

Borough of Garwood
MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
March 24, 2022

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Moment of Silence.....

Salute to the Flag.....

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided to the Union County Hawk advertised on December 2, 2021. Notification was sent to the Star Ledger, and is posted on the Municipal website, the Municipal public bulletin board, and filed in the office of the Municipal Clerk informing the public of the time and place according to the Provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975).

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Todisco	P		
Councilman Graham	P	Councilwoman Loffredo	P
Councilman Kearney	P	Councilwoman Salmon	P
Councilman Lazarow	EXCUSED	Council President Blumenstock	P

Also Present:

Kyle Harris, Borough Administrator
Adam Abramson, Borough Attorney
Catherine D. Cameron, Borough Clerk
Ralph Bernardo, Borough Director of Recreation

Report of Borough Attorney NO REPORT

Report of Borough Administrator:

Hartman Park Cameras: The Purchase Order was issued to the vendor several weeks ago. The vendor expects to have all of the hardware by mid-April with installation occurring shortly after.

Resolution 22-060: This is another per diem bus driver to assist us with the senior bussing.

DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW PRESENTATION:

Ralph Bernardo, Director of Recreation, provided the following report:

My name is Ralph Bernardo and I am the Recreation Director for Garwood. I am also the Director of Recreation in Clark for the last 17 years. I have just completed my 2nd year with Garwood, unfortunately, 2 months after I was hired – the Pandemic began. That’s behind us now and things have gotten progressively better as the months have gone by. We are expanding our programs and classes that the recreation committee and I have created. We’ve been pretty successful with quite a few classes including soccer in the fall, ceramics all seasons, young Rembrandts, Hip Hop and most recently Bowling in our own backyard which sold out. My daily responsibilities are the following but not limited to: overseeing the maintenance, scheduling and daily operations of the recreation facility and the surrounding grounds and fields, plus Hartman Park our programs by the grammar school; We do have to start preparing for the replacement of the turf field as it is approaching its life expectancy and really showing the wear and tear. I’m glad we are raising the rental fees. I had asked Tina when I started about increases but was told those prices were set in stone. Also included in my responsibilities are Creating new programs and classes for the citizens of Garwood for all seasons – Create and expand upon the communication chain including email, social media and someday hopefully on-line registration. Direct and oversee the summer recreation program including hiring of a director and staff of 22. We will continue to upgrade all aspects of the program bringing it to a respectful level that it should be. Where possible to save money, I have picked up slightly used pool tables, foosball tables, ping pong and air hockey from citizens discarding in order to save on the budget. We now have a once-a-week wacky water

day with the help of the Fire Dept volunteering their time to cool off the kids. The library has also been a big help with guest speakers free to the camp. I have secured new and additional entertainment to be brought in during the 6 weeks of camp. I will strive for better communication for the residents of Garwood to know what is taking place up to the minute and what is available to them to take advantage. I have proposed to Kyle that we have an information board at the rec center and Kyle has already ordered flyer holders for the hallway at Borough Hall. I am in charge of balancing and monitoring the rec budget, payroll, registrations, rosters, deposits, etc. I have no office or assistant or secretary - I am a one man show – I drive back and forth from Clark to Garwood just about everyday. I consider myself a dedicated, trustworthy, hardworking individual who does not accept mediocre. My mission for Garwood is to provide the community with meaningful use of time through a variety of youth, adult and family activities that offer our citizens the opportunity to use personal leisure time in a productive and rewarding manner.

Mayor Todisco thanked Mr. Bernardo for his report, and stated her support for online program registration.

Report of Mayor Sara Todisco

PILOT Meeting:

I want to thank everyone who joined us this past Monday night for the Special Meeting of the Mayor & Council to discuss the new PILOT revenue coming to Garwood from the South Avenue redevelopment project, now better known as Vermella. We heard from many people about their priorities. I encourage you to continue to reach out to me or the Council with your views on how this new revenue should be allocated. We will be making decisions about our 2022 budget, including ones about how to appropriate the PILOT funds, at our Special Budget Meeting next Thursday at 7pm. I encourage the public to attend this meeting either in person or via Zoom.

Veterans Committee:

Recently, I received an email from the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs about how to qualify your town to be recognized as a “We Value Our Veterans Community.” Only eight towns in the entire state have been given this recognition. I know that in Garwood we value our veterans for their selfless service to our country and within our municipal departments, we are proud to have veterans working for us. It does not appear easy to obtain certification and the process is similar in some ways to what the Green Team has gone through with Sustainable Jersey. However, I would still like us to investigate this program to see if it could be feasible for us. Therefore, I am making a special committee tonight of Councilman Graham as he is a Vietnam War Veteran, Councilwoman Salmon, and Councilwoman Loffredo.

Planning Board:

Last night, the Planning Board held its fifth meeting to hear the site plan application for 75 North Avenue, better known as the Paperboard site. After nearly two hours of testimony, questions and answers, and discussions, the Board unanimously voted to give preliminary approval with a few conditions. The previous concerns about stormwater have been satisfied now that the pipe that runs west to east has been increased from 24 inches to 36 inches and a rain garden has been added. The developer still needs to receive DOT and DEP approval. The conditions for preliminary approval include compliance with the feedback in Planner Victor Vinegra’s review letter dated 3/18, a detailed parking management plan, and a plan for what the lease permissions were (particularly for the self-storage).

Parking was spoken about substantially last night. The total amount of spaces being provided by Paperboard is 280 with 27 designated as public spaces for the community center. Per State law, 42 spaces must be electric vehicle ready and 14 EV charging stations are required. The applicant was open to putting a couple of those in the public spaces. A concern was raised about tenants parking on residential streets. The developer’s attorney stated for the record that parking spaces are inclusive in the rent. Also, I want to put everyone’s minds to ease about this issue for both the Paperboard and Vermella sites as per our local

ordinance, the Borough Clerk issues residential preferred parking permits for those who provide proof of residency on streets in the designated zones. Neither North Avenue or South Avenue are part of the designated zones.

Lastly, the Planning Board wanted us to bring the need for a loading space in front of the Paperboard site, on North Avenue in front of the historic castle structure, to Council as it is this governing body's purview. I want to make sure this is permissible by the Council. If so, I'd like to refer this matter to the Police Committee to review existing hours and regulations for loading spaces in town as well as to get input from our Police Chief. The purpose of the loading space is for moving trucks, food delivery, and package delivery. We will be receiving an official memo from the Planning Board requesting us to implement the loading space.

Comments from the Council:

Councilman Graham thanked Mr. Bernardo for his report.

Councilman Graham thanked Mayor Todisco for appointing him as Chairman of the Veterans Committee.

Councilman Kearney NO REPORT

Councilman Lazarow NO REPORT

Councilwoman Loffredo thanked Mr. Bernardo for his report.

Councilwoman Loffredo thanked Mayor Todisco for appointing her as a member on the Veterans Committee.

Councilwoman Salmon thanked Mr. Bernardo for his report.

Councilwoman Salmon thanked Mayor Todisco for appointing her as a member on the Veterans Committee.

Councilwoman Salmon requested an the line of sight at Second Avenue and Cedar Street be reassessed for safety purposes..

Mayor Todisco stated she will refer the matter to Chief Wright, Mr. Harris and the Police Committee.

Discussion ensued.

Council President Blumenstock thanked Mr. Bernardo for his report.

Council President Blumenstock provided the following comments:

Local Government week is shaping up to be a great week! Sunday will be Breakfast with the Mayor, Monday you can have Coffee with a Cop, Tuesday is Bingo, Wednesday is Student in Government Night, Thursday is our Council meeting, Friday is our Mayor's Wellness Exercise Class and Saturday has the Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt and the Easter Bunny Drive Around from the Celebrations Committee. All throughout the week is also some terrific events from our library, like story time, a virtual lecture about NJ Parks, and a classic movie showing. Please see the Garwood website or Facebook page for a full line-up and event details. Also, please contact me to sign-up for Bingo and for the Mayor's Wellness Exercise Class. You can email me at jblumenstock.org or call me at 908-337-7726. Make sure to tell your friends and family to sign up.

Also, a few weeks ago on March 11th, I filled in for Mayor Todisco for a meeting of the Rahway River Mayors Council hosted by Cranford Mayor Kathleen Prunty and Alex McDonald, the Business Administrator in Millburn. The group talked about expanding membership to a few other interested towns, including Westfield. We also received news that the meeting with the Army Corp of Engineers is scheduled for later this month. To prepare for that, John Rushke from Mott McDonald was on hand to review the many alternative plans that had been discussed over the past decade, and that the Army Corp wanted to revisit.

So we familiarized ourselves with each of those and look forward to examining them with the Army Corp of Engineers and hopefully coming to a consensus on one or more of them.

I also had the opportunity a few days ago to fill in for Mayor Todisco at a meeting with Congressman Tom Malinowski. As has been reported previously, Garwood will be the recipient of \$250,000 federal dollars to mill and pave the final stretches on Second and Third Avenue. Mr. Disko and Harris were on hand as well to show the Congressman the particular areas in Garwood where the funds would be spent. A special thank you to the Congressman for pushing for this to be included in the recent bill. We all pay federal taxes of course, but it's rare to see them come back to us in such a direct manner, which we can all tangibly see, so this is a great win for Garwood. Also, a big thank you to Mr. Disko, for his help with this, as it was a grant that had to be prepared in record speed.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council held on March 10, 2022.

<https://garwood.org/vertical/sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/03-10-2022-MINUTES.pdf>

A motion was made by Councilman Graham, second by Council President Blumenstock, to accept minutes as presented.

All in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1) NEW JERSEY STATE LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES

- a) 03/08/2022, RE: Share Auto Theft Prevention Tips, Municipal Salary Guide Available
<https://www.nijlm.org/CivicSend/ViewMessage/Message/166080>
- b) 03/08/2022, RE: Governor Delivers FY 2023 Budget Address
<https://www.nijlm.org/CivicSend/ViewMessage/Message/166227>
- c) 03/11/2022, RE: Budget Address, ETR Restoration, BIL Guidebook for NJ
<https://www.nijlm.org/CivicSend/ViewMessage/Message/166460>
- d) 03/21/2022, RE: RSIS Resolution; State Aid Certification, Lunch & Learn Webinars
<https://www.nijlm.org/CivicSend/ViewMessage/Message/167092>

2) TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS

- a) 03/07/2022, RE: Senate Bill S-330 and Assembly Bill A 1012: Restoration of Energy Tax Receipts Property, Tax Relief Fund

https://garwood.org/vertical/sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/SCOTCH_PLAINS_CORRESPONDANCE.pdf

3) TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD

- a) 03/11/2022, RE: Ordinances

https://garwood.org/vertical/sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/Adopted_to_Surrounding_Comm_Ord_2022-02.pdf

4) GARWOOD PLANNING BOARD

- a) 03/16/2022, RE: Minutes: January 12, 2022

https://garwood.org/vertical/sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/1_12_2022_PB_Minutes.pdf

- b) 03/15/2022, RE: Minutes: February 23, 2022

[https://garwood.org/vertical/sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/2_23_2022_PB_Minutes\(1\).pdf](https://garwood.org/vertical/sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/2_23_2022_PB_Minutes(1).pdf)

5) RAHWAY VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

- a) 03/18/2022, RE: Minutes

https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/RVSA_Approved_Minutes_021722.pdf

ALL RECEIVED AND FILED.

ORDINANCES:

ADOPTION

Municipal Clerk to read Ordinance 22-02 by title only:

ORDINANCE NO. 22-02

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BOROUGH CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD BY AMENDING CHAPTER 126, ENTITLED “PARKS, FACILITIES, PLAYGROUNDS AND RECREATION”.

[https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/22-02-01-Intro -Amending Chapter 126 Recreation Fees.pdf](https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/22-02-01-Intro-Amending_Chapter_126_Recreation_Fees.pdf)

List correspondence concerning Ordinance 22-02. NONE

Does anyone present wish to be heard concerning Ordinance 22-02. NONE

A motion was made by Council President Blumenstock, second by Councilman Graham, to close Public Hearing on Ordinance 22-02.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Salmon, second by Council President Blumenstock to adopt Ordinance 22-02.

Roll Call:

Councilman Graham	AYE	Councilwoman Loffredo	AYE
Councilman Kearney	AYE	Councilwoman Salmon	AYE
Councilman Lazarow	EXCUSED		

5- AYE, 1- EXCUSED Ordinance 22-02 was adopted.

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OTHER REPORTS:

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL: Councilman Lazarow, Chair

Council President Blumenstock read the following report:

The finance committee met again yesterday to finalize the budget for 2022 and is prepared to make capital purchase recommendations. Mayor and the full council will receive a copy of the current budget recommendations that the finance committee has agreed to. This process was a culmination of 8 separate meetings, 24 total hours of in person meetings, and countless email correspondence and collaboration amongst the committee. We took into consideration all the feedback from the PILOT meeting in deciding on this upcoming budget and I look forward to our special budget meeting to discuss all of these decisions. I want to personally thank Councilwoman Loffredo and Councilman Kearney for their committed efforts to find compromise and work collaboratively to balance the priorities of our town. I also want to thank Borough Administrator, Kyle Harris, CFO, Sandy Bruns, and all of the department heads for their advocacy for their respective departments.

FIRE AND OEM: Councilman Kearney, Chair

Beginning tonight with a fire prevention reminder, when the clocks change it's also the perfect time for residents to change the batteries in their smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

I am sad to report the resignation of a member who recently moved out of the area was accepted. We thank Firefighter Kris Jacoby for his service and wish him well!

The equipment we discussed in our last meeting was delivered to the Clifton Fire Department as per the Council Resolution this past weekend, where it will make its way across the Atlantic Ocean to outfit firefighters in Ukraine.

I also want to highlight a few recent responses of the Garwood Fire Department, to put more of a “face” on things than the raw statistics I’m providing on the monthly activity reports. On Sunday, March 13th, Engine 3 responded to a mutual aid call in the City of Elizabeth for a working fire that went to five alarms. Our firefighters assisted there with both pumping duty and fire attack operations.

On Monday, March 14th and Tuesday, March 15th firefighters participated in training for standpipe operations at Vermella, part of ongoing familiarization with this new building. Finally, this past Sunday the young ladies of Daily Troop 41005 and Brownie Troop 41108 were given a tour of the firehouse and even got to use a fire hose! I don’t think they have ever invited me or Councilman Graham to do that. These are just a few examples of the daily services provided by the volunteers of the Garwood Fire Department that I wanted to highlight and that’s all for my report.

FACILITIES, GROUNDS AND SHADE TREES: Councilwoman Loffredo, Chair

Good Evening Mayor, Members of Council, and Members of the Public. My only update this week is that the DMR architectural contract was signed on March 10th and the Survey of the properties is to start this week. That’s all for tonight!

STREETS, ECOLOGY AND SUSTAINABILITY: Council President Blumenstock, Chair

In addition to regular garbage pickup, the DPW has been busy doing tree work. They trimmed and elevated shade trees on the 200 block of 2nd Avenue and removed shade trees in the following areas:

- 644 Myrtle Avenue
- 609 East Street
- 254-256 Hazel Avenue
- Areas of the Garwood Brook

Fanwood’s bucket truck was used to complete the work. They also cleaned up the leaves and vegetative debris at the dead ends of 4th, Hazel and Hemlock Avenues, as well as at the back of Kennedy Plaza. The department also did a number of repairs at the Sports Complex including beginning to replace the anti-skid surfacing on the composite decking at the Sports Complex, as well as repairing the broken goal and replacing the missing or broken bolts on the bleachers at the Sports Complex. They installed a door closure on the main entrance for the Administrative Offices and also performed preventative maintenance on all landscaping equipment and repaired the long reach pole saw as a part of their mechanic operations performed in-house. The DPW also completed the annual storm water inlet cleaning program as required by the NJDEP and Stormwater Management Regulations

POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY: Councilman Graham, Chair

Since the last meeting of Mayor and Council on March 10, 2022 the Garwood Police Department has recorded the following activity:

- Initiated 70 motor vehicle stops
- Conducted 102 building/property checks
- Initiated 20 Community Policing posts
- Assigned to 43 fixed traffic posts (Radar, Stop Sign, Distracted Driving)
- Responded to 23 calls for medical assist
- Responded to 6 business/residential alarms
- Responded to 7 false fire/co alarms
- Responded to 4 motorists lockouts

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: RECREATION, HISTORICAL AND CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEES:

Councilwoman Salmon, Chair

Thank you, Ralph for your presentation tonight. Recreation has greatly improved and I look forward to what is next.

Celebrations: Is in full Easter mode. Getting ready for their Easter Brunch on Saturday April 2 from 11-1 and their Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday April 9th from 1-3. Easter Brunch sign is available through Event Bright, tickets are \$20 and will be held at the Columbian Club. Tickets are limited so please purchase your ticket soon. The Easter Egg Hunt registration will be available online and here at Borough Hall starting Monday March 28th. Registration forms are required for participation. Please stop by and pick up your registration form so you are all set for the day of the scavenger hunt. If you have any questions, please reach out to celebrations at celebrations@garwood.org. Also don't forget to keep an eye out on April 9th for the Easter Bunny who will be escorted around town by our Fire Department. Rain Date April 10th.

Historical: One of our Historical committee members has taken a county map circa 1850 and is comparing it to a current map from Elizabeth to Plainfield. An interesting find was that Old York Road ran through Garwood, the only streets left that match up are part of 4th avenue and Benson Place in Westfield. Keep a look out for an update.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: Councilman Kearney

Thank you, Mayor. I haven't had the opportunity to call for a follow up committee meeting to discuss the policy items I noted in my last report. I'll look to get a date together for this in the next week or so, but between my family vacation, Finance meetings, a nasty stomach virus tearing through my house and our having four Council meetings in two weeks, the schedule got a bit full. So, more to hopefully report at our next regular meeting in April.

LIBRARY, MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE: Councilman Lazarow

Council President Blumenstock read the following report:

The Garwood Library has new hours. The Library will be opening one hour later on Wednesdays and Thursdays to accommodate Lincoln school students. The new hours will be as follows: Monday from 9 am to 5 pm, Tuesday from 9 am to 8 pm, Wednesday 10 am to 5 pm, Thursday from 10 am to 8 pm, Friday 9 to 4:30 pm and Saturday 10 am to 1 pm.

APRIL EVENTS

April 5, at 3 pm - Virtual Kid's Craft Pick up supplies for the craft and then watch the craft tutorial on the Library's Facebook page at 3 pm. The video will be available for viewing thereafter. Registration is required for craft kits and is limited to 15 participants. Sign up on the Library website's events calendar or by phone.

April 5 at 6:30 – How to Recycle Right - Join Heather Miara from the Union County Bureau of Recycling and Planning. She will discuss what gets recycled and what doesn't as well as the NJ single-use bag ban. This program is brought to you by the Libraries of Union County. See the registration link at: <https://www.luccnjevents.org/register>

April 7 at 7 pm – Join author and lecturer, Mark Vogel, as he discusses New Jersey State Parks. The lecture will include original photographs of many of New Jersey's beautiful state parks, plus vintage maps and images of historic people, places, and events. The presentation will be followed by a Q&A. Once registered a Zoom link will be provided

April 8 and 29 at noon. Classic Movie Friday – Join the library for the first in a series of Classic Movie Fridays featuring memorable movies from the 50s and 60s. Light refreshments will be served.

April 9 from 1-3 pm Scavenger Hunt. – The Library will be one of the stops on the town wide Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt. Come by and take home an egg and a bunny hat.

SCHOOL BOARD LIAISON: Councilman Kearney

Thank you to Council President Blumenstock for attending the last School Board meeting in my absence, we all kept you very busy the past few weeks. At the March 15th meeting, special recognition was given to former Board members Denise Ridente, Maureen Scepkowski and Ralph Trentacosta for their service. They served during Covid which we know was especially challenging for schools, and we thank them for their service, as well. The Board approved a resolution to adopt their preliminary budget for the 2022-2023 school year, with a vote of 7-2 and also approved the purchase of a 54-passenger bus and a 16-passenger bus for a total of \$180,550. The next meeting is on Tuesday, April 26th.

GARWOOD SENIOR CITIZEN LIAISON: Council President Blumenstock

At our meeting on March 17th, we had a special guest speaker. Joanne Gleeson is a local neighbor, and after caring for her elderly parents, decided to start her own business helping seniors with everyday tasks so that they can remain at home as long as possible as they age. Heart and Soul Senior Concierge Services does things like grocery shopping, meal prep, other errands and even just companionship. In Garwood we, of course, try to help our seniors as best as we can, with senior shopping trips and activities, but knowing there is a service like this is very helpful for our seniors who may not even need it now but could in the future. Joanne can be reached at 732-285-2222 or you can also contact me for her information. Lunch and bingo followed our guest speaker and our next meeting is set for April 7th. Again, I encourage our seniors to take part in our town wide Bingo for Local Government Week on April 5th, we had many of our club members already sign up, and to also attend the classic movie screening at the Library on April 8th at 12pm.

SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORY LIAISON: Councilman Kearney

The Small Business Advisory Board will be meeting next Tuesday to work on event planning and (hopefully) Garwood Restaurant Week 2022!

PLANNING BOARD LIAISON: Councilwoman Salmon NO REPORT

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Chief of Police Monthly Reports for February, 2022.

A motion was made by Councilman Graham, second by Council President Blumenstock, to accept Officer's reports.
All in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Is there anyone in the audience who wishes to address the Mayor and Council please step to the microphone, and state your full name and address. Please limit your comments to five minutes.

John Pritchard, 410 Spruce Street, stated his support for fire fighters, and sang a song regarding veterans.

Bruce Paterson, 325 Willow Avenue, referenced a letter he sent to the Mayor and Council via email regarding the Special Council meeting held on March 21, 2022.
Mr. Paterson commented on Local Government Week.

A motion was made by Councilman Graham, second by Councilwoman Loffredo, to close public comment.
All in favor.

Mayor Todisco acknowledged the letter sent by Mr. Paterson.
Mayor Todisco confirmed her support for the PILOT allocation to the Garwood Board of Education.
Mayor Todisco stated her support of Local Government Week and clarified the recognition is sponsored by the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

Council President Blumenstock stated her support for Local Government Week and for the activities scheduled by the Borough acknowledging same.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

CONSENT AGENDA

(Adoption upon Roll Call)

Consent agenda items are considered to be routine and will be enacted with a single motion; any items requiring expenditure are supported by a Certification of Availability of funds; any item requiring discussion will be removed from the Consent Agenda; all Consent Agenda items will be reflected in the full minutes.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-057

NJ LOCAL GOVERNMENT WEEK

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD, RECOGNIZING NJ LOCAL GOVERNMENT WEEK, APRIL 3-9, 2022, AND ENCOURAGING ALL CITIZENS TO SUPPORT THE CELEBRATION AND CORRESPONDING ACTIVITIES.

WHEREAS, local government is the government closest to most citizens, and the one with the most direct daily impact upon its residents; and

WHEREAS, local government provides services and programs that enhance the quality of life for residents, making their municipality their home; and

WHEREAS, local government is administered for and by its citizens, and is dependent upon public commitment to and understanding of its many responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, local government officials and employees share the responsibility to pass along the understanding of public services and their benefits; and

WHEREAS, NJ Local Government Week offers an important opportunity for elected officials and local government staff to spread the word to all citizens of New Jersey that they can shape and influence this branch of government; and

WHEREAS, the NJ State League of Municipalities and its member municipalities have joined together to teach citizens about municipal government through a variety of activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY GOVERNING BODY AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That the Mayor and Council encourage all citizens, local government officials, and employees to participate in events that recognize and celebrate NJ Local Government Week.

Section 2. That Garwood encourages educational partnerships between local government and schools, as well as civic groups and other organizations.

Section 3. That Garwood supports and encourages all New Jersey local governments to actively promote and sponsor NJ Local Government Week.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-058

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey hereby approves the list of members eligible for 2021 LOSAP Benefits from the Garwood First Aid Squad

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the list attached be and is hereby made part of this resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 22-059

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey hereby approves the list of members eligible for 2021 LOSAP Benefits from the Garwood Fire Department.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the list attached be and is hereby made part of this resolution.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-060

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Garwood, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, hereby hire Thomas DiStefano as a part-time bus driver for the Senior Transportation Bus Driver, commencing March 25, 2022, at an hourly rate of \$20.00 per hour.

A motion was made by Councilman Graham, second by Councilwoman Loffredo, to adopt Consent Agenda.

Roll Call:

Councilman Graham	AYE	Councilwoman Loffredo	AYE
Councilman Kearney	AYE	Councilwoman Salmon	AYE
Councilman Lazarow	EXCUSED	Council President Blumenstock	AYE

RESOLUTIONS DELETED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor's Appointment:

Clarissa Nolde Library Board of Trustees 3/25/22 -12/31/22 (unexpired term)

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS:

BE IT RESOLVED that the following claims as approved be and the same are hereby ordered paid when properly signed and verified; and the payment of payrolls as listed is hereby confirmed and ratified.

A motion was made by Councilman Graham second by Councilwoman Loffredo to adopt Payment of Claims Resolution.

Roll Call:

Councilman Graham	AYE	Councilwoman Loffredo	AYE
Councilman Kearney	AYE	Councilwoman Salmon	AYE
Councilman Lazarow	EXCUSED	Council President Blumenstock	AYE

ADJOURNMENT:


The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on **THURSDAY, April 7, 2022**, at 7:00 P.M. in Council Chambers.

Information for meetings is posted on the Borough website: https://garwood.org/gb_notices

A motion was made by Councilman Graham, second by Councilman Kearney, to adjourn.

Time: 8:06 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:


Catherine D. Cameron, R.M.C.
Borough Clerk