

Borough of Garwood

Meeting of the Mayor and Council

MINUTES

July 11, 2019

Time: 7:48 p.m.
Moment of Silence.....
Salute to the Flag.....

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided to the Westfield Leader, advertised on January 3, 2019, notification was sent to the Star Ledger and prominently posted on the municipal public bulletin board and filed in the office of the municipal clerk informing the Public of the time and place according to the Provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975).

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Todisco	P		
Councilman Benoit	P	Councilman Ince	P
Councilwoman Blumenstock	P	Councilman McCormack	P
Councilman Graham	P	Council President Lazarow	P

Also present Borough Administrator/Municipal Clerk Christina M. Ariemma and Attorney Scott Salmon, Esq.

MINUTES:

Regular and Workshop Minutes of the Mayor and Council held on June 27, 2019.

A motion was made by Councilman Graham, second by Councilman Ince to accept minutes as presented. All in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1) NEW JERSEY STATE LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES –
 - a. Mayor's Advisory –
 - i. 06/24/19, RE: Weekly Round-Up for June 17 - 21
 - ii. 06/24/19, RE: Daily Update
 - iii. 06/28/19, RE: Weekly Round-Up for June 24-28
 - iv. 07/08/19, RE: Daily Update
 - v. 07/08/19, RE: Governor Freezes Most Transition Aid
- 2) UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS – 06/25/19, RE: Ordinance 807-2019
- 3) UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS – 07/08/19, RE: Ordinance 808-2019
- 4) TOWNSHIP OF UNION – 07/08/19, RE: Resolution 2019-224 urging Legislature to increase the senior citizens and veterans property tax deduction to \$500.00 per year
- 5) RAHWAY VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY – 06/24/19, RE: Minutes Approved at RVSA's June 16, 2019 Meeting

ALL RECEIVED AND FILED.

ORDINANCES:

Public Hearing on Ordinance 19-14 as advertised in the Westfield Leader.

ADOPTION:

Municipal Clerk to read Ordinance 19-14 by title only:

ORDINANCE NO. 19-14

BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE 2019 ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$440,000 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.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Garwood, in the County of Union, New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. The Borough of Garwood, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey (the "Borough"), is hereby authorized to resurface the following roads in the Borough as the 2019 Road Improvement Project (including drainage, sidewalk, curb and driveway apron improvements, where necessary):

Liberty Court
Union Street
Pine Avenue (from West Street to Center Street)

Depending upon the contract price and other exigent circumstances, and upon approval by the Borough Council, there may be additions to or deletions from the above list. Said improvements shall include all work, materials and appurtenances necessary and suitable therefor. It is hereby determined and stated that said roads being improved are of "Class B" or equivalent construction as defined in Section 22 of the Local Bond Law (Chapter 2 of Title 40A of the New Jersey Statutes Annotated, as amended; the "Local Bond Law").

Section 2. The sum of \$440,000 is hereby appropriated to the payment of the cost of making the improvements described in Section 1 of this ordinance (hereinafter referred to as "purpose"). Said appropriation shall be met from the proceeds of the sale of the bonds authorized and the State grant appropriated by this ordinance. No down payment is required pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:2-11(c) because this ordinance involves a project to be funded by a State grant. Said improvements shall be made as general improvements and no part of the cost thereof shall be assessed against property specially benefited.

Section 3. It is hereby determined and stated that (1) the making of such improvements is not a current expense of said Borough, and (2) it is necessary to finance said purpose by the issuance of obligations of said Borough pursuant to the Local Bond Law, and (3) the estimated cost of said purpose is \$440,000, and (4) \$280,000 of said sum is to be provided by a State grant hereinafter appropriated, and (5) the estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes necessary to be issued for said purpose is \$160,000, and (6) the cost of such purpose, as hereinbefore stated, includes the aggregate amount of \$56,500 which is estimated to be necessary to finance the cost of such purpose, including architect's fees, accounting, engineering and inspection costs, legal expenses and other expenses, including interest on such obligations to the extent permitted by Section 20 of the Local Bond Law.

Section 4. It is hereby determined and stated that the sum of \$280,000 received or to be received as a grant from the State of New Jersey Department of Transportation is hereby appropriated to the payment of the cost of such purpose.

Section 5. To finance said purpose, bonds of said Borough of an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$160,000 are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to the Local Bond Law. Said bonds shall bear interest at a rate per annum as may be hereafter determined within the limitations prescribed by law. All matters with respect to said bonds not determined by this ordinance shall be determined by resolutions to be hereafter adopted.

Section 6. To finance said purpose, bond anticipation notes of said Borough of an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$160,000 are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to the Local Bond Law in anticipation of the issuance of said bonds. In the event that bonds are issued pursuant to this ordinance, the aggregate amount of notes hereby authorized to be issued shall be reduced by an amount equal to the principal amount of the bonds so issued. If the aggregate amount of outstanding bonds and notes issued pursuant to this ordinance shall at any time exceed the sum first mentioned in this section, the moneys raised by the issuance of said bonds shall, to not less than the amount of such excess, be applied to the payment of such notes then outstanding.

Section 7. Each bond anticipation note issued pursuant to this ordinance shall be dated on or about the date of its issuance and shall be payable not more than one year from its date, shall bear interest at a rate per annum as may be hereafter determined within the limitations prescribed by law and may be renewed from time to time pursuant to and within limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law. Each of said notes shall be signed by the Mayor and by a financial officer and shall be under the seal of said Borough and attested by the Municipal Clerk. Said officers are hereby authorized to execute said notes and to issue said notes in such form as they may adopt in conformity with law. The power to determine any matters with respect to said notes not determined by this ordinance and also the power to sell said notes, is hereby delegated to the Chief Financial Officer who is hereby authorized to sell said notes either at one time or from time to time in the manner provided by law.

Section 8. It is hereby determined and declared that the period of usefulness of said purpose, according to its reasonable life, is a period of ten years computed from the date of said bonds.

Section 9. It is hereby determined and stated that the Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly made and filed in the office of the Municipal Clerk of said Borough, and that such statement so filed shows that the gross debt of said Borough, as defined in Section 43 of the Local Bond Law, is increased by this ordinance by \$160,000 and that the issuance of the bonds and notes authorized by this ordinance will be within all debt limitations prescribed by said Local Bond Law.

Section 10. Any funds received from private parties, the County of Union, the State of New Jersey or any of their agencies or any funds received from the United States of America or any of its agencies in aid of such purpose (other than the State grant hereinbefore appropriated which shall be applied to the cost of such purpose, but shall not be applied to the payment of outstanding bond anticipation notes and the reduction of the amount of bonds authorized), shall be applied to the payment of the cost of such purpose, or, if bond anticipation notes have been issued, to the payment of the bond anticipation notes, and the amount of bonds authorized for such purpose shall be reduced accordingly.

Section 11. The capital budget is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency therewith and the resolutions promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended capital budget and capital program as approved by the Director, Division of Local Government Services, is on file with the Municipal Clerk and is available for public inspection.

Section 12. The Borough intends to issue the bonds or notes to finance the cost of the improvements described in Section 1 of this bond ordinance. If the Borough incurs such costs prior to the issuance of the bonds or notes, the Borough hereby states its reasonable expectation to reimburse itself for such expenditures with the proceeds of such bonds or notes in the maximum principal amount of bonds or notes authorized by this bond ordinance.

Section 13. The full faith and credit of the Borough are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and the interest on the obligations authorized by this ordinance. Said obligations shall be direct, unlimited and general obligations of the Borough, and the Borough shall levy ad valorem taxes upon all the taxable real property within the Borough for the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds and notes, without limitation as to rate or amount.

Section 14. This ordinance shall take effect twenty days after the first publication thereof after final passage.

List correspondence concerning Ordinance 19-14. NONE.

Does anyone present wish to be heard concerning Ordinance 19-14.

Bruce Paterson, 325 Willow Avenue commented on debt.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Blumenstock, second by Council President Lazarow to close Public Hearing on Ordinance 19-14.

A motion was made by Council President Lazarow, second by Councilman Graham to adopt Ordinance 19-14.

Discussion: Mayor Todisco responded to Mr. Paterson's concerns. Council President Lazarow also commented.

Roll Call:

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

6-AYE, 0-NAY, Ordinance 19-14 was adopted.

INTRODUCTION:

Municipal Clerk to read Ordinance 19-15 by title only:

ORDINANCE NO. 19-15

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE I (TRAFFIC AND PARKING) IN ARTICLE XIV (RESIDENT PREFERENTIAL PERMIT PARKING) IN CHAPTER 21 (VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC) TO ESTABLISH RESIDENT PREFERENTIAL PERMIT PARKING ON MYRTLE AVENUE AND SPRUCE AVENUE NEAR THE GARWOOD SPORTS AND RECREATION COMPLEX.

A motion was made by Councilman Benoit, second by Councilwoman Blumenstock by to introduce Ordinance 19-15.

Roll Call:

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

6-AYE, 0-NAY, Ordinance 19-15 was introduced.

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OTHER REPORTS:

POLICE: Councilman Ince, Chr.

The Garwood Police Department is seeking people interested in becoming a crossing guard. If you or someone you know is interested in a position as an alternate please fill out an application with the Chief of Police. Congratulations to Natalie Jacewicz on receiving the Thomas P. Haughton Memorial Scholarship presented by the Garwood PBA Local 117. The Haughton Scholarship is awarded annually to a deserving high school graduate who demonstrates academic excellence and a commitment to community. Well done Natalie!

STREETS AND ROADS/ECOLOGY: Councilwoman Blumenstock Chr.

In addition to regular garbage pickup, the DPW performed brush and chipping operations in various locations of the Borough due to the June 29th storm. Utilizing Fanwood's chipper, they cut up and chipped low hanging branches in various areas of the Borough that were compromised due to the storm. They also cut up and removed the fallen tree at 348 Pine Avenue and pruned, trimmed and elevated shade trees in the following locations of the Borough:

- 100 Block of 2nd Avenue
- 100 Block of 3rd Avenue

The DPW prepared the Sports Complex for the annual Senior's Picnic and provided cleanup after the event. In addition, they continued to prepare the Western side of the underpass walkway (both walls and ceiling) along Center Street for painting. Due to the large amounts of rain and humidity, conditions have not been conducive for painting but as soon as weather permits, it will begin. And finally the DPW performed street sweeping operations along the Center Street underpass in between North and South Avenues and the areas around the Sports Complex including the parking lot. Beginning next week on Tuesday, July 16th, regular street sweeping will begin for our residential streets. Please check out Garwood's website or Facebook page for the full schedule and please move vehicles from the street accordingly. Also, please encourage your neighbors to sign up for NIXLE, as the schedule will be sent out as an alert there as well. That's all for my report, Mayor.

FIRE: Councilman McCormack, Chr.

Read Fire Chief Tweedle's report.

FINANCE: Council President Lazarow, Chr.

The finance committee met on Wednesday to discuss the shared service agreement with Cranford for our buildings and permit department. This contract is set to expire at the end of the year and the committee has

decided to consider other towns that may be interested to share this service. In addition we are also planning to meet with Cranford officials to see if they would like to continue this shared service agreement. As always we will consider finding the best deal that benefits all Garwood residents.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: Councilman Graham

Commented that shading will be installed next week. He thanked Ms. Ariemma for her efforts in the matter.

LAWS AND LICENSES: Councilman Benoit

The Laws & Licenses recently discussed the issue of picketing here in Garwood and the lack of an ordinance to ensure a safe and orderly protest. We will be looking into drafting an ordinance to make sure any future picketing or protesting is done in a safe manner.

RECREATION: Councilman Benoit

The summer program is up and running and it is going very well. About 140 kids are registered for the summer, and Rec has been averaging about a 100 kids a day, which is phenomenal. The staff has been doing a great job of keeping the area safe and clear for the rec kids, and it's going very well. As for upcoming events, keep your eyes on Rec's Facebook page because they will be announcing video game nights for the Garwood kids in the fall.

GARWOOD SENIOR CITIZEN LIAISON: Councilwoman Blumenstock No Report

LIBRARY, MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE: Council President Lazarow

ACTIVITIES:

The Garwood Library continues to celebrate summer reading and the 50th Anniversary of the lunar landing with this year's theme "A Universe of Stories".

The Library had two very popular programs this past week. On **July 9th, Starlab Planetarium**, an inflatable dome planetarium reached maximum capacity. Over 30 children and some parents got to experience the night sky in the day time and travel across the solar system. On the **10th**, young children built and decorated cardboard spaceships for a "**Fly-in Movie**". Photos of both programs are posted on Facebook and Instagram.

Today children created **Binary Name Bracelets** by using binary code to code their name into jewelry.

Check out local landmarks this **Friday July 12th** for the library's **plastic astronaut**. Pictures on Facebook and Instagram will give you hints about the astronaut's location. If you find him, look for a nearby backpack with index cards. The cards can be returned to the library for a prize. The astronaut will appear each Friday in July at a new location.

On **Monday at 1:00 pm**, Steve Woyce will entertain families with a **space-themed magic show**. Volunteers will help make moon rocks appear and go on an amazing magical adventure in this high-energy comedy magic show. This event is full.

On Wednesday, **July 17, at 10:30 am**, toddlers will enjoy an **Astronaut Storytime**. An astronaut on the international space station and their local librarian will read a story followed by bubbles, stickers and an asteroid toss with prizes inside each asteroid. For children birth to 6. Registration is required.

On July 18 and 19 at 1 pm children will make stomp rockets out of PVC pipes and soda bottles. On the 19th they will launch their rocket outside with prizes for the highest and furthest rocket etc. The launch will be followed by a video of the 1969 moon landing via YouTube. For children entering 3rd grade and older. This event is full.

On July 24, at 2 pm, the library welcomes back **Outragehiss Pets**, our favorite animal show. This year features a pig, cockatoo, alligator and wallaby and many more. For children and adults of all ages. This event is full.

On **July 29 at 2 pm**, "**Science Tellers**" (an acting group) will tell the story of a midnight meteor shower, where something mysterious falls from the sky toward Earth — but it's not a shooting star. Two curious kids venture into the forest to investigate and find themselves mixed up with a family of visitors from another planet! Physics and chemistry experiments will be incorporated into the performance. Limit 30. Registration required.

For older adults, on **July 18 from 10 am to noon**, a Union County **Division of Aging Staff** member 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.

The Garwood Library is open Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM, Fridays from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM. The Library will be closed on Saturdays in July and August. Saturday hours will resume **September 7th**.

SCHOOL BOARD LIAISON: Councilwoman Blumenstock No Report

CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC EVENTS AND HOLIDAYS LIAISON: Councilman Benoit

No updates; next meeting is in September.

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE: Councilman Graham

Commented next meeting is next week. He reported on faded veteran street signs.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Jim Wright, Chief of Police: report for the month of May 2019.

Len DiStefano, Zoning Code Enforcement Officer: report for June 2019.

A motion was made by Councilman Graham, second by Councilman Ince to accept Officer's reports.
All in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Is there anyone in the audience who wishes to address the mayor and council please step to the microphone, and state your full name and address. Please limit your comments to five minutes.

John Pritchard, 410 Spruce Avenue commented on America's freedom. He sang a song.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

CONSENT AGENDA

(Adoption upon Roll Call)

"Consent agenda items are considered to be routine and will be enacted with a single motion; any items requiring expenditure are supported by a Certification of Availability of funds; any item requiring discussion will be removed from the Consent Agenda; all Consent Agenda items will be reflected in the full minutes."

NONE

RESOLUTIONS DELETED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:

RESOLUTION NO. 19-233

Resolution: Approval to submit a grant application and execute a grant contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the 2020 DOT Resurfacing of Sections of Cedar Street, Hazel Avenue, and Oak Street.

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as MA-2020-Garwood Borough-00558 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Borough of Garwood.

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

A motion was made by Councilman Graham, second by Councilman Ince to adopt Resolution 19-233.

Discussion: NONE

Roll Call:

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

6-AYE, 0-NAY, Resolution 19-233 was adopted.

NEW BUSINESS:

PROCLAMATION:

Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva (FOB) Awareness and Research.

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 Lazarow to adopt Payment of Claims Resolution.

Roll Call:

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

ADJOURNMENT:

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on, **THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2019**, in Council Chambers at 7:15 p.m. Workshop Session to start at 7:00 p.m.

THERE WILL BE A PUBLIC HEARING IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ON ORDINANCE NO. 19-15, ON THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2019, AT 7:15 P.M. OR SOON THERE AFTER

A motion was made by Councilman Graham, second by Council President Lazarow to adjourn.
Time: 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



CHRISTINA M. ARIEMMA, Municipal Clerk
Borough of Garwood