

**Borough of Paramus  
Mayor and Council Public Meeting  
Work Session held in Caucus Room  
February 13, 2018, 7:00 P.M.  
MINUTES**

**Work Session**

**Resolution No: 18-02-116:** Notification of meetings as required by "The Open Public Meetings Act."  
Read by Deputy Borough Clerk at 7:13 P.M.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Veteran's Affairs Officer Sam Casiello

**ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Councilman Amato, Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos, Councilman Verile, Councilwoman Weber, Mayor LaBarbiera

**Also Present:** Borough Administrator Joseph D'Arco, Borough Attorney Paul Kaufman, Deputy Borough Clerk Nicolette Riggi, Associate Borough Attorney Justin Santagata

**Absent:** Borough Clerk Annemarie Krusznis

**BOROUGH CLERK'S REPORT:**

- a. Sunday Exemption request received from the Paramus Elks to hold a vendor sale on Sunday April 29, 2018 from 10 AM – 3 PM The Elks are a non-profit organization. Proceeds to benefit Paramus Food Pantry, to help furnish apartments for homeless veterans, and for their two yearly special needs parties. **Approved**
- b. Request received from Second Chance Toys to hang banners at the Farmer's Market, Municipal Pool and Golf Course from April through September to promote their program to collect used toys at the DPW for children in need. **Send to each Commission**
- c. RFQ – Public Defender **Do a 1 week turnaround before next meeting**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORTS:**

**Councilwoman Bellinger** -Reports on the Senior Center. Mayor LaBarbiera says he thinks we finally nailed down a concept plan and the schedule is to have the plans ready in about a month or two. Councilwoman Bellinger continues hopefully they'll be ready to go by spring. Mayor LaBarbiera says it's about a 6,000 square foot addition including a Bocce court, art room and a covered patio. Budget wise it's going to be in the range of what was talked about.

**Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos**- Says she has Police Personnel for closed. Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos continues that Chief Ehrenberg has been doing a great job coordinating with the Board of Education and schools doing an initiative about cars going around school buses. At the meeting last night it was discussed of about forty cars doing this and we don't have the cameras to catch the license plates. Chief Ehrenberg has now set up an initiative to have marked and unmarked cars around the areas to try to catch people. The Mayor and Council continue to discuss the areas where this is occurring. Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos reports on the Pool doing interviews for Assistant Manager. Shade Tree meets tomorrow night. Mayor LaBarbiera says he spoke to Chief Ehrenberg about the potential legislation on marijuana and wants him to come in to speak at Mayor and Council meeting. Mayor LaBarbiera says he doesn't believe it's too pre mature to start gathering information and Chief Ehrenberg has attended a lot of events and has an abundance of information and discussion ensued. Councilman DiPiazza asks if we can also find a night where the Health Department comes in as well and Council agrees they should come at the same meeting on March 13th. Mayor LaBarbiera continues he believes everyone on this Council will welcome the information so when we do have to make a decision we base it upon what we have heard.

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Councilman DiPiazza- Reports the Environment Commission is having Pride in Paramus Day on May 19<sup>th</sup> from 9 to 12 P.M. where they will be collecting litter. The new website has been launched. Councilman DiPiazza reports that Bill Lever and Nicole Smith gave him a tour of the Behnke Museum and they did a great job showing him around. Councilman DiPiazza asks if the email that Mr. Kaufman sent is on the agenda and he is told it's on Non-Consent.

Councilman Amato- Passes around flyers for a fire request regarding stipend increases. The Fire Department would like the stipends increased from \$500 a month to \$600 per month on the first year and to \$700 per month the second year and to \$800 per month the third year. Councilman Amato believes this is a modest request. Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos adds that they would have to make forty percent of the calls so they don't just automatically get it every month and a discussion ensues. Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos asks why we have an Ordinance that you can't be on the Fire Department and the Rescue Squad. Mayor LaBarbiera said it was on the request of the departments and Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos continues to say that John Pecoraro from Rescue would like that changed and they would only get one stipend. Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos says she will speak to Kenny Ehrenberg from the Fire Department. Councilman Amato asks that the Mayor and Council start working on the stipends as soon as possible and is told it will be introduced at the next meeting and will be effective July 1<sup>st</sup>. Councilman Amato continues regarding a comment that came up at the last Affordable Housing meeting about what the concept of Affordable Housing means and a discussion ensues.

Councilman Verile- Paramus Recreation will be having an Easter Egg Hunt on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Paramus Recreation will also be updating their Facebook page to let everyone know about spring and summer camps and summer camp is moving along great. Councilman DiPiazza exits at 7:42 P.M. Councilman Verile continues to go over Paramus Rescue numbers. Fourth of July dates are all still the same from last meeting. Councilman DiPiazza returns at 7:43 P.M. Cultural Arts is putting in their contracts now for summer concerts and are waiting to get back a number so they know how much they have to raise money.

Councilwoman Weber- The Historic Commission will be meeting Wednesday February 21<sup>st</sup>. The Substance Abuse Prevention Committee will be meeting on February 28<sup>th</sup>. Councilwoman Weber continues to ask why a Resolution was again put on the agenda with only twenty four hours' notice and says The League of Municipalities was very clear that if an item wasn't on the agenda for forty eight hours it should not be added unless it's an emergency. Borough Attorney Paul Kaufman answers and a discussion continues between the Mayor and Council. Councilwoman Weber has a question about the added Resolution and Mayor LaBarbiera explains. Councilman DiPiazza asks about the names on the Resolution and Paul Kaufman answers that he will get him the names and the actual statute and a discussion ensues.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** We received an application from the State and the Department of Transportation in regards to the Midland Avenue over pass. They have the landscape designs and Ken Hook will handle the application and monitor with them. The State is also agreeable to sub adopting. Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos says she will also discuss with Shade Tree at the meeting tomorrow. Mr. D'Arco continues that the concept plan included flowers and bushes and says it's a pilot and they're only taking one on to make sure it's doable. Mayor LaBarbiera says it was comforting that we had a meeting in person with the Department of Transportation. Mr. D'Arco reports that for the ADA playground we're just waiting for the warm weather and then that will done. Shade Tree and Recreation are working together for a recommendation for an ADA playground for the other side of town which will complement our Sports Complex and hopefully he'll have something by the spring. Mayor LaBarberia also asks Mr. D'Arco to explore for the grant that we replace the turf with a Ninja type surface. Mr. D'Arco replies that is being researched now and we're looking into what we can switch that grant over to and Peter Blanos our grant writer is working on that. The Borough welcome signs will have a new design in Paramus blue with a Borough seal on them. We've already had five businesses donating signs for various locations as we

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transition signs. There are twelve locations and were currently halfway through. The sign for Frisch Court has been completed. Mr. D'Arco reports he asked Recreation Superintendent to send over policies of the Recreation Commission after he had Mr. Kaufman's office consolidate three policies they had on code of conduct into one. The Superintendents will review, prepare and draft all the policies and then review with the Commission so Mr. D'Arco can then send to Mr. Kaufman's office to review. Mr. D'Arco is hoping it will be to the Mayor and Council within the next month or two. There is great progress with the side walk roots program. It went to private contractor and the five year backup list is almost done and they will begin working on the new list. Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos says she will bring the driveway damage to Shade Tree at the meeting tomorrow night.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Citizens are welcome to address the Mayor and Council on any governmental item of concern to them, whether or not it is scheduled on the agenda above. Comments will be made at the public portion of tonight's Public Meeting in the Council Chambers.

**Mayor LaBarbiera opens to the public for comment at 8:03 P.M.**

Roy Hegg 321 Lockwood Drive inquires about the Mayor and Council and Board of Education can do something next year and offer flu shots to all the kids in the school. The Mayor and Council discuss with Mr. Hegg and Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos says that she knows that a Pediatrician would have to do it and she will ask and look into it for next year. Mr. Hegg continues that on the Website where the Mayor and Council meetings are posted, there is no longer a public and work session listed.

Sam Casiello 43 Heather Lane questions the stipends and asks if there is an Ordinance that explains the procedure to get forty percent and he is told yes and they would just need to update it. Mr. Casiello continues to say the new website is very user friendly and we should let people know it's available. Mr. Casiello thinks that the public should realize that the money that goes into Affordable Housing is not tax dollars and thinks that any program helping seniors get repairs done to their homes is a benefit to the town and to our property values. The Mayor and Council discuss Affordable Housing with Mr. Casiello. Mr. Casiello continues with the tax issues with property taxes not being able to be deducted and thinks the IRS will have final determination and a discussion ensues.

**Borough Attorney Paul Kaufman reports additional Resolution 18-02-148 being added to the Consent agenda approving a boundary line agreement with a service station on Route 17 and explains.**

Roy Hegg- 321 Lockwood Drive inquires about a garage being added to the DPW and asks whatever happened with that. Mr. D'Arco informs Mr. Hegg of the progress.

**ORDINANCES:**

**ORDINANCE ON FINAL:**

**ORDINANCE 18-04: ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 367-17 OF THE PARAMUS CODE WITH RESPECT TO POLITICAL CAMPAIGN SIGNS – FEES**

Motion: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos

Second: Councilwoman Weber

Mayor LaBarbiera opens to the public for comment on Ordinance No. 18-04: None

Yeas: Councilman Amato, Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos, Councilman Verile, Councilwoman Weber

Nays: None

Absent: None

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**Motion carries 6-0**

**NON-CONSENT:**

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-147:** RESOLUTION URGING THE LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION ENABLING MUNICIPALITIES TO ADOPT ORDINANCES TO PROVIDE PROPERTY TAX RELIEF TO THEIR RESIDENTS

Motion: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos

Second: Councilman Amato

Yeas: Councilman Amato, Councilwoman Bellinger, Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos, Councilman Verile

Nays: None

Abstain: Councilman DiPiazza, Councilwoman Weber

Absent: None

**Motion carries 4-0-2**

**A CONSENT AGENDA WILL BE ADOPTED FOR ITEM NUMBERS 14 AND 15**

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-118:** AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-119:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NOS. 15, 16 and 17 FINAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$16,731.55 FOR DEMOLITION AND INTERIOR RENOVATIONS FOR THE PARAMUS PUBLIC LIBRARY

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-120:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF ESCROW MONEY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,373.50 TO PARAMUS INVESTORS LLC FOR BLOCK 503 – LOT 1 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOROUGH ENGINEER (PAES-2745A)

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-121:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COMMERCIAL TAX APPEAL ATTORNEY TO SETTLE 2014, 2015, 2016 AND 2017 TAX APPEALS CAPTIONED MACK F. PROPERTIES V. BOROUGH OF PARAMUS

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-122:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COMMERCIAL TAX APPEAL ATTORNEY TO SETTLE 2014, 2015, 2016 AND 2017 TAX APPEALS CAPTIONED MACK PARAMUS AFFILIATES V. BOROUGH OF PARAMUS

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-123:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COMMERCIAL TAX APPEAL ATTORNEY TO SETTLE 2014, 2015, 2016 AND 2017 TAX APPEALS CAPTIONED MACK-CALI REALTY CORP. v. BOROUGH OF PARAMUS

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-124:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COMMERCIAL TAX APPEAL ATTORNEY TO SETTLE 2014, 2015, 2016 AND 2017 TAX APPEALS CAPTIONED PARAMUS ROAD IV V. BOROUGH OF PARAMUS

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-125:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REFUND TO THE FOLLOWING TAXPAYERS DUE TO TAX COURT APPEALS (GMGM Management)

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**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-126:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REFUND TO THE FOLLOWING TAXPAYERS DUE TO TAX COURT APPEALS (Country Club Office Plaza)

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-127:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REFUND TO THE FOLLOWING TAXPAYERS DUE TO TAX COURT APPEALS (Office Depot)

**RESOLUTION 18-02-128:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REFUND TO THE FOLLOWING TAXPAYER DUE TO OVER PAYMENT (Field)

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-129:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REDEMPTION OF A TAX SALE CERTIFICATE FOR BLOCK 6709 LOT 4 FNA DZ, LLC

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-130:** A RESOLUTION RESCINDING RESOLUTION 18-01-103 AND AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS TO APPLY FOR THE 2017 RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-131:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF THE 2018 GOLF/SHADE TREE HORTICULTURE BID TO VARIOUS BIDDERS

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-132:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT TELEPHONE SYSTEM BY AND BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS AND THE TOWNSHIP OF ROCHELLE PARK

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-133:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT TELEPHONE SYSTEM BY AND BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS AND THE VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-134:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT TELEPHONE SYSTEM BY AND BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS AND THE BOROUGH OF HILLSDALE

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-135:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS AND SPLASHDOWN BEACH WATERPARK FOR EVENTS WITH PARAMUS RECREATION

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-136:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS AND YOUNG AUDIENCES NEW JERSEY & EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA FOR EVENTS WITH PARAMUS RECREATION

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-137:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF CRISTIAN B. FERNANDEZ TO THE POSITION OF EMT FOR THE PARAMUS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AT A SALARY OF \$15.22 PER HOUR

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-138:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF MATTHEW LOMBARDO AS A POLICE OFFICER STEP 3 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT PATROL DIVISION AT A SALARY OF \$65,112 PER YEAR

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**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-139:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF NICOLE CAPONE AS A POLICE OFFICER STEP 3 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT PATROL DIVISION AT A SALARY OF \$65,112 PER YEAR

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-140:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF DONALD LIU AS A POLICE OFFICER STEP 3 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT PATROL DIVISION AT A SALARY OF \$65,112 PER YEAR

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-141:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF LOUIS CARDONE AS A POLICE OFFICER STEP 3 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT PATROL DIVISION AT A SALARY OF \$65,112 PER YEAR

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-142:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF THOMAS HOLDEN AS A POLICE OFFICER STEP 3 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT PATROL DIVISION AT A SALARY OF \$65,112 PER YEAR

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-143:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STEP-UP OF ROBERT SOBICINSKI AS A POLICE OFFICER STEP 3 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT PATROL DIVISION AT A SALARY OF \$65,112 PER YEAR

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-144:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL FEORENZO TO THE POSITION OF TRAFFIC MAINTAINER STEP 1 FOR THE PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT- TRAFFIC MAINTENANCE AT A SALARY OF \$32,472.96 ANNUALLY

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-145:** RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE RESIGNATION OF MICHAEL SLUKA FROM THE POSITION OF PUBLIC DEFENDER #1 FOR THE PARAMUS MUNICIPAL COURT

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-146:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE UNION CHANGE OF CYNTHIA HOLMES AT THE POSITION OF COURT ADMINISTRATOR STEP 5 FOR PARAMUS MUNICIPAL COURT AT THE PSEA UNION SALARY OF \$101,361.17 PER YEAR

**RESOLUTION NO 18-02-148:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF BOUNDARY LINE AGREEMENT WITH POWER TEST REALTY COMPANY, LP WITH RESPECT TO 357 ROUTE 17 SOUTH, BLOCK 3102, LOT 1

**APPLICATIONS:**

**GOLD/SILVER**

Marshall Chandler

2018-GS-15

**RAFFLE/BINGO**

Paramus Catholic Regional High School Parents Council Line # 680

PTA Paramus HS

Line # 681

Happy Tails Animal Rescue

Line # 682

St. Leo's School

Line # 683

St. Leo's School

Line # 684

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**SOLICITOR/PEDDLER**

Tarek Yasfou	2018-P-3
Joseph Huerta	2018-SL-10
Benjamin Kestenbaum	2018-SL-11

Motion: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos                      Second: Councilman Amato  
Yeas: Councilman Amato, Councilwoman Bellingier, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos, Councilman Verile, Councilwoman Weber  
Nays: None  
Absent: None  
**Motion carries 6-0**

Sam Casiello- 43 Heather Lane inquires when someone abstains is that a no vote. He is told it's not a yes or a definitive no it's the same as not voting.

**RESOLUTION No. 18-02-117:** Closing the meeting of the Mayor and Council to the public.

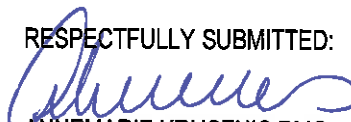
- a. Oster
- b. Personnel

**Mayor LaBarbiera asks for a motion to go into closed at 8:24 P.M.**

Motion: Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos                      Second: Councilwoman Weber  
Yeas: Councilman Amato, Councilwoman Bellingier, Councilman DiPiazza, Councilwoman Tedesco-Santos, Councilman Verile, Councilwoman Weber  
Nays: None  
Absent: None  
**Motion carries 6-0**

**ADJOURNMENT: 8:36 P.M.**

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

  
ANNEMARIE KRUSZNIS RMC  
BOROUGH CLERK