

Borough of Garwood
MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
APRIL 23, 2024

Time: 7:00 PM

Moment of Silence

Salute to the Flag

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided to the Union County Hawk advertised on January 4, 2024. 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 Blumenstock	P		
Councilwoman Boto	P	Councilwoman Nolde	P
Councilman Foley	P	Councilwoman Salmon	ABSENT
Councilman Lazarow	P	Council President Kearney	P

Also Present:

John Arthur, Borough Administrator
Adam Abramson, Borough Attorney
Doug Stoffer, Chief of Police
Mike Disko, Borough Engineer
Cathy Cameron, Borough Clerk

Mayor Blumenstock presented a Community Spirit Award to Jill Pall.

Councilman Foley presented the Capital Budget request lists for 2024 and 2025.

Discussion ensued.

Council consented to 2024 approved items.

Mayor Blumenstock stated the Historical Committee grant presentation had been canceled by the committee

Mayor Blumenstock discussed the Infrastructure Grant items with Council.

Report of Borough Engineer

BIDS RECEIVED FOR CONTRACT 2024-1 – RESURFACING OF SECTIONS OF BEECH AVENUE, HEMLOCK AVENUE AND MYRTLE AVENUE (MA23). WORK INCLUDES REPLACEMENT OF CURBS, MILLING AND RESURFACING OF THE FOLLOWING STREETS: BEECH AVENUE (CENTER TO RANKIN) HEMLOCK AVENUE (EAST TO LEXINGTON) MYRTLE AVENUE (MAPLE TO DEAD END). GRANT AMOUNT \$ 463,370. PRELIMINARY CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATE \$617,020. PROJECT DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO NJDOT ON FEBRUARY 29, 2024. BID RECOMMENDATION PREPARED, TOTAL COST \$591, 156.75. FUNDING MECHANISM IS UNDERGOING PREPARATION.

HANDICAPPED RAMPS AND CURB RAMP DELINEATIONS REQUIRE ATTENTION NEAR THE LINCOLN SCHOOL. RAMPS AT LOCUST AND EAST ADDRESSED THROUGH THE MA22 PROJECT AND AT BEECH AND EAST THROUGH THE MA 23 PROJECT.

CONTRACT 2023-1 UPDATE: CURBS AND DRIVEWAY APRONS COMPLETED ON FIFTH AVENUE AND LOCUST AVENUE. RESTORATION IS IN CONSTRUCTION. AWAITING MILLING AND OVERLAY. CONTRACT 2023-2 UPDATE: CURBS AND DRIVEWAY APRONS COMPLETED ON THIRD AVENUE. SIDEWALKS UNDER CONSTRUCTION ON SECOND AVENUE. RESTORATION IN CONSTRUCTION. MILLING SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY APRIL 29TH. FINAL PAVING SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY APRIL 30TH.

CONTRACT 2023-3 UPDATE: WEST STREET SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS SCHEDULED FOR THIS WEEK. ISOLATED TREE/SIDEWALK CONFLICT LOCATIONS TO FOLLOW. WEST STREET DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT ADDED TO PROJECT. WAITING ON CENTER STREET DRAINAGE PRICING.

Report of Borough Attorney NO REPORT

Report of Borough Administrator

Since the April 12 meeting, I've continued to meet with community leaders and community groups like the Garwood Small Business Association and invite anyone who would like to meet with me to reach out. We held a bid opening on April 18 for road projects which our Borough Engineer will explain in more detail. We are working on a number of improvements at our parks and recreational facilities, including new picnic benches at the sports complex. We are working with the county to allocate grant funds toward a variety of projects at our parks. It was great to see civically engaged students last week as they held their own council meeting here in council chambers. For tonight's meeting, Resolution No. 24-082 is approving a grant application for Coaching the Emergency Vehicle Operator classes for the Fire Department which, if awarded, would fund those classes for 25 members of the department. The funding would be provided by our insurance provider, Statewide, and we would not need to provide a match. We also have the hiring of a new part-time seasonal laborer for the Department of Public Works and a part-time administrative assistant in Borough Hall on the agenda for tonight. Both come with significant experience and we look forward to them joining the team.

Report of Mayor Blumenstock

I want to invite all parents to join me tomorrow at 5:30 at Lincoln School for a workshop on cyber security, which will be hosted by the Garwood Police Department. Along with our department, investigators from the Union County Prosecutors Office will be presenting some important information on how to keep our children safe online. As the online forum is always changing, I encourage everyone, even those who may have attended something like this in the past to come take part so you can know the latest in what to look out for. This is a presentation for the parents, the students will also be receiving one of their own during the school day. Thank you to the PD for putting this together. Again, that's tomorrow, April 24th at 5:30 at Lincoln School. This past Thursday was Students In Government Night, which is always one of the best nights of the year. The kids were very out-spoken, not a shy one in the bunch except for maybe that Councilwoman Blumenstock who was embarrassed to have mom asking questions. I want to thank Ms. Benc for getting the students so prepared and thank Mrs. Emmons and Mr. Kinney for their support. And thank you to Cathy Cameron for organizing the event along with Ms. Benc. The kids all had great ideas, and I love how many of them were concerned about litter and the environment, it was great to hear. Also, just a last reminder to everyone to get their tickets for the EFG's Annual Dinner, where the EFG will be celebrating 20 years of supporting teachers and students at Lincoln School. The Dinner will be this Thursday, April 25th, just two days away, at 5:30-8:30 and we will be honoring teacher Matthew Burke and Paraprofessional Imperio Mormile. Tickets are \$40 and include buffet, beer, wine and soda. There is also a 50/50 raffle that evening and you can buy your tickets for that now for \$10 each. You don't need to be present for the drawing so make sure to buy your raffle tickets today. You can contact me or any other EFG member to purchase both tickets and raffles or go online to Facebook to purchase there. A quick update on Vermella retail: I was told today that they will be signing a lease with Sweathouz, a sauna and plunge pool spa that we spoke of last time and that they are close to a deal with another company, a personal fitness location. There have also been looking at a few restaurant proposals as well. One more item I'd like to discuss and actually just send back to each committee as it involves pretty much each one. I'd like the committees to take a look at the Kids and Recreation grants. First, we have money from previous years that I'd like to take a look at using. We have leftover funds from 2021 that would more than cover two items that I like to go ahead with: first,

some picnic tables and benches to replace the older ones on the ground at the Rec Complex. And 2nd, I'd like to move ahead with a project I've been looking into for some time now: communication boards in the two parks for children with special needs. Many parks in our area, including Westfield and some County parks have installed them and found them to be wonderful additions to those children who may not be able to verbally communicate. Katya has done some research with me and we've found that we can purchase and install these boards at Hartman and the Rec Complex for under \$6000. So if we can get the County to agree to change of scope for this, I'd like to see the interest in supporting these items. In addition to that, I'd like to ask that our committees consider allocating the 2022 Kids Rec grant toward updated security cameras at the Rec Complex. This is something that Chief Stoffer and I have spoken about. There are not enough cameras at the Complex but even more importantly, the technology which as we know changes in a instant, is very old, and it makes distinguishing faces or features difficult at time. This upgrade will definitely help our PD and complement the new door security we installed recently. One of the items originally slated for the 2022 Kids Rec grant was an security camera upgrade, so we may not have to change any scope with this, Mr. Arthur is looking into that. And finally, this year's Kids and Rec grant will be coming out this year. Last year we decided not to go out for it. I'd like the committees to discuss whether they would like to apply this year. After speaking with Mr. Arthur, there are two items that we thought might interest the residents. First of course we have the basketball court which is on the capital requests list for this year but is being put off and will most likely fall to the top of the list next year. Or we can start looking into what we can finally do with the bocce ball area. While the shade structure discussed last year might be out of range for our finances at this point, perhaps the committees can discuss doing something in that area that can be used for more kids friendly activities, like four square or hopscotch, some sort of area where we can paint those games, and where shading could possibly be added perhaps sometime in the future, but for now would be a more usable play area. We have to of course do a little research to see what we could do, what kind of surface or platform we could create that would not only be useful but aesthetically pleasing as well. So really three different items involving the kids rec grants: using older grant money for picnic tables and communication boards, using another older grant for security cameras, and whether we want to apply for one this year and, if so what we want it to be for. That last item will definitely involve some committee discussion, so if you could each put it on your lists for your next committee meetings, and if we want to have any discussion now we can, or there's any questions.

Comments from the Council:

Councilwoman Boto

Thank you, Mayor. I would like to congratulate Councilwoman Nolde on a successful Poetry Festival this past weekend. All the poets were extremely talented. It was nice to see so many people come out to The Library and Crossroads, but most importantly to hear all the positive feedback. Thank you, Councilwoman Nolde, for sharing your love for the Arts. Thank you.

Councilman Foley NO REPORT

Councilman Foley thanked Councilwoman Nolde for the Poetry Festival.

Councilman Lazarow NO REPORT

thanked Councilwoman Nolde for the Poetry Festival.

Councilwoman Nolde

GPAC is very happy to announce that our first annual poetry festival was a great success. Thank you to all of the GPAC volunteers for their help in the planning and preparation, as well as helping out on the day of

the event. Michael Marmora, one of our GPAC photographers, took beautiful photographs which he shared with the poets and organizers.

Councilwoman Salmon NO REPORT

Council President Kearney NO REPORT

No official comments tonight but echoing everyone with a big thank you to Councilwoman Nolde and the GPAC volunteers for the poetry events this weekend. Also, my compliments to Councilman Lazarow's waxing poetic on Saturday.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the Special Budget Meeting of the Mayor and Council held on April 9, 2024.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council held on April 11, 2024.

A motion was made by Council President Kearney, second by Councilman Lazarow, to accept the Special Budget Meeting Minutes and Regular Meeting minutes as presented. All in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1) TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD

a) 04/12/2024, RE: Ordinance

https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/Township_of_Cranford_-_Adopted_Ordinance_No._2024--05.pdf

2) LETTER TO MAYOR AND COUNCIL

a) 04/15/2024, RE: Audit Information

ALL RECEIVED AND FILED

ORDINANCES:

ADOPTION:

Municipal Clerk to read Ordinance No. 24-11 by title only:

ORDINANCE NO. 24-11

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BOROUGH CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD BY AMENDING CHAPTER 27, ENTITLED "FIRE DEPARTMENT", ARTICLE I "GENERAL PROVISIONS", SUBSECTION 27-2 "ORGANIZATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS" AND SUBSECTION 27-6 "CHIEF TO BE FIRE MARSHALL, FIRE INSPECTOR, FIRE PREVENTION OFFICER".

[https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/Ord._24-11-Amend_Chapter_27\(1\).pdf](https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/Ord._24-11-Amend_Chapter_27(1).pdf)

List correspondence concerning Ordinance No. 24-11. NONE

Does anyone present wish to be heard concerning Ordinance No. 24-11.

Michele Capobianco commented on the Ordinance and requested clarification regarding titles.

Bruce Paterson commented on the Ordinance.

A motion was made by Council President Kearney, second by Councilman Lazarow, to close Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 24-11.

Discussion:

The Borough attorney clarified the title concern.

A motion was made by Councilman Lazarow, second by Council President Kearney, to adopt Ordinance No. 24-11.

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Boto	AYE	Councilwoman Nolde	AYE
Councilman Foley	AYE	Councilwoman Salmon	ABSENT
Councilman Lazarow	AYE	Council President Kearney	AYE

5-AYES, 1-ABSENT Ordinance No. 24-11 was adopted.

Municipal Clerk to read Ordinance No. 24-12 by title only:

ORDINANCE NO. 24-12

CALENDAR YEAR 2024 ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

[https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/Ord. 24-12- CAP BANK\(1\).pdf](https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/Ord. 24-12- CAP BANK(1).pdf)

List correspondence concerning Ordinance No. 24-12. NONE

Does anyone present wish to be heard concerning Ordinance No. 24-12.

Bruce Paterson commented on the Ordinance and requested clarification on the Cap Bank.

A motion was made by Councilman Lazarow, second by Councilwoman Boto, to close Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 24-12.

Discussion:

Mayor Blumenstock clarified the CAP Bank concern.

A motion was made by Councilman Lazarow, second by Councilwoman Boto, to adopt Ordinance No. 24-12.

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Boto	AYE	Councilwoman Nolde	AYE
Councilman Foley	AYE	Councilwoman Salmon	ABSENT
Councilman Lazarow	AYE	Council President Kearney	AYE

5-AYES, 1-ABSENT Ordinance No. 24-12 was adopted

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OTHER REPORTS:

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL: Councilman Foley, Chair

Tonight, I am pleased to present the report on the capital budget requests recommended by the Garwood Finance Committee for the year 2024. Our focus this year has been predominantly on enhancing the safety and welfare of our town's residents and community. As many of you may already know the finance committee has recommended and the council already approved the funds for upgrading the radio equipment for our first responders, replacing the PD and FDs nearly 30-year-old radios. This investment is critical to improving the operational efficiency and safety of our first responders. Enhanced radio equipment will ensure clearer communication, quicker response times, and better coordination during emergencies. The finance committee is also recommending the purchase of a new Sanitation Truck for DPW. The current sanitation truck, which has been in service for 23 years, needs to be replaced. The finance committee feels that a new sanitation truck will continue to ensure reliability, efficiency, and environmental standards of our DPW. Additionally, the committee has also recommended new safety equipment for the Fire Department. This will enable our firefighters to better manage and respond to emergencies, ensuring higher safety standards and protection for both the firefighters and the community. The committee believes that the recommended capital items will bring substantial improvements to our community's safety infrastructure and operational capabilities.

FIRE AND OEM: Councilman Lazarow, Chair

No official report, but I just wanted to congratulate Firefighter Jimmy Gregory. His Incident Management Level 1 & 2 certificates have been issued by the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety and are on file at Fire Headquarters. As a result, Jimmy Gregory has been reinstated to the rank of Captain effective immediately. Also, I will have an update on the ladder truck repair work at our next council meeting.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: Councilwoman Salmon, Chair NO REPORT

PUBLIC WORKS: Councilwoman Boto, Chair

Thank you, Mayor. In addition to their reoccurring activities, the Department of Public works cleaned up the common areas around the Municipal Complex and the Fire Department. Installed the 25 mile per hour signs in various locations of the Borough. Continued to weed and clean the vegetative waste from the Borough owned pots in various locations. Dragged the infield and striped the little league field at the Sports Complex for school functions. Performed the monthly fire extinguisher inspections at all Borough owned buildings. Weeded the mulch beds at the municipal complex. Cut the vegetation and weeds in various locations of the Borough. We have been discussing the T-Mobile Hometown Grant and will provide more details on the application process after our meeting tomorrow. The Public Works Committee has also discussed the Protected Bike Lanes and Curb Extensions project, however due to the current short-term staffing in the DPW we are going to hold this project for a few months.

POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY: Council President Kearney, Chair

The Police Committee met last Tuesday, April 16th. We were joined by Chief Stoffer and Mr. Arthur. Topics discussed included the 9-1-1 system, staffing, and various parking issues.

Regarding the 9-1-1 system, it appears KML, the vendor the Borough planned on purchasing the NextGen 9-1-1 equipment from, has announced they are pulling out of our market due to compatibility issues with LUMEN, the company replacing Verizon as the 9-1-1 network provider for the State of New Jersey. Chief Stoffer is working on quotes with alternative vendors, including Zetron and Motorola. Unfortunately, when these were priced out last year, KML was by far the least expensive option which met the requirements. While this is in progress, our existing KML 9-1-1 system that's up and running in Dispatch right now will continue to be supported at least through the end of 2024. The Chief will provide an update to the committee when quotes are received, and he has evaluated the best option to move forward.

We discussed police staffing, including staffing projections due to possible openings during the year, and will continue discussions in our next committee meeting in May.

On the topic of parking, the committee discussed possible revisions to the Borough Code for snowstorm parking. Several options were discussed, and the Chief presented recommendations; however, we had no consensus in committee. I'm going to hold the topic over for future committee discussion while we refer questions regarding plowing operations to the Public Works committee, and other questions regarding options for snowstorm parking to Citizen's Advisory for feedback.

The Police Department will be attending a final training session with Park Mobile and has personalized signs on order for the new metered parking areas. The zones for metering have been laid out, and we should expect to see the system go live sometime around the beginning of June.

There is one final parking topic, regarding the addition of metered parking spaces on South Avenue and West Street, that I'd like to hold over to the next meeting for discussion with the full Council since we'd need to do an Ordinance to enact what Chief Stoffer is recommending (and the committee agreed unanimously with) —

I'll write up the proposed changes and send it to Mr. Arthur for distribution and also this may be another topic for Citizen's Advisory

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Councilwoman Nolde, Chair

Historical: No report. The next meeting of the Historical committee is April 29.

Youth Programs: Garwood Summer Camp: June 24th – August 9th, 9 am to 12 pm, Grades K-8. The early bird price is \$110 per child until May 24th. If you are interested in becoming a camp counselor or CIT, please email: Recreation@garwood.org for details on applying. Soccer Squirts and Parent-Assist Soccer, run by US Sports Institute, is in full swing. Participants are learning the fundamental skills of soccer through fun games and activities. This program is offered several times throughout the year.

Adult Programs: GPAC Discover Series: Discover the Art of Collage with Leona Seufert: Saturday, May 4th at 5 pm, Adults, Free! Learn about how to add 3 dimensional items such as lace and fabrics to your collage and also digital collage, altering photographs, and superimposing images. Registration is now open at: www.garwoodrec.com. Adult Ceramics: Registration is open for the Wednesday, May 8th classes. Adult Open Play Basketball: This is taking place Wednesday evenings starting at 6:30 pm at the Lincoln School. This is a free program. To register, visit: www.garwoodrec.com. Adult Open Play Soccer: This has started back up and is taking place again on Friday evenings starting at 8 pm at the Garwood Sports and Rec Complex. This is a free program. To register, visit: www.garwoodrec.com.

TryCAN: Garwood is a proud member of the TryCAN Collaboration! TryCan coordinates inclusive recreation and social development programs for children with special needs. New Spring programs include Social Clubs, Reading, Tennis, Baseball, Taekwondo, and Pilates. These programs help teach sports and life skills, while focusing on building individual skills, teamwork, and fun! For more information about these programs, please click on the Summit Community Programs link on the Borough home page under "Quick Links". Events: Memorial Day Remembrance Service: The Recreation Committee will be hosting this year's annual service. Monday, May 27th at 12 pm at Knights of Columbus. Lunch to follow.

LIBRARY, MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE: Councilman Lazarow

April 24, May 1 and 22 at 3 pm LEGO CLUB - Be inspired by this month's theme or build whatever comes to mind. Some will be displayed in our showcase. Registration required Limit 12. May -Seed Library - The Garwood Library will be starting a small seed library. A seed library collects and stores seeds and shares them with members of the community for free. Our collection will start with packets of storebought seeds. Residents may take up to 2 packets of seeds per week (honor system), no checkout required. The seed packets are FREE! If your plant grows successfully, consider collecting the seeds and donating them back to the Seed Library. Retuning seed packets will be available at the library. Please label and packet the seeds before returning them. May 1-31, Library's Annual Bookmark Contest – Lincoln Students are encouraged to create a bookmark design encompassing this year's summer reading theme "Adventure Begins at the Your Library" All participants will receive a small gift for participating. Winners will be chosen from each grade and their bookmarks will be laminated and distributed to their grade. The application for the contest was sent home in the Friday Folder and is available at the library. May 7 at 3 p.m.- Virtual Kid's Craft - Pick up your Mother's Day craft supplies from the Library and then watch the Facebook tutorial at 3 pm. Registration is required for craft kits and is limited to 15 participants. Sign up on the Library's website events calendar or by phone. May 21 at 3 pm -Virtual Adult Craft - Pick up your craft supplies and instructions from the Library. Registration is required for craft kits and is limited to 10 participants. Sign up on the Library's website events calendar or by phone.

SCHOOL BOARD LIAISON: Council President Kearney

The Garwood Board of Education held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 16th. The educator and paraprofessional of the year were both honored by Board Presentations, the teacher is Mr. Burke and the paraprofessional is Mrs. Mormile. The Board acknowledged the PILOT transaction from the Borough, pending the approval of our introduced budget. The Board also took action on a number of policy updates, including the Facilities Usage policy. The Board's next meeting is currently scheduled for Tuesday, April 30th, and that special meeting will be for the purpose of adopting this year's budget for the school district. Mayor Blumenstock and I will be meeting again with our counterparts from the Board and Mr. Kinney in the first week of May, and the Board's May meeting is currently scheduled for Tuesday, May 21st.

GARWOOD SENIOR CITIZEN LIAISON: Mayor Blumenstock

At our meeting last week on the 18th, the Senior Club was joined by the Builders Club from Lincoln School. The Builders Club is a community service organization, that is the middle school branch of the Key Club and Kiwanis Club. 6th, 7th and 8th grade students from the Club joined us for bingo, and they did a great job calling the numbers. This was a return trip for the Builders Club members. They visited us last year and we had such a great time that we wanted to do it again. And I'm sure we'll be playing bingo again together soon. Thank you to Ms. Coyle, the Builders Club Director for helping organize. Our next meeting is May 2nd, and our new Borough Administrator will stopping by to introduce himself to the members. So join us at 12pm at the Knights of Columbus.

SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORY LIAISON: Council President Kearney

The Garwood SBA Board met via Zoom last week, with most of our time spent on the upcoming "Taste of Garwood" promotion, which (shameless plug) is running between May 17th and May 24th this year. Volunteer GSBA Board Members are hitting the street this week, with the goal of getting every restaurant in Garwood involved in this year's event! Work is still in progress with our PIO on promotional materials but expect to begin seeing posters for this around town as well as banners (with thanks to the DPW for getting them placed and to Crossroads for again getting a banner donated). I'm hopeful we will have a full list of participants and special offers by our next Council meeting. We also held follow up discussion on updating the Borough's sign ordinance, which dates from the 1980s. I am also hopeful to have something on that for the full Council to consider over the summer.

BOARD OF HEALTH LIAISON: Councilman Foley NO REPORT

PLANNING BOARD LIAISON: Councilwoman Salmon NO REPORT

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

GPD Report for March, 2024.

CFO/Tax Collector Report for 1st Quarter, 2024.

A motion was made by Councilman Foley, second by Councilman 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.

Bill Nierstedt, 320 Hickory Avenue, provided an update to the Green Team activities and reported on the status of Borough trees.

Bruce Paterson, 325 Willow Avenue, requested clarification on Resolution #24-084 and Walk the Streets program.

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

Mayor Blumenstock stated discussion regarding tree grants can be coordinated with Mr. Arthur and herself.

Mayor Blumenstock provided clarification regarding the Resolution #24-084.

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. 24-082

Resolution: Approval to submit a grant application from the Statewide Insurance for CEVO (Coaching the Emergency Vehicle Operator) Train the Trainer classes for the Fire Department

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the Borough of Garwood, formally approves the grant application for the above stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough Administrator is hereby authorized to submit a grant application from Statewide Insurance in the amount of \$2,020.20 on behalf of the Borough of Garwood Fire Department.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Administrator are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Borough of Garwood Fire Department and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-083

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey, hereby hires Tyree Dumas as a Seasonal Laborer in the Department of Public Works effective April 29, 2024 at a salary of \$20.00 per hour.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-084

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey, hereby hires Patricia Vazquez as a part time Administrative Assistant in the Borough Administration office effective April 29, 2024 at a salary of \$25.00 per hour.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-085

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING APRIL 26, 2024 AS ARBOR DAY IN THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD

WHEREAS, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees; and

WHEREAS, the holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, each year the Borough of Garwood plants trees as a way of teaching its citizens, young and young at heart, of the benefit of trees to our environment; and

WHEREAS, in observance of Arbor Day 2024 two Eastern Redbud trees will be planted at the Washington and Lincoln School properties; and

WHEREAS, I am proud to dedicate Arbor Day to our Residents, Employees, Business Owners, Stakeholders and Shade Tree Advisory Board for their commitment and dedication to the Borough of Garwood.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jennifer Blumenstock, Mayor of the Borough of Garwood, do hereby proclaim Friday, April 26, 2024, as "Arbor Day 2024" in the Borough of Garwood.

A motion was made by Councilman Kearney, second by Councilman Lazarow, to adopt Consent Agenda.

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Boto	AYE	Councilwoman Nolde	AYE
Councilman Foley	AYE	Councilwoman Salmon	ABSENT
Councilman Lazarow	AYE	Council President Kearney	AYE

RESOLUTIONS DELETED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

NONE

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS AND REFUNDS AS LISTED ON FILE:

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 Kearney, second Councilman Lazarow, by to adopt Payment of Claims Resolution.

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Boto	AYE	Councilwoman Nolde	AYE
Councilman Foley	AYE	Councilwoman Salmon	ABSENT
Councilman Lazarow	AYE	Council President Kearney	AYE

ADJOURNMENT:

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Thursday, May 9, 2024 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 Lazarow, second by Councilman Foley, to adjourn. Time: 8:48 PM.