

**Borough of Garwood**  
**MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES**  
**June 23, 2022**

Time: 7:00 P.M

Moment of Silence

It is with an extremely heavy heart that I open tonight's meeting with the sad news of the passing of Barbara Tweedle. She was truly a one-of-a-kind person with the biggest heart I have ever met. She's been called Mrs. Garwood and she definitely was that and so much more. Barbara was a longtime member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Garwood Fire Department, was our Municipal Alliance Coordinator since 2011 and heavily involved with DARE and Garwood Parents Draw the Line even earlier than that. I first met Barbara when I was in 5th Grade and she was teaching DARE. I'm honored to have gotten to know her over the years and to be able to call her a friend. Anyone who had the opportunity to know her was all the better for it. We will always remember her smile and her willingness to help anyone who needed it. Please join me in keeping Barbara Tweedle in our hearts and minds during tonight's 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:**

<b>Mayor Todisco</b>	<b>P</b>		
<b>Councilman Graham</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Councilwoman Loffredo</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>Councilman Kearney</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Councilwoman Salmon</b>	<b>P</b>
<b>Councilman Lazarow</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Council President Blumenstock</b>	<b>P</b>

**Also Present:**

Kyle Harris, Borough Administrator  
Adam Abramson, Borough Attorney  
John Scalzadonna, Borough Fire Chief  
Catherine D. Cameron, Borough Clerk

Report of Borough Fire Chief

The Borough Fire Chief provided a report clarifying the Fire Department's active fleet and equipment inventory. The report included the background of each vehicle purchase, purchase cost (if any) and the cost of fleet repairs to date.

The Borough Fire Chief read a letter received from the Clifton Fire Department thanking the Garwood Fire Department for their donation of surplus fire gear and equipment to the soldiers in Ukraine earlier this year.

Mayor Todisco thanked Chief Scalzadonna for his report clarifying the Fire Department's active fleet and equipment inventory.

Mayor Todisco commended Chief Scalzadonna and the Garwood Fire Department for their effort in assisting the soldiers in Ukraine.

Report of Borough Attorney NO REPORT

#### Report of Borough Administrator

1. Ordinance 22-08 adds the following language under Brush, weeds and other vegetation: No additional warnings, either in writing or verbally, shall be given for subsequent violations for the remainder of the calendar year. This closes a loop hole in the ordinance, where a property owner would only cut down the vegetation after receiving a warning. I have been with Garwood for less than a year now but the same residents continue to reach out to be because their neighbors are not maintaining their properties.
2. Ordinance 22-09 updates the parking restrictions on South Ave. Currently, parking is permitted on most the north side and about half of the south side of South Ave between Center Street and West Street. Currently, there is 1 hour parking from 7AM to 7PM Monday through Saturday. The changes to the ordinance will make the entire Southside of South Ave between Center and West no parking. It will also restrict all but 200 feet of the north side of South Ave as no parking. Parking will be permit in a 200 foot section between West and the entrance to Vermella. The change will also restrict parking to 1 hour 7 days a week for this section of South Ave. Finally, the ordinance will update Pathmark Complex to Lidl Complex.
3. Resolution 22-096 this resolution is to hire the 4<sup>th</sup> dispatcher for the police department.
4. Today, I received a letter from the county announcing the 2022 Kids Recreation Trust Fund and the 2022 Greening Union County grant offerings. The grant application is do no later than August 15<sup>th</sup>. The governing body will need to make a decision on this no later than the July 28<sup>th</sup> meeting. We will need a resolution from council on the August 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.
5. The bulk contact is expiring at the end of this year. This is a pass through contract, where the borough charges a user fee for the service. The borough does not make money on this. We will be looking for a new two year contract with renewal options
6. Lastly, we need to get our recommendations over to Borough Engineer Disko for the DOT grant. The council received Mr. Disko's estimates earlier this week.

Discussion ensued regarding the project locations identified by the Streets, Ecology and Sustainability Committee under consideration for the NJ DOT MA2023 Local Aid grant application due on July 1, 2022.

#### Report of Mayor Sara Todisco

Parking - I first want to state my support for the introduction of the parking ordinance affecting South Avenue that Mr. Harris explained in his report. Also, I want to create a new Parking Committee tonight to look at parking regulations and enforcement for Center Street, North Avenue and South Avenue as we move forward. It is important that we consider how when we move one lever or change one regulation it can have effects both intended and unintended that we need to think carefully about. I want to make sure we hear from some residents as well as business owners. The Committee will include myself, Police Chief Wright, Administrator Harris, residents Jenn Guerrero, Mo Crawford, Michele Capobianco, Karina Boto, and Joe Gola, as well as business owners Stefanie Savino and Peter Collura. I am also hoping to add an additional business owner.

Lincoln School - I'd like to congratulate the 8th Grade graduating class of 2022. I was honored to attend the graduation this past Tuesday night. Lincoln School is a special place and I could tell by the faces on the students, a good number who were crying, that they loved their school and will miss it. But most importantly, I believe they are better prepared for the road ahead of them because of Lincoln School and of course, their parents. I'd also like to congratulate Dr. Quigley on her retirement after over 30 years in education with the past 15 spent as Superintendent. It's very well deserved and I enjoyed gathering with teachers, parents, former and current students, Board of Education members, and others at the event honoring her last Thursday night.

Monsignor Ron - On the subject of retirement, I'd like to wish a happy retirement to Monsignor Ron Marczewski of the Church of St. Anne. June 30th is officially his last day. He's been at St. Anne's for the past six years and has done a lot for our community. For instance, he has been the Chaplain of the Fire Department and is 4th Degree Member of the Garwood Knights of Columbus. It was my honor to speak with him at length in order to write Resolution 22-098 on tonight's Consent Agenda. I encourage everyone to read it to learn more about Monsignor Ron and what a significant role he played in Garwood. After a total of 48 years in ministry, I wish him all the best for the next chapter of his life.

**Comments from the Council:**

Councilman Graham NO REPORT

Councilman Graham provided an update regarding Governor Murphy's Community Award Program, "We Value Our Veterans", as discussed at the Veterans Committee meeting held last week.

Councilman Graham thanked Chief Scalzadonna for his report to the Mayor and Council.

Mayor Todisco thanked Councilman Graham for the Ordinances being introduced at this Council meeting.

Councilman Kearney NO REPORT

Councilman Kearney thanked Chief Scalzadonna for his report.

No comments from me tonight, Mayor, but I'd like to use this time to see if the rest of the Council had an opportunity to review the proposed changes to the social media policy for the employee handbook that we finished up in the Communications committee last week? If we're all good, this should be on as a Resolution for the next meeting.

Councilman Kearney requested a consensus from Council regarding above.

All consented in favor.

Councilman Lazarow NO REPORT

Councilman Lazarow commended Chief Scalzadonna and the Fire Department for their grant writing efforts.

Councilwoman Loffredo NO REPORT

Councilwoman Salmon NO REPORT

Councilwoman Salmon thanked Chief Scalzadonna for his report.

Council President Blumenstock

The Green Team volunteers would like to request their Facebook page be reinstated, now that the Public Info Officer position has been eliminated and our Borough page is strictly limited updates. We'd like to be able to promote different events we have coming up, including a garden contest this summer.

Council President Blumenstock requested inclusion of two additional bulk pick up dates when advertising the bulk contract bid.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Harris stated the additional dates will be included in the bid.

**MINUTES:**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council held on June 9, 2022.

A motion was made by Councilman Graham, second by Council President Blumenstock to accept minutes as presented.

All in favor.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

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

- a) 06/03/2022, RE: ETR Action, Liquor License Testimony, Flood/Stormwater Rules  
<https://www.njlm.org/CivicSend/ViewMessage/Message/173336>
- b) 06/13/2022, RE: Delinquent Disclosure Fines, ETR Action, 2nd Tranche of APR SLRF  
<https://www.njlm.org/CivicSend/ViewMessage/Message/173797>
- c) 06/17/2022, RE: ETR Push, Warehouse Guidance. ARP SLRF Reporting  
<https://www.njlm.org/CivicSend/ViewMessage/Message/174348>

2) **RAHWAY VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY**

- a) 05/23/2022, RE: Minutes  
[https://garwood.org/vertical/sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/RVSA\\_Approved\\_Minutes\\_May\\_2022.pdf](https://garwood.org/vertical/sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/RVSA_Approved_Minutes_May_2022.pdf)

3) **TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD**

- a) 06/01/2022, RE: Ordinance  
[https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/Cranford\\_Introduced\\_Ordinance\\_No.\\_2022-16.pdf](https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/Cranford_Introduced_Ordinance_No._2022-16.pdf)

ALL RECEIVED AND FILED.

**ORDINANCES:**

**ADOPTION:**

Municipal Clerk read Bond Ordinance No. 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/22-07-02-ADOPT- BOND ORD.- PUBLIC IMPRVMNTS.pdf>

List correspondence concerning Bond Ordinance No. 22-07. NONE

Does anyone present wish to be heard concerning Bond Ordinance No. 22-07.

Bruce Paterson, 325 Willow Avenue, requested clarification regarding the down payment and items referred to in the bond ordinance.

Mayor Todisco provided clarification on both concerns.

A motion was made by Council President Blumenstock, second by Councilman Graham, to close Public Hearing on Bond Ordinance No. 22-07.

A motion was made by Councilman Kearney, second by Councilman Lazarow, to adopt Bond Ordinance No. 22-07.

Discussion:

Councilwoman Salmon requested clarification regarding the Borough's bid threshold.

Mr. Harris provided clarification regarding the Borough's bid threshold.

Roll Call:

<b>Councilman Graham</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Councilwoman Loffredo</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>Councilman Kearney</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Councilwoman Salmon</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilman Lazarow</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Council President Blumenstock</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**5-AYES, 1-ABSENT** Bond Ordinance No. 22-07 was adopted.

### **INTRODUCTION:**

Municipal Clerk read Ordinance No. 22-08 by title only:

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 22-08**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 99-15 (BRUSH, WEEDS AND OTHER VEGETATION) IN ARTICLE III (REMOVAL OF WEEDS AND DEBRIS) IN CHAPTER 99 (HEALTH AND SANITATION) OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD.**

[https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/22-08-INTRO-REMOVAL\\_OF\\_WEEDS\\_DEBRIS.pdf](https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/22-08-INTRO-REMOVAL_OF_WEEDS_DEBRIS.pdf)

A motion was made by Councilman Graham, second by Council President Blumenstock, to introduce Ordinance No. 22-08.

Roll Call:

<b>Councilman Graham</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Councilwoman Loffredo</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>Councilman Kearney</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Councilwoman Salmon</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilman Lazarow</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Council President Blumenstock</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**5-AYES, 1-ABSENT** Ordinance No. 22-08 was introduced.

Municipal Clerk read Ordinance No. 22-09 by title only:

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 22-09**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 21-1 (PARKING PROHIBITED) IN ARTICLE I (TRAFFIC AND PARKING) IN CHAPTER 21 (VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC) OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD.**

[https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/22-09-INTRO\\_AMENDING\\_TRAFFIC\\_PARKING.pdf](https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/22-09-INTRO_AMENDING_TRAFFIC_PARKING.pdf)

A motion was made by Councilman Graham, second by Council President Blumenstock to introduce Ordinance No. 22-09.

Roll Call:

<b>Councilman Graham</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Councilwoman Loffredo</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>Councilman Kearney</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Councilwoman Salmon</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilman Lazarow</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Council President Blumenstock</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**5-AYES, 1-ABSENT** Ordinance No. 22-09 was introduced.

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

**FINANCE AND PERSONNEL: Councilman Lazarow, Chair** NO REPORT

**FIRE AND OEM: Councilman Kearney, Chair**

My deepest condolences to past Chief Alan Tweedle, the entire Tweedle family and both the Garwood Fire Department and the Ladies Auxiliary on the passing of Barbara Tweedle. You are in all our thoughts and prayers tonight.

For my report: The Fire Committee met last Friday to discuss several possible changes to the Borough Code requested by the Fire Department and the Fire Prevention Bureau. We also met with Fire Official Len Spina to discuss the procedures of the Fire Prevention Bureau, including inspections. Discussions and follow up on these matters are ongoing, with committee comments due to me by tomorrow for review. I will provide all committee comments to the Fire Chief and Fire Official, then schedule a follow up meeting to finalize things. I'm hoping to have proposed code changes for the full Council to review by the end of July, obviously this will require an Ordinance as well.

**FACILITIES, GROUNDS AND SHADE TREES: Councilwoman Loffredo, Chair** NO REPORT

**STREETS, ECOLOGY AND SUSTAINABILITY: Council President Blumenstock, Chair**

In addition to regular garbage pickup, the DPW performed street sweeping operations in accordance with the annual Public Works Schedule. They put up and took down the no parking signs accordingly. They also trimmed bushes at Kennedy Plaza and Georgiana Memorial and assembled the new tables for the Sports Complex. The department also removed the Garwood Rocks banners and watered the flowers in the street side pots throughout the Borough. Pothole repairs were performed on the North and South side of the Borough in the following areas:

- Intersection of West Street and Spruce Avenue
- Intersection of East Street and Locust Avenue
- Hemlock Avenue
- West Street
- Gallows Hill Road
- 400 Block Myrtle Avenue
- 80 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue
- 38 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue
- 267 Beech Avenue

In-house mechanic repairs included the installation of a new catalytic converter and axle on the foreman's vehicle. That's all for my report.

**POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY: Councilman Graham, Chair**

Since the last meeting of Mayor and Council on June 9, 2022 the Garwood Police Department has recorded the following activity:

- Initiated 53 motor vehicle stops
- Conducted 56 building/property checks
- Initiated 15 community policing posts
- Assigned to 53 fixed traffic posts (Radar, Stop Sign, Distracted Driving)
- Responded to 16 calls for medical assist
- Responded to 6 business/residential alarms
- Responded to 17 false 911/fire/co alarms
- Responded to 3 calls for disabled vehicles
- Conducted 3 well being checks

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: RECREATION, HISTORICAL AND CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEES:**  
**Councilwoman Salmon, Chair**

Garwood Recreation hosted their first ever kickball event this past Friday. It was an amazing night, the kids enjoyed the game and being able to spend the night at the recreation complex with friends. Summer Recreation is right around the corner and has a registration of 194 kids. During the parents meeting held last week camp director Heather Linken reviewed all the great events they have planned from archery tag to wacky water Wednesday hosted by our fire department. Camp will begin on Monday June 27<sup>th</sup>.

**COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: Councilman Kearney**

As I mentioned earlier, the committee hashed out several changes to the social media policy for the employee handbook over our last few meetings. I'm happy to report these changes come out of committee with the support of all three members. However, based on the earlier discussion, we will be getting the band back together one last time to finalize things.

We're in the process of scheduling our next meeting, where we will be working on a possible update to the Borough Code regarding recordings of public meetings (meaning both this Council and the Planning Board). The code was last updated on this topic in 2014, so I'm proposing a general cleanup to modernize the language and reflect current practice. I'm hoping to work out details in committee and have something for the full Council to review after that.

**BOARD OF HEALTH LIAISON: Councilman Graham**

The last Garwood Board of Health meeting was held on Wednesday June 15<sup>th</sup>

The Westfield Board of Health distributed covid home tests to the directors of the day cares/preschools in Garwood to be provided to the employees for testing of their employees.

It was reported there were 42 Covid cases reported during the month of May (up from 32 in April). Statewide, daily cases are 21% lower than last week but 40% higher than a month ago. It does seem as though this wave has peaked as New Jersey's rate of transmission is now 1, meaning the cases have leveled off.

The health department continues to provide vaccinations. Residents can also book appointments online by visiting [westfieldnj.gov/vaccine-appointments](https://westfieldnj.gov/vaccine-appointments) or by calling 908-789-4070. Home visits continue to be offered as well. That's all for my report Mayor.

**LIBRARY, MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE: Councilman Lazarow**

The Library has resumed its regular hours of operation. The hours are as follows:

Monday through Thursday 9 am to 8 pm, Friday 9 to 4:30 pm and Saturday 10 am to 1 pm

The Library is closed on Saturdays in July and August

The library will be closed on July 4th for Independence Day

JUNE EVENTS.

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

JULY EVENTS

July 7 at 2 pm – Float In Movie - Children will create a seafaring vessel then watch an Ocean Adventure movie. Popcorn will be provided. For children entering second grade and younger.

July 12 at 2 pm - Reptiles and Amphibians Show - Get up close to the coolest reptiles and amphibians including frogs, toads and salamanders from around the world. Registration is required.

July 14 at 2 pm – Water STEM – Water science fun with boats, skittles, food coloring and baked goods. For kids in 2nd grade and older. Registration required.

July 20 at 10 am – noon - Aging Services Kiosk (ASK) – Union County Division of Aging Staff will be on hand to assist seniors (age 60+) or their caregivers with information on services, such as meal delivery, respite care, adult day care and support services for caregivers.

**SCHOOL BOARD LIAISON: Councilman Kearney**

The next meeting for the Garwood Board of Education will be held at Lincoln School next Tuesday, July 28th, 2022, at 7pm so I will have a report at our next meeting. Also, congratulations to all the 8th graders who graduated on Tuesday this week!

**GARWOOD SENIOR CITIZEN LIAISON: Council President Blumenstock**

We had our last senior club meeting on June 16<sup>th</sup>, with lunch and bingo. The senior club is planning a trip to Atlantic City on July 20<sup>th</sup>. Any seniors can contact me for further information if they would like to attend. And tomorrow we have a movie screening at the library at 12pm. We'll be screening An American in Paris so stay cool in the library and watch a classic with us. That's all for my report.

**SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORY LIAISON: Councilman Kearney**

The Small Business Advisory Board met this past Monday, June 13th via Zoom. We discussed initiatives for the rest of the year, with some possible dates for another networking event, the return of Garwood Restaurant Week and a first ever Garwood Wellness Week which we will use to feature our many gyms, spas, salons, and other small businesses which focus on personal wellness and improvement.

Tentative dates are as follows:

- Meet & Greet / Garwood Business Networking Event; Saturday September 18
- The return of Garwood Restaurant Week; week of October 10th (10/10 through 10/16).
- Our first Garwood Wellness Week; November 1st through 6th

The Board is still firming up some of the details, and the dates may change, so write this all down in pencil for the moment. I expect to have solid dates by our next meeting.

**PLANNING BOARD LIAISON: Councilwoman Salmon**

The 2 ordinances memorializing the paperboard and the fence ordinance on South Avenue were unanimously approved at last night's planning board meeting. The planning board also reviewed an application for 2 new 2 family homes on the 100 block of 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. The board reviewed the plans with the applicant and made multiple requests for revisions. The requests included plans to push the footprint of the house back 9 feet to improve parking and changes to the exterior aesthetics of the home. The applicant agreed and will submit updated project plans at the next planning board meeting. The next meeting of the planning board will be held on July 20<sup>th</sup>.

**OFFICER'S REPORTS:**

Chief of Police Monthly Reports for May, 2022.

A motion was made by Councilman Graham, 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.



Kathy Villaggio, 313 Fourth Avenue, requested clarification regarding the curb and sidewalk replacement project as related to homeowner assessment fees.

Ms. Villaggio suggested obtaining a consensus of the homeowners affected prior to the curb and sidewalk replacement project.

Michele Capobianco, 404 Myrtle Avenue, thanked the Council for establishing a parking committee.

Mrs. Capobianco requested clarification regarding street parking at Vermella.

Mrs. Capobianco requested clarification regarding the DPW shared service agreement.

Mrs. Capobianco requested clarification regarding SCBA grant funds as related to the Capital Budget.

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

Mayor Todisco stated the concern regarding potential homeowner assessment fees will be reviewed and clarified.

Mayor Todisco clarified that upon adoption of Ordinance #22-09 parking signage at Vermella will be facilitated. Mayor Todisco stated the parking committee will assist with the next steps.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Harris clarified the terms regarding termination of shared services with Fanwood as outlined in the agreement.

Mayor Todisco clarified the Fire Department's capital budget.

Mr. Harris clarified the grant status of the SCBA equipment.

### **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. 22-092**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Council of the Borough of Garwood County of Union, State of New Jersey, hereby authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to sign the Indemnification Agreement with the County of Union for use of the Conservation Center for leaf disposal.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 22-093**

**WHEREAS**, the State of New Jersey, Department of Law & Public Safety, Division of ABC, has granted a special ruling pursuant to N.J.S.A. 33:1-12.39; for the 2022-2023 AND 2023-2024 license term to:

License #2006-33-005-010  
Garwood Hospitality Group, LLC  
No Premises – Pocket License  
Mailing Address:  
345 South Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Garwood, NJ 07027

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey, hereby renews the Plenary Retail Consumption License for:

License #2006-33-005-010  
License Period: Effective July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Municipal Clerk be and she is hereby directed to comply with the special ruling.

**RESOLUTION NO. 22-094**

**WHEREAS**, an application has been filed for a place-to-place transfer (Expansion of Premises) of Plenary Retail Consumption License with Broad C Package Privilege # 2006-32-006-005, LAXMEE, LLC, a Limited Liability Co., dba Dittrick's Wines and Liquors, for purposes of expanding the premises under license wherein the sale, service, and storage of alcoholic beverages are authorized;

**WHEREAS**, the submitted application form is complete in all respects, the transfer fees have been paid, and the license has been properly renewed for the current license term;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Borough of Garwood does hereby approve, effective July 1, 2022, the expansion of the aforesaid Plenary Retail Consumption with Broad C Package licensed premises located at 2 North Avenue, Garwood, New Jersey, to place under license the area delineated in the application form and the sketch of the licensed premises attached hereto.

**RESOLUTION NO. 22-095**

**Resolution Urging the Swift Passage of S-330 which restores Energy Tax Receipts**

**WHEREAS**, taxes on gas and electric utilities were originally collected by the host municipalities to be used for local purposes and to compensate the public for the use of their rights of way; and

**WHEREAS**, when the State made itself the collection agent for these taxes, it promised to dedicate the proceeds to municipal property tax relief; since, just as municipalities collect property taxes for the benefit of school districts, counties, and other entities, the State is supposed to collect Energy Taxes for the benefit of municipal governments; and

**WHEREAS**, for years, though, State budget makers have diverted funding from Energy Taxes to fund State programs; and instead of being spent on local programs and services and used to offset property taxes, the money has been spent as successive Legislatures and Administrations have seen fit; and

**WHEREAS**, the diversion of dedicated energy tax receipts to the State's General Fund further jeopardizes this critical property tax relief funding in future years; and

**WHEREAS**, by reducing Consolidated Municipal Property Tax Relief Act (CMPTRA), which is also comprised of revenues that should be returned to municipalities, State Budget makers have been able to continue collecting Energy Taxes, while keeping additional revenue that should have been returned to provide property tax relief; and

**WHEREAS**, the cumulative impact of years of underfunding has left many municipalities with serious needs and burdensome property taxes; and

**WHEREAS**, local elected officials are in the best position to decide the best use of these resources, which were always intended to fund local programs and services; and

**WHEREAS**, Senator Singleton and Senate President Scutari have introduced legislation (S-330) that will restore, over a five-year period, Energy Tax Receipts to municipalities; and

**WHEREAS**, Assembly members Benson, Moriarty and Jaffer have introduced a companion legislation (A-3804); and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the governing body of the Borough of Garwood in the County of Union urges the Legislature to swiftly pass this legislation and Governor Murphy to sign the legislation prior to passage of the FY2023 State budget; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this Resolution is forwarded to Assembly Members Munoz and Matsikoudis, Senator Bramnick, Senate President Scutari, Assembly Speaker Coughlin, Governor Murphy, and the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

**RESOLUTION NO. 22-096**

**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 Diana Sinchi-Beltran as Civilian Police Dispatcher.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, by the Council of the Borough of Garwood that Diana Sinchi-Beltran, 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 July 5, 2022.

**RESOLUTION NO. 22-097**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND MUNICIPAL CLERK OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF UNION TO MODIFY THE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT DATED JUNE 2014, AS AMENDED JULY 2017.**

**WHEREAS**, certain Federal funds are potentially available to the County of Union under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Block Grant Act of 1974, as amended, commonly known as the Community Development Block Grant Program; and  
**WHEREAS**, certain Federal funds are potentially available to the County of Union under Title II of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, commonly known as the HOME Investment Partnership program; and  
**WHEREAS**, substantial Federal funds provided through subtitle B of Title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act commonly known as the Emergency Solutions Grants program (ESG) are allocated to prevent homelessness and to enable homeless individuals and families to move toward independent living; and  
**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to amend an existing Cooperative Agreement for the County of Union and its people to benefit from this program; and  
**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of the Municipality of the Borough of Garwood and the County of Union in cooperation with each other to enter into a modification of the existing Cooperative Agreement pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq;  
**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Governing Body of the Municipality of the Borough of Garwood that the agreement entitled **“COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF UNION AND CERTAIN MUNICIPALITIES FOR CONDUCTING CERTAIN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES,”** dated June 2014, as amended July 2017 for the Purpose of Inserting a Description of Activities for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 of the Union County Community Development Block Grant program, the HOME Investment Partnership program, and the Emergency Shelter Grant program (ESG), a copy of which is attached hereto; be executed by the Mayor and Municipal Clerk in accordance with the provisions of law;  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

**RESOLUTION NO. 22-098**

**WHEREAS**, Monsignor Ronald Marczewski of the Church of St. Anne in Garwood is taking his well earned and deserved retirement after 48 years in ministry in the Roman Catholic Church. Monsignor Ron, as he is commonly referred to as, has faithfully served the Garwood community as Monsignor of the Church of St. Anne for the past six years with pride and dedication; and  
**WHEREAS**, Monsignor Ron has been very supportive of the local Police and Fire Departments, including his service as Chaplain of the Garwood Fire Department; and  
**WHEREAS**, Monsignor Ron has delivered the invocations and benedictions at the annual Memorial Service held by the Garwood Fire Department in memory of their deceased members and members of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Garwood Fire Department as well as the annual Memorial Day Remembrance Service hosted by the Garwood Celebrations Committee; and  
**WHEREAS**, Monsignor Ron has participated in numerous other community events, including, but not limited to the Rededication of Police Officer Thomas P. Haughton Memorial Plaza and the Veterans Day Service at the Purple Heart Monument located at Georgiana Gurrieri Memorial Park; and  
**WHEREAS**, Monsignor Ron is a 4th Degree Member of the Knights of Columbus and is the Chaplain for both the Garwood Knights of Columbus and the Union County 4th Degree Knights of Columbus; and  
**WHEREAS**, Monsignor Ron was born in Bayonne, raised in Roselle Park, and ordained in 1974 and served as an Associate of St. Adalbert in Elizabeth, as Campus Ministry at Rutgers University and the New Jersey Institute of Technology, before taking a one year leave to study spirituality in Rome, England, and Ireland; and  
**WHEREAS**, Monsignor Ron continued his ministry as the Chaplain of Essex Catholic Boys High School, then served as Executive Director of the CYO Youth and Young Adults Ministry, then returned to St. Adalbert in Elizabeth for ten years as Pastor, then spent ten years as Pastor at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Bayonne, before arriving at the Church of St. Anne in Garwood on July 1, 2016;  
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey, hereby publicly commend Monsignor Ron Marczewski for the dedicated service to the parishioners of the Church of St. Anne as well as the Garwood community at-large, and extend “Best Wishes” for the future.  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution is to be presented to Monsignor Ron Marczewski.

**RESOLUTION NO. 22-099**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A LIEN AGAINST THE PROPERTIES LISTED HEREIN FOR THE COST OF REMOVING FROM THE PROPOERTIES BRUSH, WEEDS, DEAD AND DYING TREES, STUMPS, ROOTS, OBNOXIOUS GROWTHS, FILTH, GARBAGE, LITTER AND DEBRIS IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40:48-2.14 AND THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD CODE SECTION 99-17**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40:48-2.14 and Borough of Garwood Code Section 99-17 authorize municipalities by Ordinance to require the owners of the property to remove from their property or destroy brush, weeds, including ragweed, dead and dying trees, stumps, roots, obnoxious growth, filth, garbage trash and debris within five (5) days after notice to remove or destroy same; and  
**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40:48-2.14 and Borough of Garwood Code Section 99-17 provide that if owners fail to remove brush, stumps, debris, etc, from the property after receiving such notice, the Borough may do the removal and charge the costs to the owner; and if not paid, the governing body may cause the cost to become a lien against the properties; **and**  
**WHEREAS**, this lien may be enforced by the same officers and in the same manner as taxes; and

**WHEREAS, pursuant to** Borough of Garwood Code Section 99-17 a Notice and Order directed owners listed herein to remove from their property brush, weeds, debris, etc. within five (5) days of the date of Notice and Order; and

**WHEREAS,** the owners listed herein after receiving the after receiving the Notice and Order failed to remove brush, weeds, debris, etc. from their property; and

**WHEREAS,** as a result, the Department of Public Works (DPW) has removed the brush, stumps, weeds, etc. from the property; and

**WHEREAS,** the DPW has certified the cost of removal to the Council, and the Council has examined these costs and found them to be correct and reasonable.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Garwood, the Council hereby authorizes the Tax Collector of the Borough of Garwood to cause the cost as shown herein to be charged against said property as a lien:

201 Hickory Avenue                      Block 614/Lot 22                      6/17/22                      \$109.12

**RESOLUTION NO. 22-100**

**WHEREAS,** on June 20, 2022 the Borough Administrator received correspondence dated May 16, 2022 from the President of the Garwood Board of Health advising that Jennifer Ryan resigned from her position on the Garwood Board of Health effective immediately.

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

Roll Call:

<b>Councilman Graham</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Councilwoman Loffredo</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>Councilman Kearney</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Councilwoman Salmon</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilman Lazarow</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Council President Blumenstock</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**RESOLUTIONS DELETED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:**

NONE

**NEW BUSINESS**

Dominick Glynn	Small Business Advisory Committee	6/24/22 - 12/31/22
Sharon Reed	Small Business Advisory Committee	7/07/22 - 12/31/22

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

Roll Call:

<b>Councilman Graham</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Councilwoman Loffredo</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>Councilman Kearney</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Councilwoman Salmon</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilman Lazarow</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>Council President Blumenstock</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

The Municipal Clerk read the following:

**RESOLUTION NO. 22-101**

**CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS 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 matter.

**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 subject 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.

Action may be taken after the Executive session.

At 8:35 P.M. a motion was made by Councilman Lazarow, second by Council President Blumenstock, to adopt Resolution 22-101.

All in favor.

At 9:02 P.M. a motion was made by Councilman Graham, second by Councilman Kearney, to resume the regular session.

All in favor.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on **Thursday, July 14, 2022**, at 7:00 P.M. in Council Chambers.

Information for meetings is posted on the Borough website: [https://garwood.org/gb\\_notices](https://garwood.org/gb_notices)

A motion was made by Council President Blumenstock, second by Councilman Kearney, to adjourn.

Time: 9:03 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:



Catherine D. Cameron, R.M.C.

Borough Clerk