

# ***DRAFT MINUTES***

*These are the Draft Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the North Plainfield Borough Council held on Monday, 22 May 2017. 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, **May 22, 2017** at 8:05 p.m. at the North Plainfield Borough 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  
John Kaplan, Esq., Associate 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 November 28, 2016. 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 November 29, 2016, by publication of the announcement in the *Courier News* on December 1, 2016 and by posting a copy of this notice on the bulletin boards in the Municipal Building and Memorial Library reserved for such purpose."

The Clerk had submitted copies of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 8, 2017. He reminded that the evening's scheduled Agenda Conference had been cancelled, so there were only minutes of the Regular Meeting to be considered this evening.

Council President La Ronde called for a Roll Call on the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 8, 2017: All in favor.

**HEARING:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 17-09** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND, REVISE AND SUPPLEMENT THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD, CHAPTER IV ENTITLED, "GENERAL LICENSING," ARTICLE 4-1A BY CREATING A NEW ARTICLE ENTITLED, "LIMOUSINES"

The Clerk read the Ordinance by its title.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

Motion to close public comment by Mr. Stabile, seconded by Ms. Schaefer and on Roll Call carried all six voting aye.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 05-22-17-01** BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that an ordinance numbered 17-09 be adopted and advertised as required by statute.

Seconded by Mr. Stabile and on Roll Call carried all six voting aye.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 05-22-17-02** BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of North Plainfield that an Ordinance numbered 17-10 be read by its title by the Borough Clerk and be passed on its first reading and advertised as required by statute, fixing June 12, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, as the time and the North Plainfield Council Chambers, 263 Somerset Street, North Plainfield, New Jersey as the place for hearing and final adoption.

Seconded by Mr. Singleterry and on Roll Call carried all six voting aye.

The Clerk read the ordinance by its title as follows:

**ORDINANCE NO. 17-10** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND, REVISE AND SUPPLEMENT THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD, CHAPTER X ENTITLED "BUILDING AND HOUSING," ARTICLE I ENTITLED "STATE UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE ENFORCING AGENCY," SECTION 10-1.2 ENTITLED "FEES FOR A CONSTRUCTION PERMIT"

**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.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 05-22-17-03** BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that resolutions numbered

05-22-17-03a, b, c, d, e and f

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

Seconded by Mr. Singleterry and on Roll Call carried all six voting aye.

**APPROVED RESOLUTIONS:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 05-22-17-03a** RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH CLERK TO EXECUTE CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER REQUEST NO. 2 AMENDING THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH SUBURBAN CONSULTING ENGINEERS INC. FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE PROPOSED FUELING FACILITY AT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS PROPERTY FOR THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, awarded a contract for Professional Engineering Services to Suburban Consulting Engineers, Inc., with a principal place of business located at 96 U.S. Highway 206, Suite 101, Flanders, New Jersey 07836 (hereinafter referred to as "SCE"), and authorized the Mayor and the Borough Clerk to execute a contract with SCE on behalf of the Borough, with respect to the proposed fueling facility at the Department of Public Works Property; and,

WHEREAS, SCE, by letter dated April 18, 2017, a copy of which is on file in the Office of the Borough Clerk and made a part hereof, has requested "Change Order Request No. 2" to amend the professional services contract for the design services of the fueling facility requesting the following additions for a lump sum payment of Fourteen Thousand Four Hundred Dollars (\$14,400.00):

- Preparation of Construction Plans & Specifications for Underground Storage Tanks for Fueling Station (Original design was for the relocation of the Existing Aboveground Storage Tank and Fueling Station Design);
- Additional Permitting Review for Underground Storage Tank Installation; and,
- Coordination for field changes of new generator.

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 April 18, 2017, 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.



JOSE R. GUEVARA  
19 Geraud Ave., #2  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

**RESOLUTION NO. 05-22-17-03f** 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 22<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 2017 the same be paid; and that the Mayor and Chief Financial Officer are hereby authorized to sign and deliver warrants for the same.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 05-22-17-04** SUPPORTING THE CLICK IT OR TICKET MOBILIZATION OF MAY 22 – JUNE 4, 2017

Whereas, there were 604 motor vehicle fatalities in New Jersey in 2016; and

Whereas, a large percentage of the motor vehicle occupants killed in traffic crashes were not wearing a seat belt; and

Whereas, use of a seat belt remains the most effective way to avoid death or serious injury in a motor vehicle crash; and

Whereas, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that 135,000 lives were saved by safety belt usage nationally between 1975-2000; and

Whereas, the State of New Jersey will participate in the nationwide Click It or Ticket seat belt mobilization from May 22 – June 4, 2017 in an effort to raise awareness and increase seat belt usage through a combination of high visibility enforcement and public education; and

Whereas, the Division of Highway Traffic Safety has set a goal of increasing the seat belt usage rate in the state from the current level of 93% to 95%; and

Whereas, a further increase in seat belt usage in New Jersey will save lives on our roadways;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Borough of North Plainfield declares its support for the Click It or Ticket seat belt mobilization both locally and nationally from May 22 – June 4, 2017 and pledges to increase awareness of the mobilization and the benefits of seat belt use.

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

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Somerset County Office of Public Information  
Somerville, NJ  
Richard K. Phoenix, RMC – Borough Clerk &

Various Communications, Advisories and  
News Releases  
Calendar Updates and Advisories; Time-Sensitive

Chief Operator, WPQJ970 – 1630-AM Radio Tri-County Chamber of Commerce South Plainfield, NJ	Radio Scripts Newsletters and Advisories
NJ State League of Municipalities Trenton, NJ	Newsletters and Advisories
NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection Trenton, NJ	Various Newsletters and Advisories
Betsy G. Ramos, Esq., Capehart/Scatchard Esqs. Mount Laurel, NJ	NJ Public Entity Law Monthly
Highlands Coalition Boonton, NJ	Newsletters
Sustainable Raritan River Initiative Edw. J. Bloustein School, New Brunswick, NJ	Newsletters
Plainfield Area Humane Society Plainfield, NJ	Report and Invoicing
Bart Thomas, Shade Tree Advisory Board North Plainfield, NJ	Meeting minutes
Ken Wedeen, Somerset County Planning Bd. Somerville, NJ	Meeting notice: Raritan Valley Rail Coalition
NJ State Treasurer Trenton, NJ	Tax Clearance Certificates – ABC Licensees

**REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS:**

Council President La Ronde requested that the pet store ordinance be added to the next meeting as well as discussion of the Shade Tree Advisory Board’s terms of service.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Frank D’Amore, Sr., 40 Willow Avenue, North Plainfield, urged for the establishment of a policy requiring all elected officials to use the Borough email address.

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

Mayor Giordano detailed the Memorial Day ceremonies to be held on May 29. The Borough’s Somerset County Patriots night will be held on July 21. He thanked Katherine Miller, NPHPC Chair, and Stephanie Sherwood, Deputy Clerk, for their efforts with the Historic Preservation Grant.

Mr. Merrill welcomed Karen St. John, a 2013 North Plainfield High School graduate and recent graduate of Rutgers University, as she would like to get involved in one or more of the various Boards, Committees, and Commissions.

Ms. Miller offered her well wishes to Freeholder Palmer.

Mr. Stabile acknowledged Freeholder Palmer’s efforts over the years and wished him well.

Council President La Ronde thanked the Mayor and Mr. Hollod for the new American flags displayed along Somerset Street and Greenbrook Road.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

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Borough Clerk

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Council President