

**BOROUGH OF MENDHAM
MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

**April 26, 2021
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Christine Serrano Glassner called the April 26, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Garabrant Center, 4 Wilson Street, Mendham, New Jersey and remotely by Zoom webinar, Meeting ID 833 6773 1846.

MOMENT OF SILENCE AND FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Serrano Glassner led a moment of silence and proceeded with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MAYOR'S OPENING STATEMENT

Mayor Serrano Glassner read the following statement:

Please take notice that the start time for regular meetings of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mendham shall begin at 7:00PM. Notice of this meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mendham was published in the Daily Record and Star Ledger, posted in the Phoenix House, and was filed in the Office of the Borough Clerk in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Official action will be taken at this meeting.

During a declared state of emergency when meetings of the Mayor and Council are held remotely, written comments to be read during the public hearings or public comment period listed on the agenda may be submitted in writing to our Borough Clerk electronically by email, or by letter, no later than 4:00PM on the date of the meeting. Only one public comment, whether oral or written, from each person at each public comment period will, as with all public comments, be heard or read. The reading of the written comments will, as with all public comments, be limited to four minutes and the reading will end after four minutes.

ROLL CALL

The following officials were present:

Mayor Christine Serrano-Glassner
Council Member Steven Andrew
Council President John Andrews [via Zoom conferencing]
Council Member Brad Badal [via Zoom conferencing]
Council Member James Kelly
Council Member Mary Sue Martin [via Zoom conferencing]
Council Member Brennan Reilly [via Zoom conferencing]

Also present were:

Fred Semrau, Esq., Borough Attorney [via Zoom conferencing]
Joyce Bushman, Borough Administrator
Robin R. Kline, Borough Clerk

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM(S)

- 1. Approval of Minutes:** April 14, 2021 Regular Meeting
- 2. Banner Display Requests:** Mendham First Aid Squad
EMS Week, May 14, 2021 to May 24, 2021

The Pastime Club
Labor Day Carnival, August 23, 2021 to September 9, 2021
- 3. Raffle Game Applications:** The Westmont Montessori School
577 Route 24, Mendham, Off-premises 50/50, June 5, 2021

The Pastime Club
Borough Park, Off-premises 50/50, September 6, 2021

The Pastime Club
Borough Park, Arcade/Wheel Games
September 3, 2021 to September 6, 2021
- 4. Special Event Application:** St. Mark's Church
Mother's Day Boutique and Craft Sales Event
May 1, 2021, 10:00AM to 1:00PM

Pastime Club
Labor Day Carnival, Borough Park
September 3, 2021 to September 6, 2021
- 5. Public Project Proposal:** Girl Scout Troop 96635
Outdoor Mini-kiosk Library, St. Mark's Church

Item #5 was removed for separate discussion and vote.

Motion to Approve Items #1, #2, #3 and #4:

Motion to Approve: Council Member Martin
Second: Council Member Kelly
Ayes: Andrew, Andrews, Badal, Kelly, Martin, Reilly
Abstentions: Badal and Reilly abstained on the approval of minutes.
Recusals: Council President Andrews and Council Member Andrew recused themselves on the Approval of the Pastime Club Applications (Banner Display, Raffles, and Special Event).

Mayor Serrano Glassner invited members of Girl Scout Troop 96635 to provide a brief presentation on their proposed public project.

Julie Mauer, Girl Scout Troop 96635 leader, along with Girl Scouts Emma Mauer and Michella Stephenson reported that their Girl Scout Troop proposes to build and install an outdoor mini-library kiosk in the front yard area of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, which can be used by everyone in the community. They confirmed the Historic Preservation Commission provided its approval for the location, design, and color of the mini-library kiosk. The mini-library will have books for reading levels kindergarten through 4th grade with a "take a book, leave a book" circulation. The Girl Scout Troop will hold a book drive to initially stock the mini-library with books. Once completed, the Girl Scouts reported they will earn the Girl Scout's Bronze Award.

Motion to Approve Item #5:

Motion to Approve: Council Member Andrew
Second: Council Member Kelly
Ayes: Andrew, Andrews, Badal, Kelly, Martin, Reilly

ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION

#09-2021 ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER 206, VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, TO REVISE THE NO-PARKING TIME LIMIT ON EAST MAIN STREET

Summary: This ordinance amends the No Parking time limit on East Main Street proceeding westerly from the Firehouse driveway to the intersection with Mountain Avenue from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The public hearing is scheduled on May 12, 2021.

Mayor Serrano Glassner asked the Council if there were any comments or questions on Ordinance #03-2021.

There was no Council discussion.

Motion to Approve: Council Member Andrew
Second: Council Member Kelly
Ayes: Andrew, Andrews, Badal, Kelly, Martin, Reilly

ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION

#03-2021 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2021 (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

Purpose: The allowable annual cost of living adjustment (COLA) for municipal budgets is capped at 1.5%. A municipality may by ordinance increase the COLA percentage up to 3.5% [N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14(b)] or bank (for up to two years) the difference between its final appropriation subject to the cap and 3.5%. Cap banking is not automatic. A single ordinance can be used to accomplish both activities: increasing appropriations and banking any unappropriated balance. The banked dollar amount would be available to the Borough in the event there was an emergent need.

Legal Notice Statement: A legal notice was published indicating that Ordinance #03-2021 was introduced and passed on first reading at the March 22, 2021 meeting and further indicated that the second reading and public hearing would be held on April 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Copies of this Ordinance were made available to the public and posted in accordance with the law.

Public Hearing: Mayor Serrano Glassner opened the public hearing and invited any interested person an opportunity to be heard on this Ordinance.

Seeing and hearing no one wishing to be heard, Mayor Serrano Glassner closed the public hearing and asked the Council for any further comments on Ordinance #03-2021.

There was no Council discussion.

Motion to Approve: Council Member Andrew
Second: Council Member Kelly
Ayes: Andrew, Andrews, Badal, Kelly, Martin, Reilly

Ordinance #03-2021 was adopted.

#05-2021 ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO AMEND CHAPTER 60, AFFORDABLE HOUSING, REGARDING ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT FEES

Purpose: This Ordinance amends Chapter 60, Affordable Housing, of the Borough Code by authorizing the Borough to hire an administrative agent to administer affordable units in Mendham Borough and sets forth that administration costs shall be reimbursed to the Borough. Administration costs will include affirmative marketing, determining, and establishing rents and sales prices for affordable units, establishing buyer and tenant income eligibility, certifying buyer's income eligibility to purchase an affordable unit, and rental and re-sale of units.

Legal Notice Statement: A legal notice was published indicating that Ordinance #05-2021 was introduced and passed on first reading at the April 14, 2021 meeting and further indicated that the second reading and public hearing would be held on April 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Copies of this Ordinance were made available to the public and posted in accordance with the law.

Public Hearing: Mayor Serrano Glassner opened the public hearing and invited any interested person an opportunity to be heard on this Ordinance.

Seeing and hearing no one wishing to be heard, Mayor Serrano Glassner closed the public hearing and asked the Council for any further comments on Ordinance #05-2021.

Council Member Reilly inquired if the administrative agent would be the contact for residents interested in applying for an affordable housing unit in Mendham Borough.

Mr. Semrau confirmed that the administrative agent would be responsible for the administration of affordable housing units in the Borough. Contact information and details regarding the availability of affordable housing units will be posted on the Borough's website.

There was no further Council discussion.

Motion to Approve: Council Member Andrew

Second: Council Member Kelly

Ayes: Andrew, Andrews, Badal, Kelly, Martin, Reilly

Ordinance #05-2021 was adopted.

#06-2021 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF AN EASEMENT IN FAVOR OF THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM FOR A PORTION OF THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 1901, LOT 19

Purpose: This Ordinance provides a 10-foot-wide walking path easement on a portion of private property known as Block 1901, Lot 19 for the pedestrian benefit of the public, which will address the long-standing need to memorialize the public's pedestrian need to access Main Street in Mendham. The easement is limited to pedestrian use, no motorized vehicles, and from dawn to dusk for a term of one year.

Legal Notice Statement: A legal notice was published indicating that Ordinance #06-2021 was introduced and passed on first reading at the April 14, 2021 meeting and further indicated that the second reading and public hearing would be held on April 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Copies of this Ordinance were made available to the public and posted in accordance with the law.

Mayor Serrano Glassner opened the floor for Council comments.

Council Member Reilly recused himself from the discussion since he resides in the subject neighborhood.

Council President Andrews, Council Member Martin and Council Member Kelly commented public safety concerns raised by the Police Chief and area residents and each voiced their support Ordinance #06-2021.

Council Member Badal also commented on public safety concerns raised by neighborhood residents and further commented that the easement has been in place for over 20 years and a good faith agreement had been negotiated. He voiced his support for Ordinance #06-2021 which would formally memorialize the easement.

Council Member Andrew commented that it is his understanding that several area residents have raised objections to the proposed easement on Block 1901, Lot 19.

There was no further Council discussion.

Public Hearing: Mayor Serrano Glassner opened the public hearing and invited any interested person an opportunity to be heard on this Ordinance.

Patrick O'Neill, 20 Prospect Street, commented that the ordinance contains some misrepresentations which he presented and also commented on the Planning Board's major subdivision approval (1997) concerning the Whispering Ivy development. He further commented that he has not had an opportunity to review a copy of the proposed deed of easement referenced in the Ordinance and mentioned that residents along the private road section of Prospect Street were not supportive of the connective easement along Block 1901, Lot 19. He voiced his opposition to Ordinance #06-2021 and also asked that certain language in the ordinance be corrected.

Gary Cavalli, 16A Prospect Street, commented that the use of the existing pathway (easement) has escalated over the 28 years he has been living on Prospect Street and is used by ATVs. He further commented that residents along the private section of Prospect Street never had an opportunity to meet with borough officials independently of other area residents so that they could discuss their specific concerns. He voiced his opposition to Ordinance #06-2021.

Mary Kay O'Neill, 20 Prospect Street, commented that residents residing along the private street section of Prospect Street did not have an opportunity to meet with Borough officials concerning the adjacent property owner's offer to allow a temporary easement on their property and voiced her opposition to Ordinance #06-2021.

John Vitale, Esq., 10 Main Street, advised that the current property owner of Block 1901, Lot 19 would not be agreeing to the execution of the temporary easement. He further commented that as a matter of public safety, the Mendham Borough Board of Education can provide school bus transportation for neighborhood students attending Hilltop Elementary School since there are no sidewalks along Hilltop Road to the school.

Stephanie Alfonso, Esq., Dempsey, Dempsey & Sheehan Law Firm, commented that pedestrians using the footpath have veered from the easement itself along properly located a 7 Whispering Ivy Path and requested that the pathway be restored back onto the easement, consistent with the recorded easement.

Michael Hock, 16 Prospect Street, introduced himself as the current owner of Block 1901, Lot 19 and informed Borough officials that he is closing on the property to a new buyer and withdrawing his consent on his offer of providing a temporary connecting easement.

Mr. Semrau acknowledged receipt of Mr. Hock's recent email concerning his change in position land notifying that he is withdrawing his offer of providing a temporary connecting easement on Block 1901, Lot 19.

Jeff Cilente, 17 Heather Hill Way, voiced his support for Ordinance #06-2021 and mentioned that the pedestrian easement would provide safe walking access to Hilltop Road and Main Street.

Michael Greco, 8 Whispering Ivy Path, thanked the governing body for meeting with neighborhood residents and for providing an inclusive process so that resident concerns are heard. He commented that the pedestrian easement provides safe walking access to Hilltop Road and Main Street and voiced his support for Ordinance #06-2021.

Chris Drew, 4 Heather Hill Way, commented that the pedestrian easement would provide a safe and "green" alternative to Hilltop Road for residents voiced his support for Ordinance #06-2021.

Clay Clausen, 1 Muirfield Lane, voiced his support for Ordinance #06-2021 and mentioned that his family often uses the pedestrian easement.

Matt Touhey, 7 Whispering Ivy Path, commented that his family often uses the pedestrian easement and voiced his support for Ordinance #06-2021. He further commented that the realtor had marketed the property, which is located on a cul-de-sac, as having a walkway to downtown.

Rob Sorge, 19 Heather Hill Way, introduced himself as a 17-year Mendham Borough resident and voiced his support for Ordinance #06-2021.

Pete Valianstos, 10 Whispering Ivy Path, commented that the easement provides safe access to the Hilltop Elementary School and downtown and voiced his support for Ordinance #06-2021.

Clara Schreibman, 33 Hilltop Road, commented that the pathway is the safest way to get to town and mentioned that the high school cross-country runners use the easement as well.

Marnie Hock, 16 Prospect Street, commented that there is no legal easement along the private road section of Prospect Street.

Seeing and hearing no one else wishing to be heard, Mayor Serrano Glassner closed the public hearing on Ordinance #06-2021.

Mayor Serrano Glassner thanked everyone for their comments. She reported that over the years borough officials have appealed to county officials urging them to improve Hilltop Road (a county road) so that it is accessible for pedestrians. She further reported that two years ago the Borough went ahead and installed two crosswalks on Main Street, a county road, in the interest of public safety, especially since students cross the roadway to and from the high school. The installation of the two crosswalks cost the Borough \$14,000.00.

Mayor Serrano Glassner then reported that with respect to the Prospect Street connecting easement, borough officials held a neighborhood meeting remotely by Zoom to hear concerns from residents. The paramount concern raised was about public safety.

Mayor Serrano Glassner provided the Borough Attorney an opportunity to address comments presented during the public hearing.

Mr. Semrau advised that the Whispering Ivy major subdivision was approved in 1997. For the benefit of the residents in the new development and area neighborhood, there has been an informal understanding that the pedestrian easement could be used to access Prospect Street. He further advised that recently the Hocks who owned Block 1901, Lot 19, came forward and provided consent to complete a legal connecting easement through their property. He confirmed the Hocks are now selling the property and have withdrawn their offer.

Mr. Semrau further advised that the borough's administration met with area residents and learned that the easement would address their safety concerns and be beneficial to everyone in the neighborhood. He confirmed the meeting was held with approximately 30 area residents.

In closing, Mr. Semrau advised that Ordinance #06-2021 serves to memorialize the connecting easement in a legal prospective and would also allow the borough's enforcement of motorized use.

Based upon comments given during the public hearing, Mr. Semrau made the following revisions to Ordinance #06-2021 on the record:

“WHEREAS, KJW agreed to provide a pedestrian easement and the applicant may have received the benefit by doing so of an additional buildable lot:”

...
“WHEREAS, immediately upon receiving said approval, and the time to appeal concluded on October 9, 1997, the principals of the applicant, Mary Kay O’Neill, entered into a restrictive easement with Whitney and Mary Beth Baldwin, Block 1901, Lot 19, ~~in an effort to preclude the Borough and the public from obtaining the connection easement to private property for the benefit of the residents of Whispering Ivy Way and Muirfield Lane; and~~”

...
“WHEREAS, in November of 2020, the administration conducted an informal meeting with residents in the vicinity of Prospect Street to receive their input, questions and concerns with respect to a proposed connecting easement in the area of Prospect Street. The administration reports that there was ~~overwhelming~~ majority support for the pedestrian access easement.”

...
“The Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into a deed of easement with Michael and Marion Hock and or their successors and assigns for a portion of Block 1901, Lot 19, in accordance with a deed of easement which is incorporated as part of this ordinance and on file with the Borough Clerk; and”

Mayor Serrano Glassner opened the floor for Council comments.

Council President Andrews and Council Member Martin voiced their support Ordinance #06-2021 due to public safety concerns raised by area residents.

Council Member Badal and Council Member Kelly also voiced their support for Ordinance #06-2021 and mentioned that the pedestrian easement and good faith agreement has been in place for over 20 years.

Council Member Andrew voiced his opposition to the adoption of Ordinance #06-2021 based upon his learning that current and future owners of Block 1901, Lot 19 will not grant the easement to the Borough.

Council Member Reilly, a neighborhood resident, recused himself from the discussion.

There was no further Council discussion.

Motion

Council Member Andrew made a motion to adopt Ordinance #06-2021 as amended.

Second: Council Member Kelly
Ayes: Andrews, Badal, Kelly, Martin
Nays: Andrew
Recused: Reilly

Ordinance #06-2021 was adopted as amended.

#07-2021 ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS OR PURPOSES TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY, AND APPROPRIATING \$1,017,000 THEREFOR FROM VARIOUS FUNDS OF THE BOROUGH

Purpose: This Ordinance appropriates \$1,017,000 from moneys available in the Capital Improvement Fund of the Borough for capital improvements of (a) the Department of Public Works facilities, including rehabilitation of the Administrative/Mechanical/Garage building, the demolition of the Equipment/Vehicle storage building and the construction of a new building (\$630,000); (b) the improvement of various roads in the Borough (\$317,000); (c) the improvement of the Garabrant Center by the construction and installation of a dais-(\$25,000); and (d) the acquisition and installation of new and additional equipment for use by the Police Department of the Borough including an in-car body camera system.

Legal Notice Statement: A legal notice was published indicating that Ordinance #07-2021 was introduced and passed on first reading at the April 14, 2021 meeting and further indicated that the second reading and public hearing would be held on April 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Copies of this Ordinance were made available to the public and posted in accordance with the law.

Public Hearing: Mayor Serrano Glassner opened the public hearing and invited any interested person an opportunity to be heard on this Ordinance.

Priscilla Beck, 16 Coventry Road, provided a written comment regarding Ordinance #07-2021 to the Borough Clerk’s office for public hearing.

Mayor Serrano Glassner read Ms. Beck’s written comment into the record: *I would like to comment on Ordinance #07-2021 which will be discussed in tonight’s Public Hearing. The proposed ordinance allows \$25,000 for the construction and installation of a dais in the Garabrant Center. I do not think we need a dais, especially one costing \$25,000. That expenditure prompted me to speak with Joyce Bushman this morning. It is now my understanding that the \$25,000 is not for a "dais", but rather for more generalized expenditures for upgrading the kitchen and possibly installing a platform that might be used by community groups. It is my understanding that the specifics of how the money will be used have yet to be determined. I think the ordinance as written leads one to think only of a dais and therefore should be changed to better reflect the broader use of the \$25,000 that is envisioned.*

Seeing and hearing no one wishing to be heard, Mayor Serrano Glassner closed the public hearing.

Mayor Serrano Glassner clarified that the language referenced in item “c” in Ordinance #07-2021 is amended to read: “c) the improvement of the Garabrant Center (\$25,000);”

The Council provided its concurrence and unanimous consent on the amendment.

There was no further Council discussion.

Motion

Council Member Andrew made a motion to approve Ordinance #07-2021 with the amendment to item c) to read: “c) the improvement of the Garabrant Center (\$25,000);”

Second: Council Member Kelly

Ayes: Andrew, Andrews, Badal, Kelly, Martin, Reilly

Ordinance #07-2021 was adopted as amended.

#08-2021 BOND ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$200,000, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$105,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH, FOR THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS EQUIPMENT BY THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY [Ordinance requires affirmative vote of not less than 2/3 of all Council members]

Purpose: This Bond Ordinance appropriates \$200,000 and authorizes the issuance of \$105,000 in bonds or notes for the purchase of (1) backhoe, one (1) truck and a fuel management system for the Department of Public Works.

Legal Notice Statement: A legal notice was published indicating that Ordinance #08-2021 was introduced and passed on first reading at the April 14, 2021 meeting and further indicated that the second reading and public hearing would be held on April 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Copies of this Ordinance were made available to the public and posted in accordance with the law.

Public Hearing: Mayor Serrano Glassner opened the public hearing and invited any interested person an opportunity to be heard on this Ordinance.

Seeing and hearing no one wishing to be heard, Mayor Serrano Glassner closed the public hearing and asked the Council for any further comments on Ordinance #08-2021.

There was no Council discussion.

Motion to Approve: Council Member Andrew

Second: Council Member Kelly

Ayes: Andrew, Andrews, Badal, Kelly, Martin, Reilly

Ordinance #08-2021 was adopted.

RESOLUTIONS

#067-2021 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF A CASH BOND FOR A ROAD OPENING PERMIT CONCERNING PROPERTY LOCATED AT 86 MOUNTAIN AVENUE [BLOCK 101, LOT 8] [tabled from April 14, 2021]

Council Member Kelly asked that this resolution be tabled so that all outstanding issues can be closed.

Motion to Table: Council Member Andrew

Second: Council Member Kelly

Ayes: Andrew, Andrews, Badal, Kelly, Martin, Reilly

Resolution #067-2021 was tabled to the next scheduled Council meeting.

#072-2021 RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE MONTH OFMAY FOR THE CURRENT BUDGET [Resolution requires affirmative vote of not less than 2/3 of all Council members]

The Borough Clerk confirmed that since the Council is able to proceed with the adoption of the 2021 Municipal Budget at tonight’s meeting, Resolution #072-2021 may be withdrawn.

Mayor Serrano Glassner asked for a motion to withdraw Resolution #072-2021.

Motion to Withdraw: Council Member Andrew

Second: Council Member Kelly

Ayes: Andrew, Andrews, Badal, Kelly, Martin, Reilly

#073-1021 RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY FOR THE SEWER UTILITY BUDGET [Resolution requires affirmative vote of not less than 2/3 of all Council members]

The Borough Clerk confirmed that since the Council is able to proceed with the adoption of the 2021 Municipal Budget at tonight’s meeting, Resolution #073-2021 may be withdrawn.

Mayor Serrano Glassner asked for a motion to withdraw Resolution #073-2021.

Motion to Withdraw: Council Member Andrew

Second: Council Member Kelly

Ayes: Andrew, Andrews, Badal, Kelly, Martin, Reilly

#074-2021 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CANCELLATION OF THE UNEXPENDED BALANCE AMOUNT NO LONGER NEEDED IN THE CURRENT FUND RESERVE ACCOUNT FOR LITIGATION

Motion to Approve: Council Member Andrew
Second: Council Member Kelly
Ayes: Andrew, Andrews, Badal, Kelly, Martin, Reilly

#075-2021 RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM AUTHORIZING THE SETTLEMENT OF A CERTAIN TAX APPEAL FILED IN THE TAX COURT OF NEW JERSEY

Motion to Approve: Council Member Andrew
Second: Council Member Kelly
Ayes: Andrew, Andrews, Badal, Kelly, Martin, Reilly

CY2021 BUDGET ADOPTION

#076-2021 RESOLUTION TO READ THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2021 BY TITLE

Motion to Approve: Council Member Andrew
Second: Council Member Kelly
Ayes: Andrew, Andrews, Badal, Kelly, Martin, Reilly

#077-2021 RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

[Resolution requires affirmative vote of not less than 2/3 of all Council members]

Public Hearing: Mayor Serrano-Glassner opened the public hearing and invited any interested person an opportunity to be heard on the 2021 Municipal Budget.

Seeing and hearing no one wishing to be heard, Mayor Serrano Glassner closed the public hearing and asked the Council for any further comments or questions on the 2021 Municipal Budget.

Council Member Reilly inquired whether the robust housing market in Morris County would have any impact Mendham Borough's municipal budget.

Mr. Bud Jones, Borough Auditor, responded that the increase in market valuation in Morris County may increase property assessment valuations in Mendham Borough, as well as the county portion of the property tax levy.

There was no further Council discussion.

Motion to Approve: Council Member Andrew
Second: Council Member Kelly
Ayes: Andrew, Andrews, Badal, Kelly, Martin, Reilly

The 2021 Municipal Budget was adopted.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

A copy of the Administrator's Report dated April 26, 2021 was distributed to the Governing Body.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance [Standing Committee of the Council]

Council President Badal reported that the 2021 Municipal Budget had been formally adopted at tonight's meeting and further mentioned that he would be scheduling a meeting of the Finance Committee next month.

Board of Health

Council President Andrews had nothing new to report.

Recreation and Parks [Standing Committee of the Council]

Council Member Andrew reported the new tennis courts opened April 10th and confirmed that a Memorial Day ceremony is being planned. The Recreation Committee discussed themes for this year's Labor Day parade. Summer camp registrations continue to come in.

Board of Education

Council Member Andrew had nothing new to report.

Public Safety [Standing Committee of the Council]

Council President Andrews reported that the new ambulance, EMS-3, has been repaired and is back in service. He also reported that the Hometown Heroes Banner Program Committee has announced banners will be ordered for the following honorees: Horst Ammon, Leo Baehler, Aniello Cillo, Gerry Dolan, David O'Keefe, and Liber Panella. The program recently secured a \$400.00 donation from the Mendham Business Association for the purchase of banners.

Personnel [Standing Committee of the Council]

Council Member Martin had nothing new to report.

Public Works and Utilities [Standing Committee of the Council]

Council Member Kelly reported that DPW is attending to spring maintenance of the ball fields and repairing two underground leaks at Pastime Field.

Land Use [Standing Committee of the Council] and ECOSST Committee

Council Member Reilly thanked the volunteers who participated in the stream cleanup on Saturday. He noted that several bags of dog waste were found and asked if a reminder could be posted on the Borough’s website and social media.

ATTORNEY’S ITEMS

Mr. Semrau had nothing new to report.

MAYOR’S ITEMS

Mayor Serrano Glassner reported that she is working on a COVID-19 Memorial Ceremony which will follow this year’s Memorial Day Ceremony at the Borough Park gazebo. The ceremony will include the planting of a new tree. She also mentioned that the prizes for the winners of the St. Patrick’s Door Decorating Contest will be issued soon.

Mayor Serrano Glassner further reported that a citizen committee is being organized to survey interest and likely costs in establishing a pool for Borough residents.

PUBLIC COMMENT – AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Mayor Christine Serrano Glassner opened the public comment portion of the meeting.

Julie Mauer, 51 W. Main Street, commented that dog waste baggies are becoming a growing problem and asked if the town could remind residents to properly dispose of their dog waste.

Seeing and hearing no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Serrano-Glassner closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Bills List dated April 26, 2021.

The Bills List had been posted on the website for full disclosure to the public.

The Council did not act on the approval of vouchers. Resolution #034-2021, passed by the Council at the January 7, 2021 Reorganization, authorized the Borough Administrator to disburse and/or authorize payment, subject to the availability of funds, for reoccurring necessary expenses during the Public Health Emergency.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to conduct, Mayor Serrano Glassner asked for a motion to adjourn. Council Member Andrew made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council President Andrews. Upon a voice vote, the motion was passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Mendham Borough Mayor and Council will be held May 12, 2021 at 7:00 PM, the Garabrant Center, 4 Wilson Street, Mendham and remotely by Zoom webinar.

Respectfully Submitted:

Robin R. Kline

Robin R. Kline, MAS, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk
BOROUGH OF MENDHAM