

Borough of Garwood
MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
AGENDA
MAY 9, 2024

Time:

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 _____

Councilwoman Boto _____

Councilman Foley _____

Councilman Lazarow _____

Councilwoman Nolde _____

Councilwoman Salmon _____

Council President Kearney _____

Roll call staff and professionals:

John Arthur, Borough Administrator

Adam Abramson, Borough Attorney

Sandy Bruns, CFO/Treasurer

Warren Korecky, Borough Auditor

Doug Stoffer, Chief of Police

Mayor Blumenstock announces the first order of business is to present a Proclamation honoring Congressman Donald Payne Jr.

Mayor Blumenstock requests a motion to suspend the regular order of business to hold the public hearing on Resolution No. 24-086 for the adoption of the **2024 Municipal Budget** as advertised in the Union County Hawk on April 18, 2024.

A motion was made by _____, second by _____ to suspend the regular order of business.
All in favor, opposed?

List of correspondence received concerning the 2024 Municipal Budget.

1. BRUCE PATERSON, CITIZEN

a) 05/03/2024, RE: Letter to Mayor and Council

Does anyone present wish to be heard concerning the 2024 Municipal Budget?

A motion was made by _____, and second by _____, to close Public Hearing on the 2024 Municipal Budget.

A motion was made by _____, and second by _____, to adopt Resolution No. 24-086 for the 2024 Municipal Budget.

Discussion:

Roll Call on Resolution No. 24-086 for adoption of the 2024 Municipal Budget.

Councilwoman Boto	_____	Councilwoman Nolde	_____
Councilman Foley	_____	Councilwoman Salmon	_____
Councilman Lazarow	_____	Council President Kearney	_____

A motion was made by _____, second by _____ to resume the regular session.
All in favor, opposed?

Report of Borough Attorney
Report of Borough Administrator

Report of Mayor Blumenstock

Comments from the Council:

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

MINUTES:

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council held on April 23, 2024.

A motion was made by _____, second by _____ to accept the Regular Meeting minutes as presented. All in favor, opposed?

COMMUNICATIONS:

1) **NEW JERSEY STATE LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES**

- a) 04/19/2024, RE: Harassment Survey, Budget Specifics, Safe Streets Amendment
<https://www.njlm.org/CivicSend/ViewMessage/Message/228726>
- b) 04/26/2024, RE: Budget Testimony, Payne Remembered, Mini-Conference Registration Open
<https://www.njlm.org/CivicSend/ViewMessage/Message/229272>

2) **RAHWAY VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY**

- a) 04/25/2024, RE: Minutes
[https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/RVSA_Approved_Minutes\(3\).pdf](https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/RVSA_Approved_Minutes(3).pdf)

3) **GARWOOD PLANNING BOARD**

- a) 04/26/2024, RE: Meeting Minutes
https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/3_27_2024_PB_MINUTES.pdf
- b) 04/26/2024, RE: Letter to Mayor and Council

ORDINANCES:

INTRODUCTION:

Municipal Clerk to read Ordinance No. 24-13 by title only:

ORDINANCE NO. 24-13

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BOROUGH CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD BY AMENDING CHAPTER 52, ENTITLED "ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES", ARTICLE I, "SALE AND DISTRIBUTION", SUBSECTION 52-3, "LICENSES AND FEES".

https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/Ord._24-13-AMENDMENT_TO_LIQUOR_LICENSE_FEES.pdf

A motion was made by _____ second by _____ to introduce Ordinance No. 24-13.

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Boto	_____	Councilwoman Nolde	_____
Councilman Foley	_____	Councilwoman Salmon	_____
Councilman Lazarow	_____	Council President Kearney	_____

Municipal Clerk to read Bond Ordinance No. 24-14 by title only:

BOND ORDINANCE NO. 24-14

BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE 2024 ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$678,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO APPROPRIATE A STATE GRANT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.

https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/BO_24-14.pdf

A motion was made by _____ second by _____ to introduce Bond Ordinance No. 24-14.

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Boto	_____	Councilwoman Nolde	_____
Councilman Foley	_____	Councilwoman Salmon	_____
Councilman Lazarow	_____	Council President Kearney	_____

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OTHER REPORTS:

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL: Councilman Foley, Chair

FIRE AND OEM: Councilman Lazarow, Chair

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: Councilwoman Salmon, Chair

PUBLIC WORKS: Councilwoman Boto, Chair

POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY: Council President Kearney, Chair

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Councilwoman Nolde, Chair

LIBRARY, MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE: Councilman Lazarow

SCHOOL BOARD LIAISON: Council President Kearney

GARWOOD SENIOR CITIZEN LIAISON: Mayor Blumenstock

SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORY LIAISON: Council President Kearney

BOARD OF HEALTH LIAISON: Councilman Foley

PLANNING BOARD LIAISON: Councilwoman Salmon

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Zoning Enforcement Officer's Report for April, 2024

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

Property Maintenance Officer's Report for April, 2024

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

A motion was made by _____ second by _____ to accept Officer's reports.
All in favor, opposed?

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.

A motion was made by _____, second by _____ to close public comment.
All in favor, opposed?

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. 24-086

Adoption of the 2024 Municipal Budget

RESOLUTION NO. 24-087

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 2024 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. 24-088

RESOLUTION AWARDING AN EMERGENCY CONTRACT/PURCHASE ORDER TO CAMPBELL SUPPLY COMPANY FOR REPAIRS TO THE SPARTAN LADDER FIRE TRUCK

WHEREAS, an emergency exists in which the Borough is in need of an emergent repair to the Garwood Fire Department Spartan Ladder Fire Truck; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6 , a contract may be awarded and immediate delivery of goods or the performance of services may be provided when an emergency affects the public health, safety or welfare; and

WHEREAS, a proposal has been received from Campbell Supply Company ("supply company"), 1015 South River Rd., Monroe Twp., NJ 08831 to repair of damage to the rear body on the mid-mount tower at the cost of \$93,515.66; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator has researched whether said supply company is approved to perform such repairs to the damaged Garwood Fire Department Spartan Ladder Fire; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator has verified that the supply company can repair such damage; and

WHEREAS, said repairs are approved and paid for by the reimbursement funds received from Statewide Insurance Fund up to the amount of \$92,610.17 (\$93,610.17 less a \$1,000 deductible).

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Garwood hereby award the purchase of emergent repairs for the Garwood Fire Department Spartan Ladder Fire Truck in accordance with the specifications and quote attached hereto from Campbell Supply Company, 1015 South River Rd., Monroe Twp., NJ 08831 at the cost of \$93,515.66.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute such contract on behalf of the Borough.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the award of this quote be subject to the Borough Treasurer executing the appropriate Certification of Funds.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-089

WHEREAS, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

WHEREAS, The Borough Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Council further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Union;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Borough Council does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the Garwood Municipal Alliance grant for FY 2025 in the amount of:

GCADA Grant	\$ 3,549.00
Cash Match	\$ 887.00
In-Kind	\$2,662.00
2. The Borough Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-090

WHEREAS, the Borough of Garwood by resolution previously adopted a Deferred Compensation Plan (hereinafter referred to as the "Plan") for the purpose of making available to eligible employees the accrual of tax benefits under a Section 457 Deferred Compensation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001, the 2005 final regulations issued under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, the Pension Protection Act of 2006, final Treasury Regulation §1.457-4, the Heroes Earnings Assistance and Relief Tax Act of 2008, the Worker, Retiree and Employer Recovery Act of 2008 and the Small Business Act of 2010 amended sections of the Internal Revenue Code (the "Code") and the rules and/or regulations issued thereunder affecting Section 457 Deferred Compensation Plans (cumulatively referred to as the "Acts and Regulations"); and

WHEREAS, the Employer's current Plan 92-PD-Lincoln-121316 conforms with the changes in the Code and Treasury regulations brought about by the Acts and Regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Employer's current Administrative Services Agreement 94-SA-Lincoln-112017 remains in force; and

WHEREAS, the Employer desires to add an additional investment option to be made available to plan participants; and

WHEREAS, the additional investment option will have no negative future impact on any participant account and will not negatively affect any past benefits accrued to the participant or the participant's beneficiaries up to the adoption of this resolution; and

WHEREAS, this additional investment has been previously approved by the New Jersey Division of Local Services as a permissible investment.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Employer will provide an additional investment option to plan participants.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Lincoln Retirement Services, LLC (hereinafter referred to as "Lincoln") has agreed to continue to be the provider of the Deferred Compensation Program for employees and elected officials; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Lincoln will continue to provide, for the benefit of the participants the Multi-Fund Variable Annuity® and/or the addition of the Alliance® Program and/or any other investment option approved by the New Jersey Division of Local Government Services, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Administrator is authorized to execute all agreements as are necessary to maintain the Employer's Deferred Compensation Program. It is implicitly understood that there is to be no cost or contribution by the Employer to the program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Administrator will continue to serve as the "Administrator" of the plan, represent the Employer, and execute individual deferred compensation agreements with each said employee; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Employer that the Clerk forward a certified true copy of this resolution to the to the borough Administrator and to Lincoln.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-091

WHEREAS, the Borough of Garwood has surplus slate slabs resulting from the completion of a sidewalk improvement project, and;

WHEREAS, the slate slabs are no longer needed for public use and therefore will be sold using an online auction platform, and;

WHEREAS, the Borough of Garwood will be listing the slate for auction on Municibid.com, and;

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator researched pricing and has determined that the minimum bid should be set at an amount of \$1,000 for the entire lot .

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the surplus slate slabs will be posted for public auction for a period of fourteen (14) calendar days using the Borough of Garwood's Municibid.com account .

RESOLUTION NO. 24-092

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey, hereby hires Ryan Jones as a part time Seasonal Laborer in the Department of Public Works effective May 14, 2024 at a salary of \$20.00 per hour:

A motion was made by _____, second by _____ to adopt Consent Agenda.

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Boto	_____	Councilwoman Nolde	_____
Councilman Foley	_____	Councilwoman Salmon	_____
Councilman Lazarow	_____	Council President Kearney	_____

RESOLUTIONS DELETED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:

A motion was made by _____, second by _____, to adopt Resolution # 24-_____.

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Boto	_____	Councilwoman Nolde	_____
Councilman Foley	_____	Councilwoman Salmon	_____
Councilman Lazarow	_____	Council President Kearney	_____

NEW BUSINESS

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 _____, second by _____ to adopt Payment of Claims Resolution.

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Boto	_____	Councilwoman Nolde	_____
Councilman Foley	_____	Councilwoman Salmon	_____
Councilman Lazarow	_____	Council President Kearney	_____

ADJOURNMENT:

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Thursday, May 23, 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 _____ second by _____ to adjourn. Time: _____