

# Borough of Garwood

## Meeting of the Mayor and Council

### MINUTES

April 11, 2019

Start time: 7:33 p.m.

Moment of Silence.....

Salute to the Flag.....

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided to the Westfield Leader, advertised on January 3, 2019, notification was sent to the Star Ledger and prominently posted on 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 Benoit	P	Councilman Ince	P
Councilwoman Blumenstock	P	Councilman McCormack	P
Councilman Graham	P	Council President Lazarow	P

#### MINUTES:

Regular, Workshop and Executive Minutes of the Mayor and Council held on March 28, 2019.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Blumenstock, second by Councilman McCormack, to accept minutes as presented. All in favor.

#### COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1) NEW JERSEY STATE LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES –
  - a. Mayor's Advisory –
    - i. 03/27/19, RE: Daily Update
    - ii. 03/28/19, RE: Daily Update
    - iii. 03/29/19, RE: Cannabis Legalization Stalls: Weekly Round-Up for Week of March 25, 2019
    - iv. 04/01/19, RE: Mayors Newslines-April 2019
    - v. 04/01/19, RE: Daily Update
    - vi. 04/04/19, RE: Daily Update: New COPS Grant Opportunities Available
    - vii. 04/09/19, RE: NJLM Weekly Round-Up: State Budget Takes Center Stage
- 2) UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS – 03/29/19, RE: 2019 Union County Budget and Resolution No. 2019-234
- 3) UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS – 04/05/19, RE: Change of meeting schedule
- 4) RAHWAY VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY – 04/02/19, RE: RVSA Meeting Notice
- 5) TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD – 04/01/19, RE: Resolution 2019-112
- 6) LIBERTY HOSE COMPANY #1 – 03/26/19, RE: Annual Firemen's Memorial Service.

#### ALL RECEIVED AND FILED

#### ORDINANCES:

Public Hearing on Ordinance 19-03 and 19-04, as advertised in the Westfield Leader.

#### ADOPTION:

Municipal Clerk to read Ordinance 19-03 by title only:

#### ORDINANCE NO. 19-03

**AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND AMENDING THE BOROUGH CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD BY AMENDING CHAPTER 30, ENTITLED "PERSONNEL POLICIES".**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Garwood (the "Borough") has previously adopted Chapter 30 of the Code of the Borough of Garwood establishing and governing the personnel policies for employees within the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has determined that many sections set forth in Chapter 30 (Personnel Policies) are outdated and/or are no longer consistent with either current Borough policy; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough desires to repeal and amend sections of Chapter 30 (Personnel Policies) with the goal of ensuring that the Borough's benefits, terms and conditions of employment are properly set forth within the Borough Ordinances; and

**WHEREAS**, the goal of said ordinance repeal and amendment is to also ensure that Borough employees are afforded the appropriate benefits and entitlements; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council has determined it appropriate to repeal and amend said Ordinances to conform to current Borough policy;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the governing body of the Borough of Garwood that Chapter 30 of the Borough Code of the Borough of Garwood entitled, "Personnel Policies" is hereby amended as follows (additions underscored, deletions struck-through):

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that if any section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged by the courts to be invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to the section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provisions so adjudicated, and the remainder of the Ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective; and

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that any ordinances or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are repealed to the extent of such conflict; and

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that this Ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication in accordance with applicable law.

List correspondence concerning Ordinance 19-03, NONE

Does anyone present wish to be heard concerning Ordinance 19-03. NONE.

A motion was made by Council President Lazarow, seconded by Councilwoman Blumenstock, to close Public Hearing on Ordinance 19-03.

A motion was made by Council President Lazarow, seconded by Councilwoman Blumenstock, to adopt Ordinance 19-03.

Discussion: NONE

Roll Call:

<b>Councilman Benoit</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Councilman Ince</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilwoman Blumenstock</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Councilman McCormack</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilman Graham</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Council President Lazarow</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**ADOPTION:**

Municipal Clerk to read Ordinance 19-04 by title only:

**ORDINANCE NO. 19-04**

**AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND AMENDING THE BOROUGH CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD BY AMENDING CHAPTER 5, ARTICLE VIII B, ENTITLED "BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR AND ASSISTANT BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR".**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Garwood (the "Borough") has previously adopted Chapter 5, Article VIII B, of the Code of the Borough of Garwood establishing and governing the duties and powers of the Borough Administrator and Assistant Borough Administrator; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has determined that sections set forth in Chapter 5, Article VIII B (Borough Administrator and Assistant Borough Administrator), are outdated, no longer consistent with Borough procedure, and further create inefficiency in the workplace; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough desires to repeal and amend sections of Chapter 5, Article VIII B (Borough Administrator and Assistant Borough Administrator), with the goal of ensuring that the Borough is workplace is efficient and further that the Borough's current procedures are codified; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council has determined it appropriate to repeal and amend said Ordinances to conform to current Borough procedures and efficiency;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the governing body of the Borough of Garwood that Chapter 5, Article VIII B, of the Borough Code of the Borough of Garwood entitled, "Borough Administrator and Assistant Borough Administrator" is hereby amended as follows (additions underscored, deletions struck-through):

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that if any section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged by the courts to be invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to the section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provisions so adjudicated, and the remainder of the Ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective; and

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that any ordinances or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are repealed to the extent of such conflict; and

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that this Ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication in accordance with applicable law.

List correspondence concerning Ordinance 19-04, NONE

Does anyone present wish to be heard concerning Ordinance 19-04. NONE

A motion was made by Council President Lazarow, seconded by Councilwoman Blumenstock, to close Public Hearing on Ordinance 19-04.

A motion was made by Councilman Benoit, seconded by Councilman Ince, to adopt Ordinance 19-04.

Discussion: NONE

Roll Call:

<b>Councilman Benoit</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Councilman Ince</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilwoman Blumenstock</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Councilman McCormack</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilman Graham</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Council President Lazarow</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**INTRODUCTION:**

Municipal Clerk to read Ordinance 19-06 by title only:

**ORDINANCE NO. 19-06**

**AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A RESTRICTED PARKING ZONE PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 39:4-197.6 IN FRONT OF 309 CENTER STREET, IN THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD.**

A motion was made by Councilman Benoit, seconded by Council President Lazarow, to introduce Ordinance 19-06.

Roll Call:

<b>Councilman Benoit</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Councilman Ince</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilwoman Blumenstock</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Councilman McCormack</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilman Graham</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Council President Lazarow</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OTHER REPORTS:**

**POLICE: Councilman Ince, Chr.**

& Grain will be hosting our next Coffee With-A-Cop event scheduled for Saturday April 20th between 10 am and 12 noon. All are welcome to come out and meet the members of the Garwood Police Department. The first cup is on us. The DPW has posted the proper signage for the new residential parking restrictions on Spruce Ave and Myrtle Ave near the Recreation Complex and we are in the process of issuing permits to residents on those streets. The Police Department will begin a warning campaign that will last through April to educate visitors to the Recreation Complex to the new Local Ordinance 21-1.2. We will begin enforcement of the ordinance on the weekend of May 4th.

**STREETS AND ROADS/ECOLOGY: Councilwoman Blumenstock Chr.**

In addition to regular garbage cleanup, the DPW performed pothole repairs in the following locations of the Borough:

- o Intersection of West and South Avenue
- o Intersection of East and South Avenue
- o Cul-de-sac of 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- o 600 block of Spruce Avenue
- o Dead end of Maple Avenue
- o Brookside Place

A total of 2 tons of hot mix asphalt was used to perform the pothole repairs. The DPW also installed a no parking sign on Winslow Place and the restricted parking signs on the dead end of Myrtle Avenue near the Sports Complex. The Rec Complex was prepared for the annual Easter Egg Hunt and 30 yards of certified playground mulch was installed around the playground equipment. The Rec Complex lot and surrounding areas were swept by Fanwood's sweeper. Branch cleanup was completed at all Borough-owned properties due to the recent storms and heavy winds and they also removed the debris and brush along the dead end of 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue and trimmed the trees there as well. I'm also happy to report that our new dump truck will be here tomorrow morning. The Ford F550 mason truck has a tailgate salt spreader and a plow and though snow season has hopefully passed, it is a versatile truck that will be greatly used during the other seasons as well, while of course making make a big difference next winter too. That's all for my report, Mayor.

**FIRE: Councilman McCormack, Chr.**

Commented on Chief Tweedle's fire activity report

**FINANCE: Council President Lazarow, Chr.**

At our next meeting the council will be voting on this year's budget.

**BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: Councilman Graham**

Commented on replacing flag pole and adding a new one at the corner of Center Street and North Avenue

**LAWS AND LICENSES: Councilman Benoit**

Laws & Licenses reviewed the amendments to the ordinances governing Outdoor Dining Areas and Sidewalk Cafes. We did not see anything that needed to be changed, and so Laws and Licenses unanimously supports the amendments.

L&L also discussed the New Jersey bill S848 in regards to sewerage authorities and the recent amendment that makes the 2% cap to increases that the authorities can charge municipalities limited to only Hudson County. The entire L&L committee is in favor of having council pass a resolution expressing the Borough's desire to have the 2% cap reinstated for all counties in New Jersey.

**RECREATION: Councilman Benoit**

The Recreation Commission met on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019. They discussed the upcoming summer rec program which will run from Monday June 24 to Friday August 2. The cost is \$10 a week, or \$50 for the whole summer. They have 7 trips planned, and in May they'll announced what the trips are. So keep your eyes peeled on Rec's new Facebook page for that announcement because the director has been working hard to make sure the trips are something special.

The Rec Commission was aware that there was a concern about the historical pictures in the complex. They wanted to assure everyone that they had always planned on putting the pictures back up. The pictures were taken down and stored safely so that they wouldn't be damaged when the TVs were being installed.

The Soccer program for kids prek – 1 is open for registration. They have 50 slots available, and as of this past Monday, there are still 24 slots. Space is limited, so sign up soon!

The first video game night will be held on April 26<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm to 8:30pm for Garwood 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders. I believe it is a drop off event, and there will be rec staff to supervise the kids.

The Rec Commission has their new Facebook page up and running, so definitely check it out for more up-to-the minute updates.

**GARWOOD SENIOR CITIZEN LIAISON: Councilwoman Blumenstock**

At our last meeting on April 4<sup>th</sup>, we went over the Local Government Week events and discussed bulk pickup coming in June. We also discussed the Senior picnic which is also coming up in June and will have a new caterer that is to be determined. We had lunch and played bingo, of course. The next meeting is on April 18<sup>th</sup>. That's all for my report, Mayor.

**LIBRARY, MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE: Council President Lazarow**

In honor of National Library week (April 8<sup>th</sup> to April 13<sup>th</sup>) the Garwood Public Library is granting Amnesty on overdue items. During this week, there will be no fines collected for any overdue items returned during this week, no matter how long the items are overdue.

On April 12<sup>th</sup>, the 4<sup>th</sup> grade the Garwood Girl Scout Troop will sleepover at the Library. We have planned for pizza, games, crafts and a movie.

During Spring Break the Library will be showing "Fantastic Beasts and the Crimes of Grindelwald" (rated PG-13) on Tuesday, April 16 at 2 pm. On Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> the Library will be showing "A Dog's Way Home" (rated PG). Popcorn will be served and movie goers can bring a drink in a closed container.

On April 18, the folks from the Union County Division of Aging Staff will visit from 10 am till noon to assist seniors (age 60+) or their caregivers with information on services such as meal delivery, respite care, adult day care and support services for caregivers.

On April 25<sup>th</sup> from 4 pm to 7:30pm, a representative from the Union County Board of Elections will demonstrate the new voting machine that will be used in the upcoming election.

On April 26<sup>th</sup> the Libraries of Union County Consortium (LUCC) is having their annual legislative breakfast from 8 am to 10 am at the Roselle Public Library, 104 West Fourth Ave, Roselle. You should have received an email invitation. Hope you can make it.

On April 30<sup>th</sup>, author and turtle expert, Steve Woyce will present a "The Turtle Show" at 3:15 pm. He will bring live turtles from around the world and describe how and where they live, eat, hibernate and more. Registration required. Limit 35

The Library continues to be a hub of town activity in March and April. The Library is selling "Breakfast with the Easter Bunny" tickets through April 13<sup>th</sup> on behalf of Celebrations Committee. We have established a "Sweet Recipe Collection Box" on behalf of the Historical Committee's recipe book initiative. We are also a drop off location for Game Night and Instructional Soccer registration on behalf of the Recreation Commission.

The Garwood Library is open Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM, Fridays from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM, and Saturdays from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The Library will be closed, Friday and Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

**SCHOOL BOARD LIAISON: Councilwoman Blumenstock**

No report, Mayor. The next meeting is April 30<sup>th</sup> where the school's district's budget will be introduced.

**CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC EVENTS AND HOLIDAYS LIAISON: Councilman Benoit**

The Celebrations committee is hosting the Breakfast with the Easter Bunny this Sunday at the Knights of Columbus here in Garwood. I think tickets are still available for purchase at the Library and here at Borough Hall.

Their next meeting is on Wednesday, so I'll have more updates from Celebrations at the next council meeting

**HISTORICAL COMMITTEE: Councilman Graham**

The Garwood Historical Committee will be re-dedicating the Garwood Memorial Park rock, which was located by the flagpole behind a fence in center field, at its new location at the walkway near the Humenick Field House. The plaque, mounted on a large rock, was dedicated in 1959 to Garwood's veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice. A

brief ceremony will take place on Saturday, April 20th at 11:00 AM, and everyone is invited. The Historical Committee would like to thank Garwood's Home Depot for their donation of plants and flowers, and we also thank the Garwood Green Team for their work in planting the flowers around the rock.

In conjunction with Garwood's Local Government Week and Mayor Todisco, the Historical Committee judged an essay contest for middle school students of Lincoln School, which topic was "what do you like best about growing up in Garwood". The winners will be invited to the next council meeting. (Maybe Mayor Todisco would like to elaborate).

The Historical Committee is still hoping to gather enough sweet recipes for their planned dessert recipe book which is to be available in February 2020. All residents and businesses in Garwood are invited to submit recipes for their favorite desserts to [garwoodhistory@garwood.org](mailto:garwoodhistory@garwood.org), or drop them off in the Recipe Box in the Library. We remind everyone to please include your name, phone number and/or email along with the recipes in case there are any questions about the submission. The deadline for submission is November 29, however, the Committee would like to receive them as soon as possible, before summer and other activities get in the way.

**OFFICER'S REPORTS:**

Jim Wright, Chief of Police: report for the month of March 2019  
Len DiStefano, Zoning Code Enforcement Officer: report for March 2019  
Judy Mack, Property Maintenance Officer: report for the month March 2019

A motion was made by Councilwoman Blumenstock, second by Council President Lazarow, 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.

NONE Mayor Todisco requests a motion followed by a second to close public comment. All in favor.

**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. 19-196**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey hereby authorizes the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to sign the Limited Revocable License Agreement between South Ave II Urban Renewal, LLC and the Borough of Garwood for Municipal parking in Block 403, Lot 7, on the South side of South Avenue adjacent to the Municipal Building and Firehouse Building.

**RESOLUTION NO. 19-197**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey, hereby hires:  
John F. Hoff  
24 Colonial Drive  
Clark, NJ 07066

As a Full Time Class E Laborer in the Department of Public Works, effective May 13, 2019, at a salary of \$20.03 per hour, and subject to the terms and conditions of the contract effective 1/1/2016.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that he will be on probation for a period of one year.

**RESOLUTION NO. 19-198**

**WHEREAS**, as part of a 20 year shelter replacement policy, NJ Transit is offering to replace the bus shelter at South Avenue, Eastbound, at Center Street, far side; and

**WHEREAS**, to participate the Borough of Garwood must agree to maintain the shelter after installation.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Clerk be and is hereby authorized to execute the agreement with NJ Transit for a replacement shelter at the above location.

**RESOLUTION NO. 19-199**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey, that the following is hereby appointed as Special Police Officer, Class "B" Alternate School Crossing Guard commencing April 12, 2019, at an hourly rate of \$17.00 per hour.

Nina Kramkowski  
716 Center Street  
Garwood, NJ 07027

A motion was made by Council President Lazarow, second by Councilwoman Blumenstock, to adopt Consent Agenda.

Roll Call:

<b>Councilman Benoit</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Councilman Ince</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilwoman Blumenstock</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Councilman McCormack</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilman Graham</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Council President Lazarow</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**RESOLUTIONS DELETED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:**

NONE

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Appoint to Recreation Commission, Alternate II position  
Amanda DiMana – unexpired term 04/11/2019 to 12/31/2020  
Mayor Todisco announced that the borough will be receiving \$40,000.00 for the 2019 Infrastructure Grant.

**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 Council President Lazarow, second by Councilman Ince, to adopt Payment of Claims Resolution.

Roll Call:

<b>Councilman Benoit</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Councilman Ince</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilwoman Blumenstock</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Councilman McCormack</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilman Graham</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Council President Lazarow</b>	<b>AYE</b>

At 7:52 p.m., Ms. Ariemma read the following Resolution.

**RESOLUTION NO. 19-195A**

**CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD AND A.B.L.E. CONCERNING THE RENTAL OF THE GARWOOD SPORTS AND RECREATION COMPLEX AND MATTERS OF ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE RELATING TO THE ABOVE AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A., 10:4-12, Closed session, Meetings open to public; exclusion of public; subject of matter.**

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary for the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Garwood to conduct an executive session closed to the public in order to discuss the above listed matters.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Borough of Garwood hereby move to go into executive session in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et. seq., for the purpose of discussing the subjects stated above; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the matters discussed in and minutes of the closed session shall be disclosed to the public when the reason for confidentiality no longer exists.

A motion was made by Councilman Graham, seconded by Councilman Ince, to introduce Adopt Resolution No. 19-195A.

Roll Call:

<b>Councilman Benoit</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Councilman Ince</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilwoman Blumenstock</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Councilman McCormack</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilman Graham</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Council President Lazarow</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on, **TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2019**, in Council Chambers at 7:15 p.m. Workshop Session to start at 7:00 p.m.

**THERE WILL BE A PUBLIC HEARING IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ON ORDINANCE NO., 19-05 AND ON THE 2019 MUNICIPAL BUDGET ON TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2019, AT 7:15 P.M. OR SOON THERE AFTER**

A motion was made by Councilman McCormack, seconded by Councilwoman Blumenstock, to adjourn.  
Time: 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



**CHRISTINA M. ARIEMMA, Municipal Clerk**  
Borough of Garwood