

MINUTES of the Biennial Organization Meeting of the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield held on Tuesday, **January 1, 2013** at 2:03 p.m. at the North Plainfield Community Center, 614 Greenbrook Road, North Plainfield, New Jersey.

The meeting was called to order by Borough Attorney, Eric M. Bernstein, Esq., who then read the following Statement of Compliance:

"This is a Biennial Organization Meeting of the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield scheduled by resolution of the Council adopted on December 10, 2012. Adequate notice of this meeting was given pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. by transmitting said notice to the *Courier News*, *The Star-Ledger* and *WKMB Radio* on December 11, 2012, by publication of the announcement in the *Courier News* of December 13, 2012 and by posting a copy of this notice on the bulletin boards in the Municipal Building and Memorial Library reserved for such purpose."

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Mrs. Forbes.

Moment of Silence for the Men and Women Serving in Our Armed Forces

The Invocation was given by Pastor Tom Dickerson, Pastor of the Calvary Chapel.

Borough Clerk Phoenix read the following:

"A statement of the determination of the Board of Canvassers of Somerset County, New Jersey, relative to an election held in the County of Somerset on November 6, 2012 for the election of the following mentioned offices in the Borough of North Plainfield.

One (1) Four-Year Mayoral Seat
The said Board does determine that

MICHAEL GIORDANO JR.

was duly elected Mayor

Three (3) Four-Year Borough Council Seats
The said Board does determine that

KEIONA R. MILLER

FRANK RIGHETTI

FRANK "SKIP" STABILE

were duly elected to the Borough Council

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true, full and correct statement of the determination of the Board of Canvassers of Somerset County, New Jersey.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 28th day of November 2012.”

Eric M. Bernstein, Esq. administered the Oath of Office to Mayor-Elect:

MICHAEL GIORDANO JR.

Mayor Michael Giordano Jr. administered the Oath of Office to Council Members-Elect:

KEIONA R. MILLER

FRANK RIGHETTI

FRANK “SKIP” STABILE

PRESENT:

Council Members: Mary H. Forbes
Lawrence La Ronde
Everett Merrill
Keiona R. Miller
Frank Righetti
Douglas M. Singleterry
Frank “Skip” Stabile

Also Present: Michael Giordano Jr., Mayor
David E. Hollod, Business Administrator
Eric M. Bernstein, Borough Attorney
Richard K. Phoenix, RMC, Borough Clerk

Mr. La Ronde presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-01 BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that the “Rules of Order” annexed hereto and made a part hereof are adopted as the Rules of Order for this Council for the years 2013-2014.

Seconded by Mr. Merrill and on Roll Call carried all seven voting aye.

Mr. Merrill presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-02 BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that

DOUGLAS M. SINGLETERRY

be and is hereby elected PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL for the years 2013-2014.

Seconded by Mr. Righetti with Roll Call as follows:

Ayes: Forbes, La Ronde, Merrill, Miller, Righetti, Stabile
Abstain: Singleterry

Resolution carried 6-0-1.

Ms. Miller presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-03 BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that

LAWRENCE LA RONDE

be and is hereby elected VICE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL for the years 2013-2014.

Seconded by Mr. Righetti with Roll Call as follows:

Ayes: Forbes, Merrill, Miller, Righetti, Stabile, Singleterry
Abstain: La Ronde

Resolution carried 6-0-1.

APPOINTMENTS BY COUNCIL REQUIRING COUNCIL CONFIRMATION:

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT:

Mark C. Tighe	Four-year term
Gary E. Lewis	Four-year term

BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBER TO THE MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE COMMITTEE:

Keiona R. Miller	One-year term
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COUNCIL MEMBER TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

Frank "Skip" Stabile	One-year term
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COUNCIL MEMBER TO THE LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Lawrence La Ronde	One-year term
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COUNCIL MEMBER AS CLASS III MEMBER TO THE PLANNING BOARD:

Frank Righetti One-year term

COUNCIL MEMBER TO THE YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION:

Everett Merrill One-year term

COUNCIL MEMBER TO THE SOMERSET COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

Frank "Skip" Stabile One-year term

APPOINTMENTS BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL LIAISONS FOR ONE-YEAR TERMS:

BOARD OF EDUCATION: Mary H. Forbes

RENT STABILIZATION BOARD: Lawrence La Ronde

SHADE TREE ADVISORY BOARD: Lawrence La Ronde

SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE Everett Merrill

APPOINTMENT BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL MEMBER:

SEWER USAGE CHARGE BOARD OF APPEALS:

Frank Righetti One-year term

APPOINTMENTS BY MAYOR REQUIRING COUNCIL CONFIRMATION:

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

David E. Hollod Four-year term

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE/CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Patrick J. DeBlasio Four-year term

DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

James F. Rodino Four-year term

DIRECTOR OF LAW/BOROUGH ATTORNEY

Eric M. Bernstein, Esq. Four-year term

DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

William G. Parenti Four-year term

DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION

William F. Eaton Four-year term

JUDGE OF THE MUNICIPAL COURT

John Richardson, Esq. Three-year term

MUNICIPAL PROSECUTOR:

David Minchello, Esq. One-year term

BOROUGH TREASURER:

Kathleen Intravartolo One-year term

PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER (P.A.C.O.):

David E. Hollod One-year term

MUNICIPAL HOUSING LIAISON:

David E. Hollod One-year term

BOROUGH HOUSING OFFICER:

James F. Rodino One-year term

GARDEN STATE MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND – One-year terms:

James F. Rodino Fund Commissioner
David E. Hollod Alternate Commissioner

LICENSED SEWER OPERATOR:

Kenneth Yudichak One-year term

RECYCLING COORDINATOR:

Cynthia Danois One-year term

APPOINTMENTS BY MAYOR TO BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS REQUIRING COUNCIL CONFIRMATION:

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COUNCIL –

One-year terms:

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

Lawrence Van Winkle	Deputy Coordinator
Chief William G. Parenti	Police Department
Chief William F. Eaton	Fire Department

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COUNCIL:

Chief William Eaton	Emergency Medical Services
David E. Hollod	Mayor’s Representative
Everett Merrill	Council Member
Eric M. Bernstein, Esq.	Municipal Attorney
Dr. Marilyn E. Birnbaum	No. Plainfield Public Schools
Edward J. Ostroff	No. Plainfield Public Schools
Joann Righetti	Citizen-at-Large
Dr. Harry L. Allen	Hazardous Materials
David DeRosa	Health
John C. Langenbach	Media
James F. Rodino	Public Works
Angelo Costello	Public Works
Malcolm Plager	Shelter
Elizabeth B. Dente	Emergency Animal Shelter

GREEN BROOK FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION:

Frank Righetti	Four-year term
Francis J. McArdle	Five-year term
William F. Crosby III, Alternate	One-year term

LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Ruth deBang	Three-year term
Barbara Kreder	Three-year term

MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE COMMITTEE:

<u>One-year terms:</u>	
Dr. Marilyn Birnbaum	Superintendent of Schools

John Richardson

Municipal Court Judge

Two-year terms:

Alejandro Kuga
Heather Clowers
Ruth deBang
Chinyera Johnson
Kawanzaa King

Business Community
Labor Representative
Public Citizen
Public Citizen
Public Citizen

MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN COMMITTEE – One-year terms:

Michael Giordano Jr.
Angelo Bufaino, P.E.
David E. Hollod
James P. Freeman

Elected Official
Consultant Engineer
Planning Board Member
Utility Authority Rep.

RENT STABILIZATION BOARD:

Tracy Peters
Leonard W. Lange
Michael Dellipoali, Jr., Alternate (H)

Three-year term
Three-year term
Two-year term

SEWER USAGE CHARGE BOARD OF APPEALS:

Tom Fagan

One-year term

SHADE TREE ADVISORY BOARD:

William E. Rathjen III

Five-year term

YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION:

Alejandro Kuga
Mario Vargas
Joan L. Graham

Three-year term
Three-year term
Three-year term

APPOINTMENTS BY MAYOR NOT REQUIRING COUNCIL CONFIRMATION:

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN REVIEW BOARD – *One-year terms:*

Michael Giordano Jr., Mayor
David E. Hollod, Business Administrator (requires confirming resolution)
Leonard W. Lange, Economic Development Committee
Nick Ciampa, Alternate

David Danois, Alternate

BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS:

Evan B. Dickerson	Five-year term
Kimberly Carter	Five-year term
Terrence Leonard	Five-year term

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

Janice Allen	Two-year term
Sandy R. Marrow	Two-year term
Anne Soto	Two-year term
Frank A. Stabile	Two-year term
Joseph F. Tevlin	Two-year term

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION:

Shawn Grabko	Three-year term
Frank Righetti	Three-year term
Dr. Harry L. Allen, Chairperson	Three-year term

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION:

Laly Espinoza Kuga	Four-year term
Curt Climes, Alternate No. 1	Two-year term

PLANNING BOARD:

Michael Giordano Jr.	Four-year term
David E. Hollod	One-year term
Barbara Kreder	Four-year term

SENIOR CITIZEN/COMMUNITY CENTER COMMITTEE - *One-year terms:*

Janet L. Apgar	<u>Representatives of:</u>
Dori N. Ellis	Vermeule Arts Center
Gail Cain	Girl Scouts
Janice Allen	General Public
Mary H. Forbes	General Public
Angela Magee	Borough Council
Dennis Passe	Senior Citizens Club
	Board of Parks and Recreation

SOMERSET COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

James F. Rodino	One-year term
Michael Giordano Jr., Alternate	One-year term

SPECIAL EVENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Gail Cain	One-year term
Peter Eddy	One-year term
Lisa Del Negro	One-year term
Mark Williams	One-year term

RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE MAYOR FOR APPOINTMENTS BY THE SOMERSET COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS:

SOMERSET COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Mary H. Forbes	One-year term
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SOMERSET COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Henry R. Stoner	One-year term
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RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE COUNCIL FOR APPOINTMENTS BY THE SOMERSET COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS:

SOMERSET COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Frank Righetti	One-year term
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CONSENT AGENDA NO. 1

Council President Singleterry stated that all matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If any discussion is desired by Council, that particular item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

Mr. Bernstein requested that items “c” and “n” be amended to include the names of the two appointed individuals.

Mr. Merrill presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04 BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that resolutions numbered

01-01-13-04a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u, v, w, x, y, z,
aa, bb, cc, dd, ee, ff and gg

having been placed on the Consent Agenda No. 1 and there having been no objection thereto, the same are hereby approved.

Seconded by Mr. La Ronde and on Roll Call carried all seven voting aye.

APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA NO. 1 RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04a BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that MARK C. TIGHE and GARY E. LEWIS are hereby appointed to the BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT of this Borough to serve for the legal terms expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2017 and until their successors shall have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04b BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, that KEIONA R. MILLER be and hereby is appointed as Board of Health Member to the MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE COMMITTEE of this Borough to serve for the legal term expiring on January 1, 2014, and until her successor shall have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04c BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that FRANK “SKIP” STABILE be and hereby is appointed to the ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE of this Borough to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until his successor shall have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04d BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that LAWRENCE LA RONDE be and hereby is appointed to the LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE of this Borough to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until his successor shall have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04e BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that FRANK RIGHETTI be and hereby is appointed as Class III member to the PLANNING BOARD of this Borough to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until his successor shall have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04f BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that EVERETT MERRILL be and hereby is appointed to the YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION of this Borough to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until his successor shall have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04g BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that FRANK “SKIP” STABILE be and hereby is appointed to the SOMERSET COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until his successor shall have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04h BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that, by nomination of the Mayor and with the advice and consent of this Council,

DAVID E. HOLLOD

be and is hereby appointed BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR of this Borough to serve for the legal term commencing January 1, 2013 and expiring on January 1, 2017, and until his successor shall have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04i BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that, by nomination of the Mayor and with the advice and consent of this Council,

PATRICK J. DeBLASIO

be and is hereby appointed DIRECTOR OF FINANCE/CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER of this Borough to serve for the legal term commencing January 1, 2013 and expiring on January 1, 2017, and until his successor shall have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04j BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that, by nomination of the Mayor and with the advice and consent of this Council,

JAMES F. RODINO

be and hereby is appointed DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS of this Borough to serve for the legal term commencing at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2013 and expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2017, and until his successor shall have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04k BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that, by nomination of the Mayor and with the advice and consent of this Council,

ERIC MARTIN BERNSTEIN, ESQ.

be and is hereby appointed DIRECTOR OF LAW/BOROUGH ATTORNEY of this Borough to serve for the legal term commencing on January 1, 2013 and expiring on January 1, 2017, and until his successor shall have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04l BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that, by nomination of the Mayor and with the advice and consent of this Council,

WILLIAM G. PARENTI

be and hereby is appointed DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF POLICE of this Borough to serve for the legal term commencing at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2013 and expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2017, and until his successor shall have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04m BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that, by nomination of the Mayor and with the advice and consent of this Council,

WILLIAM F. EATON

be and hereby is appointed DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION of this Borough to serve for the legal term commencing at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2013 and expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2017, and until his successor shall have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04n BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that, by nomination of the Mayor and with the advice and consent of this Council,

JOHN F. RICHARDSON, ESQ.

be and hereby is appointed JUDGE OF THE MUNICIPAL COURT OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD to serve for a term of three (3) years commencing at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2013 and expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2016, and until his successor shall have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04o WHEREAS, the State Legislature has mandated that Each municipality provide for a Municipal Prosecutor; and,

WHEREAS, David Minchello, Esq. has experience in this area;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that David Minchello, Esq. is hereby appointed Municipal Prosecutor for the Borough of North Plainfield for calendar year 2013. Said appointment is as an employee of the Borough in which he shall receive the allotted salary, but waives all other benefits available to an employee of the Borough.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04p BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that, by nomination of the Mayor and with the advice and consent of this Council, KATHLEEN INTRAVARTOLO be and hereby is appointed TREASURER of this Borough to serve for the legal term commencing January 1, 2013 and expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until her successor shall have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04q BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that upon nomination of the Mayor and with the advice and consent of this

Council, DAVID E. HOLLOD be and hereby is appointed as PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER (P.A.C.O.) for the Borough of North Plainfield for the year 2013 in accordance with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 17:27-3.5.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04r BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that upon nomination of the Mayor and with the advice and consent of this Council, DAVID E. HOLLOD be and hereby is appointed as MUNICIPAL HOUSING LIAISON of this Borough to serve for the legal term commencing on January 1, 2013 and expiring on January 1, 2014, and until his successor shall have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04s BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that upon nomination of the Mayor and with the advice and consent of this Council, JAMES F. RODINO be and hereby is appointed BOROUGH HOUSING OFFICER of this Borough for calendar year 2013.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04t BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that JAMES F. RODINO be named as Fund Commissioner and DAVID E. HOLLOD be named as Alternate Commissioner to the Garden State Municipal Joint Insurance Fund for calendar year 2013.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04u RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD APPOINTING A LICENSED SEWER OPERATOR

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield is in need of a professional to act as the Borough's C-3 Sanitary Sewer Operator for the 2013 calendar year; and

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to retain the services of Kenneth Yudichak of Hatch Mott MacDonald to act as the Borough's C-3 Sanitary Sewer Operator and believes that Kenneth Yudichak is eminently qualified to perform such engineering services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that Kenneth Yudichak of Hatch Mott MacDonald is hereby appointed as the Borough's C-3 Sanitary Sewer Operator for the 2013 calendar year.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04v BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that CYNTHIA DANOIS be and hereby is appointed as RECYCLING COORDINATOR for this Borough for calendar year 2013.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04w BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, that upon nomination by the Mayor and with the advice and consent of this Council, LAURENCE VAN WINKLE be and hereby is appointed as Deputy Coordinator to the OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until his successor is appointed and qualified; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that WILLIAM G. PARENTI be and hereby is appointed as Police Department representative to the OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until his successor is appointed and qualified; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that WILLIAM F. EATON be and hereby is appointed as Fire Department representative to the OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until his successor is appointed and qualified; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DAVID E. HOLLOD be and hereby is appointed as the Mayor's representative to the LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COUNCIL to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until his successor is appointed and qualified; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that EVERETT MERRILL be and hereby is appointed as Council Member representative to the LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COUNCIL to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until his successor is appointed and qualified; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Borough Attorney ERIC MARTIN BERNSTEIN, ESQ. be and hereby is appointed to the LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COUNCIL to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until his successor is appointed and qualified; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that WILLIAM F. EATON be and hereby is appointed as Emergency Medical Services representative to the LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COUNCIL to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until his successor is appointed and qualified; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DR. MARILYN E. BIRNBAUM and EDWARD J. OSTROFF be and hereby are appointed as Public Schools representatives to the LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COUNCIL to serve for the legal terms expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until their successors are appointed and qualified; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that JOANN RIGHETTI be and hereby is appointed as Citizen-at-Large representative to the LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COUNCIL to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until her successor is appointed and qualified; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DAVID DeROSA be and hereby is appointed as Health representative to the LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COUNCIL to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until his successor is appointed and qualified; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that JOHN C. LANGENBACH be and hereby is appointed as Media representative to the LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COUNCIL to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until his successor is appointed and qualified; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that JAMES F. RODINO and ANGELO COSTELLO be and hereby are appointed as Public Works representatives to the LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COUNCIL to serve for the legal terms expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until their successors are appointed and qualified; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DR. HARRY L. ALLEN be and hereby is appointed as Hazardous Materials representative to the LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COUNCIL to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until his successor is appointed and qualified; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that MALCOLM PLAGER be and hereby is appointed as Shelter representative to the LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COUNCIL to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until his successor is appointed and qualified; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ELIZABETH B. DENTE be and hereby is appointed as Emergency Animal Shelter Manager representative to the LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COUNCIL to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until her successor is appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04x BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that upon nomination by the Mayor and with the advice and consent of this Council, FRANK RIGHETTI be and hereby is appointed to the GREEN BROOK FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION as the Council representative of the Borough of North Plainfield to serve for the legal term commencing at 2:00 p.m. on January 1, 2013 and expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2017, and until his successor shall have been appointed and qualified; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon nomination by the Mayor and with the advice and consent of this Council, FRANCIS J. MCARDLE be and hereby is appointed to the GREEN BROOK FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION of the Borough of North Plainfield to serve for the legal term commencing at 2:00 p.m. on January 1, 2013 and expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2018, and until his successor shall have been appointed and qualified.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon nomination by the Mayor and with the advice and consent of this Council, WILLIAM F. CROSBY III be and hereby is appointed to the GREEN BROOK FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION as the alternate representative of the Borough of North Plainfield to serve for the legal term commencing at 2:00 p.m. on January 1, 2013 and expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014, and until his successor shall have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04y BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that upon nomination by the Mayor and with the advice of consent of this Council, RUTH deBANG and BARBARA KREDER be and hereby are appointed to the LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE to serve for the legal terms expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2016 and until their successors shall have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04z BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, that upon nomination by the Mayor and with the advice and consent of the Council, Superintendent of Schools DR. MARILYN BIRNBAUM be and hereby is appointed a member of the MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE COMMITTEE to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until her successor is appointed and qualified; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ALEJANDRO KUGA be and hereby is appointed Member of the Business Community to the MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE COMMITTEE to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2015 and until his successor is appointed and qualified; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that HEATHER CLOWERS be and hereby is appointed Labor Representative to the MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE COMMITTEE to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2015 and until her successor is appointed and qualified; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that RUTH deBANG, CHINYERA JOHNSON and KAWANZAA KING be and hereby are appointed Public Citizens to the MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE COMMITTEE to serve for the legal terms expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2015 and until their successors have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04aa BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that, by nomination of the Mayor and with the advice and consent of this Council, the following are hereby appointed to the Municipal Wastewater Management Plan Committee for terms expiring December 31, 2013:

Michael Giordano Jr. – Elected Official
 Angelo Bufaino, P.E. – Consultant Engineer
 David E. Hollod – Planning Board Member
 James P. Freeman – Utility Authority Representative; and

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that by nomination of the Mayor and with the advice and consent of this Council, James P. Freeman is hereby appointed Chair of the Municipal Wastewater Management Plan Committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that James P. Freeman be appointed to the Somerset County Wastewater Advisory Committee and David E. Hollod, as alternate, for terms expiring December 31, 2013.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04bb BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, that upon nomination by the Mayor and with the advice and consent of this

Council, TRACY PETERS, homeowner, and LEONARD W. LANGE, landlord, be and hereby are appointed as Members to the RENT STABILIZATION BOARD of this Borough to serve for the legal terms expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2016 and until their successors shall have been appointed and qualified; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED than upon nomination by the Mayor and with the advice and consent of this Council, MICHAEL DELLIPOALI, JR., homeowner, be and hereby is appointed as Alternate Member to the RENT STABILIZATION BOARD of this Borough to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2015 and until his successor shall have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04cc BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, that upon nomination by the Mayor and with the advice and consent of this Council, TOM FAGAN be and hereby is appointed citizen member to the SEWER USAGE CHARGE BOARD OF APPEALS of this Borough to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until his successor shall have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04dd BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, that upon nomination by the Mayor and with the advice and consent of this Council, WILLIAM E. RATHJEN III be and hereby is appointed to the SHADE TREE ADVISORY BOARD of this Borough to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2018 and until his successor shall have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04ee BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, that upon nomination by the Mayor and with the advice and consent of this Council, ALEJANDRO KUGA, MARIO VARGAS and JOAN L. GRAHAM are hereby appointed to the YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION of this Borough to serve for the legal terms expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2016 and until their successors shall have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04ff BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that upon nomination of the Mayor and with the advice and consent of this Council, DAVID E. HOLLID be and hereby is appointed as a member of the Borough Administration to the ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN REVIEW BOARD of this Borough to effectuate Architectural Design Standards pursuant to Chapter XXII, Subsection 22-138 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of North Plainfield to serve for the legal term expiring at 12:00 noon on January 1, 2014 and until his successor shall have been appointed and qualified.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-04gg BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that it does hereby recommend the appointment of FRANK RIGHETTI by the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders to the SOMERSET COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE as representative of the Borough of North Plainfield for the year 2013.

CONSENT AGENDA NO. 2

Council President Singleterry read the Consent Agenda Statement.

Mrs. Forbes requested that item “i” be removed for a separate vote.

Ms. Miller presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-05 BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that resolutions numbered

01-01-13-05a, b, c, d, e, f, g and h

having been placed on Consent Agenda No. 2 and there having been no objection thereto, the same are hereby approved.

Seconded by Mr. Righetti and on Roll Call carried all seven voting aye.

APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA NO. 2 RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-05a BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that the *COURIER NEWS* be named the official newspaper of the Borough of North Plainfield for the publication of legal notices for calendar year 2013; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that meeting notices of the Borough of North Plainfield shall be transmitted to the *COURIER NEWS* and *THE STAR-LEDGER* and posted on the official bulletin boards in the Municipal Building and the North Plainfield Memorial Library for calendar year 2013.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-05b BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that the following are hereby designated as depositories for Borough funds for calendar year 2013:

Unity Bank
Valley National Bank
Wells Fargo Bank

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-05c BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that the following are hereby authorized to sign checks for the Borough of North Plainfield for calendar year 2013:

Michael Giordano Jr. – Mayor

Patrick J. DeBlasio – Chief Financial Officer

Kathleen Intravartolo - Treasurer

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-05d BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized and directed to charge interest on delinquent tax, assessment and sewer user accounts for calendar year 2013, as follows:

Eight percent (8%) on the first one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) which is delinquent for a period in excess of ten (10) calendar days, which said percentage shall be chargeable from the due date of the payment; and

Eighteen percent (18%) on any amount in excess of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) which is delinquent for a period in excess of ten (10) calendar days, which said percentage shall be chargeable from the due date of the payment; and

Six percent (6%) yearly penalty on any tax delinquency, as defined by N.J.S.A. 54:4-67, which exceeds ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), provided said delinquency has not been paid prior to the end of the calendar year.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-05e BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that Borough Tax Assessor BARBARA A. FLAHERTY is hereby authorized to file corrective appeals for errors in assessments or counterclaims to increase assessments, defend tax appeals filed by taxpayers, and agree to the terms of any stipulations of settlement of tax appeals as she deems necessary and in the best interest of the Borough for calendar year 2013.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-05f BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of North Plainfield is hereby authorized to establish change funds for calendar year 2013 for the following departments in the amounts designated:

Borough Clerk	\$ 50.00
Construction Office	50.00
Health Office	50.00
Municipal Court	300.00
Police	50.00
Public Works	50.00

The following item was deferred:

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-05g RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR CERTAIN MUNICIPAL COURT PERSONNEL BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD, THE BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG AND THE TOWNSHIP OF GREEN BROOK

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-05h PROVIDING FOR A TEMPORARY BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2013 PURSUANT TO N.J.S. 40A:4-19

WHEREAS, the Revised Statutes of New Jersey 40A:4-19 provides for the adoption of temporary appropriations for the period between the beginning of the Budget Year and the date of the adoption of the Local Budget for the Year 2013 for the purposes and amounts required;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, that the following temporary appropriations be made in the amounts and for the purposes herein set forth for the period between January 1st, 2013 and the adoption of the Local Budget for the Borough of North Plainfield, Somerset County and State of New Jersey for the Year of 2013:

<u>A/C #</u>	<u>CURRENT FUND</u>	<u>Salaries & Wages</u>	<u>Other Expenses</u>
20-100	Department of Administration	\$ 43,750.00	\$ 3,937.50
20-110	Borough Council	00.00	1,000.00
20-120	Borough Clerk	29,250.00	6,500.00
20-130	Department of Finance	56,500.00	3,375.00
20-135	Annual Audit		9,250.00
20-145	Tax Collection		2,375.00
20-150	Division of Assessments	17,000.00	1,150.00
20-151	Tax Appeals		3,750.00
20-155	Department of Law		55,000.00
20-165	Engineering		10,000.00
20-175	Historical Commission	750.00	500.00
21-180	Planning Board	300.00	1,500.00
21-185	Board of Adjustment	300.00	1,875.00
22-195	Uniform Construction Code	33,750.00	1,125.00
23-210	Liability Insurance		380,125.00
23-220	Group Insurance		475,000.00
23-225	Unemployment Compensation		15,000.00
25-240	Police	1,285,000.00	14,756.25
25-241	Crossing Guards	42,500.00	0.00
25-252	Emergency Management	1,725.00	1,975.00
25-260	Rescue Squad Contribution		2,500.00
25-265	Fire Protection	643,000.00	12,612.50
25-266	Fire Hydrant		47,900.00
25-267	Uniform Fire Code	3,000.00	1,544.75
25-268	LOSAP		1,500.00
25-269	Emergency Medical Services		5,000.00
25-275	Borough Prosecutor	5,000.00	0.00
26-290	Street & Roads	193,750.00	103,875.00
26-310	Building & Grounds		13,250.00
26-315	Vehicle Maintenance		40,250.00
27-330	Health	50,750.00	29,250.00
27-340	Dog Regulation		8,750.00
28-370	Recreation	22,500.00	4,250.00
28-375	Maintenance of Parks		1,625.00
28-380	Shade Tree Advisory Board		2,500.00

30-415	Retirement Benefits		50,000.00
30-420	Celebration of Public Events		1,625.00
31-201	Contingent		1,375.00
31-430	Electricity		87,500.00
31-440	Telephone		19,500.00
31-445	Water		5,000.00
31-446	Natural Gas		15,000.00
31-460	Gasoline		48,875.00
31-461	Technology		3,750.00
31-462	Postage		8,500.00
31-471	Employees Retirement System		60,708.25
36-472	Social Security		81,250.00
36-474	Consolidated Police/Fire Retirement		0.00
36-475	Police/Fireman Retirement		237,321.00
41-899	Matching Funds for Grants		1,250.00
42-300	COAH Housing		1,250.00
42-305	Somerset County Recycling		47,500.00
42-405	Parking Authority	17,500.00	0.00
42-520	NJDEP Permit Fee		1,312.50
43-490	Municipal Court	66,250.00	3,775.00
43-495	Public Defender		1,000.00
62-405	Capital Equipment		9,625.00
	Totals	\$2,512,575.00	\$1,949,117.75
45-920	Payment of Bond Principle	\$	\$ 715,000.00
45-925	Note Principle		770,000.00
45-930	Interest on Bonds		48,730.20
45-935	Interest on Notes	0.00	200,000.00
	Totals	\$ 0.00	\$1,733,730.20

<u>A/C #</u>	<u>SEWER UTILITY FUND</u>	<u>Salaries & Wages</u>	<u>Other Expenses</u>
55-501	Sewer Operating	\$ 47,500.00	\$ 10,750.00
55-502	Plainfield Area Regional Sewer		392,250.00
55-541	Social Security		3,500.00
55-542	Unemployment Comp Insurance		250.00
	Totals Sewer Utility	\$ 47,500.00	\$ 406,750.00
55-520	Payment of Bond Principal		\$ 25,000.00
55-522	Interest on Bonds	0.00	650.00
55-523	Principal/Interest-Notes		66,000.00

Totals \$ 00.00 \$ 91,650.00

Ms. Miller presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-05i BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that the attached bills of the accounts named and for the amounts stated, having been duly audited and found to be correct as of this 1st day of January, 2013 the same be paid; and that the Mayor and Chief Financial Officer are hereby authorized to sign and deliver warrants for the same.

Seconded by Mr. Stabile with Roll Call as follows:

Aye: La Ronde, Merrill, Miller, Righetti, Stabile, Singleterry
Abstain: Forbes

Resolution carried 6-0-1.

Mrs. Forbes presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 01-01-13-06 WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17 allows for the cancellation of property tax and sewer overpayments or delinquent amounts +/- \$10.00; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body may authorize a municipal employee chosen by said body to process, without further action on their part, any cancellation of property tax and sewer overpayments or delinquencies +/- \$10.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield of Somerset County, State of New Jersey, that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to cancel said tax amounts as deemed necessary.

Seconded by Mr. La Ronde and on Roll Call carried all seven voting aye.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

MAYOR'S MESSAGE:

Mayor Giordano read his 2013 State of the Borough address as follows:

Happy New Year to all and to my distinguished colleagues on the Borough Council. Welcome to our Reorganization Meeting. My annual State of the Borough Address allows me the opportunity to recap 2012 and to update you on the status of many projects ongoing in the Borough, and it allows us to outline our plans for North Plainfield in 2013 and beyond.

The year 2012 brought unprecedented challenges to the Borough of North Plainfield, but I am proud to say that we have continued to meet those challenges head-on while at the same

time preserving and modernizing essential services for our residents and businesses. We were able to do that through a cooperative working relationship between Administration and the Borough Council, the leadership of Council President Skip Stabile, a professional and dedicated staff at Borough Hall, a dedicated group of community volunteers, and public involvement from our residents and businesses.

I would like to thank Skip Stabile for his service and dedication as Council President for the past six years and look forward to his continued support and involvement in our community as a newly reelected member of the borough council. With that said, I also look forward to working closely with our newly elected Council President, Douglas Singleterry, and Council Vice President Lawrence La Ronde, and congratulations are also due to Councilman Frank Righetti and Councilwoman Keiona Miller who earned reelection to the Council last year. The past couple of months have been particularly challenging with Hurricane Sandy still fresh in our minds. The storm illustrated how much we depend on our electric and information grid, and how important it is to prepare for emergencies. The storm tested our resilience, our ingenuity, and our patience.

However, thanks to the collective efforts of the Local Planning Emergency Committee and the North Plainfield Office of Emergency Management, our response to historic storm ran as smoothly as possible. Communication was also excellent between the Borough and the Board of Education. During the night of the storm and in the weeks immediately following I witnessed excellent communication and cooperation among all emergency services: Police, Fire, Rescue, Borough Administration, Public Works and the Board of Education. Under harrowing circumstances, all of these people worked throughout the night to place flares where trees blocked roadways, to cut and move trees, to mark and protect downed wires, and to assist residents and assess damage to homes that were hit by falling trees. Our Clerk, Rich Phoenix did an outstanding job keeping our emergency radio station on the air throughout the storm.

Despite the severity of the storm Borough Hall was only closed for two days. Many came by to charge up their phones, and obtain the latest information on power restoration and recovery efforts. In the midst of the storm and immediately following we were able to provide emergency services, hold an election and yes, even collect taxes!

I'd like to take a moment to acknowledge Jim Rodino, our Director of Public Works, and Angelo Costello, our Public Works Forman, for their outstanding performance during and after the storm. Under their direction, our Public Works Department was able to maximize their response to our residents' needs.

Recovery efforts, which began immediately, and continue today, were made easier through the generosity of others. During the initial days following the storm, Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church opened its doors as a warming/charging center and continue in their quest to serve the community. The North Plainfield Education Association's members provided a warm welcome at Vermeule Community Center, and hot and cold beverages, supplemented with generous donations of meals and snacks by local businesses, caring residents, and elected borough officials.

Subsequent to the storm the North Plainfield Professional Firefighters Association, in partnership with the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF), began distribution of brand new winter coats through the Firefighters Coats for Kids by Operation Warm. Borough employees ran a food drive with the assistance of local businesses immediately following the disaster, distributing over a dozen Thanksgiving Food Baskets to residents in need. Efforts continued through the Holiday Season with a “Christmas for Kids Program” sponsored by Super Heroes Sub Shop, our Local PBA sponsoring a family, several of our borough employees sponsoring two families.

2013 Budget

Although there are signs of improvement in the economy and real estate market, continuing economic difficulties have affected our tax base as they have in every other town in our state. However, because we implemented various cost saving measures over the years and practice responsible budgeting, we have been able to maintain quality services for our residents and businesses while keeping the lid on tax increases. These efforts are evidenced this year by us achieving the largest budget surplus in twelve years, maintaining a stable tax collection rate, and securing every dollar of State Aid by achieving the highest possible category in the State’s annual Best Practices Survey.

2012 Capital Budget

Responsible budgeting goes hand in hand with responsible investments in our community, especially one that’s over 150 years old. We recognize that committing to long term improvements now is particularly favorable due to competitive bid prices, historically low interest rates and cost avoidance of unanticipated major repairs. This year my administration recommended, and Council approved, an ambitious Capital Project Bond Ordinance. This ordinance authorizes the purchase of new equipment for emergency services and public works, improvements to roads and sewers, and improvements to municipal facilities. Right now there are plans being developed for two major sewer projects and twelve road projects which will be constructed in 2013. Look for a project in your neighborhood!

Shared Services Agreements

In the past year we implemented a successful shared services agreement with Watchung. We now share the services of our Municipal Court Administrator and other personnel for which Watchung pays a fee. We have finalized an agreement which goes into effect today to share our Municipal Judge, Prosecutor and Public Defender positions among Green Brook and Watchung.

In addition, this year we are assisting Green Brook with street sweeping efforts in return for assistance with snow plowing. We have recently negotiated and signed a Shared Services Agreement with the Plainfield Municipal Utilities Authority for Type 13 Solid Waste and Type 23 Solid Waste Services which will save the borough an anticipated \$100,000 per year in the disposal of waste. Going forward we will continue to explore shared service possibilities with our municipal neighbors and other agencies when it makes sense for North Plainfield.

Master Plan Environmental/Green Team

This year work has been continuing on a new Master Plan for the Borough and we recently received money from the New Jersey Association of Environmental Commissions to prepare an Environmental Resource Inventory. Through the efforts of the Planning Board, the Environmental Commission, the Green Team and the Borough Council we will be laying the groundwork for the future redevelopment of our town. These plans will include concepts such as “Green” initiatives which promote energy savings and environmental stewardship while we work to preserve our neighborhoods, and encourage new commercial growth and redevelopment.

Road and Infrastructure Projects

This year we continued our successful pursuit of grant monies from federal, state and local sources. Planning and design to complete the streetscape at the northern end of Somerset Street has begun. This project will use \$300,000 in Federal funds which were received through the efforts of Congressman Lance.

The reconstruction of Malcolm Ave. (south of US 22) and Manning Ave. (between Watchung and Sandford Avenues) has been completed utilizing a \$275,000 grant from the NJDOT and we recently completed the construction of Harrison Ave. between US 22 and Greenbrook Rd. which is being funded in part with \$200,000 of NJDOT funds.

New Business

Despite the economy, we have been fortunate to welcome new businesses to North Plainfield. These include: Select Comfort (quality mattresses), White Tiger Laundromat on Route 22 (located next to the Asian Food Market), Advance Auto, and Family Barbeque (downtown). In the coming year, we expect a restaurant (at the corner of Greenbrook Road and Grove Street) to open.

Our biggest success of the year by far is the proposed Costco Wholesale Store. The North Plainfield Planning Board granted approval for Costco Wholesale to open a 156,000 sq. ft. store and gasoline station on the former K-Mart/Pathmark retail site on Rt. 22. Unanimous approval by the Planning Board was granted at the October 10 meeting after two nights of testimony and public input. The approval paves the way for the largest retail development project in North Plainfield in 50 years and represents a significant investment in the Route 22 retail corridor. There are expected to be 250 construction jobs created by this project and 250 permanent jobs at Costco once it is open. The large majority of permanent jobs will represent new hires working full time. Costco will become the largest private employer in North Plainfield and this will represent a tremendous shot in the arm to our local economy at a most opportune time.

In addition to new businesses, several businesses have expanded and reinvested in our community as evidenced by major renovations to Global Auto Mall and Sal’s Deli on Somerset Street.

Communication

This year we made some important advances in communication. In the beginning of the year we re-launched our website - www.northplainfield.org - to make it more user-friendly and comprehensive. We also partnered with the North Plainfield Business Association to produce a new monthly newspaper – The Pride of North Plainfield. This year we will also be examining the use of Twitter and Facebook options. We hope you make use of these to learn more about North Plainfield, the many services we provide, and activities that we host.

I'd like to acknowledge my Administrative office staff, Borough Administrator David Hollod, and Administrative Assistant Gail Cain for their hard work, dedication and leadership. Most every issue affecting the Borough flows through this two person office and this volume of work increases every year.

My thanks extend also to our Directors and Department Heads, and the staff at Borough Hall for their hard work in the past year and total dedication to the Borough. This also includes our legal team, headed by Eric Bernstein and his staff.

I would like to thank all of our volunteers serving as members of the committees, commissions, and advisory boards for their countless hours of service. In this time of budgetary constraints we are fortunate to have many volunteers who continue to give countless hours to our community.

Thank you to all the members departing from the committees for your valuable time and congratulations to all the newly appointed members.

I look forward to working with the Borough Council, the Board of Education, the Somerset County Freeholders, state agencies, our neighboring communities, and all of our many volunteers to continue the progress we have made in North Plainfield.

Finally, I am pleased to be a partner with the men and women of the Borough Council. The Borough Council puts the needs of our residents first in everything it does and we share the goal to stabilize taxes, improve our quality of life, and strengthen our community for the benefit of all.

I look forward to working with all the residents of our proud community. If you have any questions, please contact me or any member of our Borough staff at any time. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes to all for a happy, healthy and prosperous 2013!

Mrs. Forbes, offering her congratulations to all of the re-elected officials and appointees, expressed her wishes to all for a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

Mr. La Ronde echoed Mrs. Forbes' statements.

Mr. Merrill congratulated his colleagues and then thanked the staff at Borough Hall, specifically Chiefs Eaton and Parenti, for their hard work throughout the year and most notably their efforts both during and after the storm.

Ms. Miller, thanking everyone in attendance, spoke of feeling both honored and pleased to be elected to serve the residents of North Plainfield.

Mr. Righetti thanked everyone for their support of his Council seat over the past eighteen years.

Mr. Stabile thanked everyone in attendance for their support. Remarking that public service may not always be easy, the councilman reiterated that it is an honor to serve on the Borough Council.

Council President Singleterry thanked the Council for the privilege to serve as their Council President. He offered his congratulations to Mayor Giordano, Ms. Miller and Mssrs. Righetti and Stabile on their re-elections.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. La Ronde, seconded by Mr. Stabile and on voice vote carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

Borough Clerk

Council President