

# ***DRAFT MINUTES***

*These are the Draft Minutes of the Agenda Conference of the Borough Council of North Plainfield, New Jersey held on Monday, 25 April 2016.*

*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 Agenda Conference of the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield held on Monday, **April 25, 2016** at 7:31 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  
Wendy Schaefer  
Douglas M. Singleterry  
Frank "Skip" Stabile  
Lawrence La Ronde, Council President

Also Present: David E. Hollod, Business Administrator  
Dominic DiYanni, Esq., Associate Borough Attorney  
Stephanie J. Sherwood, RMC, Deputy Borough Clerk

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Mr. Righetti.

Council President La Ronde requested a moment of silence for the men and women serving in our Armed Forces.

The Council President read the following Notice of Compliance:

"This is an Agenda Meeting of the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, scheduled by resolution of the Council adopted on December 14, 2015. 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*, *The Alternative Press* and *WKMB* Radio on December 15, 2015, by publication of the announcement in the *Courier News* of December 17, 2015 and by posting a copy of this notice on the bulletin boards in the Municipal Building and Memorial Library reserved for such purpose."

## **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Jim Maloney, 131 Rockview Avenue, commented on the North Plainfield Memorial Library, specifically voicing his support of the numerous programs available for both children and adults. Stressing that libraries are much more than just shelves of books, he noted that patrons frequently utilize the computers in the ever increasing electronic age.

Frank D'Amore, Sr., 40 Willow Avenue, commented on Ordinance No. 16-09, suggesting the fees accrued be used for those properties in disrepair. He further noted the need for proper enforcement of the ordinance.

Suzette Given, 555 Ayres Avenue, spoke in favor of the library, specifically the feeling of community encouraged through the various programs.

Tyler Rodriguez, 197 Jefferson Avenue, offered his praise of the programs available for teens at the library, specifically the cooking classes which he found to be particularly beneficial.

Leia Zhu, 199 Westervelt Avenue, noted the importance of the various library programs as they encourage volunteerism and helped her to gain the confidence to land a first job.

Jennifer McGovern, 371 Malcolm Avenue, acknowledged her families' use of the library and encouraged the continuation of the various programs.

Teesh Haidara, 85 Wilson Avenue, voiced his support of the various library programs, specifically the valuable friendships formed as a result of same.

Tommie Shider, 711 Anna Place, spoke in favor of continuing the library programs for both students and adults. The speaker shared his concerns with a lingering gas odor in his neighborhood which had developed after the recent gas line work by PSE&G.

Susan Elliott, 710 Anna Place, voiced her concerns with an abandoned house in her neighborhood, specifically the amount of debris in the yard. Sharing her displeasure with the increased property taxes, the speaker further noted that brush had not been picked up in April.

Stephanie Lopatosky, 352 Crosson Place, spoke of the many benefits of the library, most notably that it offers a safe space for children during after-school hours.

Antonio Salazar, 138 Grove Street, voiced his support of the library and noted that it had helped him to develop his social skills.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Award of Bid – Cypress Gardens Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project – D.E.H.** Mr. Hollod explained that this resolution authorizes the award of the Cypress Gardens Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation project to Aqua Infrastructure Rehabilitation Co., LLC d/b/a Tri State Grouting. Mr. DiYanni noted that the amount would be amended to \$98,604.50, explaining that the bidder had expressed the lower figure in the text form of the quotation.

2. **Agreement with Hatch Mott MacDonald for General Engineering Services – D.E.H.** Mr. Hollod advised that this resolution authorizes an agreement with Hatch Mott MacDonald for general engineering services for calendar year 2016.

3. **Agreement with Suburban Consulting Engineers re: Design Services for Fueling Facility at Public Works Yard – D.E.H.** Mr. Hollod explained that this resolution authorizes an agreement with Suburban Consulting Engineers to provide certain professional engineering services associated with the proposed fueling facility at the Department of Public Works property.

4. **2016 Proposed Capital Projects – D.E.H.** Mr. Hollod detailed some of the anticipated projects through calendar year 2021. The bond ordinance would allow for the acquisition of both trailer and pole mounted speed signs for the Police Department and hardware and software updates for various computer programs within the Fire Department. Approximately \$250,000 would be spent on renovations to the library including a handicapped accessible door, he concluded.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**REPORTS OF BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS:**

Mr. Merrill reported on the Board of Education’s recent hiring of Mark Ciccotelli as the new football head coach. The Texas Roadhouse restaurant will donate a portion of the evening’s proceeds to Project Graduation, he remarked. Commenting on the Fourth of July Parade, the councilman announced that this year’s Grand Marshalls would be the three Vo-Tech students that had assisted their bus driver during his medical emergency.

Ms. Miller announced that the Youth Services Commission and the Municipal Alliance Committee would meet on April 26 at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center.

Council President La Ronde regretfully announced that the Street Fair had been cancelled.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

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Borough Clerk

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Council President