

**SOUTH PLAINFIELD BOROUGH
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 19, 2020 7:01 P.M.
PUBLIC MEETING**

***Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, this meeting was transmitted virtually via the Webex platform**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Anesh called the meeting to order at 7:01 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 remote meeting having been provided to the Borough's two official newspapers and also published on the Borough's website. Instructions for accessing the remote public meeting are found on the Borough's website next to the agendas. Documentation pertaining to the remote meeting can be found electronically on the Borough's website.

The roll call was administered by Clerk Antonides as follows:

COUNCIL	Present	Absent	Late
Councilman Bengivenga	X		
Councilwoman Mott	X		
Councilman Smith	X		
Councilman White	X		
Councilman Wolak	X		
Council President Faustini	X		
Mayor Anesh	X		
ALSO PRESENT			
Administrator Cullen	X		
Clerk Antonides	X		
Attorney Joe Sordillo	X		
Engineer Miller	X		

Flag Salute: was led by Mayor Anesh and Councilman Smith led the invocation.

Mayor Anesh again reviewed some basic rules for conducting the virtual meeting this evening. All lines will be muted until such time that the floor is open for public comment. Each phone call or virtual hand raise will be taken one at a time. To unmute the microphone, just click on the red microphone picture that has a line through it. It will then turn green indicating you have been unmuted and may begin to speak. Callers may dial 1-646-922-2010 followed by the access code of 126 663 1990 #. Using the pound button will mute and unmute the voice feature for any phone callers.

Public Comment: Mayor Anesh opened the floor for public comment on agenda items only. Mayor Anesh awaited virtual hand raises; he then unmuted all microphones. With no comments from the public, Mayor Anesh closed the floor.

Authorizing the Approval of Council Minutes:

October 5, 2020 – Agenda Meeting
October 5, 2020 - Public Meeting

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

Proclamations – Blindness Awareness Month

Mayor Anesh read the aforementioned proclamation in full. Ms. Amnaa Saffa was present via phone line to accept the proclamation. Ms. Saffa thanked the Mayor and Council for their support and making the community of aware of the needs of the blind.

The below ordinance 2182 was and read by title by Clerk Antonides on first reading. Mayor Anesh set the public hearing for November 16, 2020 at approximately 7:00 p.m.

ORDINANCE 2182

A CAPITAL ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE “JOINT PURCHASE OF A FIRE RESCUE TRAILER AND HEAVY RESCUE EQUIPMENT” AS A SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH NORTH PLAINFIELD, PLAINFIELD AND SOUTH PLAINFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT TO BE FUNDED BY THE 2019 ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT (THROUGH FEMA) IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY as follows:

Section 1. The aforementioned assets be funded by 2019 Assistance to Firefighters Grant through FEMA with a 10% match from the Borough of South Plainfield:

Fire Rescue Trailer & Equipment	\$152,477.53
Totals	<u>\$152,477.53</u>

Section 2. That the improvements described in Section 1 hereof shall be authorized as Capital Improvements for the Borough of South Plainfield in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey.

Section 3. It is hereby determined and declared by this Mayor and Borough Council as follows:

- A. That the maximum estimated amount of money to be raised from all sources for the purposes stated in Section 1, hereof, is \$152,477.53.
- B. That the cost for the Fire Rescue Trailer and Equipment shall be \$138,615.94 from a FEMA AFG Grant and \$13,861.59 from the Capital Improvement Fund.
- C. The estimated useful life of said improvements is hereby determined to be Ten (10) years.

Section 4. That the total amount of the appropriation to be expended for Architectural and inspection costs, legal costs, advertisement of ordinance and other expenses as provided in Section 48:2-20 of the Revised Statutes, is not to exceed \$5,500.00.

Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect after final passage and publication in accordance with the law.

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

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION: 20-280

**AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC AUCTION BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT
FOR ABANDONED UNCLAIMED VEHICLE(S)**

WHEREAS, the South Plainfield Police Department in accordance with R.S. 39:10A-1, are in possession of abandoned vehicles due to the failure of the owners claiming such and are now desirous of conducting a public auction on October 30, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey for the following abandoned vehicles:

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	VIN#	STATUS	MIN. BID
2002	Honda	Civic	1HGEM229X2L075082	FAIR	\$500
2009	Mitsubishi	Lancer	JA3AU86W19U034195	FAIR	\$500 CRASH
2011	Toyota	Scion XD	JTKKU4B43B1008877	FAIR	\$500 CRASH

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield that the South Plainfield Police Department are hereby authorized to publicly advertise and auction the aforementioned vehicles deemed to be abandoned by their owner(s).

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

**RESOLUTION 20-281
AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE BONDS POSTED BY
FINE TRUCKING INC. FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS
TO BLOCK 447, LOT 2.02,
AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE MAINTENANCE BONDS
IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,929.00**

WHEREAS, the Borough of South Plainfield is in possession of a Performance Bond from Fine Trucking Inc. for public improvements located at Block 447, Lot 2.02; and

WHEREAS, has submitted the Maintenance Bond in the amount of \$3,929.00; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer has given approval of the form and content of the aforementioned Maintenance Bond.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to accept the aforementioned Maintenance Bond and release the Performance Bond held for the Public Improvements located at the aforementioned Block(s) and Lot(s).

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

RESOLUTION 20-282
AUTHORIZING THE NJ STATE CONTRACT PURCHASE OF TWO COPY MACHINES FOR
THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FROM COMPLETE DOCUMENT SOLUTIONS IN AN
AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED 60 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF \$663.30

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that it hereby authorizes the NJ State Contract purchase of two copy machines for the Police Department from Complete Document Solutions in an amount not to exceed 60 monthly payments of \$663.30 pursuant to state contract number G-2075#40469, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the following:

1. Glenn Cullen, CFO
2. Amy Antonides, Municipal Clerk
3. Captain Peter Papa, Police Department

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga			X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman White	x		X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President Faustini		x	X				
			6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION 2020-283
AUTHORIZING THE MUNICIPAL CLERK TO CERTIFY TO THE STATE THAT THE GOVERNING BODY HAS
REVIEWED AND DISCUSSED THE COMPLETED 2020 BEST PRACTICES INVENTORY
AS PREPARED BY THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
AT THE OCTOBER 19, 2020 PUBLIC MEETING

WHEREAS, the State’s Fiscal Year 2021 Appropriations Act (P.L. 2011, c.85) requires the Division of Local Government Services to determine how much of each municipality’s final 5% allocation of its CMPTRA and ETR aid will be disbursed based upon the results of the CY 2020 Best Practices Inventory; and

WHEREAS, the Inventory is meant to encourage municipalities to consider and embrace a range of best practices that will help improve financial accountability and transparency; and

WHEREAS, the completed CY2020 inventory form must be made an agenda item for discussion at a municipal governing body meeting;

WHEREAS, all the requirements of the CY2020 Best Practices Inventory process have been met by the Borough of South Plainfield;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield hereby authorizes the Municipal Clerk to certify to the State Division of Local Government Services that the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield have reviewed and discussed the completed CY2020 Best Practices Inventory as prepared by the Chief Financial Officer at the October 19, 2020 public meeting of the Mayor and Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the following:

1. Glenn Cullen, Borough Administrator
2. Amy Antonides, Municipal Clerk

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga			X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman White	x		X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President Faustini		x	X				
			6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION 20-284
AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF UNCLAIMED FUNDS FROM THE MUNICIPAL COURT TOTALING \$3.00 TO THE BOROUGH OPERATING ACCOUNT

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that based upon the recommendation of the Municipal Court Administrator that \$3.00 for unclaimed funds due to a refund unclaimed from the municipal court account 7850174371 shall be transferred to the Borough's operating account.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution shall be forwarded as follows:

1. Municipal Clerk
2. Chief Financial Officer
3. Yolanda Diaz, Court Administrator

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

CORRESPONDENCE

- Board of Health Monthly Report – September 2020
- Environmental Commission Minutes – August 12, 2020

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

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Current Fund	19-01	0.00
Current Fund	20-01	129,063.88
Pool Utility	20-26	2,562.08
Pool Utility	19-26	0.00
Sewer Utility	20-07	6,936.27
Sewer Utility	19-07	0.00
Sewer Utility Capital	C-08	2,859.38
General Capital	C-04	5,903.84
Pool Capital	C-27	0.00
Election Account	E-18	0.00
Grant Fund	G-02	475.00
Dog Trust	T-12	2,593.80
Treasurers Trust	T-13	13,120.66
Recreation Trust	T-14	0.00
Senior Citizen Trust	T-16	0.00
TOTAL ALL FUNDS		\$163,514.91

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

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Borough Attorney Paul Rizzo – reported progress.

Administrator Cullen – reported that the Ordinance on for this evening is being paid for through a FEMA grant and there will be no borrowing for it. Mr. Cullen advised that pertaining to Resolution 20-283 regarding the annual Best Practices we scored pretty high on it. On another note we are presently working with Mr. Rizzo Esq. on updating our employee handbook. Our ratable base for our budget is anticipated to increase for 2021. So far, we weathered the storm pretty well with our budget from COVID-19.

Engineer Miller – advised that the paving for the Cragwood and Corporate Road Project is completed and today the milling of Clark Lane is taking place. This will complete our road projects for 2020.

Clerk Antonides – advised that draft election results will be posted on the County’s website late on election night; November 3rd. The website is www.middlesexcountynj.gov. Updated results are anticipated to be posted weekly thereafter. Councilwoman Mott asked when the final results are expected. Clerk Antonides said they expect to certify the results by November 20th.

Councilman Wolak – reported progress.

Councilman White – wished Councilwoman Mott a happy birthday today and went on to report a forthcoming ribbon cutting for this Saturday at 1 p.m. for a party event planning business.

Councilman Smith – advised that the Environmental Commission is working on the sustainable NJ application for solar and they continue to discuss the bamboo situation. Councilman Smith went on to wish Councilwoman Mott a happy birthday.

Councilman Bengivenga – wished Councilwoman Mott a very happy birthday today and went on to report progress.

Councilwoman Mott – reported progress.

Council President Faustini – also wished Councilwoman Mott a happy birthday and went on to advise that last week the Governor issued guidelines for indoor sports which we are working on complying with. Presently the stakes have been put up for scarecrow decorating in front of Borough Hall. You do need to sign-up at Event Brite for this. The Trunk or Treating vent will be held at Veteran’s Park on the 31st and sign-ups are required for that as well to help social distance properly.

Mayor Anesh – said that he and Councilman White were on a call with the Governor’s Office where it was mentioned they would consider increasing indoor dining in increments of maybe 10%.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Mayor Anesh opened the floor for public comment reiterating the aforementioned remote directions for making remote public comment.

Debbie Boyle of Van Fleet thanked the Mayor and Council for attending the recent Columbus Day event and went on to mention various events to take place throughout the town.

Mr. Cullen wished Councilwoman Mott a happy birthday.

Without further comments from the public, Mayor Anesh closed the floor.

ADJOURNMENT

Without further comment and no more action necessary for this evening Mayor Anesh called for a motion to adjourn. Councilman White made a motion to adjourn at 7:23 p.m., seconded by Council President Faustini and unanimously carried. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted By:

Amy Antonides, RMC/CMC/CMR
Municipal Clerk