

Borough of Garwood Meeting of the Mayor and Council

MINUTES

October 23, 2018

Start Time 7:44 p.m.

Moment of Silence.....

Salute to the Flag.....

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided to the Westfield Leader, advertised on January 4, 2018, 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 Lombardo	P		
Councilwoman Bianco	P	Councilman Lazarow	P
Councilwoman Blumenstock	P	Councilman McCormack	P
Councilwoman Cuccaro	Excused	Council President Todisco	P

Also present Borough Administrator/Clerk Christina M Ariemma and Substitute Borough Attorney Adam Colicchio.

MINUTES:

Regular and Workshop Minutes of the Mayor and Council held on October 9, 2018.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Todisco, second by Councilwoman Bianco, to accept minutes as presented.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1) NEW JERSEY STATE LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES –
 - a. Mayor's Advisory –
 - i. 10/09/18, RE: Weekly Round-Up
 - ii. 10/12/18: RE: Weekly Round-Up
 - iii. 10/18/18, RE: Daily Update
 - iv. 10/19/18, RE: Weekly Round-up
- 2) UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS – 10/15/18, RE: Adoption of Ordinance 798-2018 & Ordinance 799-2018
- 3) RAHWAY VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY – 10/11/18, RE: Meeting Notice
- 4) TOWNSHIP OF WESTFIELD - 10/16/18, RE: General Ordinance No. 2113

ALL RECEIVED AND FILED

ORDINANCES:

INTRODUCTION:

Municipal Clerk to read Ordinance 18-26 by title only:

ORDINANCE NO. 18-26

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND § 67-17 (NOTICE AND REGISTRATION REQUIRED) IN ARTICLE VII (MAINTENANCE, REGISTRATION AND REPAIR OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES SUBJECT TO FORECLOSURE) IN CHAPTER 67 (BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES) OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD TO REVISE A REFERENCE TO THE REGISTRATION OR RENEWAL FEE

A motion was made by Councilman Lazarow, second by Council President Blumenstock, to introduce Ordinance 18-26.

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Bianco	AYE	Councilman McCormack	AYE
Councilwoman Cuccaro	EXCUSED	Councilwoman Todisco	AYE
Councilman Lazarow	AYE	Council President Blumenstock	AYE

5-Aye, 1-Excused, Ordinance 18-26 was introduced

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OTHER REPORTS:

POLICE: Councilwoman Bianco, Chr.

The Police Department is temporarily suspending grooming standards to allow officers to participate in No-Shave November. The goal of No-Shave November is to grow awareness by embracing our hair, which many cancer patients lose. Officers will donate the money they typically spend on shaving and grooming to educate about cancer prevention, save lives, and aid those fighting the battle. Anyone interested in supporting the department in their effort or donating to the cause can check us out at www.no-shave.org.

Second Ave between Walnut Street and Maple Street will be closed to vehicle traffic on Saturday October 27th between the hours of 4 to 6 for the annual Trunk-or-Treat celebration sponsored by the Garwood PTA weather permitting.

Congratulations to Captain Douglas Stoffer for receiving the Police Officer of the Year award presented by the Garwood K of C this past Sunday at their annual luncheon. Captain Stoffer was recognized for his hard work and experience in tactical training for first responders to active shooter incidents.

PUBLIC HEALTH: Councilwoman Cuccaro **ABSENT**

STREETS AND ROADS/ECOLOGY: Council President Blumenstock, Chr.

In addition to regular garbage pickup, the DPW repaired ruptured hydraulic lines on Garwood's sweeper and continued street sweeping operations on all Borough streets for the month of October. They put up the Fall banners and installed new mulch at Kennedy Plaza and Hartman Park. Also, the Department removed a large tree at 538 Locust Avenue utilizing Fanwood's bucket truck and performed pothole repairs at the following locations:

- 100 & 300 block of 3rd Avenue
- 2nd Avenue and Gallows Hill
- Center Street
- Chestnut Avenue
- Intersections of 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Avenue and Cedar Street
- Anchor Place
- Brookside Place

Two tons of hot mix asphalt was used to perform the repairs. That's all for my report, Mayor.

FIRE: Councilman McCormack, Chr. **No Report**

FINANCE: Councilwoman Todisco, Chr. **No Report**

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: Councilman Lazarow **No Report**

LAWS AND LICENSES: Councilwoman Cuccaro **ABSENT**

RECREATION: Councilman Lazarow **No Report**

GARWOOD SENIOR CITIZEN LIAISON: Council President Blumenstock

At our last meeting on the 18th, we were treated to a visit by Shoprite's nutritionist Victoria Coglianese. She gave a discussion about healthy nutrition as we age, focusing on protein intake to build muscle and keep our brain function optimal. We talked about different types of proteins and also did a sidebar on probiotics as that was an area of interest to some of the seniors. Victoria also made us a snack consisting of Greek yogurt, avocado, salmon and some spices. Each senior also went home with a Greek yogurt for an afternoon snack. Our next meeting is on November 1st. That's all for my report, Mayor.

LIBRARY, MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE: Councilman Lazarow

The following is a list of ongoing programs at the Library:

Knitting Club – Every Monday and Thursday at 10:30am

Kid's Chess - Every Monday at 3:00pm.

Book Clubs - Monday afternoon at 1pm and Thursday evening at 7 pm.

Story Time - Every Wednesday at 10:30am.

NASSA Academy – Every Wednesday at 3:00pm through November 14

Explore It – (STEM program) Every Tuesday at 3pm through December 18

Kid's Craft – Wednesday, November 15 at 3:00pm

Lego Club - Thursday November 1 at 3:00pm

The Library's second annual family pumpkin decorating contest started yesterday. Voting will be open until Friday, October 26. You can vote in person or on our Facebook page by voting yes in the comment section underneath a picture of your favorite pumpkin. Winners will be announced on Friday, October 26.

The Library will be a polling location on November 6. The Library will be open but all programs are cancelled and seating will be limited.

On Tuesday, November 13, life coach, Sharon Moore will discuss how life coaches can help people produce positive results in their personal life, relationships, and careers.

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, and Saturdays from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The Library will be **closed** Monday, November 12 in observance of Veterans Day.

SCHOOL BOARD LIAISON: Councilman McCormack

The results of the PARCC testing year four were presented at the Board of Education meeting. Lincoln School students outperformed that national average for math in all grade levels. Students in 4th, 5th, 6th and 8th grades outperformed the state with English Language Arts. After 25 years of teaching, Mrs. Karen McCarrick will be retiring. I would like to thank her for her service as she taught my three daughters and now my two grandchildren.

CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC EVENTS AND HOLIDAYS LIAISON:

Councilwoman Cuccaro READ BY: Mayor Lombardo

The Pumpkin Carving Contest will be held this Saturday at the Garwood First Squad parking lot at 4:30 pm. If raining, a rain location change will be determined.

The Halloween House Decoration Contest will be judged the weekend before Halloween. The prizes will be awarded after the Halloween parade.

UNION COUNTY AIR TRAFFIC NOISE ADVISORY BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:

Councilman McCormack

UNION COUNTY TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY REPRESENTATIVE: Councilwoman Bianco

No Report

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE: Councilwoman Todisco

Thank you, Mayor. The Historical Committee met last night. As the holiday season is right around the corner, I wanted to encourage anyone interested to purchase a set of ornaments from the Historical Committee. This is the second year that a set of three ornaments showcasing Garwood's history will be sold. This year, they include historical photos of three Garwood schools that are no longer in operation-- Jefferson, St. Anne's, and Franklin School. They are on sale for \$15 per set and can be purchased from any committee member. They will also be sold at the Lions Club Halloween Parade at Lincoln School at 7pm in the school gym next Wednesday, Halloween itself as well as sold at the Tree Lighting on November 24th. Also, magnets continue to be sold at \$5 a piece at the Library and Borough Hall or from a committee member. If you purchased one already and it is damaged from being out in the elements, you can bring it back to be replaced with a new one. Please consider supporting the Garwood Historical Committee through one or both of these fundraisers.

In other news, the Committee is already starting to think about the spring newsletter. Within the month, the plaque in center field will be relocated to another rock near the Recreation Complex parking lot for all to admire. The plaque was for the James V. Guerriero field dedication in 1959 and lists the mayor and council. Mayor Casabona was a councilman at that time in 1959, and is the last living member on that governing body list.

The Historical Committee will work with Superintendent of Schools Dr. Quigley to hopefully further efforts to educate the youth of Garwood on the Borough's short, but rich history. The Committee is discussing some ideas for how to go about this, such as through an assembly presentation, homework assignment, or summer writing assignment with prizes awarded.

PARKING COMMITTEE: Councilwoman Bianco

1. With the demolition of the Casalle property, we no longer have the parking for Garwood (during snowstorms 3" or more) that we once had (approx 60 parking spots), for residents that do not have driveways. Cars must be removed from the street so the plows can get through.

We are working to accommodate with some parking (approx 35) at the athletic field, as well as municipal lots

1(police plaza)(approx 15), & 2 across from Lorenzo's(approx 18). However, we are hoping residents will reach out to a neighbor or family/friend during this time. If all else fails, residents will be permitted to park on their lawns.

2.Residential Parking Permits-Enforcement has been steady, more and more residents are complying. New permits are available for the exterior side of window. The interior stickers became an issue as they were not visible through tinted windows, or the ink had oxidized and faded beyond reasonable recognition. These can be obtained FREE OF CHARGE Tuesdays and Thursdays 2 to 6 pm.

3. Signs were ordered for Myrtle and spruce, and the athletic field. They should be in within a couple of weeks, and will be installed by the DPW.

4. Signs were ordered for N Chestnut St to alleviate traffic, and keep it flowing to 4th Ave parking lot, they will be in and installed by the DPW as well.

105 Center St.

5. The renovations to the commercial space, and building of apartments above the existing building was contingent upon the owner providing 6 off street parking for tenants. At the time this was approved by the planning board, there was a lease for this required off street parking with caselle, since demolition began is no longer available. An ordinance was passed, and CO will not be issued unless the off street parking situation is satisfied.

Councilman McCormack commented on the lack of parking and the Planning Board allowing projects without parking. Councilwoman Todisco commented on the parking project.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Sandra Bruns, Tax Collector – Third Quarter Tax Collection, Revenue and Expenditure Reports

A motion was made by Councilwoman Todisco, second by Councilwoman Bianco, to accept Officer's reports.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Al DelConte, 545 Locust Avenue suggested a location for a flagpole. He commented on lawn signs of political nature.

Bruce Paterson, 325 Willow Avenue commented on statements made.

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 three minutes.

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. 18-198

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey, hereby approve the CFO/Treasurer to issue a check to refund the tax overpayment on the following property:

PROPERTY OWNER/ADDRESS	BLK/LOT	AMOUNT
Robert & Carole Williams 436 Pine Avenue Garwood, NJ 07027	602/20	\$555.16

Robert & Carole Williams
436 Pine Avenue
Garwood, NJ 07027

REFUND TO:

Robert & Carole Williams
436 Pine Avenue
Garwood, NJ 07027

Amount of refund: \$555.16

EXPLANATION: Tax Assessor granted a Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption on September 22, 2018. 2018 Final taxes have been prorated to date of exemption resulting in an overpayment.

RESOLUTION NO. 18-199

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 2018/19 AND 2019/20 license term to:

License #2006-33-005-008

Quick Copper Holdings LLC
No Premises – Pocket License
Mailing Address:
345 South Avenue, 3rd 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 #2006-33-005-008

License Period: Effective July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019

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

RESOLUTION NO. 18-200

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Garwood hereby set the fixed asset threshold at \$5,000.00, in accordance with the threshold for "nonexpendable, tangible personal property," as defined in Technical Accounting Directive Number 85-2, "Accounting for Governmental Fixed Assets," revised from \$1,000 to \$5,000 for both municipalities and counties, effective January 1, 1997, established by the federal government.

RESOLUTION NO. 18-201

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey hereby authorize the Borough Administrator/Clerk to prepare Request for Proposals for professional services as listed for year 2019 in the Borough of Garwood.

- Professional Legal Services – Borough Attorney
- Professional Legal Service – Labor Attorney
- Professional Legal Service – Tax Appeals Attorney
- Professional Engineering Services – Contractual Engineering
- Professional Auditing Services - Auditor
- Municipal Prosecutor
- Municipal Public Defender

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Municipal Clerk be and is hereby authorized to solicit proposals for the above services in accordance with law.

RESOLUTION NO. 18-202

WHEREAS, James H. Wright, Chief of Police has recommended that Patrolman Gregory L. Sanchez, Police Officer in the Garwood Police Department be upgraded to Step 2 Patrolman, pending approval from Council.

NOW THEREFORE BE RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey hereby authorize that Gregory L. Sanchez be upgraded from a Step 1 Patrolman, to a Step 2 Patrolman in the Garwood Police Department, effective November 6, 2018, at an annual salary of \$49,980.00 in accordance with the existing P.B.A. Contract.

RESOLUTION NO. 18-203

WHEREAS, on October 18, 2018, the Borough Administrator/Clerk received correspondence from Peter Picarelli, Property Maintenance Officer dated October 16, 2018, advising that he is resigning from his employment with the Borough of Garwood; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Picarelli has advised that his resignation shall be effective on October 31, 2018; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Garwood as follows:

- 1) The Borough of Garwood hereby accepts and relies upon the October 16, 2018 notice of resignation from Peter Picarelli.
- 2) Effective October 31, 2018, Peter Picarelli shall have resigned from his position as Property Maintenance Officer with the Borough of Garwood.
- 3) This resolution puts the Chief of Police on notice to immediately process this resignation and to commence a search for a candidate to fill the position of Property Maintenance Officer.
- 4) This resolution shall take effect immediately.

RESOLUTION NO. 18-204

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey hereby authorizes the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to sign the Facility Use Agreement between the Borough of Garwood and Quick Cooper Holdings, LLC, for the Garwood Fire Department to conduct training on the property at 484 Fourth Avenue that is schedule for demolition by the owner.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Todisco, second by Councilwoman Bianco, to adopt Consent Agenda.

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Bianco	AYE	Councilman McCormack	AYE
Councilwoman Cuccaro	EXCUSED	Councilwoman Todisco	AYE
Councilman Lazarow	AYE	Council President Blumenstock	AYE

RESOLUTIONS DELETED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:

Ms. Ariemma read:

RESOLUTION NO. 18-205

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey, in accordance with Borough Code, Chapter 99-12.1-B,C, hereby set forth the following:

1. The bulk pickup program will be held twice in 2019. Spring pick up will be held on Monday, June 10, 2019 and run for as many days as necessary to complete the program in accordance with the number of permits sold. Fall pick up will be held on Monday, October 21, 2019 and run for as many days as necessary to complete the program in accordance with the number of permits sold.

2. The bulk permit program fee for 2019 is hereby set at \$95.00 per permit, per household for the disposal of up to 750 lbs. of bulk type waste

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey, hereby authorize the Borough Administrator/Clerk to proceed to implement the above accordingly.

A motion was made by Council President Blumenstock, second by Councilwoman Bianco to adopt Resolution 18-205

Discussion: NONE

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Bianco	AYE	Councilman McCormack	AYE
Councilwoman Cuccaro	EXCUSED	Councilwoman Todisco	AYE
Councilman Lazarow	AYE	Council President Blumenstock	AYE

5-Aye, 1-Excused, Resolution 18-205 was adopted

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Lazarow asked about healthcare for employees.

Councilman McCormack thanked Quick Copper Holdings for allowing the fire department to demolition their building.

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

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Bianco	AYE	Councilman McCormack	AYE
Councilwoman Cuccaro	EXCUSED	Councilwoman Todisco	AYE
Councilman Lazarow	AYE	Council President Blumenstock	AYE

ADJOURNMENT:

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on, **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2018**, 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. 18-26, ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2018, AT 7:15 P.M. OR SOON THERE AFTER

THERE WILL BE A PUBLIC HEARING IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS AND ON THE UNION COUNTY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT YEAR 45 PROPOSALS ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2018, AT 7:15 P.M. OR SOON THERE AFTER.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Todisco, Second by Councilwoman Bianco, to adjourn.

Time: 8:17p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



CHRISTINA M. ARIEMMA, Municipal Clerk
Borough of Garwood