

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

**May 13, 2020**

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Christine Serrano-Glassner called the May 13, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council to order at 8:00 p.m. in the Garabrant Center, 4 Wilson Street, Mendham, New Jersey.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE AND FLAG SALUTE**

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

**MAYOR'S OPENING STATEMENT**

Mayor Serrano-Glassner read the following statement:

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.

**ROLL CALL**

The following officials were present:

Mayor Christine Serrano-Glassner

Council Member Steven Andrew [via video conferencing]

Council Member John Andrews [via video conferencing]

Council President Brad Badal [via video conferencing]

Council Member James Kelly [via video conferencing]

Member Mary Sue Martin [via video conferencing] Council Member Brennan Reilly [via video conferencing]

Also present were:

Joyce Bushman, Borough Administrator

Fred Semrau, Esq., Borough Attorney [via video conferencing]

Robin R. Kline, Borough Clerk [via video conferencing]

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

Items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and will be acted upon by the Borough Council by a single vote unless a member of the Governing Body requests that an item be removed and considered separately.

1. **Approval of Minutes:** April 27, 2020 Regular Meeting
2. **Raffle License Application:** Pastime Club, Inc.  
Labor Day Weekend Carnival Games  
Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup> – Monday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020
3. **Special Event Application:** National Multiple Sclerosis Society  
Bike MS: Country Challenge Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Motion to Approve: Council President Badal

Second: Council Member Reilly

Ayes: Badal, Kelly, Martin, Reilly

Nays: None

Recusals: Council Member Andrew and Council Member Andrews recused on the approval of the Pastime Club's Raffle License application.

**ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION**

**#03-2020 ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER 215, ZONING, OF THE BOROUGH CODE TO PERMIT OUTDOOR DINING TO FACILITATE SMALL BUSINESS RECOVERY NEEDED IN LIGHT OF THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

Mayor Serrano-Glassner withdrew this ordinance from the agenda. A resolution permitting temporary outdoor dining will be placed on the next agenda for Council consideration.

**ORDINANCE FOR PUBLIC HEARING/ADOPTION**

None

**RESOLUTIONS**

**#075-2020 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT OF PROPERTY TAX FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 30 KERBY LANE [BLOCK 2201, LOT 10.06] FOR YEARS 2018 AND 2019**

There was no Council discussion.

Motion to Approve: Council President Badal  
Second: Council Member Reilly  
Ayes: Andrew, Andrews, Badal, Kelly, Martin, Reilly  
Nays: None

**#076-2020 RESOLUTION AWARDED A CONTRACT FOR CURBSIDE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE TYPE 13 TO BLUE DIAMOND DISPOSAL, INC.**

There was no Council discussion.

Motion to Approve: Council President Badal  
Second: Council Member Reilly  
Ayes: Andrew, Andrews, Badal, Kelly, Martin, Reilly  
Nays: None

**#077-2020 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF A SEASONAL EMPLOYEE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS [P. McCarthy]**

Council Member Kelly provided his full endorsement of the hiring of Patrick McCarthy.

There was no Council discussion.

Motion to Approve: Council President Badal  
Second: Council Member Reilly  
Ayes: Andrew, Andrews, Badal, Kelly, Martin, Reilly  
Nays: None

**#078-2020 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF A SEASONAL EMPLOYEE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS [P. Seamus Oram]**

There was no Council discussion.

Motion to Approve: Council President Badal  
Second: Council Member Reilly  
Ayes: Andrew, Andrews, Badal, Kelly, Martin, Reilly  
Nays: None

**#079-2020 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A THREE-YEAR INTERLOCAL SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH, MENDHAM TOWNSHIP AND CHESTER TOWNSHIP FOR ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES**

There was no Council discussion.

Motion to Approve: Council President Badal  
Second: Council Member Reilly  
Ayes: Andrew, Andrews, Badal, Kelly, Martin, Reilly  
Nays: None

**ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

Ms. Bushman reported that the pre-construction meeting for Hilltop Road repaving was held on May 5<sup>th</sup>; road paving will start on May 26<sup>th</sup>. A pre-construction meeting for Talmage Road repaving is scheduled for May 14<sup>th</sup> with road paving to start on May 26<sup>th</sup> as well. She also reported that two check reading machines are operational and are proving to be time-savers in processing payments and deposits. Lastly, she reported that 90% of property tax payments have been collected to date for the 2<sup>nd</sup> property tax quarter. The percentage of uncollected property taxes for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> property tax quarters is 7%.

Council Member Andrews noted that the construction of the tennis courts can resume since the Governor lifted the ban on non-essential construction projects.

Council Member Reilly inquired about the Phoenix House garden and further inquired about the status of the Scott Farm grant application. Ms. Bushman clarified that the Mendham Garden Club is overseeing the replanting of the garden circle at the Phoenix House garden. She also reported that the Borough’s consultant, Connolly & Hickey, submitted the Scott Farm grant application to Morris County on April 27<sup>th</sup> and will be preparing a video presentation of the site for the county’s review of the grant.

Council Member Reilly mentioned that the Mendham Cooperative Nursery School has been closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and questioned whether a discount would be given on the rent during this period. The Council referred this matter to the Finance Committee for review and recommendation.

## **COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Finance [Standing Committee of the Council]**

Council President Badal reported that the Finance Committee will meet this week to review capital purchases.

### **Board of Health**

Council Member Andrew reported that the Board of Health cancelled its May 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Bernards Township Health Department continues to provide weekly updates on COVID-19. To date there have been 61 COVID-19 positive cases reported in Mendham Borough.

### **Recreation and Parks [Standing Committee of the Council]**

Council Member Andrew reported that the Recreation Committee will meet on May 21<sup>st</sup>. The summer day camp program directors are making plans to open with restrictions. The Labor Day parade, Food Truck Festival and Summer Concert series will be held in the fall.

### **Board of Education**

Council Member Andrew reported that the Mendham Borough Board of Education met on May 5<sup>th</sup> and adopted a \$11,621,454.00 budget for the 2020-2021 school year. He further reported that Dr. Morillo, Superintendent of Schools, has been appointed to a state-wide committee to develop a school re-opening plan.

### **Public Safety [Standing Committee of the Council]**

Council Member Andrews reported that the May 11<sup>th</sup> blood drive was very successful. A second blood drive has been scheduled for June 9<sup>th</sup> at Daytop. Council Member Andrews also reported that a small Memorial Day ceremony will be planned this year in order to comply with the Governor's executive orders concerning social distancing during the declared COVID-19 state of emergency. The ceremony will include a display of wreaths. Flags will be posted at the grave sites of veterans on Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>.

Council Member Andrews further reported that a number of car thefts have occurred in the area and provided a friendly reminder to everyone to lock their cars. The Mendham Police Department has posted a notice on social media.

### **Personnel [Standing Committee of the Council]**

Council Member Martin reported interviews for the tax collector positions will be scheduled via Zoom.

### **Public Works and Utilities [Standing Committee of the Council]**

Council Member Kelly had nothing new to report.

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

Council Member Reilly reported that the ECOSST Committee has identified a number of Phase I projects. Projects include Mountain Park, India Brook Park, the upper portion of the Scott Farm property. The committee would also like to coordinate with the Women's Garden Club in the selection of new plantings for the Phoenix House garden project. Council Member Martin offered to provide the ECOSST Committee a listing of proposed Eagle Scout projects.

## **ATTORNEY'S ITEMS**

Mr. Semrau had nothing new to report.

## **MAYOR'S ITEMS**

Mayor Serrano-Glassner reported that she participated in a virtual roundtable with small businesses. A new program, the "Support Your Hometown Businesses – Buy Gift Cards!" was launched, which Mendham Borough will help promote. She also reported that she participated in a virtual roundtable with realtors. One of the take-aways from the roundtable was for municipalities to create a town video for viewing by interested homebuyers and renters, as well as a initiating a tie-in between realtors and school district newsletters.

Mayor Serrano-Glassner further reported that the upcoming edition of the *Mendham Messenger* will honor our community's student elementary, middle school and high graduates. Lastly, she confirmed that the Governor's recent executive order allows non-essential retail businesses to reopen for online or phone ordering and curbside pickup, starting on Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> and non-essential construction work can also re-start across the state on May 18. She mentioned that Mendham Borough will develop drive-in protocols to help resume borough service to borough residents.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT – AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

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

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

## **APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS**

Bills List prepared by the Chief Financial Officer dated May 13, 2020.

Mayor Serrano-Glassner advised that Resolution #059-2020 passed at the March 18, 2020 Special Meeting provided the Borough Administration authorization to approve vouchers, subject to the availability of funds.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no Executive Session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mendham will convene on May 26, 2020 at 8:00 PM, the Garabrant Center, 4 Wilson Street, Mendham.

Respectfully Submitted:

*Robin R. Kline*

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