

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield held on Monday, **June 27, 2022** at 7:50 p.m. at the Borough Council Chambers, 263 Somerset Street, North Plainfield, New Jersey.

PRESENT:

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

Also Present: Lawrence La Ronde, Mayor
Eric M. Bernstein, Esq., Borough Attorney
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 then announced that an Executive Session on the topic of **Contract Negotiations** was scheduled to be convened at the close of regular business at tonight's meeting.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:

The Clerk had submitted copies of the minutes of the Board of Health and Regular Meeting of June 13, 2022.

The Council President called for a roll call on the minutes:

All seven in favor.

Minutes ordered approved 7-0.

RESOLUTIONS:

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

RESOLUTION NO. 06-27-22-01 BOND ORDINANCE NO. 22-04 BOND ORDINANCE NO. 22-04 PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS 2022 CAPITAL ACQUISITIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$3,110,000 THEREFOR (INCLUSIVE OF A NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GRANT IN THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF \$442,500) AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,543,700 IN BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

Seconded by Councilwoman Miller and on Roll Call carried all seven in favor.

The Clerk read the Ordinance by its title, then reported on receipt of the Supplemental Debt Statement from CFO Patrick DeBlasio in connection with the evening's Bond Ordinances.

Mr. McIntyre presented the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 06-27-22-02 BOND ORDINANCE NO. 22-05 BOND ORDINANCE NO. 22-05 PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS 2022 ACQUISITIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE SEWER UTILITY OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (THE "BOROUGH"): APPROPRIATING \$1,242,000 THEREFOR (INCLUDING A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT IN THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF \$100,000) AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,142,000 IN BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

Seconded by Councilwoman Miller and on Roll Call carried all seven in favor.

The Clerk read the Ordinance by its title.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council President Stabile 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. Corzo presented the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 06-23-22-03 BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that resolutions numbered

06-23-22-02 a, b & c

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

Seconded by Mr. McIntyre and on roll call carried unanimously.

APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 06-27-22-03a WHEREAS, the following applicants have applied for renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption or Plenary Retail Distribution Licenses for the period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 and the submitted application forms are complete in all respects; and

WHEREAS, the applicants are qualified to be licensed according to all statutory, regulatory and local government ABC laws and regulations; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to issue licenses in accordance with the filed applications to the following applicants for the period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023:

1814-32-011-012	J & N Wine and Spirits LLC, t/a Buy Rite 967 US Highway 22 West
1814-33-001-003	L Penaloza LLC, t/a The Bridge 50-54 Watchung Avenue
1814-33-003-004	El Salvador Inc, t/a Tesoro Salvadoreño Restaurant 64 Somerset Street
1814-33-004-005	Toson Food & Beverages North Plainfield LLC 1250 Route 22 East
1814-33-008-006	Mi Mundo Latino LLC, t/a Mi Mundo Latino 375 Somerset Street
1814-33-010-012	Texas Roadhouse Holdings LLC 1258 Route 22 Eastbound
1814-33-007-008	Dombar LLC – International Club and Sports Bar 403 Somerset Street
1814-44-005-009	Clinton Liquors of North Plainfield Inc., t/a Clinton Liquors 64 Watchung Avenue
1814-44-006-007	R&R Spirits Inc., t/a Star Discount Liquors 25 Greenbrook Road
1814-44-012-006	Shivaam LLC, t/a Herb's Liquor 194 Somerset Street
1814-44-013-013	NB Liquors Inc., t/a Rock Discount LLC 1290 US Highway 22

RESOLUTION NO. 06-27-22-03b WHEREAS, applications have been filed pursuant to N.P.R.G.O. 4-10 for licenses to utilize certain lots within the Borough of North Plainfield for the display or storage for sale of motor vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield has received certifications from the appropriate Borough officials that the applicants have satisfactorily complied with all applicable laws, ordinances and regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to issue licenses in accordance with the filed applications to the applicants listed below for the utilization of certain lots within the Borough for the display or storage for sale of motor vehicles for the period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

1. Cartopia, LLC
897 Route 22 West
2. GPB Cars 12 LLC, d/b/a North Plainfield Nissan
545 Route 22 West
3. Global Motors Corp., t/a Global Auto Mall
1099-1155 Route 22 West
4. Mike Joseph Masi, t/a M&R Auto Sales
505 Somerset Street
5. VIP Cycle & Sport Center Inc., t/a VIP Honda Inc.
700 Route 22 East
6. VIP Cycle & Sport Center Inc., t/a VIP Honda Inc.
726-750 Route 22 East
7. VIP Cycle & Sport Center Inc., t/a VIP Honda Inc.
767 Route 22 West
8. VIP Cycle & Sport Center Inc., t/a VIP Honda Inc.
16-18 Hudson Avenue

RESOLUTION NO. 06-27-22-03c 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 27th day of June, 2022 the same be paid; and that the Mayor and Chief Financial Officer are hereby authorized to sign and deliver warrants for the same.

COMMUNICATIONS:

NJ League of Municipalities Trenton, NJ	Various Newsletters and Communications
Somerset County Bd. of Commissioners Somerville	Various Newsletters and Communications
Plainfield Area Humane Society Plainfield, NJ	Invoice and Reports
NJ American Water Co., Voorhees, NJ	Newsdrop Newsletter
NJ Poison Control Center New Brunswick	Newsletter
Bryan Oakes, Jr., P.E. Mott MacDonald Freehold, NJ	Jefferson Ave. Sewer Project Bid Announcement

Walter Lane, Somerset County Planning Dir. Somerville Tina Totten, North Plainfield Richard K. Phoenix, RMC Borough Clerk/Chief Operator WPQJ970 Karel E. West, Verizon, Hempstead, NY Kimberly Cowart, Director Somerset County Community Development Somerville	Planning Partners Forum Green Brook Flood Control Meeting Memorial Day Exercises Radio Script Introductory Communication Urban County Cooperation Agreement

Ms. Given presented the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 06-27-22-04 BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield that prior to the adjournment of this meeting it shall convene in executive session from which the public will be excluded for the purpose of discussion on:

(Attorney/Client Privilege) Contract Negotiations

Exclusion of the public for this purpose is specifically permitted by N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. The contents of this discussion will not be disclosed until such time as the disclosure of same will not adversely affect the public interest and upon resolution of the Council. Formal action may be taken following end of executive session.

Seconded by Ms. Corzo and on Roll Call carried all seven voting aye. Session convened at 8:07 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to reconvene from Executive Session by Ms. Given, seconded by Ms. Corzo and on Roll Call carried all seven voting aye.

Regular Meeting reconvened at 8:25 p.m.

Mr. Bernstein explained that the Executive Session had concerned a memorandum of agreement with Local Unit 469 and its resolution.

REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS:

Recognized by the Council President, Mayor La Ronde called for discussion on a new ordinance concerning concealed weapons to be considered at the July 11, 2022 Council Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No one appeared.

COMMENTS BY MAYOR, ADMINISTRATOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Mayor commented on how well Juneteenth celebrations had gone for the first year. One-hundred and fifty (150) red bags were handed out to adults and the vendors were happy. Summer camp began today (June 27th), enrolling one-hundred and fifty (150) kids with forty-five (45) remaining on the waiting list with Covid guidelines observed.

Mayor La Ronde continued with plans to rename the cottage on Vermeule Place “The Apgar House” in memory of Ed and his wife. It will be dedicated to the Food Bank with necessary access work now in progress. On the topic of pop-up parties that have occurred around the state, the Mayor commented that there had almost been one in North Plainfield over the weekend, but adequate notice had been received from the NJ State Police to prevent it.

Finally, the Mayor reminded that the 4th of July Parade would be stepping off on Monday the 4th at 10:00 a.m. as scheduled; and radon kits and bag pods are still available from the Mayor’s Office.

Councilman Merrill said that it had been good to have both Messrs. Bernstein and George working in tandem for this meeting. Councilwoman Corzo commended Parks & Recreation and the Mayor for their efforts on Juneteenth while the Council President added a “well-done” to the Mayor for his efforts on the recent memorandum of agreement.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Borough Clerk

Council President