

**BOROUGH OF DUMONT  
BERGEN COUNTY, N.J.  
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 13, 2022  
6:30 PM**

Mayor LaBruno called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

**Flag Salute, Moment of Silence**

**Sunshine Law:** In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey, Notification of this Meeting has been sent to our Official Newspapers, posted on the Borough website and Notice posted at Borough Hall and filed with the Borough of Dumont.

**Roll Call:**

Council members: Gorman, Harvilla, Kelly (excused at 6:51 p.m.), Rossillo, Russell, Stewart - Present

Mayor Andrew LaBruno – Present

Also in attendance: Borough Administrator Chris Tully, Borough Clerk Jeanine Siek, CFO Issa Abbasi, Borough Engineer John Dunlea

Motion to accept the agenda as presented: Councilwoman Rossillo

Second: Councilman Gorman

All in favor.

Mayor LaBruno presented a Proclamation honoring the Dumont Soccer Club U12 Boys Team.

Motion for a two-minute recess by Councilman Gorman; Second: Councilwoman Rossillo;

All in favor.

Motion to return to the Public meeting by Councilman Gorman; Second: Councilwoman

Rossillo; All in favor.

Motion to approve the November 21, 2022 Public Meeting minutes: Councilwoman Rossillo;

Second: Councilman Gorman

Roll call vote: Council members: Gorman, Harvilla, Kelly, Rossillo, Russell, Stewart – yes

**ENGINEER'S REPORT**

John Dunlea of Neglia Engineering stated he has reviewed the ponding issues at Summit Avenue near the intersection of DeLong and it will be addressed. He also spoke about a resident's request for rumble strips on Revere Drive, and feels the Borough should get a letter of endorsement from the neighborhood before moving forward. Regarding Bedford Road and Virginia Avenue roadway improvements project, there is a change order on the agenda tonight in the amount of \$53,212.52, which is a 7.54% increase. This is primarily for curbing along Virginia Avenue, reconstructing driveways and removing trees. The trees will be replaced in accordance with Borough ordinance. Mr. Dunlea stated with any roadway from a drainage perspective, curbing is always helpful. Also included was resurfacing the splash pad playground parking lot by the DPW. Lastly, LED illuminated stop signs were installed along Virginia Avenue.

## **ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Mr. Leibman stated the answer from CSX is due on December 23<sup>rd</sup> both in Federal Court litigation and Surface Transportation Board. There are no updates regarding the Building Department litigation from Labor Counsel.

## **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Tully thanked DPW, Fire Department, Police and all of the volunteers that made Winter Fest a success. There was a great turn out. He commended the Arts, Beautification and Economic Development Committee on their first event. He will meet with department heads before year end to start going over the budget process. There are a number of infrastructure projects for the Governing Body to decide on, such as Berkley, Golfview, Sherwood, Druid Bridge, the area around Dance Boulevard, Memorial Park Phase III and Twin Boro flooding. The quarterly safety meeting was held with the Risk Manager. Training was held for the new time tracking system, and that should begin in the new year.

The Municipal Clerk read the Review of Consent Agenda Items. All items with an asterisk are considered to be non-controversial by the Council and will be approved by one motion. There may be further discussion prior to the vote upon request of a member of the public or a Council member. Also, any item may be removed for further discussion or for roll call vote in which case the item will be removed and considered in its normal sequence as part of the general order of business.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

#22-288 – Bills List \*

#22-289 – Endorsement of Community Options, LLC CDBG Project for Installation of Generator \*

#22-290 – Approval of Boot Drive for Independent Hose Company \*

#22-291 – Approval to Submit Grant Application & Execute Contract NJDOT Prospect Avenue Phase II Improvements Project \*

#22-292 – Authorization of Hillsdale Child Health Conference Contract \*

#22-293 – Approval to Refund Overpayment of Taxes Due to Veteran Tax-Exempt Status - Block 201, Lot 9 \*

#22-294 – Approval to Refund Overpayment of Taxes Due to Veteran Tax-Exempt Status - Block 813, Lot 10 \*

#22-295 – Approval of 2022 Budget Transfer \*

#22-296 – Approval of Change Order No. 1 to Bedford Road (NJDOT-Funded) and Virginia Avenue Roadway Improvements Contract \*

#22-297 – Approval of Change Order for 4-Cleanup for Grant Avenue Improvement Project and Grant Avenue Improvement Phase II \*

#22-298 – Authorization of Bergen County Health Shared Services Agreement for 2023 – 2026 \*

#22-299 – Approval of Salary Increases for Personnel – PULLED

#22-300 – Promotion of Karen Glass to Deputy Borough Clerk - PULLED

#22-301 – Approval of OEM Coordinator Salary for Chief Brian Joyce \*

#22-302 – Approval of Johnston Communications (“JCT Solutions”) Change Order \*

#22-303 – Approval to Hire Rebecca Vazquez as Full-time Road Department Clerk – PULLED

thinks it should be tabled until after the 1<sup>st</sup>. That is the Councilman's feeling regarding all three resolutions.

Councilman Harvilla stated Resolution #303 is for an open position. The individual is moving from one position to a vacant position, making under what the current position is making. Councilman Russell said he feels it can wait another two weeks.

Mayor LaBruno commented the municipal workers are grossly underpaid and it is a good thing they are not unionized.

The Borough Administrator stated he will not comment on personnel or performance. It is all clearly stated in the resolution, which was budgeted for this year in an effort to recognize good performance, sustain Borough operations and retain staff. Mr. Tully stated these are his recommendations. The resolutions were on the agenda for the weekend, and he did not receive any phone calls about them, except for a couple. Regarding personnel, the Borough needs to be very careful in speaking openly and publicly.

### **Non-Consent Agenda Items**

Motion to Adopt Resolution #22-299 – Approval of Salary Increases for Personnel:

Councilwoman Rossillo

Second: Councilman Gorman

Roll call vote: Council members: Gorman, Harvilla, Rossillo, Stewart – yes;

Russell – abstain; Kelly – absent

Motion to Adopt Resolution #22-300 – Promotion of Karen Glass to Deputy Borough Clerk:

Councilwoman Rossillo

Second: Councilman Gorman

Roll call vote: Council members: Gorman, Harvilla, Rossillo, Stewart – yes;

Russell – abstain; Kelly – absent

Motion to Adopt Resolution #22-303 – Approval to Hire Rebecca Vazquez as Full-time Road Department Clerk: Councilwoman Rossillo

Second: Councilman Gorman

Roll call vote: Council members: Gorman, Harvilla, Rossillo, Stewart – yes;

Russell – abstain; Kelly – absent

### **ORDINANCES**

#### ***2<sup>nd</sup> Reading***

#1610 Ordinance Amending Chapter 283 of the Borough Code - Care and Control (revised)

Motion to WAIVE Formal Reading: Councilwoman Rossillo

Second: Councilman Gorman

All in favor.

Mr. Leibman explained it primarily has to do with the renting of municipal fields to out of town organizations.

Motion to open to the public: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Russell

All in favor.

purchasing the memorial to determine an acceptable length of time. Mr. Leibman stated it was written to give flexibility to the Governing Body. Ms. Russini asked is the Borough has an Arborist.

Motion to close to the public: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilwoman Rossillo

All in favor.

Motion to ADOPT on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading: Councilman Harvilla

Second: Councilman Gorman

Roll call vote: Council members: Gorman, Harvilla, Rossillo, Stewart – yes;

Russell – no; Kelly – absent

#### #1616 Amending Chapter 69 of the Borough Code - Social Media Policy

Motion to WAIVE Formal Reading: Councilman Gorman

Second: Councilman Harvilla

All in favor.

No discussion by the Council.

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Gorman

Second: Councilwoman Rossillo

All in favor.

1. Mary Normoyle, Randolph Avenue, asked if comments on the town site are part of the policy?

Motion to close to the public: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Russell

All in favor.

Motion to ADOPT on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading: Councilwoman Rossillo

Second: Councilman Gorman

Roll call vote: Council members: Gorman, Harvilla, Rossillo, Stewart – yes;

Russell – no; Kelly – absent

#### #1617 An Ordinance to Amend, Revise and Supplement Ordinance No. 1587 and Its Progenies as to the Establishment of Certain Ranges and Related Items for Certain Officers and Employees – Salary Ranges 2022, 2023, 2024

Motion to WAIVE Formal Reading: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Gorman

All in favor.

The Borough Administrator explained this was to capture a promotion and an hourly employee to make sure they are in the scope of the salary ordinance after the increase of the salary resolution this year.

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Gorman

Second: Councilman Russell

All in favor.

1. Avinash Melkote, Brookfield Road, commented on how salaries are negotiated, the amount allocated in the budget for salaries and where to find the salary resolutions.

Motion to close to the public: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Gorman

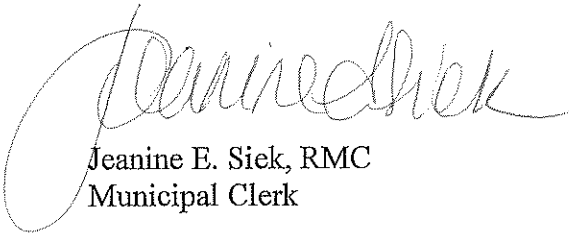
All in favor.

Councilwoman Stewart thanked Council President Lisa Rossillo and Councilman Conor Gorman for their service. Councilman Harvilla also thanked them both. Mayor LaBruno added these are thankless volunteer positions that take a lot of time away from their personal lives, and thanked both Council President Rossillo and Councilman Gorman for everything.

Mr. Liebman stated that the deal with the landscaper expires in September of 2023. He also commented on the numerous municipalities he has served as Borough Attorney. Regarding allowing the fields to rest and maintenance, it is addressed in Paragraph N of the ordinance to avoid overuse.

Motion to Adjourn: Councilwoman Stewart  
Second: Councilman Gorman  
All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeanine E. Siek, RMC  
Municipal Clerk