

**SOUTH PLAINFIELD BOROUGH
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 5, 2017, 7:04 P.M.
PUBLIC MEETING**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Anesh called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Mayor Anesh read the sunshine statement and announced that same is being held pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act of 1974 and all provisions of that Act have been met with adequate notice of this meeting having been provided to the Borough's two official newspapers and also published on the Borough's website.

The roll call was administered by Carmela Sutor as follows:

COUNCIL	Present	Absent	Late
Councilman Bengivenga	X		
Councilman Dean	X		
Councilwoman Faustini	X		
Councilman Vesce	X		
Councilman Wolak	X		
Council President White	X		
Mayor Anesh	X		
ALSO PRESENT			
Administrator Cullen	X		
Deputy Clerk Sutor	X		
Attorney Paul Rizzo, Esq.	X		
Engineer Miller	X		
Andrew Nguyen	X		

Flag Salute and Invocation: was led by Councilman Dean

Public Comment: Mayor Anesh opened the floor for public comment on agenda items only. With no comments from the public, Mayor Anesh closed the floor.

Presentation: National Night Out Committee - Donations

Debbie Boyle and Stephanie Bartfalvi presented PBA member Zachary Melanson a donation in the amount of \$188.00 on behalf of the National Night Out Committee and thanked them for all their help. Debbie also added that the Committee also has donations for the Fire Department and Rescue Squad which will be presented at the next Council meeting.

Authorizing the approval of Council Minutes:

August 14, 2017 – Agenda
August 14, 2017 – Public
August 14, 2017 – Executive

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga	X		X				
Councilman Dean			X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilman Vesce			X				
Councilman Wolak		X	X				
Council President White			X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

Proclamation: National Patriotism Week

Mayor Anesh read the Proclamation in full and designated September 4-10, 2017 National Patriotism Week on behalf of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Lodge #2298. Everyone extended a round of applause.

Proclamation: South Plainfield Junior Baseball 9U Team

Mayor Anesh read the Proclamation in full and then invited the coaches and the players to come forward. Council President White gave each coach and player the Proclamation as they were called up. Photos were taken by family, friends and media present and everyone extended a round of applause.

Mayor Anesh called for a brief recess at 7:18p.m. Mayor Anesh called the meeting back to order at 7:25p.m.

Presentation: Municipal Cards

(Presentation via conference call with Municipal Cards CFO Eli Weingarden, Director of Government Relations, Ralph Black and slid show)

Council President White stated that this idea was brought forward by Christine Profilio. Councilman Bengivenga, himself and Administrator Cullen contacted the company to find out the details, value and benefit vs. the risk to the Borough and residents. Mr. Rizzo currently is looking over the contract as well as the potential resolution also. Eli Weingarden explained that Municipal Cards is a property tax savings program. The program benefits local government, property owners and business owners. All purchases made with the card earn a reward with a greater reward earned on local and online purchases. The reward is paid towards one's property taxes before it is due. The Municipality sends out a letter to local property owners introducing the program. The homeowners then can go online to learn more about the program and securely sign up for the card. The card is received within 7-1- business days. When the homeowner uses their card they earn a percentage of all their purchases as a reward to be applied to their property tax. The transaction data is sent to Municipal Cards for reward processing. It is paid to the Municipality by Municipal Cards and credited towards the homeowner's property tax account. There is no cost to the municipality. It effectively reduces property tax signaling responsiveness to the need of taxpayers for relief. It promotes local spending which benefits local business as well as the municipality through increased tax dollars and jobs. Homeowners would need to deposit a minimum of \$800.00 monthly. If only a portion of the money is used, the next month an additional \$800.00 will need to be deposited in addition to what is left in the account. A long discussion was entertained after the presentation. At the conclusion, the Council with discuss and look into it further.

ORDINANCE – SECOND READING BY TITLE – Ordinance 2085 was read by Carmela Sutor by title. Mayor Anesh opened the floor for public comment. With no comments made, closed the floor. Mayor Anesh asked if the Council had any comments but no comments were made.

ORDINANCE 2085

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 504 OF THE BOROUGH CODE, ENTITLED "AFFORDABLE HOUSING" TO ADDRESS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE NEW JERSEY FAIR HOUSING ACT AND THE NEW JERSEY UNIFORM HOUSING AFFORDABILITY CONTROLS AS THEY PERTAIN TO COMPLIANCE WITH MUNICIPAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING OBLIGATIONS

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga							X
Councilman Dean			X				
Councilwoman Faustini		X	X				
Councilman Vesce			X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White	X		X				
		VOTE:	5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

ORDINANCE – SECOND READING BY TITLE – Ordinance 2086 was read by Carmela Sutor by title. Mayor Anesh opened the floor for public comment. With no comments made, closed the floor. Mayor Anesh asked if the Council had any comments but no comments were made.

ORDINANCE 2086

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING ARTICLE VII, ENTITLED “ZONE DISTRICT REGULATIONS,” OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ZONING ORDINANCE, ESTABLISHING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR AN AFFORDABLE HOUSING OVERLAY ZONE DISTRICT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ADOPTED HOUSING PLAN ELEMENT AND FAIR SHARE PLAN OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga							X
Councilman Dean			X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilman Vesce			X				
Councilman Wolak		X	X				
Council President White	X		X				
		VOTE:	5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

ORDINANCE – SECOND READING BY TITLE – Ordinance 2087 was read by Carmela Sutor by title. Mayor Anesh opened the floor for public comment. With no comments made, closed the floor. Mayor Anesh asked if the Council had any comments but no comments were made.

ORDINANCE 2087

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 540, ENTITLED “ZONING,” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga							X
Councilman Dean		X	X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilman Vesce			X				
Councilman Wolak	X		X				
Council President White			X				
		VOTE:	5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

ORDINANCE – SECOND READING BY TITLE – Ordinance 2088 was read by Carmela Sutor by title. Mayor Anesh opened the floor for public comment. With no comments made, closed the floor. Mayor Anesh asked if the Council had any comments but no comments were made.

ORDINANCE 2088

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING SECTION 540-51,

ENTITLED “MUD MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT,” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga							X
Councilman Dean			X				
Councilwoman Faustini		X	X				
Councilman Vesce			X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White	X		X				
		VOTE:	5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

ORDINANCE – SECOND READING BY TITLE – Ordinance 2089 was read by Carmela Sutor by title. Mayor Anesh opened the floor for public comment. With no comments made, closed the floor. Mayor Anesh asked if the Council had any comments. Councilman Bengivenga reminded the council that back in 2006 then Councilman Anesh did provide a no smoking in parks within a certain distance of the playground equipment. After the Green Team and Sustainable NJ, over the past few years has asked that we go along with what the County has in their parks so this will prohibit smoking in the parks as well as in all Municipal buildings; 35’ from any front entrance of the building and 25’ from any other entrance that is accessible to the public at all recreation facilities and parks. Council President White added that this will help with Sustainable NJ increasing our ability to get grants through that particular organization in the State of NJ. Councilman Vesce asked if this was something that could be summons issued by the Police Department. Councilman Bengivenga responded yes. There were no other comments or questions from Council members.

ORDINANCE 2089

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 373 ENTITLED “SMOKING” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga	X		X				
Councilman Dean		X	X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilman Vesce			X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White			X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

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COAH RESOLUTIONS:

Mayor Anesh called for a motion to approve Resolution #17-327 through #17-331.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga							X
Councilman Dean			X				
Councilwoman Faustini		X	X				
Councilman Vesce			X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White	X		X				
		VOTE:	5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

COAH CORRESPONDENCE:

- Affordable Housing Trust Fund Spending Plan
- Planning Board Resolutions:
 - Resolution Adopting Master Plan Amendment Housing Element and Fair Share Plan

Consistency Review of Ordinance #2085
 Consistency Review of Ordinance #2086
 Consistency Review of Ordinance #2087
 Consistency Review of Ordinance #2088

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga							X
Councilman Dean			X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilman Vesce		X	X				
Councilman Wolak	X		X				
Council President White			X				
VOTE:			5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

ORDINANCE – FIRST READING BY TITLE – Ordinance 2090 was read by Carmela Sutor by title.
 Mayor Anesh set the public hearing for September 18, 2017 at approximately 7:00 p.m.

2090 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A MASTER LICENSE AGREEMENT (“MLA”) WITH VERIZON WIRELESS, INC. FOR THE INSTALLATION OF SMALL CELL EQUIPMENT IN PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga			X				
Councilman Dean			X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilman Vesce			X				
Councilman Wolak		X	X				
Council President White	X		X				
VOTE:			6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

ORDINANCE – FIRST READING BY TITLE – Ordinance 2090 was read by Carmela Sutor by title.
 Mayor Anesh set the public hearing for September 18, 2017 at approximately 7:00 p.m.

2091 A SEWER CAPITAL ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE “ACQUISITION OF A PUMPING STATION ALARM SYSTEM AT 4 PUMPING STATIONS AND THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A GRINDER AT THE HADLEY ROAD PUMPING STATION FOR THE SEWER UTILITY, IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga	X		X				
Councilman Dean		X	X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilman Vesce			X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White			X				
VOTE:			6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTIONS:

Mayor Anesh called for a motion to approve Resolution #17-332 through #17-345.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga			X				
Councilman Dean			X				
Councilwoman Faustini	X		X				
Councilman Vesce			X				
Councilman Wolak		X	X				

Council President White			X			
		VOTE:	6	0		
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY						

AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF CORRESPONDENCE:

- Recycling Monthly Report – July 2017

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga	X		X				
Councilman Dean						X	
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilman Vesce			X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White		X	X				
		VOTE:	5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

**SOUTH PLAINFIELD BOROUGH
APPROVAL OF BILLS AND CLAIMS**

Current Fund	7-01	\$ 462,729.03
Current Fund	6-01	0.00
Pool Utility	6-26	0.00
Pool Utility	7-26	6,620.86
Sewer Utility	6-07	0.00
Sewer Utility	7-07	1,037,283.41
Sewer Utility Capital	C-08	0.00
General Capital	C-04	190,468.06
Pool Capital	C-27	0.00
Election Account	E-18	0.00
Grant Fund	G-02	904.00
Dog Trust	T-12	0.00
Treasurers Trust	T-13	17,213.16
Recreation Trust	T-14	9,648.73
COAH		0.00
TOTAL ALL FUNDS		\$1,724,867.25

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga	X		X				
Councilman Dean			X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilman Vesce			X				
Councilman Wolak		X	X				
Council President White			X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Borough Attorney Rizzo, Esq. –mentioned that the COAH Compliance hearing is this Friday which should go off without a hitch. Progress.

Administrator Cullen – mentioned that in Ordinance #2091 that was passed in introduction today is a Capital Ordinance and is coming out of Cash Reserve. Similarly, we anticipate another increase to the Borough's ratable base and we are fairly certain that that will occur in January and we are optimistic that we are going to see an increase with surplus. The only issue that you have with surpluses is that our tax bills went out later this year than normal because of the change in State funding. But even with that our miscellaneous revenues we believe are running favorable enough and believe that both the ratable base and the surplus are going to increase this year. Middlesex Water is finishing up Sampton Avenue, weather permitting. They are finalizing their work. They started on Joan Street. Amy is still out. We don't really have a target date. We wish her a speedy recovery and thanked the Deputy Clerk for all her work over the last couple weeks. Progress.

Engineer Miller – mentioned that on the Road Projects that we do have going the Contractor is about finished up on Lane Avenue. There is some minor work he has to do to close that out. He is scheduled to start the work on Belmont Avenue this week which is the second project we awarded the resurfacing project. We will start out with the drainage first and then moving along with the rest of the project hopefully right after that. Progress.

Councilman Dean – stated that he spoke to Alice Temple today and one of her Clean Communities business associates, Bill Elliott has moved out of town and is no longer going to be doing his job. She is going to be posting a job position for this Clean Communities Aid which entails removing illegal signs, clearing off storm drains and picking up litter on the road side. She will be putting that in the Observer. Labor Day was great. Debbie Boyle and the Celebrations Committee did an excellent job and commended them for all their hard work on that and setting up. The fireworks were excellent.

Councilwoman Faustini –reported on a few more recreation projects. Memorial Field lighting. 3 of the 4 light poles already had footings and the completion should be done next week. Wrestling floor underlayment has been installed and the rotation of the mats is near completion. Cheer mats should now be expected to be delivered next week. Willow Park has now been up and running. We are still waiting for the adaptive swing. As far as the Dog Park goes, the water line is in. The grading has been completed. The fencing has begun installation and should be done this week. The donated Flagpole has been ordered. The stone is to be delivered next week and some paving the following week and thanked Councilman Dean for donating use of equipment from his company A-Tech to do hydro-seeding for the dog park and also thanked Councilman Bengivenga who is going to partner along with this with Councilman Dean and donate the seed. She also thanked the Elks for the Flagpole donation and the Buddha's light International is donating benches and thanked them as well. We have a targeted opening date of October 21st. Lastly she thanked the Public Celebrations Committee and everyone who worked so hard and put in many hours that day. It was fabulous. Progress

Councilman Bengivenga – mentioned that yesterday was a great day. The fireworks were great last night. Councilman Bengivenga stated that he received a political phone call saying that a Councilman's company is where the borough purchased the garbage trucks and wanted to clarify this Cassie and Roberto were sitting in the audience. Councilman Bengivenga then read the resolution that states, award the contract to purchase two garbage trucks to Atlantic Sales and Salvation of Delran NJ. No on this Council, no one ever on this Council has ever worked or have been associated with Atlantic Sales and Salvage. I work for Republic Services of NJ. They do not sell garbage trucks to any municipality or anybody in the public. Our trucks go overseas. We have no connections or business dealings with this Company. Progress

Councilman Vesce – echoed the other Council members on the Board and added that the Labor Day Parade was a great success and thanked the DPW. Councilman Vesce added that something was brought to his attention which he did also see which was the road was swept immediately after the parade. It makes people disburse and get the roads back open. Councilman Vesce stated that he spoke to Council President White and there is a Tom Stillman who is requesting a name change for South Clinton Avenue, which is a County Road. It is for the Historical Society for Drake, the Drake House. They would like to

rename it Drake's Crossing. Councilman Vesce is researching it now and will give him the information and added that he has two options. He can rededicate it without renaming it, like you see on some of the streets with the name underneath it, or he can ask if the Borough has any objection to renaming it and if they do not have an objection, it goes to Resolution and then it goes to the County. The County would give it consenting resolution and then the name would get changed. Mr. Stillman is bringing it back to his Society to see which way he wants to go. Progress.

Councilman Wolak – stated agreed that Labor Day Parade was fantastic and the fireworks were great. Thank you everybody and Congratulated the 9U Baseball Team. Progress.

Council President White – stated the Dunkin Donuts on Maple Avenue is not leaving town. It is being renovated and a new platform is being done. It is supposed to be completed by this weekend. Council President White reported progress on the “seamless” forms which are online form which allow residents, builders, etc. to go online and fill out the forms. It on the Borough webpage under “Quick Links”. Council President White also stated that he is grateful that DMV is moving back to South Plainfield in February. Progress

Mayor Anesh – reminded everyone that Mayor's Wellness Committee will be meeting this week. We have a couple of items that we will be planning as usual the Fall Health Fair. Generally, it falls on the same day as the Fire Department Open House and will make it a community event. In addition to that we will be planning the additional seminar. It was a year or so ago that we did a seminar over in the Library highlighting the heroine epidemic and we had speakers and we will be looking to do something along the same lines as that format. We are finalizing a Community Health Survey that will be going out. This is all to make sure that South Plainfield could get one of the few healthy town designations that are throughout the State of New Jersey. It is completely anonymous. Lastly, Mayor Anesh wished all of the administrators, students and especially the parents a successful school year. Progress

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Mayor Anesh opened the floor for public comment.

Susanne Lee of the Cultural Arts Commission stated that they have an art and photography showcase taking place on September 23, 2017 from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. All residents above the age of 16 are invited to participate. If you have any artwork or photographs that you would like to have exhibited, you can contact us by our Facebook page or email spcac.nj@gmail.com. It is scheduled at the Senior Center and more details to follow.

Debbie Boyle of Van Fleet Avenue thanked everyone for participating in the parade or coming out and being supporters. We had 12 new additions to the parade. Mayor Anesh added that thanks to Anne who was out there on Plainfield Ave. was on Facebook live. Stephanie videotaped the entire firework show also. Debbie also thanked Chief Parker for all the meetings that we had. Everything went very smooth, the DPW was amazing. The Business Association is hosting a book signing at the Highland Woods. That will be for the new book Dorothy Miele and Dr. Veit wrote on South Plainfield on the September 19th at 6:00 p.m. National Walk and Bike to School Day is the first Wednesday in October, which is October 4th and is for Mayors Wellness. The donations for the PBA, Fire Dept. and Rescue is something that Stephanie Bartfalvi and I started last year. It is honoring the first responders and residents make donations in the jar.

Roberto Sayers of West Crescent Parkway was wondering why his name was mentioned. Councilman Bengivenga responded that he received a poll which was from Roberto's party and they were saying would you be inclined to vote for somebody if you knew that a Council Member's employer is where they bought the garbage trucks from but that is not true and that is why I read the resolution to Atlantic Salvage in Delran NJ. Councilman Bengivenga added that he is not sure if you know that poll. Roberto responded that this is why he is here asking because he does not know about this. Roberto added that

most of you know me and whenever anything is brought to my attention I ask for the facts. I do not believe in destroying peoples reputations for politics, after all we are neighbors.

Chief Parker thanked everyone for their kind support that they had given him and his family with the passing of his mom two weeks ago.

With no further comments from the public, Mayor Anesh closed the floor.

At 9:01 p.m. Mayor Anesh called for a recess from the public portion of the meeting to go into Executive Session advising that everyone is welcome to stay if they choose.

Upon return from Executive Session at 9:30 p.m., Mayor Anesh called the public meeting back to order saying the results of this evenings Executive Session has not resulted in any further business or action needed this evening.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further comments, Mayor Anesh called for a motion to adjourn. Council President White made a motion at 9:31 p.m., seconded by Councilwoman Faustini and unanimously carried. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Carmela A. Sutor, Deputy Clerk