

DRAFT MINUTES

These are the Draft Minutes of the Agenda Conference of the North Plainfield Borough Council held on Monday, 9 May 2022.

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 Council'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, **May 9, 2022** at 7:45 p.m. at the North Plainfield Community Center, 614 Greenbrook Road, North Plainfield, New Jersey.

PRESENT:

Council Members: Aimee Corzo
Suzette Given
Steven McIntyre
Everett Merrill, Council Vice President
Keiona R. Miller (absent-excused)
Wendy Schaefer
Frank "Skip" Stabile, Council President

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

Council President Stabile read the following Notice of Compliance:

"This meeting is being held in compliance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. Adequate notice of this meeting was provided by transmitting notice to the official newspapers of the Borough, The Courier News, WKMB Radio, WJLP-TV, the Alternative Press and also to the Star Ledger on December 15, 2021 and by posting a copy of this notice on the bulletin boards in the Municipal Building and the Memorial Library reserved for such purpose."

The Council President led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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

MAYORAL PROCLAMATION:

In the absence of Mayor La Ronde, Mr. Hollod read the Proclamation as follows:

EMS Week Proclamation

Designating the Week of May 15 - 21, 2022, as Emergency Medical Services Week

WHEREAS, emergency medical services are a vital public service; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, emergency medical services have grown to fill a gap by providing important, out of hospital care, including preventative medicine, follow-up care, and access to telemedicine; and

WHEREAS, the emergency medical services system consists of first responders, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, emergency medical dispatchers, firefighters, police officers, educators, administrators, pre-hospital nurses, emergency nurses, emergency physicians, trained members of the public, and other out of hospital medical care providers; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating Emergency Medical Services Week; now

THEREFORE, I, Lawrence La Ronde, Mayor of the Borough of North Plainfield, do hereby proclaim the week of May 15-21, 2022, as

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK

Mr. Hollod recognized Fire Chief William Eaton who was present and accompanied by a cadre of the Borough's Emergency Medical Technicians. Mr. Hollod referenced those in attendance as the backbone of the Borough's Emergency Medical Services.

Chief Eaton offered his thanks for recognizing the department with the Proclamation.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No one appeared.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Application of August Tenth Capital Investments, L.L.C. for Cannabis Class 1**

Cultivation and Cannabis Class 2 Manufacture – P.G.. Mr. George introduced Edward Tobias, Esq. of East Brunswick whose firm represents several cannabis clients. Mr. Tobias provided credentials in relation to the business including state licenses and zoning certification that the location is appropriately compliant for indoor cultivation. A resolution was prepared to identify the location for submission to the State. There is also a separate certification by Borough Engineer/Zoning Officer David Testa which accompanies the other documentation.

Council Vice President Merrill questioned ventilation of the facility. Mr. George explained state regulations requiring filtering of vapors and dust from the manufacturing process. Only clean air will be emitted. There will be periodic inspections by the DEP and the County Board of Health. Mr. Merrill questioned job creation, and Mr. Tobias explained that thirty-five (35) initial jobs would be created. The Cannabis Regulatory Commission (CRC) licenses them with background checks of employees.

Mr. George interjected that Stockton State University is now offering the first college degree in the state.

Ms. Schaefer questioned the inspections process, and Mr. George explained that they are the responsibility of the DEP and County Board of Health, which the Borough cannot supersede. The Councilwoman noted the facility's proximity to residences and retailers, and Mr. George explained that CRC regulations require no penetration of this type of operation. He added that the Borough could control its hours of operation to a large extent.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

REPORTS OF BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS:

Ms. Corzo reported on a three-hour meeting that she and the Mayor had attended with Hispanic business leaders. It was a great dialogue with many in attendance. There will be greater participation of Hispanics in town activities, including the 4th of July Parade and the Taste of North Plainfield. Also in attendance at the meeting was a representative from the Americano newspaper. The Councilwoman extended her thanks to Mayor La Ronde for all that he has done with the Hispanic community.

Mr. Merrill reported on the School Board's recent budget meeting which has been fully detailed on the Board's website. The budget features no taxpayer increase due to state aid. Middle school programs and capital projects will benefit. Recreation will be meeting once monthly, there is a cost-effective program for adults, and it appears that this summer season will see an upswing in campers.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Borough Clerk

Council President