



**BOROUGH OF FAIR LAWN
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
WORK SESSION**

WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 5, 2022

Deputy Mayor Cutrone called the meeting to order at 7:40 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 (late), Deputy Mayor Cutrone, Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause and Councilmembers Reinitz and Rottenstrich.

ALSO PRESENT: Chief of Staff Alvarez and Deputy Municipal Clerk Goddel

COUNCIL COMMENTS

There was a unanimous consensus to move up Council Comments, since Mayor Peluso was running late.

Councilmember Reinitz:

His committees have not met recently, so he did not have any reports.

He reminded everyone that there is a fundraising event this Saturday from 4:00 to 10:00 pm for the Officer Mary Ann Collura Scholarship Fund at the Fair Lawn Athletic Club.

Councilmember Rottenstrich:

They were awarded a grant in the amount of \$75,000 for their Main Street Program. The grant will be used to pay the salary of the Executive Director, Ryan Greff, who was named a New Jersey Business Leader in Finance.

She and Jane Spindel, a member of the Shade Tree and Garden Committee, met with the Construction Manager for the Sandvik property, which is undergoing demolition. They asked about acquiring trees and shrubbery earmarked for landfills, and the developer is willing to dig up, donate and deliver the items anywhere in the Borough.

Upcoming events:

- April 21st - There will be a meeting at the Senior Center at 1:00 pm to discuss the new plastic bag ban
- April 22nd – Earth Day Program
- April 23rd – First Borough litter clean up event. Interested volunteers can email or call Ron Lottermann, the Recycling Coordinator.
- April 24th – Hackensack Riverkeeper will sponsor a cleanup along the Passaic River.
- May 22nd – Arboretum Day from 12:00 to 3:00 pm. Many events are planned and there will be a beekeeper and bat keeper present.

She concluded by thanking the Borough for its help on Saturday with the second supply collection for Ukraine that was organized by Ukrainian residents. She cannot express how much it meant to these residents to have the support of the Borough. Four Sprinter vans of supplies went to the Ukrainian Church in Clifton.

Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause:

His committees have not met yet. He was excited though, as the Environmental Commission will be doing a presentation later in the meeting. He was impressed with the momentum the Commission has been building. Tai Fujimura has been a great addition to the Commission and Dave Mangual and Wendy Dabney have been doing a great job for many years.

Arts Council – there will be a poetry reading at the Library on April 10th from 2:00 to 4:00 pm in celebration of Poetry Month. There are many talented poets in Fair Lawn. Since poetry is often personal, the participants appreciate having the support of the community who come to listen.

They are also doing an event for Mental Health Month called Cozy and Safe, which will take place at the newly opened Cozie Café on Plaza Road on May 13th from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm.

He concluded by reporting that the annual Talent Show is scheduled for June 10th at the Cadmus House Museum.

Deputy Mayor Cutrone:

Access for All Committee – their first in-person dance since the pandemic will take place on April 8th at the Community Center.

Senior Advisory Committee – they will be hosting a Health Resource Fair on May 23rd at the Senior Center. There will be representatives from the Borough, County and State to advise seniors on available resources.

They will be bringing back the Senior Citizen Prom on May 1st, which takes place the day after the Junior Prom at the High School. Decorations from the prom on Saturday will remain up for the senior citizens on Sunday. Attendees can email her to RSVP and she will notify the Age Friendly Coordinator, Lisa MacClements.

Community Relations Committee – they held a very successful Holi Event. The Committee will be sponsoring the following events for Pride Month:

- June 2nd – Flag Raising at Borough Hall
- June 26th – Pride Block Party

She reported that Congress passed the infrastructure bill that includes funding specifically for improving infrastructure pertaining to water. She has been in touch with Congressman Gottheimer's office to relay their interest in receiving some funding.

She concluded by wishing everyone a Happy Passover and Ramadan to those who celebrate.

Councilmember Rottenstrich mentioned that the Veterans Appreciation Ceremony is tomorrow at 11:00 am in the Community Center. There will be a presentation of medals, pins and certificates to honor the service of World War 11, Korean and Vietnam veterans.

EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION – RESOLUTION 148-2022

- a. 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

Motion to go into executive session to discuss matters exempt from the public as duly noticed by Resolution No. 148-2022 was moved by Councilmember Reinitz and seconded by Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 5-0.

Mayor Peluso arrived at the meeting at 8:05 pm.

RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause and a second by Deputy Mayor Cutrone, it was unanimously agreed to reconvene the meeting at 8:25 pm.

REVIEW OF TENTATIVE AGENDA – April 26, 2022 Meeting

Councilmember Reinitz stated there may be additional proclamations.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION PRESENTATION

Wendy Dabney, Dave Mangual and Tai Fujimura were present.

Wendy Dabney, chairperson, stated they did not get the planning grant they were hoping for from Sustainable New Jersey.

Mr. Fujimura explained the importance of increasing bicycling infrastructure. They would like to start a pilot program to try this concept, obtain feedback and show the public how it is beneficial.

He explained that bike routes are basically markings on the street with some special signage that indicate bikes are encouraged; they do not create any practical benefit or prevent safety issues. Upgrading to a bike lane if possible would be more beneficial.

Mr. Mangual discussed three possible sites for bike lanes: Henderson Blvd/11th Street corridor, which connects Fair Lawn Avenue and Maple Avenue and includes sites such as the Municipal Building, Shop Rite and the Library; the Radburn Loop that bypasses Fair Lawn Avenue, but includes Plaza Road and High Street; the Berdan Avenue route, which is very wide and goes from end to end. There is an option to go over the tracks, so it connects one side of town to the other from Saddle River Road to Memorial Pool. It also passes by the High School and Community Center. Since Berdan Avenue is not used as a cut-through, there are less cars zipping by from Paramus to Paterson.

Mr. Fujimura stated that example of infrastructure they might propose for Berdan Avenue was both sides of the bike lane on one side of the street and a dedicated lane for parking that acts like a physical barrier for the bike lanes. For a wide street like Henderson Blvd., they might put bike lanes on the appropriate side of the street based on the direction they were going and having parking protection for both lanes. The last option can be used when preserving parking is not a requirement and that consists of two lanes on each side with a buffer. They asked the Council's approval to have the Police Department do a traffic study once a site has been decided.

Mayor Peluso stated that former Mayor Swain looked into a bike lane on Berdan Avenue many years ago, but there was a reason they couldn't do it. He liked the Henderson Blvd site for bike lanes. He noted they will be working with the Township of Saddle Brook to do bike lanes on Fair Lawn Parkway and funding for painting the lines has already been allocated. Ms. Dabney stated that in 2005 they tried to get a bike lane on Berdan Avenue, but the Police Department did

not feel it was appropriate and some residents were also against it. There was supposed to be signage directing children on what route to take on their bikes to get to their school, but that never happened.

Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause stated his understanding was that there was not enough space to add a bike lane on Berdan Avenue and also have on street parking. Deputy Mayor Cutrone felt they should use Henderson Blvd/11th Street as the pilot program as it has the most opportunity for success. Councilmember Rottenstrich did not think 11th Street would work as there are always cars parked on the road, but Berdan Avenue would. Ms. Dabney stated there is a new supportive attitude about biking and it is also being encouraged by the schools. Bikes are allowed everywhere, but bike routes provide a safer alternative, especially for children.

Mr. Fujimura stated that the default option would be Henderson Blvd. and then proceed with Fair Lawn Parkway. He will reach out to former Mayor Lisa Swain to inquire about Berdan Avenue and see if there is any unexplored territory. They will follow up on Fair Lawn Parkway as well. They will do some publicity on the rights of bicyclists as well.

HUMAN SERVICES TRUST FUND - PUBLIC ASSISTANCE GUIDELINES

Deputy Mayor Cutrone referenced the updated guidelines prepared by Attorney Verrone with feedback from the Health and Human Services Department. All the changes requested by the Council were made, including doubling the base level amount that can be given out for emergency situations and allowing funding to now be used for medical bills. If the Council agrees, they can pass a resolution to formally approve the revised guidelines.

There was a unanimous consensus to pass a resolution approving the revised guidelines for the Human Services Trust Fund at the next Council Meeting.

USE OF SENIOR CENTER POLICY

Mayor Peluso stated he would like to remove the section that allowed residents to sponsor up to three out-of-town members. The rest can remain. Deputy Mayor Cutrone agreed.

There was a unanimous consensus to remove the option for members to sponsor three out of town residents and approve the remainder of the policy.

2022 MEMORIAL POOL & SUMMER CAMP SEASON

Chief of Staff/OEM Coordinator Alvarez reported the following recommendations from Superintendent Graff and Assistant Superintendent Homa: that pool hours remain at 11:00 am to 7:00 pm for ease of scheduling

lifeguards and to provide more time to clean and sanitize; not offering inter-local agreements with other towns; allowing Fair Lawn members to sponsor up to three non-resident families, at non-resident prices, per family; eliminating the half day camp due to low turnout; and adding a late registration fee of \$50 for the fulltime camp for people who sign up later than ten days before the start date.

Mayor Peluso did not support closing the pool at 7:00 pm, as it makes it difficult for working parents to bring their children to the pool when they get home from work. He would prefer the hours of 11:00 am to 8:00 pm. If there was a staffing issue they could close down one section.

Chief of Staff/OEM Coordinator Alvarez reported that the Splash Pad will be opening Memorial Day weekend and continue on Saturdays and Sundays until the pool opens. The hours will be 11:00 am to 7:00 pm. The Splash Pad will continue to remain open after the end of the pool season until the Community Camp Out. Councilmember Reinitz felt the Splash Pad should be open to 8:00 pm on the days the pool remains open until 8:00 pm. Prior to the pool opening 7:00 pm would suffice.

BERGEN COUNTY OPEN SPACE MUNICIPAL PARK IMPROVEMENT GRANT

Chief of Staff/OEM Coordinator Alvarez stated they needed to submit a letter of intent to the County by Friday. She asked the Council if they had any suggestions for projects. Mayor Peluso suggested speaking with Superintendent Graff to see if Etler Park or other parks needed upgrading, as they could no longer obtain replacement parts for some of the older playgrounds.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Councilmember Reinitz asked if Manager Van Kruijning had spoken to Tyco Animal Control about providing umbrella coverage for emergency response. Chief of Staff/OEM Coordinator Alvarez did not know.

There was a unanimous consensus to table this item until the May Work Session.

NAMING OF SENIOR CENTER KITCHEN

Chief of Staff/OEM Coordinator Alvarez stated there is a recommendation from Manager Van Kruijning and Superintendent Graff to name the Senior Center kitchen after Michael Carangi, a dedicated, 12 year employee of the Borough who worked at the Center and recently passed away.

There was a unanimous consensus to approve naming the Senior Center kitchen after Michael Carangi.

Deputy Mayor Cutrone suggested naming the actual Senior Center in memory of former Councilmember Irv Bienstock, who passed away. Mr. Bienstock was instrumental in getting the Center off the ground and having it built. He was also a World War II veteran. Mayor Peluso stated this was well deserved.

There was a unanimous consensus to name the Senior Center after former Councilmember Irv Bienstock.

OUTDOOR RESIDENTIAL AMERICAN FLAG DISTRIBUTION EVENT

Chief of Staff/OEM Coordinator Alvarez stated that the PBA, in conjunction with the Borough, purchased 300 residential flags, which will be distributed on May 15th from 12:00 to 2:00 pm at Veterans Circle. There will be an online registration as only the first 300 residents are eligible.

There was a unanimous consensus to approve the flag distribution discussed above.

TAKE YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY – THURSDAY APRIL, 28, 2022

Chief of Staff/OEM Coordinator Alvarez stated they would like to bring back the program, which was discontinued due to COVID. Mayor Peluso stated this was a fun program. He was glad to see it back.

There was a unanimous consensus to participate in "Take Your Child to Work" day on April 28, 2022.

FAIR LAWN 100TH ANNIVERSARY (1924-2024)

Chief of Staff/OEM Coordinator Alvarez stated they will need to form a committee and choose a chairperson so they can start planning. They will also need to set up a subcommittee for fundraising and choose a Council liaison. Deputy Mayor Cutrone felt there should be one or two Council liaisons. With the Council's approval, she and Manager Van Kruiningen would like to chair the committee. An answer wasn't needed immediately, but they should start thinking about this.

STATE TAX COURT SETTLEMENTS

Chief of Staff/OEM Coordinator Alvarez referenced the Manager's email that was previously sent.

There was a unanimous consensus to approve the tax settlements detailed in the Manager's email.

RESOLUTION 149-2022 - RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF AN OUTDOOR MULTI-SPORT COURT WITH RELATED EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES UNDER NATIONAL COOPERATIVE PURCHASING ALLIANCE CONTRACT #08-29, FROM SPORT-PROS USA OF WYCKOFF, NEW JERSEY

Upon motion by Councilmember Reinitz and a second by Deputy Mayor Cutrone, Resolution No. 149-2022 was carried by a roll call vote of 5-0.

RESOLUTION 150-2022 - RESOLUTION FILLING UNEXPIRED TERMS OF ZONING BOARD

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Cutrone and a second by Councilmember Reinitz, Resolution No. 150 -2022 was carried by a roll call vote of 5-0.

RESOLUTION 151-2022 - RESOLUTION AWARDING CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASING OF CHLORINE TO UNIVAR SOLUTIONS USA, INC.

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause and a second by Deputy Mayor Cutrone, Resolution No. 151-2022 was carried by a roll call vote of 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Rottenstrich stated she wanted to add something to the discussion on the Bergen County Open Space Municipal Park grant opportunity. She noted they had a presentation several months ago on playground equipment, and felt they should keep some of the innovative suggestions in mind if they are going to renovate a playground. Councilmember Reinitz suggested using the funding to renovate the peace park or buy equipment such as benches for the flag lot.

Deputy Mayor Cutrone stated that the parks department was meeting with the playground company represented in the Work Session to draw up plans for the three playgrounds being updated. She asked the Manager about arranging a meeting so that she, Councilmember Reinitz and Lisa Mac Clements, the Age Friendly coordinator could review the plans before anything is finalized.

Councilmember Rottenstrich stated they did not need a lot of equipment at the new park as there wasn't much space. Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause agreed that a different project would be better suited for this grant.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

Garret Thomas, 16-45 Chandler Drive stated that at the last Council meeting, the Mayor said that he would look into permits for people who need to park company vehicles in the street.

Mayor Peluso stated that he received Garret's email. The request was given to the Borough Manager, who gives it to the Traffic Safety Department for their report. They do not have a report back yet to discuss.

Pamela Coles, 13-34 George Street suggested applying for the Open Space grant for an outdoor theater, which was discussed at a previous Work Session. Mayor Peluso stated he saw one in Portland, Oregon that would work nicely at Walsh Pool. He felt that location might work better than Berdan Grove as originally suggested by the Arts Council, since there is a snack stand and bathroom facilities, and there aren't homes nearby. Parking might be an issue, though. They would need to obtain price quotes. Deputy Mayor Cutrone thanked Ms. Coles for the reminder.

Ms. Coles noted that pool members will be allowed to sponsor three families. She asked if there was a limit as to the size of the families. Mayor Peluso stated no. They monitored this before Covid, and there wasn't a large number of sponsored memberships. Councilmember Reinitz stated there were a lot of grandparents who brought their grandchildren to the pool.

Ms. Coles stated that John Cosgrove, who chaired the 75th Anniversary event, might be interested in serving on a committee.

She asked the location of the multi-sport court referenced in Resolution #149-2022. Mayor Peluso stated that it will be at Memorial Park in the former street hockey court.

Ms. Coles stated that 11th Street often has cars parked on both sides, so biking on that road can be dangerous.

She asked if a presentation for the Dollar General property was scheduled. Mayor Peluso stated no. Once they receive the plans from the Planner there will be a public discussion.

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Cutrone and a second by Councilmember Rottenstrich, the time for public comments was unanimously closed.

EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION – RESOLUTION 152-2022

- a. Personnel matters pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b(8);
- b. 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

Motion to go into executive session to discuss matters exempt from the public as duly noticed by Resolution No. 152-2022 was moved by Councilmember Rottenstrich and seconded by Deputy Mayor Cutrone. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 5-0.

RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor of Community Affairs Krause and a second by Deputy Mayor Cutrone, it was unanimously agreed to reconvene the meeting at 9:30 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Cutrone and a second by Councilmember Reinitz, the Work Session was adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Coleen Goddel
Deputy Municipal Clerk

The undersigned has read and approved the foregoing minutes.

Mayor Kurt Peluso