

DRAFT MINUTES

These are the Draft Minutes of the Agenda Conference of the North Plainfield Borough Council held on Monday, 10 September 2018.

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, **September 10, 2018** at 7:34 p.m. at the North Plainfield Council Chambers, 263 Somerset Street, North Plainfield, New Jersey.

PRESENT:

Council Members: Aimee Corzo
Everett Merrill
Keiona R. Miller
Wendy Schaefer
Douglas M. Singleterry
Frank "Skip" Stabile
Lawrence La Ronde, Council President

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

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Ms. Schaefer.

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. 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 July 16, 2018 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:

Christine Holman, 21 Myrtle Avenue, North Plainfield, explained that she had researched how other towns deal with residents keeping exotic pets. Council President La Ronde responded that they await a letter from Ms. Holman detailing what animals she would like to keep. Ms. Holman voiced her displeasure with the Somerset County Board of Health as they had not replied to her.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Ordinance Excluding Trucks Over Four Tons from Harrison and Jefferson Avenues** – D.E.H. Mr. Hollod explained that Sgt. Dennis Kardos had recommended this ordinance since the New Jersey Department of Transportation eliminated the U-turn at Wilson Avenue and Route 22. The ordinance will restrict activity on Harrison and Jefferson Avenues as delivery trucks should use the Somerset Street overpass and avoid the residential zones.
2. **Resolution to Award Bid to S. Brothers, Inc. for Sandford Avenue Road Improvements** – D.E.H. Mr. Hollod reported that this resolution authorizes the award of the Sandford Avenue Road Improvements project to S. Brothers. A portion of the total cost would be funded through a grant from the New Jersey Department of Transportation.
3. **Resolution to Authorize Change Order to Suburban Consulting Engineers for Construction Inspection Services for Public Works Fueling Facility** – D.E.H. Mr. Hollod explained that this resolution authorizes a change order for Suburban Consulting Engineers as additional work would be done at the Public Works Fueling Facility.
4. **Proposed Ordinance Banning Sale of Recreational and Medical Marijuana in the Borough** – L.L.R. Council President La Ronde reported that approximately two hundred municipalities have enacted a ban against the sale or cultivation of marijuana. Mr. George explained that the ordinance would not impact the legalization of recreational or medical use of marijuana, but would prevent retail sales and manufacturing. Mr. Singleterry felt the ordinance was premature and favored waiting for the State. He also voiced his opposition to marijuana smoke in public places. Ms. Miller agreed with Mr. Singleterry, preferring an ordinance that looks at medical and recreational sales differently. Voicing his support of medical marijuana, the Council President shared his concerns with the sale of it so close to Borough schools. Referencing the DARE program, Mr. Merrill remarked that these facilities would send a mixed message to our children. Mr. George indicated that the State may have something to introduce by January 2019 which would tax it in a similar fashion to cigarettes. Upon straw vote, the Council opted to introduce the ordinance at the next meeting.

REPORTS OF BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS: None.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Borough Clerk

Council President