

## ***DRAFT MINUTES***

*These are the Draft Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of North Plainfield, New Jersey held on Monday, 23 November 2015.*

*Every attempt has been made to make these as comprehensive and conclusive as possible. However, as it is a draft document, it is not to be construed as a formal depiction of the official conduct of business and is subject to revision up to and following the Governing Body's actual approval of same. If changes are necessary, revised minutes will be posted to the website.*

**MINUTES** of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield held on Monday, **November 23, 2015** at 8:28 p.m. at the North Plainfield Council Chambers, 263 Somerset Street, North Plainfield, New Jersey.

### **PRESENT:**

Council Members:   Everett Merrill  
                               Keiona R. Miller  
                               Frank Righetti (absent – excused)  
                               Wendy Schaefer  
                               Douglas M. Singleterry  
                               Frank “Skip” Stabile  
                               Lawrence La Ronde, Council President

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

The Council President read the following Notice of Compliance:

"This is a Regular Meeting of the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, scheduled by resolution of the Council adopted on December 8, 2014. 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 10, 2014 by publication of the announcement in the *Courier News* of December 12, 2014 and by posting a copy of this notice on the bulletin boards in the Municipal Building and Memorial Library reserved for such purpose."

The Borough Clerk had submitted copies of the minutes of the Agenda Conference and Regular Meeting of November 9, 2015.

Agenda Conference and Regular Meeting of November 9, 2015: All in favor.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Council President La Ronde 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. Singleterry presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-23-15-01** BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that resolutions numbered

11-23-15-01a, b, c, d and e

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

Seconded by Ms. Schaefer and on Roll Call carried all six voting aye.

**APPROVED RESOLUTIONS:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-23-15-01a** RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH CLERK TO EXECUTE CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER REQUEST NO. 2 – SALT STORAGE DESIGN, BIDDING & CONSTRUCTION PHASE SERVICES TO SUBURBAN CONSULTING ENGINEERS, INC. FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield previously, and by way of Resolution, entered into an Agreement with Suburban Consulting Engineers, Inc., for the provision of Professional Engineering Services, under Project # SCE-P07988.011, Salt Storage Design, Bidding & Construction Phase Services; and,

WHEREAS, due to an unanticipated change in the scope of work as requested by the Borough of North Plainfield, the costs associated with the provision of the professional engineering services have increased; and,

WHEREAS, at the request of the Borough of North Plainfield, Suburban Consulting Engineers, Inc., has prepared Change Order Request No. 2, dated November 12, 2015, setting forth the increased scope of work and the costs associated therewith.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Borough Council hereby authorizes the Mayor and the Borough Clerk, on behalf of the Borough, to sign and/or execute Change Order Request No. 2, dated November 10, 2015, with Suburban Consulting Engineers, Inc., which Change Order Request is incorporated herein by reference as if same was fully set forth, without the need for any further action of this Borough Council.

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-23-15-01b** RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH CLERK TO EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH GROTTO ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES, LLC FOR THE 2016 CAPITAL ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield wishes to make capital road improvements for various streets; and,

WHEREAS, Grotto Engineering Associates, LLC, with a principal place of business located at 340 North Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016, is in the business of providing Professional Engineering Services and has submitted a proposal on November 5, 2015, to provide professional services relating to the 2016 Capital Road Improvement Program in the Borough of North Plainfield.

WHEREAS, the Borough of North Plainfield is desirous of obtaining the services of Grotto Engineering Associates, LLC to perform all of those services contemplated in the afore-referenced Proposal.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Borough Council does hereby award a contract to Grotto Engineering Associates, LLC, 340 North Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07060, for engineering services as to the Borough's 2016 Capital Road Improvement Program and authorizes the Mayor and the Borough Clerk to sign and/or execute a Professional Services Agreement with Grotto Engineering Associates, LLC without the need for any further action of this Borough Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the award of this Contract shall be subject to the Certification of the Borough's Chief Financial Officer as to the availability of funds for payment for same.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the award is made pursuant to and consistent with the Local Public Contracts Laws of the State of New Jersey.

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-23-15-01c** WHEREAS, Chancellor Title Agency, Inc. inadvertently paid \$1,854.12 that was not due on the tax bill for Jan Henriksen, 209 Glenside Place, and have requested refund of that payment.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, that the Tax Collector is authorized to make the following refund:

Refund Real Estate Erroneous Tax Payment:

Chancellor Title Agency, Inc.	\$ 1,854.12
59 Lincoln Avenue	
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410	

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-23-15-01d** WHEREAS, RMS Title Services, LLC paid \$1,103.37 that was previously paid by Corelogic on Block 2.03 Lot 3, 146 Netherwood Avenue and have requested refund of that payment.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to make the following refund:

Refund Real Estate Erroneous Tax Payment:

RMS Title Services, Inc.                      \$ 1,103.37  
 29 Union Avenue  
 Lakehurst, New Jersey 08733

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-23-15-01e** 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 23<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2015 the same be paid; and that the Mayor and Chief Financial Officer are hereby authorized to sign and deliver warrants for the same.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Somerset County Office of Public Information Somerville, NJ	Various Communications, Advisories and News Releases
Richard K. Phoenix, RMC – Borough Clerk & Chief Operator, WPQJ970 – 1630-AM Radio	Calendar Updates and Advisories; Time-Sensitive Radio Scripts
Tri-County Chamber of Commerce South Plainfield, NJ	Newsletters & Advisories
NJ State League of Municipalities Trenton, NJ	Newsletters & Advisories
PSE&G Newark, NJ	Newsletters and Hearing Notices
NJ Highlands Coalition Boonton, NJ	Newsletters
Betsy Ramos, Esq. Capehart & Scatchard, P.A. Mount Laurel, NJ	NJ Public Entity Law Monthly Newsletter
Green Brook Flood Control Commission Green Brook, NJ	Invoice and Report
Somerset County Planning Board Somerville, NJ	Proposed Wastewater Management Planning Requirements
Luis Penaloza The Bridge Tavern	Request for extended New Year’s Opening Hours
Association of NJ Environmental Commissioners Metuchen, NJ	What is a TMDL?
Plainfield Area Humane Society Plainfield, NJ	Invoice and Report

**REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS:**

Responding to Mr. Singleterry's request, Mr. Hollod advised that the energy aggregation discussion will be scheduled for December 14.

Ms. Schaefer requested discussion on the animal control ordinance, specifically the chapter on cats and the inclusion of guidelines for trap, neuter, and release colonies. She further requested discussion on vacant/abandoned properties with the inclusion of a registration fee paid for by the mortgage companies.

Mr. La Ronde requested discussion of the stop and yield intersections as well as the 2016 Council meeting calendar.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Gary Lewis, 110 Jackson Avenue, North Plainfield, commented on the master plan ordinance, most notably his desire to see property owners appropriately utilize their second floor facilities.

**COMMENTS BY MAYOR, ADMINISTRATOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Mayor Giordano wished everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving. He reported on the success of the rabies clinic and the Girl Scout Community Thanksgiving dinner. The Mayor offered his support of Ms. Schaefer's request for discussion of a registration fee for vacant/abandoned properties.

Messrs. Hollod and Merrill offered their best wishes to all for a happy Thanksgiving. Mr. Merrill offered his congratulations to the award recipients.

Ms. Miller urged everyone to look at ways to help those needy families within the community.

Ms. Schaefer wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving, congratulated Firefighter Lanzone and thanked the Borough for the opportunity to attend the New Jersey State League of Municipalities convention.

Messrs. Singleterry and La Ronde offered their congratulations to Firefighter Lanzone.

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Miller, seconded by Mr. Stabile and carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

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Borough Clerk

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Council President