

Borough of Garwood
MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
June 9, 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	P	Council President Blumenstock	P

Also Present:

Kyle Harris, Borough Administrator
Adam Abramson, Borough Attorney
Catherine D. Cameron, Borough Clerk
Steve Rogut, Bond Counsel

PRESENTATION:

Mayor Todisco presented certificates of recognition to Brownie Troop 41290 for donating birdhouses on April 29, 2022 to Georgiana Memorial Park.

Report of Borough Attorney NO REPORT

Report of Borough Administrator

On tonight's consent agenda, Resolution #89, this hires a third dispatcher leaving only one opening to be filled now. Ms. Shucaï is already a certified dispatcher and will need minimal training to get started in Garwood.

Resolution #90 is for sending out the estimated tax bills, the borough tax collector not only collects taxes for the Borough but for the following entities the Garwood library, Garwood schools, Union County and Union County Open Space. The borough is then responsible for paying all of these entities.

Resolution #91, is our annual clean communities grant. The grant for this year \$9,388.72 which is close to \$500 more than we received last year. The grant can be used for litter abatement, purchase of litter collection equipment and supplies anti-litter signs and graffiti removal. We can use 25% of the grant for storm water management.

The annual Garwood yard sale weekend is this Saturday and Sunday. 48 houses have signed for the event Bulk Garbage Pickup is scheduled for Monday June 13th, this is a permit event and permits had to be purchased by May 27th to participate.

Curbside Recycling Bid package, our current contract is scheduled to expire at the end of the year. I plan on putting the bid package out by the end of June or early July. Solid waste contracts need to be advertised for 60 days in advance of the bid opening. This will allow for a bid opening in early September. During my time in Garwood, I have not received any major concerns with our current contact. I do not see any reason for a major overhaul of our specs, but will be sure to review them carefully to make sure we are in the best position possible.

Notice to residents of Hazel Avenue, Center to Dead End, Start of Construction. Please be advised that Midwest Construction Inc. will begin road improvements on Hazel Avenue on or about Monday June 13, 2022 weather permitting. Initial work will include construction of storm sewers and installation of granite block curbing with necessary tree removals. Contractor operations will begin around 7:00AM.

Report of Mayor Sara Todisco

I want to start off tonight by thanking everyone for making this year's Garwood Rocks Street Fair this past Sunday a big hit! We had a beautiful day with an amazing turnout with a bunch of fun activities from the music to the car show to the vendors. I want to thank Carol Kearney, our Business & Industry Liaison as well as Board member of the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce, for spearheading the organization of this event. I'd also like to thank our Borough Administrator, Police Chief, and DPW Superintendent for their support to make sure the event ran smoothly. Thank you to our volunteer Fire Department, First Aid Squad, and variety of committees for having a presence at Garwood Rocks. I know spraying the fire hose was a big hit with the kids!

This past Monday there was a public meeting on school safety held at Lincoln School. I want to thank Superintendent Quigley for holding this event alongside Chief Wright, and the experts from the NJ Department of Education Office of School Security. I appreciated the open and honest dialogue about this extremely important topic. The panel answered as many questions as they could without compromising the security by sharing certain details. If anyone still has questions, I encourage you to reach out to Dr. Quigley. Next, I'd like to thank Cranford for again including Garwood in its annual Memorial Day Parade. I had a great time and it was so nice to see all who came out to line the streets. Also, our volunteer Celebrations Committee did a wonderful job presenting the annual Remembrance service at the Columbian Club. I was truly impressed by the experience shared by Sergeant Jessica Pak who served for 4 years in the US Marines and is now pursuing a career in nursing. We are happy to have Sergeant Pak back in Garwood and are so proud of her service. Thank you to everyone for remembering the true meaning of Memorial Day.

I know Councilman Kearney will speak more about it in his Fire Report, but I was so proud to help award the 200 Club of Union County recognition for our firefighters who took part in water rescues during Hurricane Ida this past September. Coincidentally, we have a bond ordinance on the agenda tonight for introduction tonight that will help properly equip our firefighters in a future flooding event. To expect our firefighters to go into flood waters up to their chest in turnout gear is not fair. This equipment is very heavy even before it gets wet. As explained by our Fire Chief, it is really important for their safety that we equip them properly moving forward as these extreme weather events are happening more regularly, not less. I hope this ordinance is introduced tonight and is adopted in our next meeting for this reason among others I have mentioned previously.

Mayor Todisco provided the following information regarding occupancy at Vermella:

- Of 163 one bedroom units: 83 are leased, 55 are occupied
- Of 125 two bedroom units: 72 are leased, 50 are occupied

Discussion ensued regarding street paving on Myrtle Avenue by the Borough following the portions paved by the gas company.

Mayor Todisco recommended obtaining a cost estimate from the Borough engineer for additional streets in need of paving.

Comments from the Council:

Councilman Graham:

The Police and Public Safety committee recommends that the lawn care and brush ordinance be revised to eliminate additional warnings after the first one has been given for failure to cut one's lawn. A revised ordinance will be presented at the next council meeting.

When it comes to long term capital spending, as I have maintained many times in the past the only logical and responsible path for our municipality is to issue bonds. During my entire time on council interest rates have been extremely favorable to say the least. To our great benefit the low interest rate environment has allowed us to finance urgently needed life safety equipment such as the platform ladder truck, turn out gear and SCBA's. We also bonded for the garbage truck, dump truck and many other long service life investments in our community. Without a sudden influx of excess capital in our reserve account bonding will remain our sole and best resource for ensuring our towns ability to provide services and quality of life that our residents deserve.

Councilman Kearney

Thank you, Mayor. First, I want to be very clear for the record the reason why I joined the last Council meeting virtually after halfway through. I know I told you and Mr. Harris ahead of time that I would do my best to join even though I would be late. I was taking a civil service promotion exam for the rank of Sergeant. The date and time were set by the state without a choice given to those of us that sat for the exam. I brought my receipt today as evidence, if anyone would like to see it please come see me after the meeting.

I do not appreciate a colleague calling my late arrival a political stunt. As I stated, my reason for attending late was valid. I am just so glad I joined when I did to ensure the 2022 municipal budget passed on time. This was clear when it was brought up to be moved off the table under New Business. I voted for it then, just as I would have if I had been present at the start of the meeting.

I may not have loved every aspect of this budget, but I agreed to our compromises in the budget creation process, and it reflected our priorities as a Council for putting public safety first, fully funding all Borough services, and properly funding the budget based on the knowledge we have, such as rising fuel costs. No one up here wants to raise taxes, but sometimes it is necessary if we want to run a town and keep it fully functioning. The tax relief in this year's budget was holding down the numerous increases; relief doesn't mean a zero every single year no matter how much we would all like to see that. Without providing the \$150,000 in PILOT funds to the BOE, this Council would not have seen a tax increase, but it wasn't about that. It was about partnering with the BOE and helping the taxpayers from another side, not just the municipality.

Now that the budget has passed, I hope we can continue to tackle other important Council business.

Councilman Lazarow NO REPORT

Councilwoman Loffredo NO REPORT

Councilwoman Salmon NO REPORT

Council President Blumenstock

The Green Team had a great time at Garwood Rocks on Sunday. We've got a few activities coming including planting at the Rec Complex and working on the entrance to Unami Park at East Street. The Green Team

has adopted Unami as a part of the County's adopt -a-park program and in addition to working on the entrance we'll also be planting some trees.

Council President Blumenstock informed all in attendance that the June edition of the NJ League of Municipalities magazine featured the activities hosted by Garwood during Local Government Week, held April 16th-April 22nd.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council held on May 26, 2022.

A motion was made by Councilman Graham, second by Councilman Kearney, to accept minutes as presented.

All in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1) NEW JERSEY STATE LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES

- a) 05/27/2022, RE: Take Action to Restore ETR; Oppose Planning Pre-Emption
<https://www.njlm.org/CivicSend/ViewMessage/Message/172631>

2) GARWOOD PLANNING BOARD

- a) 05/27/2022, RE: Minutes: March 23, 2022
[https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/3_23_2022_PB_minutes\(1\).pdf](https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/3_23_2022_PB_minutes(1).pdf)
b) 05/27/2022, RE: Minutes: April 13, 2022
https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/4_13_2022_PB_Minutes.pdf

3) TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD

- a) 06/01/2022, RE: Ordinance
https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/Township_of_Cranford_-_Introduced_Ordinance_No._2022-15.pdf

ALL RECEIVED AND FILED.

At 8:24 P.M. Mayor Todisco introduced Bond Counsel, Steve Rogut to the meeting and opened the floor to the Council.

Councilwoman Salmon requested clarification regarding Bond Ord. #22-07.

Mr. Rogut provided clarification.

ORDINANCES:

ADOPTION:

Municipal Clerk to read Bond Ordinance 22-05 by title only:

BOND ORDINANCE NO. 22-05

BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE UNDERTAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$252,500 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO APPROPRIATE COUNTY GRANTS, 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/22-05-01-INTRO-BOND_ORDINANCE\(1\).pdf](https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/22-05-01-INTRO-BOND_ORDINANCE(1).pdf)

List correspondence concerning Bond Ordinance 22-05. NONE

Does anyone present wish to be heard concerning Bond Ordinance 22-05.

Bruce Paterson, 325 Willow Avenue, requested clarification regarding bond anticipation notes.
Mayor Todisco provided clarification.

A motion was made by Councilman Graham, second by Councilman Kearney, to close Public Hearing on Bond Ordinance 22-05.

A motion was made by Councilman Lazarow, second by Council President Blumenstock, to adopt Bond Ordinance 22-05.

Discussion: NONE

Roll Call:

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

6-AYES Bond Ordinance 22-05 was adopted.

Municipal Clerk to read Ordinance 22-06 by title only:

ORDINANCE NO. 22-06

AN ORDINANCE FIXING SALARIES AND WAGES OF CERTAIN OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

[https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/22-06-01-INTRO-EMPLOYEE_SALARIES\(1\).pdf](https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/22-06-01-INTRO-EMPLOYEE_SALARIES(1).pdf)

List correspondence concerning Ordinance 22-06. NONE

Does anyone present wish to be heard concerning Ordinance 22-06.

Bruce Paterson, 325 Willow Avenue, requested clarification regarding stipends as listed on Resolution #22-087.

Mr. Harris and Mayor Todisco provided clarification.

A motion was made by Councilman Lazarow, second by Council President Blumenstock, to close Public Hearing on Ordinance 22-06.

A motion was made by Councilman Lazarow, second by Councilman Graham, to adopt Ordinance 22-06.

Discussion:

Councilwoman Salmon requested clarification regarding the listing of the Public Information Officer on the Ordinance.

Mr. Harris provided clarification.

Roll Call:

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

5-AYES, 1-NAY Ordinance 22-06 was adopted.

INTRODUCTION:

Municipal Clerk to read Bond Ordinance 22-07 by title only:

BOND ORDINANCE NO. 22-07

BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF NEW ADDITIONAL OR REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY, NEW COMMUNICATION AND SIGNAL SYSTEMS EQUIPMENT, NEW INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT AND NEW AUTOMOTIVE VEHICLES, INCLUDING ORIGINAL APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT, IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$600,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, 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/22-07-01-INTRO - PUBLIC IMPRVMENTS.pdf>

A motion was made by Councilman Lazarow, second by Councilman Kearney, to introduce Bond Ordinance 22-07.

Roll Call:

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

6-AYES Bond Ordinance #22-07 was introduced.

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OTHER REPORTS:

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL: Councilman Lazarow, Chair

Just prior to this meeting, I sent a sample resolution to the finance committee in full to review regarding pushing the state to speedily pass S-330 which restore energy tax receipts to municipalities. This body passed a resolution in support of this before, but this resolution is designed to add additional pressure on the state legislative bodies to put this into action to provide Garwood taxpayers with some much needed tax relief. Once I get feedback from the finance committee, I will forward the resolution to the council to review and either vote on at the next council meeting or discuss if changes need to be made to the wording to the agenda in our first meeting in July.

FIRE AND OEM: Councilman Kearney, Chair

I attended the regular meeting of the Garwood Fire Department along with Mayor Todisco last Wednesday, June 1st. We were both invited to present awards received from the 200 Club for bravery during the response to Hurricane Ida last year. I'm honored to participate in these types of ceremonies as the Fire Commissioner, and proud to be able to honor the achievement of our firefighters here tonight.

Congratulations are in order for Firefighter Anderson, Firefighter Biro, Lieutenant Cartnick, Firefighter Fishman, Firefighter Gesior, Deputy Chief Gregory, Captain Gregory, Firefighter Lasinski, Firefighter M. Miller, Firefighter Pelusio, Lieutenant Petruzzelli, Firefighter Ryan, Firefighter Sona, Assistant Chief Spina, Firefighter Tombs, Assistant Chief Tweedle, Firefighter Vaughn, Firefighter Willix

Thank you all for your strong work on that incredibly challenging and dangerous night, where you all risked your lives repeatedly to help others in need, and to all our firefighters for their service to Garwood every day. I also want to acknowledge Emma Willix, the daughter of one of our award-winning firefighters that I just mentioned, and who was just given a proclamation by the Mayor earlier with the Brownies, who personally

raised and donated \$135 dollars to support the Fire Department at last night's meeting. I've said this often in my role as the School Board Liaison, but now I get to say it here: The people of our children's generation give me incredible hope for the future of America.

Moving on to the activity report for the month of April: There were 14 calls for service in Garwood along with 1 mutual aid call for 30 hours of service at a 5-alarm fire in the City of Elizabeth, for a grand total of 200 firefighter hours for all alarms. The regular April meeting was held on the rescheduled date of Wednesday, April 13th, with 20 firefighters in attendance for a total of 30 hours. Additional activity as follows:

Extra-Duty on 4/4: Station housekeeping, 5 firefighters for 8 hours and driver/pump training, 7 firefighters for 18 hours.

Drill on 4/19: Simulating extractions from under vehicles involved in crashes and stabilizing vehicles using sidewinders, airbags and cribbing. 20 firefighters for a total of 50 hours.

Public Service on 4/23: Little League parade, 5 firefighters for a total of 8 hours.

I also have the activity report for the month of May: 18 calls for service in Garwood along with 2 mutual aid calls, for a total of 397 firefighter hours for all alarms. The regular May meeting was held as scheduled on Wednesday, May 4th, with 38 firefighters and one Jedi in attendance for a total of 30 hours. Additional activity as follows:

Extra Duty on 5/17: Driver and pump training, 3 firefighters for a total of 5 hours.

Drill on 5/25: Middlesex County Fire Academy, live burn and high-rise operations including standpipe use (on the 4th Floor of the "burn tower"), suppression, search and rescue, and ventilation. 21 firefighters for a total of 105 hours.

Public Service on 5/30: Cranford Memorial Day parade, 7 firefighters for 14 hours.

FACILITIES, GROUNDS AND SHADE TREES: Councilwoman Loffredo, Chair

Good evening, Mayor, Members of Council and Members of the Public –

A few facilities and grounds updates:

- 1) New tables at the rec center were purchased with aged grant money. These tables have attached umbrellas that will provide more shading for the summer campers.
- 2) There was an issue with Air Conditioning at the rec center but it was corrected and is now working again.
- 3) Contracted Tree work is continuing thru boro

That's all for tonight! Thank you!

STREETS, ECOLOGY AND SUSTAINABILITY: Council President Blumenstock, Chair

In addition to regular garbage pickup, the DPW removed and pruned shade trees in the following areas:

- Intersection of Beech Avenue and East Street
- Winslow Place

Fanwood's bucket truck was used to complete the work and the material was brought to the Fanwood Recycling Center for disposal.

They also performed street sweeping operations in accordance with the annual Public Works Schedule. The no parking signs were put up and taken down, accordingly.

The department prepared Center Street, Borough Hall grounds, the parking lot and the municipal parking lot for the annual Garwood Rocks street fair. Borough shade trees in front of the business district on Center Street from South to Willow Avenue were weeded and mulched. They picked up barricades from Westfield for use at the event and provided Public Works assistance for setup and cleanup of the event.

The DPW also de-winterized the irrigation system at the sports complex, provided Public Works assistance for the primary election day setup and watered the flowers in the street side pots throughout the Borough 3 – 4 times a week.

Mechanic operations performed in-house were as follows:

- Completed the bed replacement of the older mason dump truck (welded in new steel material).
- Troubleshoot the no start issue in the 2005 backhoe. Installed a new ignition switch and shift control lever which ultimately repaired the issue.
- Performed repairs and maintenance to some of the small landscaping equipment.

The Streets and Ecology Council committee met last Thursday to discuss the possibility of installing an EV charging station in one of the municipal parking lots. This matter is still in the very beginning stages of research and will require more time to work through. We also discussed the Nixle alerts for street sweeping, and I encourage anyone who is still not signed up to do so, so that they can get reminders during the street sweeping season.

POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY: Councilman Graham, Chair

Since the last meeting of Mayor and Council on May 26, 2022 the Garwood Police Department has recorded the following activity: Initiated 40 motor vehicle stops, Conducted 48 building/property checks, Initiated 27 community policing posts, Assigned to 36 fixed traffic posts (Radar, Stop Sign, Distracted Driving), Responded to 19 calls for medical assist, Responded to 6 business/residential alarms, Responded to 15 false 911/fire/co alarms, Responded to 3 calls for disabled vehicles

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: RECREATION, HISTORICAL AND CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEES:

Councilwoman Salmon, Chair

Councilwoman Salmon provided an update to the committees.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: Councilman Kearney

We met this past Monday, along with the Borough Attorney and Borough Administrator, and just prior to this meeting, in an attempt to finalize the social media policy update recommended by the Borough Administrator. I believe we're close to a consensus on the final touches needed to the text, so I hope to have this out to the rest of the Council for a look prior to the next meeting so we can move forward with a Resolution then.

BOARD OF HEALTH LIAISON: Councilman Graham

The last Garwood Board of Health meeting was held on Wednesday, May 18th

Minutes were accepted from the March 18th meeting.

Westfield Regional Board of Health, 1st Quarter Health Services payment voucher of \$14,457.75 was approved for payment.

Registrar of Vital Statistics: reported on March & April Vital Records activity and fees received.

Treasurer: reported on March & April licensing and fees received for food licensing

Environmental Specialist reported on various complaints and inspections that took place in March & April

Public Health Nurse reported on immunization, covid quarantine guidance and covid vaccination clinics for March & April. There was discussion concerning high activity of covid. There was discussion concerning the baby formula shortage.

Health Officer reported on the new wave of covid, mask mandates in schools, long covid, post covid, depression and anxiety and data on PTSD for nurses and health care workers.

LIBRARY, MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE: Councilman Lazarow

June 13 Summer Reading Sign Up begins- Join us for Oceans of Possibilities this Summer including fun programs and a chance to win a Meta Quest 2 — Advanced All-In-One Virtual Reality Headset. Please register at the library starting on 6/13.

June 14 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.

June 21 at 3pm – Virtual Adult Craft. Pick up your craft supplies from the Library and then watch the Facebook tutorial at 3 pm. Registration is required for craft kits and is limited to 10 participants. Sign up on the Library website's events calendar or by phone

June 28 at 2 pm – Summer Reading Opening Event – Join us for a Summer Reading Kick Off Party in the Library Parking Lot with giveaways, water fun, and ice cream from the SCREAM TRUCK This event is open to those who are registered for summer reading. You may register for Summer reading at the party. Registration required. The library will be closed on June 20th for Juneteenth.

SCHOOL BOARD LIAISON: Councilman Kearney

Thank you, Mayor. The Board's last meeting was held on Tuesday, May 24th where they took action on a resolution regarding the adoption of curriculum from the state on the topic of Health & Physical Education, which passed with 7 affirmative votes. Dr. Quigley reminded the Board that curriculum is always a local decision under local control, guided by standards set by the state.

Also, I am unsure if this was previously announced formally in one of our meetings, but Dr. Quigley has filed for retirement effective at the end of this school year. As both a parent of two Lincoln School students, and the Council liaison to the Board for the last two years, I will miss her kindness, professionalism and steady hand steering the ship. Whoever follows Dr. Quigley will have large shoes to fill. The Board posted a community survey regarding the superintendent search up online, all residents should visit the garwoodschools.org main page to find the link and participate!

The Board is hosting a casual open house reception at Lincoln School on Thursday, June 16th from 6:30 to 8:30 PM (either on the playground or in the cafeteria depending on the weather) to thank Dr. Quigley and wish her well. All former students, parents and community members are welcome to attend!

And finally, the last day of school for Lincoln School students is now June 21st.

GARWOOD SENIOR CITIZEN LIAISON: Council President Blumenstock

The Senior club met on Thursday, June 2nd where we had a shorty meeting and then had lunch and played bingo. Our next club meeting is June 16th.

We also had card games today at the Knights of Columbus where I lost at Phase 10 by a hair. Thank you again to the Knights for having us.

Tomorrow we have movie day over at the library. I hope to see everyone there, we'll be screening the classic West Side Story, which I'm excited to see again, it's one of my favorites. That's at 12pm over at the library. Light refreshments will be served.

SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORY LIAISON: Councilman Kearney

Our meeting for Monday, June 6th was rescheduled to June 13th due to a schedule conflict that developed with the school safety forum. So I'll have an update for our next meeting.

PLANNING BOARD LIAISON: Councilwoman Salmon

Councilwoman Salmon stated the Special Planning Board meeting scheduled for June 8th was cancelled.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Zoning Enforcement Officer's Report for May, 2022.

https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/Addendum_May_2022.pdf

Property Maintenance Officer's Report for May, 2022.

https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/Property_Maintenance_05-2022.pdf

A motion was made by Councilman Lazarow, 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.

Jennyfer Guerrero, 409 Myrtle Avenue, requested clarification regarding parking regulations on South Avenue at Vermella.

Tom Evelina, 308 North Avenue, requested clarification regarding the Fire Department's capital items covered under Bond Ordinance #22-07.

Mr. Evelina requested clarification regarding overbooking the turf field.

Rich McCormack, 101 Fourth Avenue, requested clarification regarding qualifications required for tree removal and sewer system professionals.

Bruce Paterson, 325 Willow Avenue, commented on the shared service cost analysis.

Jackie Darcy, 336 Hazel Avenue, requested notification be given to the public prior to being addressed at a Council meeting.

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

Mayor Todisco requested clarification from Mr. Harris regarding the parking regulations on South Avenue at Vermella.

Mr. Harris provided clarification.

Mayor Todisco recommended the matter to the Police Committee.

Mayor Todisco clarified the water rescue training and SCBA grant inquiries.

Mayor Todisco clarified that the MyRec app will assist with turf field scheduling and prevent overbooking.

Mr. Harris clarified the qualifications required for tree removal and sewer system professionals.

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. 22-084

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey, that renewal be granted to the following Plenary Retail Distribution License to be effective July 1, 2022 and to terminate June 30, 2023.

- 2006-44-002-005 Makkan Brothers, Inc., t/a Liquor Vault, for premises at 300 South Avenue, Garwood, New Jersey.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Clerk be and she is hereby directed to issue said license.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-085

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Garwood, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, that renewal be granted to the following Plenary Retail Consumption Licenses to be effective July 1, 2022 and to terminate June 30, 2023.

- 2006-33-001-006 BPC RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT, LLC, a Limited Liability Co., dba The Station Bar & Grill, for the premises at 95-99 Center Street, Garwood, New Jersey.
- 2006-33-007-004 B & D RECREATION, INC., a Business Corporation of New Jersey, dba Garwood Lanes, for premises at 346 North Avenue, Garwood, New Jersey.
- 2006-33-004-003 THE GARWOOD REST, INC., a Business Corporation of New Jersey, dba Garwood Restaurant, for premises at 259 South Avenue, Garwood, New Jersey.
- 2006-32-006-005 LAXMEE, LLC, a Limited Liability Co., dba Dittrick's Wines and Liquors, for premises at 2 North Avenue, Garwood, New Jersey. (Broad Package Privilege)
- 2006-33-011-006 RUDY'S OF GARWOOD, LLC, a Limited Liability Co. dba Rudy's Ristorante & Pizzeria, for premises at 300 South Avenue, Garwood, New Jersey.
- 2006-33-013-011 ROSEWINE, LLC, a Limited Liability Co., dba Rosie's Wine Bar, for premises at 514 North Avenue, Garwood, New Jersey.
- 2006-33-009-007 WGAFZ, INC., a Business Corporation of New Jersey, dba The Crossroads, for premises at 78 North Avenue, Garwood, New Jersey.
- 2006-33-012-003 WESTWOOD LANES, INC., a Business Corporation of New Jersey, dba The Westwood, for premises at 438 North Avenue, Garwood, New Jersey.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipal Clerk be and she is hereby directed to issue said licenses.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-086

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Garwood, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, that renewal be granted to the following said Club License to be effective July 1, 2022 and to terminate June 30, 2023.

2006-31-014-001 Columbian Club of Garwood-Cranford, Inc., t/a Garwood Knights of Columbus, for premises at 37-43 South Avenue, Garwood, New Jersey.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Clerk be and she is hereby directed to issue said license.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-088

WHEREAS, on May 31, 2022 the Borough Administrator received correspondence dated May 31, 2022 from the Director of Recreation advising that Jennifer Uva resigned from her position on the Recreation Committee Borough of Garwood effective immediately.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-089

WHEREAS, the Borough of Garwood, Department of the Police is in need of a Civilian Police Dispatcher as defined in Chapter 34. Police Department, Article VI, Section 37-40 of the Code of the Borough of Garwood; and

WHEREAS, the Civilian Police Dispatcher shall serve at the pleasure of the Mayor and Council under the direction of James H. Wright, Chief of Police in the Department of the Police.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Garwood hereby hires: Jada I. Shucaj as Civilian Police Dispatcher.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Garwood that Jada I. Shucaj, shall be compensated \$34,000 per year as Civilian Police Dispatcher Probationary Class, effective June 13, 2022; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that her employment is subject to the terms and conditions of employment in the Borough of Garwood, including one-year probation commencing June 13, 2022.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-090

WHEREAS, in accordance with Chapter 72, P.L. 1994, the Borough of Garwood has the authority to prepare and issue estimated tax bills; and

WHEREAS, in order for the Borough of Garwood to meet our financial obligations, maintain the tax collection rate, provide uniformity for tax payments and save the unnecessary cost of interest expenses on borrowing it would be in our best interest to do so; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer/Tax Collector has reviewed and computed an estimated levy in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-66.3.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Garwood on this 9th day of June 2022, as follows:

1. The Borough of Garwood Tax Collector is hereby authorized to prepare and issue estimated bills for the Borough of Garwood for the third quarter of 2022 taxes, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 54:4-66.2 et seq.
2. The entire estimated tax levy for 2022 is hereby set at \$19,658,385.00
3. The estimated tax rate for 2022 is hereby set at 2.632.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-091

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any County or Municipality when such items shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

WHEREAS, said Director may also approve the insertion of any item of appropriation for equal amount;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the Borough of Garwood hereby requests the Director of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of the year 2022 in the sum of \$9,338.72 which item is now available as a revenue from the STATE OF NEW JERSEY, SOLID WASTE ADMINISTRATION FY2022 CLEAN COMMUNITIES GRANT PROGRAM, in the amount of \$9,338.72.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the sum of \$9,338.72 is hereby appropriated under the caption of "FY2022 CLEAN COMMUNITIES GRANT PROGRAM".

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

Roll Call:

Councilman Graham	AYE	Councilwoman Loffredo	NAY
Councilman Kearney	ABSTAIN	Councilwoman Salmon	NAY
Councilman Lazarow	AYE	Council President Blumenstock	AYE

3-AYE, 1-ABSTAIN, 2-NAY the Consent Agenda was adopted as amended.

RESOLUTIONS DELETED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:

RESOLUTION NO. 22-087

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Garwood have hereto adopted: ORDINANCE NO. 22-06, AN ORDINANCE FIXING SALARIES AND WAGES OF CERTAIN OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

WHEREAS, said Ordinance reflects changes of salaries and/or hourly rates to be paid to said employees of the Borough of Garwood for the year 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of Garwood be and they are hereby authorized and directed to execute checks on Borough funds for the purpose of paying the annual salaries and/or hourly rates to the employees of the Borough of Garwood as set forth below and in the amount set forth opposite each job classification. Said salaries to be paid bi-weekly less such deductions as in such cases made. The schedule of salaries hereafter set forth shall be effective as of January 1, 2022 or pro-rated as the case may be.

Name	Title	2022
James H. Wright	Chief of Police	\$ 146,018.00
Kyle Harris	Borough Administrator	\$ 117,300.00
Sandra D. Bruns	CFO/Treasurer/Assistant Administrator/Tax Collector	\$ 118,151.00
Catherine Cameron	Borough Clerk	\$ 65,000.00
Jennifer Sherman	Tax Assessor	\$ 15,606.00
Kathleen J. Wierzbinski	Clerk/Stenographer	\$ 44,212.00
Amy Rivera	Accounting/Payroll Clerk	\$ 55,000.00
Janice Farrell	Accounts Payable Clerk	\$ 50,000.00
Michael Disko	Municipal Engineer	\$ 25,000.00
Victor Vinegra	Zoning Officer - Review	\$ 10,000.00
Victor Vinegra	Planning/Zoning Board Planner	\$ 3,000.00
Len DiStefano	Zoning Officer - Enforcement	\$ 7,025.00
Adele Lewis	Planning/Zoning Board Secretary	\$ 14,750.00
John Drone	Network Administrator/ Police Department	\$ 2,600.00
Kathleen J. Wierzbinski	Senior Citizen Director-Programs & Grant Administrator	\$ 4,500.00
Kathleen J. Wierzbinski	Clean Communities Coordinator	\$ 750.00
Gary Bundy	Municipal Court Judge	\$ 19,080.00
Yasmilca Reyes-Villafana	Acting Municipal Court Administrator	\$ 45,000.00
Martha Marino	Violations Clerk	\$ 20.00 PH
Len Spina	Superintendent Fire Apparatus	\$ 1,040.00
John Drone	Civilian Police Dispatcher	\$ 53,755.00
Zeenab Tareen	Civilian Police Dispatcher	\$ 34,000.00
Cheryl DiStefano	Senior Citizen Bus Driver - alternate	\$ 20.00 PH
Len DiStefano	Senior Citizen Bus Driver	\$ 20.00 PH
John Fugett	Senior Citizen Bus Driver	\$ 20.00 PH
Various	School Crossing Guards – LEVEL A	\$ 13.25 PH
Various	School Crossing Guards – LEVEL B	\$ 21.25 PH
Various	School Crossing Guards – LEVEL B after completion of 5 years	\$ 22.25 PH
Len Spina	Fire Safety Inspector	\$ 20.80 PH
Edward Syers	Fire Safety Inspector	\$ 20.80 PH
Michael Tharaldsen	Fire Safety Inspector	\$ 20.80 PH
Kathleen J. Wierzbinski	Registrar of Vital Statistics	\$ 5,300.00
Kathleen J. Wierzbinski	BOH Secretary/Licensing Official	\$ 3,000.00
Kathleen J. Wierzbinski	OEM Secretary	\$ 150.00
Catherine Cameron	Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics	\$ 250.00
Ken Capobianco	OEM Director	\$ 2,250.00
John Patterson	Parking Enforcement Officer	\$ 20.00 PH
Peter Picarelli	Property Maintenance Officer	\$ 20.00 PH
Various	Public Moderator	\$ 25.00 PH
Ralph Bernardo	Recreation Director	\$ 12,000.00

A motion was made by Councilman Graham, second by Councilman Lazarow, to adopt Resolution No. 22-087.

Discussion ensued.

Roll Call:

Councilman Graham	AYE	Councilwoman Loffredo	NAY
Councilman Kearney	ABSTAIN	Councilwoman Salmon	NAY
Councilman Lazarow	AYE	Council President Blumenstock	AYE

3-AYE, 1-ABSTAIN, 2-NAY Resolution No. 22-087 was adopted.

NEW BUSINESS

NONE

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 Kearney, second by Council President Blumenstock, to adopt Payment of Claims Resolution.

Roll Call:

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

ADJOURNMENT:


The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on **Thursday, June 23, 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 Lazarow, to adjourn.

Time: 9:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:


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