concerns are that salaries are being decided prior to going to the entire mayor and council. He feels this occurred last year and a procedure should be set up. Mayor Krasnomowitz agrees the situation could have been handled better and procedures will be set in place going forward.

After read by title a motion was made by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to introduce Ordinance 04-2024: Ordinance Fixing the Salaries of Certain Officials, Officers and Employees of the Borough of Hamburg, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey. A roll call vote

was taken. Councilmember Burd, YES, Councilmember Oehler, YES, Councilmember Endres, YES, Councilmember Law, YES, Councilmember Haig, YES, Councilmember Sena, YES.

RESOLUTIONS:

2024-28 Professional Services Special Counsel

A motion was made by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Oehler, to accept Resolution 2024-28 Professional Services Special Counsel. All were in favor.

2024-29 Salary OEM Coordinator / Inventory Support

A motion was made by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Oehler, to accept Resolution 2024-29 Salary OEM Coordinator / Inventory Support. All were in favor.

2024-30 Salary CFO / Treasurer

A motion was made by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Oehler, to accept Resolution 2024-30 Salary CFO / Treasurer. All were in favor.

2024-31 Outstanding Checks

A motion was made by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Oehler, to accept Resolution 2024-31 Outstanding Checks. All were in favor.

2024-32 Participation in the State of NJ Cash Mgmt. Fund

A motion was made by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Law, to accept Resolution 2024-32 Participation in the State of NJ Cash Mgmt. Fund. A discussion was had explaining the purpose of the fund. All were in favor.

2024-33 Emergency Temporary Appropriations

A motion was made by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Oehler, to accept Resolution 2024-33 Emergency Temporary Appropriations. All were in favor.

2024-34 Purchase of Sidewalk Walk Snow Machine

Councilmember Haig started a discussion about why the snow machine was needed. He explained during an average snowstorm our DPW spends about four to five hours shoveling all of the borough owned sidewalks. With this amount of time spent shoveling there is a lot of money being spent for salary. Purchasing this snow machine will allow the DPW to cut down on time spent shoveling, allowing them more time to clear the roads. This machine would also be a multiple season purpose, as it can be used for other projects around town. This machine is being purchased through the Bergen County Co-Op. The funds are available in Storm Recovery Trust Fund.

A motion was made by Councilmember Haig, seconded by Councilmember Law, to accept Resolution 2024-34 Purchase of Sidewalk Walk Snow Machine. All were in favor.

ATTORNEY HOUR:

General Discussion: Review of police discipline hearing process; should Council continue as the hearing body or consider allocating responsibility to a hearing officer.

Attorney Clemack discussed the police discipline hearing process. He explained some towns the Mayor and Council are the ones who hear the case and make the recommendation, while other towns hire a hearing officer who hears the whole case. The hearing officer would do one of two things, make a recommendation to the mayor and council or make the decision and that decision is final. If the town is Civil Service, which we are not, would have to go with a hearing officer. This type of hearing is not done at a mayor and council meeting. The town would get the final report

from the hearing officer no matter which direction, either recommendation or final decision. Mayor Krasnomowitz sees some benefits to the hearing office making the final decision. Councilmember Law explained the town trusts their professionals in all matters and why should this be any different. He feels the hearing officer should hear the case and make the final decision, leaving the Mayor and Council out of it. Councilmember Endres asked what qualifications does a hearing officer require. Attorney Clemack explained an RFP would have to be sent out in order to hire one, asking for experience, qualifications, and hourly rate are. This would be a yearly appointment. A motion was made by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Oehler, to appoint Attorney Clemack to prepare an ordinance and RFP to hire a hearing officer. All were in favor.

Professional Service Agreement – Stefani C. Schwartz, Esq.
This was covered under resolutions.

Sale of Public Property

Mayor Krasnomowitz explained there was an old DPW trailer listed for sale. There was one bid accepted on the sale of the trailer. A motion was made by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to accept the \$50 bid from Winfield Poyer for the sale of the DPW trailer in as-is condition. All were in favor.

ENGINEERING:

There was no engineering report at this time.

MAYOR'S AGENDA:

Memo – Snow removal ordinance 183-14

Mayor Krasnomowitz explained the Zoning Official Joe Drossel made a recommendation to amend the snow removal ordinance 183-14 to only having 24 hours after a storm to have the sidewalks cleared. A motion was made by Councilmember Haig, seconded by Councilmember Law, to accept this change to ordinance 183-14.; attorney will prepare an ordinance. All were in favor.

Recreation Appointment Kyu K. Lee

Mayor Krasnomowitz made a mayor's appointment of Kyu K. Lee to the Recreation Commission.

Hamburg Revaluation

Mayor Krasnomowitz explained the Tax Assessor Jason Laliker attended a meeting of all the county assessors. At this meeting it was discussed about all the towns who have not had a revaluation recently will be required to have one done within the next couple of years. All the mayors of these towns will be invited to a meeting in the coming months for further discussion.

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: December 2023
Construction Report: December and yearly 2023
Treasurer Report: January 2024
Tax Report: December 2023 and January 2024
Police Report: January 2024
EMS Report: December 2023 and January 2024
OEM: January 2024
Court: December 2023

Board of Health: November, December and yearly 2023

Animal Control: Yearly

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COUNCILMEMBER BURD:

Councilmember Burd had nothing to report at this time.

COUNCILMEMBER OEHLER:

Councilmember Oehler went over the tentative dates for the different recreation commission events throughout the year. They want to work closely with the PTA to make the events better for the community.

NY Yankee recreation tickets

Recreation is looking into the complete details prior to making a decision on the matter.

Email from recreation regarding meeting availability for PTA

PTA wants to set up a zoom to attend the recreation meetings, but at this time that is not available.

The meetings are open to the public and the PTA is welcome to attend any and all meetings.

COUNCILMEMBER ENDRES:

Councilmember Endres stated the quarry has invited the Mayor and Council down to the quarry to witness a blast on March 13, 2024. Councilmember Endres explained he has been in contact with Keith Sukennikoff of OEM and the district manager about sending out a letter to the entire town about blasting and when and how they are blasting.

Councilmember Endres stated there were two applications for the Land Use Board which were postponed to February.

COUNCILMEMBER LAW:

Fire Department Parades

Councilmember Law stated the Fire Department is requesting permission to attend a few different parades this year. The first one is in March for St Patrick's Day being held in Newton. The next one is in July and being held in Port Jervis NY. The third is the County Parade being held on October 5 in Hampton. They are requesting permission to take the Chief's vehicle and a pumper to the parades. A motion was made by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Haig to accept the proposed parade dates for the fire department to attend. All in favor.

Councilmember Law read the monthly police report into the record.

Crossing Guard – Rt 94 and Wallkill Ave post

Councilmember Law has been in contact with the Chief of Police and they are looking to hire an additional full time crossing guard for the area of Route 94 and Wallkill Ave, as one is not making enough of a difference and cars are not paying attention to the one crossing guard there. The plan is to have one on the north side and one on the south side. If this doesn't work, they plan on going to the State DOT to get striping put on the road and flashing lights to indicate the crossing of children and their parents.

A motion was made by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Oehler, to hire an

additional full time crossing guard for the intersection of Rt 94 and Walkkill. All were in favor.

COUNCILMEMBER HAIG:

Councilmember Haig discussed the lighting situation at all of the municipal buildings, as the current lights can no longer get bulbs for. Mayor Krasnomowitz feels replacing the current light fixtures with high-hats would not give off enough light. Councilmember Sena requested to explore multiple options, such as changing the balusters and going with LED bulbs, changing to high-hats, or changing the fixtures completely. Councilmember Haig will get quotes on different lighting options.

Councilmember Haig explained the borough is going to advertise for an additional full time DPW worker, which was approved by council in 2023.

Quote - Feldman Sealcoating & Rejuvenation- Hamburg Police Department

Councilmember Haig made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Law, to approve the \$2600 quote from Feldman Sealcoating & Rejuvenation for the painting and striping of the Police Department parking lot. All were in favor.

Councilmember Haig questioned the harassment training, which is mandatory for all of the borough employees and volunteers and what the protocol for someone who does not take it is. Mayor Krasnomowitz stated it is available online and made a suggestion to set a date to have it all done by and if it is not completed by the date specified the volunteers will be suspended until class taken. Mayor Krasnomowitz asked the Municipal Clerk to contact the insurance company and find out the details about the online course. This discussion will be carried to the March meeting.

Montaque Tool & Supply – Purchase of Sidewalk Snow Machine – Bergen County Coop
Discussed under resolutions

Mayor Krasnomowitz explained that a suggestion of sending a letter to SCMUA to be on the board came up, at the BPW meeting. A motion was made by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to have the Municipal Clerk send a letter to the county Commissioners requesting a seat on the board of SCMUA.

COUNCILMEMBER SENA:

Resolution T-2024-001

A motion was made by Councilmember Sena, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to accept Resolution T-2024-001. All were in favor.

Resolution T-2024-002

A motion was made by Councilmember Sena, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to accept Resolution T-2024-002. All were in favor.

Resolution T-2024-003

A motion was made by Councilmember Sena, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to accept Resolution T-2024-003. All were in favor.

Councilmember Sena explained the fourth budget meeting took place on January 31, 2024. The fire truck pay off will take place this year. The borough is looking into doing a complete inventory of everything owned by the borough. The cost of this will be between \$1500 and \$2000. This is something the borough has not done in quite a few years. The average assessed value in Hamburg is

approximately \$158,970. As previously discussed, the borough is looking to hire another full-time DPW worker. The borough is also looking to expand the holiday lights throughout the borough. Councilmember Sena explained he is looking forward to continue work on the River Bank project come the spring time.

Councilmember Sena explained how he attended the Republican Convention where new Commissioner Earl Schick was voted, by majority vote, to finish the unexpired term of the previous commissioner who went onto to become a senator. He will be the new point of contact.

Permission to join NJ Cash Management Fund
Discussed under resolutions

PUBLIC PORTION:

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

Mrs. Pergola expressed her happiness about the pursuit of a seat on SCMUA. She also expressed her concerns of the cost to the borough of hiring a hearing officer. Mayor Krasnomowitz explained they would not be hired full-time but on an as needed basis with an hourly rate. Mrs. Pergola also expressed her concerns about the huge tree on the corner of Lawrence and Hamilton and how it is dead and becoming a safety concern. Councilmember Haig stated he will have the DPW take a look at it and make a decision from there. Mrs. Pergola also stated her concerns for the trees which line Linwood Ave along the railroad tracks and wanted to know who is responsible for the clean up and damage if something were to fall off of them and cause damage. Mayor Krasnomowitz suggested she make contact with the property owner the tree sits on, otherwise her own homeowner's insurance would have to cover the damage and cleanup. Also to take pictures and attached them to the letters sent. Mrs. Pergola questioned what the borough's plan is if there is ever a train issue in the borough. OEM Coordinator Keith Sukennikoff explained there have been many meetings and trainings which have taken place to put a plan in place when or if an emergency happens.

Dave Dreifus explained how there is grant monies and state funding available to borough for putting in EV charging ports. He suggested looking into it and suggested putting them in the Linwood Ave parking lot, since it is centrally located to the town. Mayor Krasnomowitz explained it is extremely costly to put one in. He went on to explain DeBoer's auto put one in when they built the building. He stated it is something that is being considered. Councilmember Sena stated it is something which the borough engineer has been made aware, but it is not something that is feasible at this moment. The borough will consider it.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION:

There was no executive session at this time.

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

1. Seasons Greetings from Farmside – Flyer (1/10/2024)
2. JCP&L Re: JCP&L Petition for “LRAM” (1/16/2024)
3. Northsight Management Property Memo (1/16/2024)


4. Altice 2023 Annual Franchise Fee and Letter (1/30/2024)
5. County of Sussex Appointment of Official Town Crier (1/30/2024)
6. County of Sussex 2024 Board of County Commissioners Municipal Liaisons (1/30/2024)

ADJOURNMENT

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

Date Approved 2/4/24

Date Released 3/4/24


Doreen Schott, RMC
Municipal Clerk

Submitted by Beth Martin, Deputy Clerk