

Borough of Garwood

Meeting of the Mayor and Council

AGENDA

October 10, 2019

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 _____

Councilman Benoit _____

Councilwoman Blumenstock _____

Councilman Graham _____

Councilman Ince _____

Councilman McCormack _____

Council President Lazarow _____

MINUTES:

Regular and Workshop Minutes of the Mayor and Council held on September 26, 2019.

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. Mayor's Advisory –
 - i. 10/02/19, RE: Funding for Shared Services & Transportation, Weekly Round-Up, September 27
 - ii. 10/03/19, RE: Notice of Proposed Membership Dues
 - iii. 10/04/19, RE: Court Dismisses SALT Lawsuit: Weekly Round-Up, October 4, 2019.
- 2) **RAHWAY VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY** – 09/23/19, RE: Letter Regarding Change in RVSA's Billing Methodology.
- 3) **BOROUGH OF TINTON FALLS** – 09/23/19, RE: Resolution in Support of Referendum - Veteran's Property Tax Deduction.
- 4) **BOROUGH OF KENILWORTH** – 10/02/19, RE: Sr. Citizen & Veterans Tax Deduction Resolution
- 5) **GARWOOD PLANNING BOARD** – 09/26/19, RE: Minutes of the meeting held on August 28, 2019.

ORDINANCES:

Public Hearing on Ordinance 19-16 as advertised in the Westfield Leader

ADOPTION:

Municipal Clerk to read Ordinance 19-16 by title only:

ORDINANCE NO. 19-16

**ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD,
COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY ADOPTING AN AMENDMENT TO CERTAIN
PROVISIONS OF THE LAND USE ORDINANCE TO REVISE REGULATIONS
PERTAINING TO SUBMISSION OF PLANNING/ZONING APPLICATIONS**

List correspondence concerning Ordinance 19-16.

Does anyone present wish to be heard concerning Ordinance 19-16.

A motion was made by _____, second by _____ to close Public Hearing on Ordinance 19-16.

A motion was made by _____, second by _____ to adopt Ordinance 19-16.

Discussion:

Roll Call:

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

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OTHER REPORTS:

POLICE: Councilman Ince, Chr.

STREETS AND ROADS/ECOLOGY: Councilwoman Blumenstock Chr.

FIRE: Councilman McCormack, Chr.

FINANCE: Council President Lazarow, Chr.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: Councilman Graham

LAWS AND LICENSES: Councilman Benoit

RECREATION: Councilman Benoit

GARWOOD SENIOR CITIZEN LIAISON: Councilwoman Blumenstock

LIBRARY, MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE: Council President Lazarow

SCHOOL BOARD LIAISON: Councilwoman Blumenstock

CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC EVENTS AND HOLIDAYS LIAISON: Councilman Benoit

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE: Councilman Graham

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

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

Judy Mack, Property Maintenance Officer: report for the month September 2019.

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.
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. 19-270

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 contract with the County of Union Municipal Alliance, for the period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

RESOLUTION NO. 19-271

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD, COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, IN OPPOSITION TO FORCED CONSOLIDATION OF THE GARWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the municipalities are excellent fiscal stewards that have been doing more with less ever since New Jersey was founded in 1787 and are run by elected officials that live and work in the communities they represent, and are more committed to working together and the responsible and efficient use of tax dollars than any other level of government; and

WHEREAS, Senate President Stephen Sweeney has called for the forced consolidation of all K-4, K-5, K-6, K-8, and K-9 school districts into regional school districts as part of his 32-recommendation "Path to Progress" plan; and

WHEREAS, last week, Governor Philip Murphy has set aside \$10 million for New Jersey to help promote shared services and Senate President Stephen Sweeney responding by vocalizing support for \$2 million of those dollars to be earmarked to study K-12 consolidation; and

WHEREAS, the Garwood Public School District is a K-8 school district with a send and receive agreement with Clark Public School District for high school; and

WHEREAS, according to New Jersey's Taxpayer Guide to Education Spending, the cost per pupil in the Garwood Public School District was \$20,690 for the 2017 to 2018 school year and the New Jersey State average was \$21,866 for the 2017 to 2018 school year; and

WHEREAS, no studies currently exist on the potential impact of consolidation on the Garwood Public School District; and

WHEREAS, the municipality supports voluntary consolidation of local school districts, if the process is initiated at the local level, has the support of the governing bodies of the affected municipalities, and the completed studies indicate it would be beneficial to Garwood and the surrounding municipalities; and, therefore, it is **RESOLVED** that Garwood Borough, County of Union, opposes any measure, initiative, or plan that mandates the forced consolidation of the Garwood Public School District; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the General Assembly, the Senate, and the Governor be urged to oppose forced consolidation of local school districts without proper investigation and majority support by the local school districts involved in any potential consolidation.

ADOPTED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, the State of New Jersey, this 10th day of October, 2019.

RESOLUTION NO. 19-272

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 2019 in the sum of \$4,934.40 which item is now available as a revenue from the UNION COUNTY Board of Chosen Freeholders, in the amount of \$4,934.40;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the sum of \$4,934.40 is hereby appropriated under the caption of "2019 Union County Library Grant for Children's Programming & Materials".

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

Roll Call:

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

RESOLUTIONS DELETED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:

NEW BUSINESS:

APPOINTMENT: GREEN TEAM

Andrew Wiecek – 2 year term 10/10/2019-12/31/2020

PROCLAMATION:

Breast Cancer Month – October 2019

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

ADJOURNMENT:

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on, **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2019**, in Council Chambers at 7:15 p.m. Workshop Session to start at 7:00 p.m.

A motion was made by _____ second by _____ to adjourn. Time: _____