

Borough of Garwood

Meeting of the Mayor and Council

MINUTES

April 30, 2019

Start Time: 8:04 p.m.
Moment of Silence for Angelo Alimonti
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	Excused	Councilman Ince	P
Councilwoman Blumenstock	P	Councilman McCormack	P
Councilman Graham	P	Council President Lazarow	P

Also present Borough Administrator/Municipal Clerk Christina M. Ariemma, Borough Attorney Thomas C. Jardim, Esq., Municipal Auditor Warren Korecky and CFO/Treasurer Sandy Bruns.

A motion was made by Councilman McCormack, seconded by Council President Lazarow to suspend the regular order of business to hold public hearing on the **2019 Municipal Budget** as advertised in the Westfield Leader.

List of correspondence received concerning the 2019 Municipal Budget. NONE

Does anyone present wish to be heard concerning 2019 Municipal Budget?

Kathy Villaggio, 313 Fourth Avenue asked several questions concerning the sanitation budget and other areas of the budget. Ms. Bruns and Ms. Ariemma responded. Mrs. Villaggio commented on State Aid and the decrease in 2019. She suggested the aid not be reduced any further. She suggested council speak to legislatures.

A motion was made by Council President Lazarow and seconded by Councilwoman Blumenstock to close Public Hearing on the 2019 Municipal Budget. All in favor.

A motion was made by Council President Lazarow and seconded by Councilwoman Blumenstock to adopt Resolution No. 19-200 for the 2019 Municipal Budget.

Discussion: Everyone thanked the committee and staff for their efforts.

Roll Call:

Councilman Benoit	ABSENT	Councilman Ince	AYE
Councilwoman Blumenstock	AYE	Councilman McCormack	AYE
Councilman Graham	AYE	Council President Lazarow	AYE

MINUTES:

Regular, Workshop and Executive Minutes of the Mayor and Council held on April 11, 2019.

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

COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1) **NEW JERSEY STATE LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES –**
 - a. Mayor's Advisory –
 - i. 04/11/19, RE: Daily Update
 - ii. 04/15/19, RE: Cannabis Legalization, Maybe in May? Weekly Round-up for April 8-12
 - iii. 04/15/19, RE: Daily Update
 - iv. 04/22/19, RE: Opportunity Zone Regulations Issued: Weekly Round-Up for April 15-18
 - v. 04/22/19, RE: Daily Update

- vi. 04/24/19, RE: Daily Update
- vii. 04/24/19, RE: Daily Update
- viii. 04/25/19, RE: Daily Update
- 2) **UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS** – 04/11/19, RE: Revised Meeting Schedule
- 3) **UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS** – 04/15/19, RE: Ordinance 806-2019
- 4) **RAHWAY VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY** – 04/16/19, RE: Minutes of the meeting held on March 21, 2019
- 5) **GARWOOD RECREATION COMMISSION** – 04/15/19, RE: Minutes of the meetings held on: 12/17/18, 1/21/19, 2/11/19 and 3/11/19.
- 6) **KATHLEEN PATTERSON** – 04/22/19, RE: Proposal of 4-way blinking lights stop signs – Center and Locust

ALL RECEIVED AND FILED

ORDINANCES:

Public Hearing on Ordinance 19-05 as advertised in the Westfield Leader

ADOPTION:

Municipal Clerk to read Ordinance 19-05 by title only:

RESOLUTION 19-05
CALENDAR YEAR 2019
ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK
(N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A:4-45.1 et.seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said final budget appropriations to 2.50% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous years final appropriations; and,

WHEREAS, a municipality may, by ordinance, bank the difference between its final budget appropriations and the 3.5% increase authorized by this ordinance when said difference is not appropriated as part of the final budget; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, hereby determines that this difference in the amount of \$63,372.87 that is not appropriated as part of the final 2019 budget shall be retained as an exception to the final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, that any amount authorized herein above that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

List correspondence concerning Ordinance 19-05. NONE

Does anyone present wish to be heard concerning Ordinance 19-05? NONE

A motion was made by Council President Lazarow, seconded by Councilman Ince to close Public Hearing on Ordinance 19-05.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Blumenstock, seconded by Council President Lazarow to adopt Ordinance 19-05.

Discussion: NONE

Roll Call:

Councilman Benoit	ABSENT	Councilman Ince	AYE
Councilwoman Blumenstock	AYE	Councilman McCormack	AYE
Councilman Graham	AYE	Council President Lazarow	AYE

INTRODUCTION:

Municipal Clerk to read Ordinance 19-07 by title only:

ORDINANCE NO. 19-07

ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD, COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY ADOPTING AN AMENDMENT TO CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE LAND USE ORDINANCE TO REVISE ZONING REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO EATING AND DRINKING ESTABLISHMENTS.

A motion was made by Councilman McCormack, seconded by Council President Lazarow to introduce Ordinance 19-07.

Roll Call:

Councilman Benoit	ABSENT	Councilman Ince	AYE
Councilwoman Blumenstock	AYE	Councilman McCormack	AYE
Councilman Graham	AYE	Council President Lazarow	AYE

Municipal Clerk to read Ordinance 19-08 by title only:

ORDINANCE NO. 19-08

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE II (OFFICE OF THE BOROUGH CLERK) IN CHAPTER 5 (ADMINISTRATION) OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD TO ESTABLISH THE POSITION OF DEPUTY MUNICIPAL CLERK AND PRESCRIBE THE DUTIES THEREFOR.

A motion was made by Councilman Graham, seconded by Council President Lazarow to introduce Ordinance 19-08.

Roll Call:

Councilman Benoit	ABSENT	Councilman Ince	AYE
Councilwoman Blumenstock	AYE	Councilman McCormack	AYE
Councilman Graham	AYE	Council President Lazarow	AYE

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OTHER REPORTS:

POLICE: Councilman Ince, Chr.

The Garwood Police Department has installed a series of passive and active traffic calming measures to borough roadways with the expectation that they will reduce speeds and improve safety at areas identified as needing attention. The white lines painted on Center Street are intended to create a visual effect to narrow the road, which research indicates may result in an overall reduction in median speed.

In addition to Center Street, rumble striping has been added to the intersections of Spruce Avenue and West Street, Pine Ave and East Street and on the 500 block of East Street (In front of the Garwood Family Center YMCA) to alert drivers to slow down. The Garwood Police Department will continue to monitor these improvements and will evaluate the effectiveness of the measures.

Brief discussion followed regarding traffic issues.

STREETS AND ROADS/ECOLOGY: Councilwoman Blumenstock Chr.

In addition to regular garbage pickup, the DPW completed maintenance and service on all of the Department's landscaping equipment and began to mow, trim and maintain all municipal owned properties and parks on a weekly basis. All public works vehicles and equipment were washed down and branch clean up at all Borough owned properties due to the recent storms and heavy winds was completed. Public works also repaired the fencing and swept up the debris in the employee parking lot adjacent to the firehouse. That's all for my report, Mayor.

FIRE: Councilman McCormack, Chr.

Thank you Mayor. The Fire Committee hereby approves the membership application for Thomas Gesior of Garwood. He has passed his physical and background requirements. That's all for my report Mayor

FINANCE: Council President Lazarow, Chr. No Report

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: Councilman Graham No Report

LAWS AND LICENSES: Councilman Benoit ABSENT

RECREATION: Councilman Benoit ABSENT

GARWOOD SENIOR CITIZEN LIAISON: Councilwoman Blumenstock

At our last meeting on April 18th, Union County Board of Elections brought the new voting machines to explain to the club members how they work and to give each member a chance to try it out. The machines are all touch-screen and have a paper audit trail. Though each of the seniors found it easy to use, I highly recommend each resident take the opportunity to go to one of the county's open houses to try it for themselves, just to get comfortable with it before they are rolled out for the primary in June. The machines will be available to try Saturday, May 4th at Borough Hall from 10-12pm. I'd like to thank the Board of Elections for coming out to our meeting and to thank our members for helping set that up. Our next meeting is this Thursday, May 2nd. That's all for my report, Mayor.

LIBRARY, MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE: Council President Lazarow

ACTIVITIES:

In April/May the Library will continue its ongoing programs including.

Knitting Club – Every Monday and Thursday at 10:30am

Book Clubs – Monday afternoon and Thursday evening

Kid's Chess – Every Monday at 3:00pm

Explore It – (STEM program) Tuesdays at 3:00pm

Adult Craft – Tuesday May 7 at 6 pm

Story Time - Wednesdays at 10:30am,

Kid's Craft – Wednesday, May 8 at 3 pm

Lego Club - Today and May 9 and May 23 at 3:00pm

On April 25th from 4 pm to 7:30pm, a representative from the Union County Board of Elections demonstrated the new voting machine that will be used in the upcoming election. They will come again on May 24th.

Today, author and turtle expert, Steve Woyce presented a "The Turtle Show" at 3:15 pm. He brought live turtles from around the world and described how and where they live, eat, hibernate and more. It was attended by over 35 children.

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.

SCHOOL BOARD LIAISON: Councilwoman Blumenstock

No report tonight, Mayor. The Board of Education is actually meeting tonight and will be voting on their 2019 budget. I will be able to get some information on that for you for our next Council meeting.

CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC EVENTS AND HOLIDAYS LIAISON: Councilman Benoit ABSENT

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE: Councilman Graham

Mentioned meetings have been canceled, but will be scheduled soon.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Treasurer/CFO Sandy Bruns reports for the 1st quarter of 2019

A motion was made by Councilman Graham, seconded by Councilman Ince, 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

A motion was made by Councilwoman Blumenstock, seconded by Council President Lazarow 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. 19-201

WHEREAS, James H. Wright, Chief of Police has recommended that Dispatcher Lisa Desimone be promoted to Class II dispatcher, pending approval from Council.

NOW THEREFORE BE RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey hereby authorize that Lisa Desimone be promoted from Class III Dispatcher to Class II Dispatcher in the Garwood Police Department, effective May 1, 2019, at an annual salary of \$33,340.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 19-202

BE IT 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 agreement with the County of Union for the 2019 UC Infrastructure and Municipal Aid Grant Program.

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

Roll Call:

Councilman Benoit	ABSENT	Councilman Ince	AYE
Councilwoman Blumenstock	AYE	Councilman McCormack	AYE
Councilman Graham	AYE	Council President Lazarow	AYE

RESOLUTIONS DELETED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:

RESOLUTION NO. 19-203

WHEREAS, on April 30, 2019, the Borough Administrator/Clerk received correspondence from Frank Pizzi, III, Laborer DPW dated April 26, 2019, advising that he is resigning from his employment with the Borough of Garwood; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pizzi has advised that his resignation shall be effective on May 10, 2019; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Garwood as follows:

- 1) The Borough of Garwood hereby accepts and relies upon the April 26, 2019, notice of resignation from Frank Pizzi, III.
- 2) Effective May 10, 2019, Frank Pizzi, III shall have resigned from his position as Laborer DPW with the Borough of Garwood.
- 3) This resolution puts the Borough Administrator/Clerk on notice to immediately process this resignation and to commence a search for a candidate to fill the position of Laborer DPW.
- 4) This resolution shall take effect immediately.

A motion was made by Councilman Graham, seconded by Councilwoman Blumenstock to adopt Resolution No. 19-203.

Discussion: NONE

Roll Call:

Councilman Benoit	ABSENT	Councilman Ince	AYE
Councilwoman Blumenstock	AYE	Councilman McCormack	AYE
Councilman Graham	AYE	Council President Lazarow	AYE

RESOLUTION NO. 19-204

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey, hereby hires:

Gianpiero Pellino
93 Burnside Avenue
Cranford, NJ 07016

As a Full Time Probationary Class Laborer in the Department of Public Works, effective May 13, 2019, at a salary of \$16.70 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.

A motion was made by Councilman Graham, seconded by Councilwoman Blumenstock to adopt Resolution No. 19-204.

Discussion: NONE

Roll Call:

Councilman Benoit	ABSENT	Councilman Ince	AYE
Councilwoman Blumenstock	AYE	Councilman McCormack	AYE
Councilman Graham	AYE	Council President Lazarow	AYE

NEW BUSINESS:

APPOINTMENT:

Keith Kargus to the Citizen Panel for the un-expired term 04/30/2019-12/31/2019

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 McCormack, seconded by Councilman Ince to adopt Payment of Claims Resolution.

Roll Call:

Councilman Benoit	ABSENT	Councilman Ince	AYE
Councilwoman Blumenstock	AYE	Councilman McCormack	AYE
Councilman Graham	AYE	Council President Lazarow	AYE

At 8:31 p.m., Ms. Ariemma read the following resolution.

RESOLUTION NO. 19-205

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 Councilwoman Blumenstock to adopt Resolution No. 19-205.

Roll Call:

Councilman Benoit	ABSENT	Councilman Ince	AYE
Councilwoman Blumenstock	AYE	Councilman McCormack	AYE
Councilman Graham	AYE	Council President Lazarow	AYE

ADJOURNMENT:

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on, **THURSDAY, MAY 9, 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.19-06, ON THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2019, AT 7:15 P.M. OR SOON THERE AFTER

A motion was made by Councilman Graham, seconded by Council President Lazarow to adjourn.

Time: 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



CHRISTINA M. ARIEMMA, Municipal Clerk
Borough of Garwood