



BOROUGH OF FAIR LAWN
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 24, 2022

Mayor Peluso called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting, giving the time, date and information for accessing this public meeting, was sent to 'The Record' on March 2, 2022, was posted on the bulletin board located on the 1st floor of the Municipal Building, was filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk, and was posted on the Borough's website.

PRESENT: Mayor Peluso, Deputy Mayor Cutrone, Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause, Councilmembers Reinitz and Rottenstrich.

ALSO PRESENT: Manager Van Kruijning, Acting Municipal Clerk Magarelli, and Borough Attorney Verrone.

FLAG SALUTE

PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Peluso read and presented the following proclamations:

- a. Apraxia Awareness Day (May 14, 2022)
- b. Mental Health Month (May)
- c. PTSD Awareness Month (June)

Mayor Peluso had a moment of silence for the victims of the mass shooting in Texas and Buffalo.

- d. National Gun Violence Awareness Day (1st Friday in June)

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Reinitz

He wished Kevin Pepitone good luck in the Special Olympics in Florida.

He congratulated Steve Milnes for being sworn in as Rescue Chief.

June 2nd Pride flag raising and a Pride Block Party on June 26th.

He attended Memorial's Got Talent and wanted to thank the Principal, Nancy Schwindt, Mrs. Do and all the teachers who participated in making it a great event.

He also thanked everyone involved in Arboretum Day, especially Councilmember Rottenstrich, Green Team, Environmental Commission and Jim Vanderbeck.

He also thanked Manager Van Kruningen, OEM and Parks and Recreation staff for the opening of the Dog Park.

He spoke about Mental Health Awareness and how it resonates with him. Fair Lawn has been a leader in destigmatizing mental health issues and he hopes to continue to serve and move forward with that program. He calls on the Board of Education to continue to increase funding for mental health in our school. He believes that there should be a full time counselor in every school building. When you normalize counseling at that age then they will grow up believing that mental health is just as important as physical health.

He spoke about Gun Violence Awareness and the tragic mass shootings in our schools. He expressed how he believes that we have failed to stop the violence and this has to change.

Councilmember Rottenstrich

She thanked Councilmember Reinitz for talking about Mental Health Awareness and Tammy Smith who has been an advocate for mental health awareness. Talking and listening is the only way we can move forward and she wanted thank everybody who did that tonight.

She spoke about how amazing Arboretum Day was this past weekend. She thanked Jane Spindel, Jim Vanderbeck and the entire Shade Tree Committee for all their hard work in making the Vanderbeck Arboretum the treasure that it is today. She also thanked the Green Team, Joan Goldstein and Caroline Newman for all their hard work in making it such a success. She thanked the Environmental Commission, Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause for all their hard work. She also thanked the Community Garden members for transporting plants for the plant sale.

She spoke about Pride month celebrations and Gun Violence Awareness month. It is striking to her that people are up in arms about the different ways people choose to love and create families rather than keeping arms out of the hands of

18 year olds, who can't even drink responsibly. People don't pick up guns because they are taught to love, they pick up guns because they are taught to hate.

Deputy Mayor Community Affairs Krause

He echoed Councilmember Reinitz and Councilmember Rottenstrich statements.

He wished his wife a Happy Birthday.

He attended many of the events in Fair Lawn this past month. He was happy to have interacted with the members of Environmental Commission on Arboretum Day. The commission is constantly monitoring any sources of contaminants that have historically existed in Fair Lawn. He spoke with Wendy Dabney, who is the Chairperson of the Environmental Commission and a huge source of institutional and historic knowledge for Fair Lawn, about how getting involved can make a change.

He spoke about gun violence and encourages everyone to take action on all these issues and find out what we can do to help.

Deputy Mayor Cutrone

She thanked her fellow Councilmembers for all their poignant words.

She thanked the Stigma Free Committee and all of those who fight to bring awareness and acceptance to mental illness. May is Mental Health Awareness Month and its purpose is to provide a time to educate, learn, and to destigmatize mental illness. This is especially important to her because for most of her life she struggled with an undiagnosed anxiety disorder. Until only a few years ago, she never felt comfortable sharing her story, especially when she decided to enter public office and politics. It wasn't until she heard that Fair Lawn was a stigma free town did she feel free to share her story. She stated that when someone tells her she seems so calm and put together, it reminds her that you never know who is struggling, so when you can, you should always be kind. When you are with someone who has anxiety or depression, never minimize their feelings and never tell them to calm down or to just let it go. They may want to, but can't. Never call them crazy even if you are joking. When they speak up, they are just looking for a safe space to share their feelings. She said that through therapy, sometimes just saying our worries, fears and anxieties out loud helps us move past them. She thanked our Stigma Free committee in Fair Lawn, across the County, and the State for all they do to help destigmatize mental illness.

She thanked Moms Demand Action for all they do and she thanked the Mayor for the moment of silence for the mass shootings. She stated that this won't be

the last time we have a moment of silence because we have weak, spineless legislatures in our government and across this country, who are beholden to an interest group and won't stand up and do what is right. These are the same legislatures who cry pro-life, when it means forcing a woman to have a child when she is not ready, but not when it comes to protecting these children once they are born. These are the same legislatures who think regulating her body and all woman's bodies will prevent abortions, even though there is zero evidence to support that. But they refuse to use the same logic when it comes to common sense gun reform, which has clear and undisputed evidence that regulating guns prevents gun related deaths. She calls on all these legislatures and so called public servants to stand up and do something.

Mayor Peluso

He thanked the Council for their comments, especially Deputy Mayor Cutrone and Councilmember Reinitz for being courageous and sharing personal stories this evening.

He spoke with teachers and students at Noble Leadership Academy and saw all the wonderful things going on in that school and how they want to be a part of this community.

He congratulated our Rescue Chief Milnes and all the people who stepped up to take leadership positions in the Heavy Rescue Squad. It was an honor attending their dinner to thank them in person.

He also congratulated everyone who volunteered for the Milnes and TJ carnival. He had the opportunity to participate in the basketball shoot out.

He thanked the Fair Lawn PBA, Borough Manager's office and our former Borough Manager Tom Metzler for the flag distribution. It was a great event and everyone who picked up a flag was so thankful.

He attended the Chamber of Commerce meeting and he shared that he has been getting great feedback from the businesses of how much they enjoy working with our professionals in Fair Lawn. The Chamber did received the same feedback and they can see the change in how many more businesses are coming to Fair Lawn. He thanked the Council and the Borough Professionals who have been going above and beyond.

He echoed everyone's comments on the Arboretum Event. It was such a great turnout and so educational.

He thanked everyone who attended the Dog Park opening. He also thanked Manager Van Kruijning and Chief of Staff Wendy Alvarez for all their help with the opening.

He wanted to remind everyone that there are many events this weekend for our veteran's and he asks that everyone try to spend some time going to a veteran's event to honor them.

Lastly, he spoke about the mass shootings and how there is proof that passing legislation makes mass shootings stop. We need legislation action at the federal level and he knows that he and the rest of this Council will continue to advocate for that. It is well overdue and they will continue to work toward that.

ORDINANCE ON FIRST READING

ORD. #2623-2022

AN ORDINANCE BY THE BOROUGH OF FAIR LAWN IN BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING AND ENCOURAGING ELECTRIC VEHICLE SUPPLY/SERVICE EQUIPMENT (EVSE) & MAKE-READY PARKING SPACES WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF FAIR LAWN

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause, seconded by Councilmember Rottenstrich, Ordinance 2623-2022 was introduced on first reading and carried by a roll call vote of 5-0.

ORD. #2624-2022

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 94, FEES, ARTICLE VI, SCHEDULE OF FEES, MORE SPECIFICALLY SECTION 94-1(c), "HEALTH DEPARTMENT FEES" OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF FAIR LAWN

Upon motion by Councilmember Reinitz, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cutrone, Ordinance 2624-2022 was introduced on first reading and carried by a roll call vote of 5-0.

ORD. #2625-2022

AN ORDINANCE BY THE BOROUGH OF FAIR LAWN IN BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 49, AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND CHAPTER 125, LAND DEVELOPMENT TO REZONE THE R-5-4 INCLUSIONARY MULT-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT TO AN INDUSTRIAL ZONE DISTRICT AND TO AMEND THE BOROUGH'S ZONING MAP TO REZONE BLOCK 5729 LOT 2 FROM THE R-5-4 TO AN 1-2 ER INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Cutrone, seconded by Councilmember Rottenstrich, Ordinance 2625-2022 was introduced on first reading and carried by a roll call vote of 5-0.

ORD. #2626-2022**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 94, FEES, ARTICLE VI, SCHEDULE OF FEES, MORE SPECIFICALLY SECTION 94-12, "MISCELLANEOUS FEES" OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF FAIR LAWN**

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Cutrone, seconded by Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause, Ordinance 2626-2022 was introduced on first reading and carried by a roll call vote of 5-0.

ORDINANCE ON SECOND READING**ORD. #2621-2022****AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN THE BOROUGH OF FAIR LAWN, AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE RECEIPT, ACCEPTANCE AND DEPOSIT OF GRANT FUNDS THEREFOR FROM THE COUNTY OF BERGEN DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Motion to open the meeting to public comments on Ordinance No. 2621-2022 only was moved by Councilmember Rottenstrich, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cutrone and carried unanimously.

Hearing no requests for comment, Mayor Peluso asked for a motion to close the meeting to comments from the public on this ordinance only.

Motion to close the meeting to public comments on Ordinance No. 2621-2022 only was moved by Councilmember Reinitz, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cutrone and carried unanimously.

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2621-2022 on second and final reading was moved by Deputy Mayor Cutrone, seconded by Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause and carried by a roll call vote of 5-0.

ORD. #2622-2022**AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF FAIR LAWN, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AS AMENDED**

Motion to open the meeting to public comments on Ordinance No. 2622-2022 only was moved by Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause, seconded by Councilmember Rottenstrich and carried unanimously.

Hearing no requests for comment, Mayor Peluso asked for a motion to close the meeting to comments from the public on this ordinance only.

Motion to close the meeting to public comments on Ordinance No. 2622-2022 only was moved by Councilmember Rottenstrich, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cutrone and carried unanimously.

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2622-2022 on second and final reading was moved by Deputy Mayor Cutrone, seconded by Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause and carried by a roll call vote of 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CONSENT AGENDA 8-2022 ITEMS ONLY

Motion to open the meeting to public comments on Consent Agenda items only was moved by Councilmember Rottenstrich, seconded by Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause and carried unanimously.

Pamela Coles, 13-34 George Street asked what Resolution 194-2022 Awarding Affordable Housing Planning Services – CME entails. Manager Van Kruijning explained it is for CME to do Affordable Housing Planning for us in order to stay consistent the requirements. She also asked if it is related to Ordinance 2625-2022 and Manager Van Kruijning replied that it will be.

There being no comments from the public, upon motion by Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause a second by Deputy Mayor Cutrone, the time for public comments was unanimously closed.

RESOLUTIONS BY CONSENT 8-2022

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause and a second by Councilmember Reinitz, Consent Agenda #8-2022 containing the following items was carried by a roll call vote of 5-0.

<u>RESO. #</u>	<u>RESOLUTION TITLE</u>
187-2022	Approving Renewal of Gas Pump
188-2022	Approving New & Renewal Limousine Licenses
189-2022	Approving Fire Department Actions
190-2022	Approving Meeting Minutes
191-2022	Resolution requesting the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special items of revenue in Budget Year 2022 - 2022 Sustainable Jersey Grant, \$2,000
192-2022	Resolution requesting the cancellation of grant balances
193-2022	Appointing Deputy & Alternate Registrar
194-2022	Awarding Affordable Housing Planning Services - CME
195-2022	Appointing Member of Community Relations Advisory Committee
196-2022	Appointing Member of Arts Council

- 197-2022 Resolution filling unexpired terms of the Environmental Commission
- 198-2022 Resolution Authorizing The Purchase Of Flooring Treads Under The Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Cooperative Contract #19/20-05, From Commercial Interior Direct, Inc.
- 199-2022 Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Firefighter Protective Clothing, Under State Contracts #17-Fleet-00809 And #17-Fleet-00810 from Safe-T Skylands Area Fire Equipment & Training
- 200-2022 Authorizing the Fair Lawn Board of Education Fair Lawn Community School Utilization of Memorial Pool – Summer Camp Program 2022
- 201-2022 Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Additional Surveillance Equipment, Installation and Maintenance from Packetalk, LLC.
- 202-2022 Amending resolution 109-2022 – Lease of Kyocera copiers from Avant Garde
- 203-2022 Resolution Authorizing Payment to Coppola Services, Inc. For Emergency By-Pass Services to the Saddle River Road Pump Station
- 204-2022 Resolution Authorizing The Borough To Purchase Landscape Structures For Cresthill Park From General Recreation Under New Jersey State Cooperative Contract 16-Fleet-00130
- 205-2022 Authorizing tax overpayment refund
- 206-2022 Resolution authorizing contract extension Radio Shelter Repair Gold Type Business Machine
- 207-2022 Awarding Construction and Installation of a Prefabricated Containerized Fire Training Structure
- 208-2022 Resolution Authorizing Operating Guidelines for the Borough of Fair Lawn's Assistance Program to Be Administered by the Human Services Department

NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Reinitz requested permission from the Council that Manager Van Kruingen and the CFO be allowed to look into the feasibility of hiring a new full-time member for the Parks and Recreation department.

There was a unanimous consensus to move forward with looking into hiring a new full-time member for the Parks and Recreation department.

Deputy Mayor Cutrone requested to add a discussion about the Borough signing a contract to become a 501(c)(3) and raise money for the Pride Block Party that is being run by the Community Relations Committee. This countywide 501(c)(3) collects donations to promote the causes of the LGBTQ community. This would allow sponsors to make larger donations because it is a non-profit.

There was a unanimous consensus to add this discussion to the closed session.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause and a second by Deputy Mayor Cutrone, the time for public comments was unanimously opened.

Pamela Coles, 13-34 George Street asked for an explanation of Ordinance 2623-2022. Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause explained that the ordinance sets parameters for putting in electric vehicles. Ms. Coles asked if these stations are put in, who would pay for the costs. Councilmember Reinitz explained that the ordinance is on introduction and it is just a structure to follow if stations were to be put in. Mayor Peluso explained that if a company put these stations in they would be responsible for paying for the electricity.

Myrna Beck, 5-18 Estler Court spoke about trees on the TJ property that need to be removed. Manager Van Kruijning explained that those trees were classified as non-hazardous and are on a non-priority list to be taken down. She also asked about the streets in the same vicinity of TJ needing paving. Manager Van Kruijning explained that Estler Court will be paved this year and the other streets that are in bad condition will be done at some point.

Caroline Newman, 12-51 Lyle Terrace thanked the Council for doing such a great job taking care of Fair Lawn. She was part of Arbor Day and she wanted them to be aware that there is a stand of tree of heaven that is the favorite food of the spotted lantern fly. She feels that this is very important to take this stand down or these flies will come here and will multiply quickly. She spoke more about protecting the other trees in the arboretum. She then spoke about how nice the new dog park is but that they need to have some closer parking for disabled individuals. She handed the Council a picture of the Community Garden fencing and explained that it needs to be lowered to the ground to prevent animals from coming in the garden and destroying plants. She spoke more about options for the sides of the Community Garden that are overgrown right now. She discussed using herbicides, pesticides but to increase the structure of the soil and to learn how to use the areas in Fair Lawn effectively. She believes planting trees is one of things we need to do and we need to move quickly.

Mayor Peluso explained that they have doubled the tree budget to plant more trees in the Borough. Ms. Newman explained that the new trees at Crossings at Radburn are sick and need to be taken down. Councilmember Rottenstrich suggested that the developer shouldn't be given the final approval until the issue with the trees is

settled. Ms. Newman also suggested that a certified person, who knows something about native trees, should be on these planning committees and boards.

There being no more comments from the public, upon motion by Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause a second by Councilmember Reinitz the time for public comments was unanimously closed.

EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION – RESOLUTION # 209-2022

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause and a second by Deputy Mayor Cutrone, Resolution No. 209-2022 was carried by a roll call vote of 5-0.

- I. Personnel matter, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b)8
- II. Pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation, other than collective bargaining agreements, in which the public body is or may become a party, or matters falling within the attorney-client privilege;

RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause and a second by Deputy Mayor Cutrone, the meeting was reconvened to public session at 9:43 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Councilmember Cutrone and second by Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause, the meeting was adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

The within minutes were duly approved by the Borough Council at their meeting of August 9, 2022, under Resolution 254-2022

Respectfully submitted,



Nicholas J. Magarelli, RMC
Municipal Clerk

The undersigned has read and approves the foregoing minutes.



Mayor Kurt Peluso