

Borough of Garwood
MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
AGENDA
August 11, 2022

Time:

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 _____

Councilman Graham _____

Councilman Kearney _____

Councilman Lazarow _____

Councilwoman Loffredo _____

Councilwoman Salmon _____

Council President Blumenstock _____

Roll call staff and professionals:

Kyle Harris, Borough Administrator

Adam Abramson, Borough Attorney

Report of Borough Attorney

Report of Borough Administrator

Report of Mayor Sara Todisco

Comments from the Council:

Councilman Graham

Councilman Kearney

Councilman Lazarow

Councilwoman Loffredo

Councilwoman Salmon

Council President Blumenstock

MINUTES:

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council held on July 28, 2022.

Minutes of the Executive Session of the Mayor and Council held on July 28, 2022.

A motion was made by _____, second by _____ to accept minutes as presented.

All in favor, opposed?

COMMUNICATIONS:

1) NEW JERSEY STATE LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES

a) 07/29/2022, SHBP Rate Increases; Hospital Tax Suit Dismissed; Naloxone Distribution

<https://www.njlm.org/CivicSend/ViewMessage/Message/177461>

b) 07/29/2022, RE: SHPB Rate Renewal Report Released

<https://www.njlm.org/CivicSend/ViewMessage/Message/177622>

c) 08/01/2022, RE: 2022 Annual League Conference Registration is Now Open

<https://www.njlm.org/CivicSend/ViewMessage/Message/177989>

d) 08/05/2022, RE: Outdoor Dining Expansion, DEP Grants, Portal Bridge Groundbreaking

<https://www.njlm.org/CivicSend/ViewMessage/Message/178252>

ORDINANCES:

INTRODUCTION:

Municipal Clerk to read Bond Ordinance No. 22- 10 by title only:

BOND ORDINANCE NO. 22-10

BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE UNDERTAKING OF ENVIRONMENTAL TESTING AND THE PRELIMINARY DESIGN PHASE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS ("DPW") BUILDING OR THE RENOVATION OF THE EXISTING DPW BUILDING IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$40,000 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/BOND_ORD. 22-10.pdf](https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/BOND_ORD.22-10.pdf)

A motion was made by _____, second by _____ to introduce Bond Ordinance No. 22-10.

Roll Call:

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

Municipal Clerk to read Ordinance No. 22-11 by title only:

ORDINANCE NO. 22-11

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BOROUGH CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD BY AMENDING CHAPTER 71, ENTITLED "BUSINESS AND OCCUPATIONS", ARTICLE 1 "HAWKERS, PEDDLERS, SOLICITORS, CANAVASSERS, DISTRIBUTORS OF ADVERTISING".

https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/22-11-Intro-No_Knock_Registry.pdf

A motion was made by _____, second by _____ to introduce Ordinance No. 22-11.

Roll Call:

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

Municipal Clerk to read Ordinance No. 22-12 by title only:

ORDINANCE NO. 22-12

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BOROUGH CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD BY AMENDING CHAPTER 5, ENTITLED "ADMINISTRATION", ARTICLE X "MEETINGS OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL".

https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/22-12_-Establish_Video_Recording_Council_Mtngs.pdf

A motion was made by _____, second by _____ to introduce Ordinance No. 22-12.

Roll Call:

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

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OTHER REPORTS:

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL: Councilman Lazarow, Chair

FIRE AND OEM: Councilman Kearney, Chair

FACILITIES, GROUNDS AND SHADE TREES: Councilwoman Loffredo, Chair

STREETS, ECOLOGY AND SUSTAINABILITY: Council President Blumenstock, Chair

POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY: Councilman Graham, Chair

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

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: Councilman Kearney

LIBRARY, MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE: Councilman Lazarow

SCHOOL BOARD LIAISON: Councilman Kearney

GARWOOD SENIOR CITIZEN LIAISON: Council President Blumenstock

SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORY LIAISON: Councilman Kearney

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Zoning Enforcement Officer's Monthly Report for July, 2022.

https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/Addendum_July_2022.pdf

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

Mayor Todisco requests a motion followed by a second to close public comment.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

CONSENT AGENDA

(Adoption upon Roll Call)

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

RESOLUTION NO. 22-129

Resolution Opposing the Proposed Increases to the State Health Benefits Program

WHEREAS, the State Health Benefits Program (SHBP), governed by N.J.S.A. 52:14-17.25 et seq., offers medical, prescription drug, and dental coverage to qualified State and participating local government public employees, retirees, and eligible dependents; and

WHEREAS, all SHBP plans are self-funded meaning that the money paid out for benefits comes directly from a SHBP fund supplied by the State, participating local employers, and member premiums; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Pensions and Benefits is responsible for the daily administrative activities of the SHBP, the State Health Benefits Commission is the executive organization responsible for overseeing the SHBP; and

WHEREAS, the State Health Benefits Commission, comprised of state officials and union representatives, annually consider the calendar year premium levels for the Local Government Employer Group of the SHBP based on recommendations found in the Rate Setting Recommendation Analysis of the Local Government Employee Group; and

WHEREAS, the preliminary rate increase for the 2023 Local Government Employer Group is 22.8%, which includes a 21.6% increase for Active, a 13% increase in Early Retiree, and a 0.7% increase for Medicare Retiree; and

WHEREAS, subsequent news accounts have the New Jersey Department of Treasury noting "rates for active members and early retirees would likely be increase between 12-20% across the various plans for the upcoming year"; and

WHEREAS, such proposed exorbitant rate increases will fall upon both the local property taxpayer and local public employees, and

WHEREAS, the proposed premium increase for most active employees will take thousands more out of their paychecks annually and lead to huge costs for local governments that will translate into higher property tax bills for struggling families; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the governing body of the Borough of Garwood in the county of Union call upon the State Health Benefit Commission to reconsider the rate increase and strike a rate increase that is appropriate in the current economic conditions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the governing body of the Borough of Garwood in the County of Union urge the legislature to adopt legislation expanding the composition of the State Health Benefits Commission to include representatives from both municipal and county government management; 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.

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

Roll Call:

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

RESOLUTIONS DELETED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:

A motion was made by _____, second by _____ to adopt Resolution No.

Discussion:

Roll Call:

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

NEW BUSINESS

Green Team Members

Term:

Tori Leonard	08/11/2022 - 12/31/2024
Edison Lee	08/11/2022 - 12/31/2024
Mallery Mangan	08/11/2022 - 12/31/2024
Laura Steele	08/11/2022 - 12/31/2024

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 _____ second by _____ to adopt Payment of Claims Resolution.

Roll Call:

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

ADJOURNMENT:

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on **Thursday, August 25, 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 _____ second by _____ to adjourn. Time: _____