

April 27, 2022

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
HELD AT THE
MUNICIPAL COURT /COUNCIL CHAMBERS
10 LAWLOR DRIVE, OAKLAND, NEW JERSEY
WEDNESDAY APRIL 27, 2022 6:30 PM.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

ROLL CALL: Mayor Schwager called the meeting to order and the Clerk called the roll. Present: Mayor Schwager, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck. Absent: None. Also Present: Lisa M. Duncan, Borough Clerk; Richard Kunze, Borough Administrator; Brian Chewcaskie, Borough Attorney.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG:

MOMENT OF SILENCE:

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT: Mayor Schwager announced that this meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, duly announced, advertised and posted in the Municipal Building. The meeting will adjourn at 10:00 pm unless a majority of the Councilmembers that are present vote to extend the time.

RECOGNITION CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING TEAM:

Mayor Schwager and Councilman Van Eck presented the championship wrestling team with certificates. Recreation Chairman Guadagnino stated that the Borough did not have the wrestling program during COVID. He thanked everyone for coming back to the program and making it better than before.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The local school budget was defeated. The budget now goes to Council to review. The Council can accept the budget as is or they can cut the budget. The Council has until May 19th to vote. Bergen County services will hold a public hearing on the needs of older adults on May 12th at 9 am in Hackensack. The Arbor Day ceremony will be held April 29th at 7:30 pm. The Shredding event will happen on May 14th. The Memorial Day Parade will be held Sunday May 29th. The Fever Pitch baseball and softball parade will take place on June 4th. The carnival will be held June 15th to 18th. Bergen County will have a pet food bank for Bergen County residents on Sundays from 11 am to 2 pm starting May 8th.

OPENED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Kulmala, this portion of the meeting be opened for public comment.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

Vivian King, 113 Hiawatha Blvd, is a member of the Ramapo Indian Hills Board of Education and the Zoning Board. There was an incident at the Zoning Board on November 9, 2021. An investigation was held and finished on March 9th. Ms. King has seen no remediation or punishment for the other Board member and she has received no apology for being called names.

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This member continues to attend Board meetings. Ms. King has seen Recreation parents banned for less.

Kevin Heffernen, 40 Grove St, began giving a presentation on Bush Plaza Park. Mayor Schwager advised that presentation is later on the agenda.

CLOSED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

On motion of Councilman Kulmala, seconded by Councilman Van Eck, this portion of the meeting be closed to public comment.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: APRIL 13, 2022

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Pignatelli, the minutes from the Mayor and Council meeting of April 13, 2022 be approved.

ROLL CALL: Yeas, Councilmembers Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.
Abstain, Councilman Kulmala.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: APRIL 13, 2022 EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Pignatelli, the minutes from the Mayor and Council Executive Session of April 13, 2022 be approved.

ROLL CALL: Yeas, Councilmembers Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.
Abstain, Councilman Kulmala.

PROCLAMATION: ARBOR DAY

Mayor Schwager read the following Arbor Day Proclamation:

WHEREAS, in 1872 J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees, and

WHEREAS, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and

WHEREAS, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, and

WHEREAS, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife, and

WHEREAS, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products, and

WHEREAS, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community, and

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WHEREAS, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Linda H. Schwager, Mayor of the Borough of Oakland, do hereby proclaim April 29, 2022 as

ARBOR DAY

In our community of Oakland, I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, and

Further, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden hearts and promote the well-being of present and future generations.

APPOINTMENT-PUBLIC EVENTS COMMITTEE

Mayor Schwager brought forth the nomination of Jim Folkerts for appointment to a ____ term on the Public Events Committee.

Motion to Consent:

On motion of Councilman Saliani, seconded by Councilman Van Eck, the Council consented to the appointment of Jim Folkerts to an unexpired term on the Public Events Committee. The term will expire on December 31, 2023.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

PUBLIC HEARING ON GRANT APPLICATION TO BERGEN COUNTY FOR THE REHABILITATION OF BUSH PLAZA:

Kevin Heffernen, 40 Grove Street, and member of the Station Park Committee, gave a presentation on the plan for Station Park located at the Bush Plaza site. Mr. Heffernen advised this park is Phase 1 for the renewal of the downtown. In February 2022, Mayor Schwager created an ad-hoc committee and the first meeting of the committee was held on March 8, 2022. The mission statement of the Committee is to make the enhancement of Bush Plaza as a reality as soon as possible such that it will act as a seed to begin to revitalize the downtown area. Mr. Heffernen read a quote from John F. Kennedy "A high tide raises all ships". The high tide for the resurrection of downtown Oakland and the renewal of civic pride for all of Oakland has arrived. The future of the downtown Oakland begins tonight. Mr. Heffernen showed plans for the new park and pictures of the park's design elements. Mr. Heffernen spoke about the preliminary costs but advised that the cost estimates must be revised. The development of Bush Plaza Park is contingent upon a grant from Bergen County and matching funds from Oakland. The letter of intent was required to be submitted to Bergen County on April 8th. The formal grant application is due to the County by May 6, 2022. It is anticipated that the grant award will be made by mid-summer, 2023. Construction is to be complete by the Fall of 2023 assuming matching grant financing in CY2023. Mr. Heffernen explained that the development of the park will occur in three phases.

OPENED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Kulmala, this portion of the meeting be opened for public comment.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

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No comments made.

CLOSED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, seconded by Councilman Saliani, this portion of the meeting be closed to public comment.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

Mayor Schwager thanked Mr. Heffernen for his presentation and thanked Ed Clark for his design. She thanked the committee members Mike Guadagnino, Councilman Saliani, Borough Engineer John Yakimik, Mr. Kunze and Michael Carelli.

PUBLIC HEARING ON BUDGET AS INTRODUCED:

OPENED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Saliani, this portion of the meeting be opened for public comment.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

No comments made.

CLOSED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

On motion of Councilman Kulmala, seconded by Councilman Pignatelli, this portion of the meeting be closed to public comment.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

RESOLUTION 22-128 BUDGET ADOPTION

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Kulmala, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland, County of Bergen that the budget hereinbefore set forth is hereby adopted and shall constitute an appropriation for the purposes stated of the sums therein set forth as appropriations, and authorization of the amount of:

- (a) \$ 15,720,530.73 for municipal purposes, and
- (d) \$ 289,539.26 Open Space, Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Levy
- (e) \$ 920,718.00 Minimum Library Tax

SUMMARY OF REVENUES

1. General Revenues

Surplus Anticipated	\$ 1,870,000.00
Miscellaneous Revenue Anticipated	\$ 3,901,221.27
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	\$ 10,000.00

2. Amount to be Raised by Taxation for Municipal Purposes	\$ 15,720,530.73
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3. Amount to be Raised by Taxation for Schools Type I	\$	
4. Amount to be Raised by Taxation for Schools Type II	\$	
5. Amount to be Raised by Taxation – Library Levy	\$	920,718.00
Total Revenues:	\$	22,422,470.00

SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS

6. <u>General Appropriations</u>		
Within “CAPS”		
(a&b) Operations including Contingent	\$	14,994,444.00
(e) Deferred Charges and Statutory Expenditures	\$	2,148,222.00
(a) Operations	\$	1,375,639.00
(c) Capital Improvements	\$	1,142,370.00
(d) Municipal Debt Service	\$	2,256,795.00
(e) Deferred Charges – Municipal	\$	40,000.00
(m) Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	\$	465,000.00
Total Appropriations	\$	22,422,470.00

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

RESOLUTION 22-129 SUPPORT BAIL REFORM MEASURES

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Saliani, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey has a strong interest in protecting the safety of its residents, employees and others who may live, work or travel through its borders; and

WHEREAS, crime and criminal activity is a state-wide issue which affects all municipalities in the State of New Jersey, including the Borough of Oakland ; and

WHEREAS, the arrest and apprehension of criminal defendants serves the public interest by preventing repeat incidents of criminal activity; and

WHEREAS, an individual charged with the commission of a crime is entitled to the presumption of innocence; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, the State of New Jersey enacted P.L.2014, c. 31, also known as the "Criminal Justice Reform Law", which, inter alia, revised New Jersey's cash bail system, authorizing the expansion of instances where an individual charged with a crime may be released from pretrial custody pending further proceedings; and

WHEREAS, an unintended consequence of the Criminal Justice Reform Law has been the release pending trial of individuals charged with serious crimes and those individuals being accused of the commission of additional serious crimes to person or property while so released; and

WHEREAS, the commission of new serious crimes by persons released pending further proceedings under the Criminal Justice Reform Law constitutes a matter of public safety to all residents of the State of New Jersey; and

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WHEREAS, the New Jersey Assembly is currently considering a Bill, A2426, which would amend the Criminal Justice Reform Law to include a rebuttable presumption of pretrial detention to individuals charged with a firearm related crime; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Assembly Law and Public Safety Committee has endorsed A2426;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey, that the New Jersey Legislature and Governor Murphy are strongly encouraged to adopt the provisions of A2426; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the legislature is encouraged to undertake additional examination and action to provide additional reforms to the bail system so as to prevent persons charged with serious crimes to person or property from being permitted to engage in additional criminal activity while awaiting criminal proceedings related to earlier charges.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

RESOLUTION 22-130 SUPPORT REFORMS TO VEHICULAR PURSUIT POLICY

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Saliani, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey share a strong public interest in supporting law enforcement, including the apprehension of individuals engaging in criminal activity with regard to offenses relating to persons or property; and

WHEREAS, property crimes, including thefts of vehicles from residential properties have increased significantly in the last several years, often involving organized groups targeting properties and vehicles in suburban communities; and

WHEREAS, the inability to apprehend, arrest and prosecute individuals accused of theft only serves to encourage and enable repeated instances of such criminal activity; and

WHEREAS, such repeated instances of criminal activity poses a grave threat to the public well-being not only in those communities where such crimes take place, but in each and every community in which the suspected individuals travel to or through after the commission of such crimes; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the Attorney General of the State of New Jersey's current and most recently updated Vehicular Pursuit Policy, restricts and prohibits the circumstances in which a law enforcement officer is permitted to pursue an individual reasonably suspected of committing certain crimes, including but not limited to the theft of an automobile; and

WHEREAS, individuals engaging in such crimes may pose a risk of serious public safety whether or not they are being pursued by law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, the reasonable and appropriate pursuit of such individuals is substantially more likely to lead to the apprehension, arrest and conviction of such individuals than prohibiting or restricting such pursuit; and

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WHEREAS, the arrest, conviction and incarceration of such individuals shall remove from the public the risk of their committing similar crimes during the period of their incarceration, thereby reducing the risk to the public and promoting the goal of public safety;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey, that the Attorney General of the State of New Jersey reconsider portions of the Vehicular Pursuit Policy of its Use of Force Policy, in order to permit local law enforcement officers, the discretion to pursue individuals suspected of having engaged in crimes relating to the theft of automobiles; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey, urge the Attorney General of the State of New Jersey to provide appropriate guidance to local law enforcement officers regarding reasonable and appropriate methods for the pursuit, investigation and apprehension of those committing certain property offenses including theft of automobiles.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

RESOLUTION 22-131 AUTHORIZE RECREATION REFUND

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Saliani, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland has received a request for a refund of Recreation fees; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17 requires governing body approval for said refund;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland hereby authorize a refund to:

Blanke Family, 21 Seton Hall Dr., Oakland, NJ amt. \$ 60 (Rec Lacrosse)

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

RESOLUTION 22-132 AUTHORIZE B.C. PARK IMPROVEMENTS GRANT SUBMITTAL

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Saliani, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

WHEREAS, the Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Floodplain Protection, Farmland & Historic Preservation Trust Fund ("County Trust Fund"), provides matching grants to municipal governments and to nonprofit organizations for assistance in the development or redevelopment of outdoor municipal recreation facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland desires to further the public interest by obtaining a matching grant of \$273,000.00 from the County Trust Fund to fund the Bush Plaza Revitalization Project; and

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WHEREAS, the governing body/board has reviewed the County Trust Fund Program Statement, and the Trust Fund Municipal Program Park Improvement application and instructions, and desires to make an application for such a matching grant and provide application information and furnish such documents as may be required; and

WHEREAS, as part of the application process, the governing body/board received held the required Public Hearing to receive public comments on the proposed park improvements in the application on April 27, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the County of Bergen shall determine whether the application is complete and in conformance with the scope and intent of the County Trust Fund; and

WHEREAS, the applicant is willing to use the County Trust Fund in accordance with such rules, regulations and applicable statutes, and is willing to enter into an agreement with the County of Bergen for the above named project and ensure its completion on or about the project contract expiration date.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Oakland, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. That it is hereby authorized to submit the above completed project application to the County by the deadline of May 6, 2022, as established by the County of Bergen; and
2. That, in the event of a County Trust Fund award that may be less than the grant amount requested above, the Borough of Oakland has, or will secure, the balance of funding necessary to complete the project, or modify the project as necessary; and,
3. That the Borough of Oakland is committed to providing a dollar for dollar cash match for the project; and
4. That only those park improvements identified and approved in the project application, its Trust Fund contract, or other documentation will be considered eligible for reimbursement; and
5. That the Borough of Oakland agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations in its performance of the project; and
6. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

RESOLUTION 22-133 AUTHORIZE APPLICATION TO ANJEC GRANTS PROGRAM

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Saliani, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland wishes to make application for the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions Grant Program in the amount of \$1,500.00 to help fund a Geographical Information Systems Map for Great Oak Park.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Oakland, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, hereby authorize the submittal of a grant application in the amount of \$1,500.00 to help fund a Geographical Information Systems Map for Great Oak Park.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

RESOLUTION 22-134 AUTHORIZE SUBMISSION COMMUNITY PROJECT FOR
GENERATOR TO CONGRESSMAN GOTTHEIMER

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Saliani, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

WHEREAS, there exists an opportunity for the Borough of Oakland to apply for funding through the Office of U.S. Congressman Josh Gottheimer for the Borough of Oakland Emergency Generator Project through a funding request for a Community Project; and

WHEREAS, the assistance of these federal funds is in the best interest of the Oakland community; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland finds it exceptionally beneficial to apply for these funds to complete this important project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Oakland, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey expresses its full support of the submission of the request for Community Project Funding, which would be used to fund the Borough of Oakland Emergency Generator Project.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

RESOLUTION 22-135 AUTHORIZE SUBMISSION OF COMMUNITY PROJECT FOR
GENERATOR TO SENATOR BOOKER

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Saliani, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

WHEREAS, there exists an opportunity for the Borough of Oakland to apply for funding through the Office of U.S. Senator Cory Booker for the Borough of Oakland Emergency Generator Project through a funding request for a Community Project; and

WHEREAS, the assistance of these federal funds is in the best interest of the Oakland community; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland finds it exceptionally beneficial to apply for these funds to complete this important project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Oakland, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey expresses its full support of the submission of the request for Community Project Funding, which would be used to fund the Borough of Oakland Emergency Generator Project.

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ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

RESOLUTION 22-136 AUTHORIZE SUBMISSION OF COMMUNITY PROJECT FOR GENERATOR TO SENATOR MENENDEZ

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Saliani, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

WHEREAS, there exists an opportunity for the Borough of Oakland to apply for funding through the Office of U.S. Senator Robert Menendez for the Borough of Oakland Emergency Generator Project through a funding request for a Community Project; and

WHEREAS, the assistance of these federal funds is in the best interest of the Oakland community; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland finds it exceptionally beneficial to apply for these funds to complete this important project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Oakland, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey expresses its full support of the submission of the request for Community Project Funding, which would be used to fund the Borough of Oakland Emergency Generator Project.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

RESOLUTION 22-137 AUTHORIZE SUBMISSION OF COMMUNITY PROJECT FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGER TO CONGRESSMAN GOTTHEIMER

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Saliani, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

WHEREAS, there exists an opportunity for the Borough of Oakland to apply for funding through the Office of U.S. Congressman Josh Gottheimer for the Borough of Oakland Electric Vehicle Charging Station Project through a funding request for a Community Project; and

WHEREAS, the assistance of these federal funds is in the best interest of the Oakland community; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland finds it exceptionally beneficial to apply for these funds to complete this important project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Oakland, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey expresses its full support of the submission of the request for Community Project Funding, which would be used to fund the Borough of Oakland Electric Vehicle Charging Station Project.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

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**RESOLUTION 22-138 AUTHORIZE SUBMISSION COMMUNITY PROJECT FOR
ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGER TO SENATOR BOOKER**

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Saliani, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

WHEREAS, there exists an opportunity for the Borough of Oakland to apply for funding through the Office of U.S. Senator Cory Booker for the Borough of Oakland Electric Vehicle Charging Station Project through a funding request for a Community Project; and

WHEREAS, the assistance of these federal funds is in the best interest of the Oakland community; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland finds it exceptionally beneficial to apply for these funds to complete this important project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Oakland, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey expresses its full support of the submission of the request for Community Project Funding, which would be used to fund the Borough of Oakland Electric Vehicle Charging Station Project.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

**RESOLUTION 22-139 AUTHORIZE SUBMISSION COMMUNITY PROJECT FOR
ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGER TO SENATOR MENENDEZ**

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Saliani, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

WHEREAS, there exists an opportunity for the Borough of Oakland to apply for funding through the Office of U.S. Senator Robert Menendez for the Borough of Oakland Electric Vehicle Charging Station Project through a funding request for a Community Project; and

WHEREAS, the assistance of these federal funds is in the best interest of the Oakland community; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland finds it exceptionally beneficial to apply for these funds to complete this important project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Oakland, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey expresses its full support of the submission of the request for Community Project Funding, which would be used to fund the Borough of Oakland Electric Vehicle Charging Station Project.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

**RESOLUTION 22-140 AUTHORIZE SUBMISSION COMMUNITY PROJECT FOR
PATRIOTS WAY BRIDGE TO CONGRESSMAN GOTTHEIMER**

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Saliani, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

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WHEREAS, there exists an opportunity for the Borough of Oakland to apply for funding through the Office of U.S. Congressman Josh Gottheimer for the Borough of Oakland Patriot's Way Bridge Superstructure Replacement Project through a funding request for a Community Project; and

WHEREAS, the assistance of these federal funds is in the best interest of the Oakland community; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland finds it exceptionally beneficial to apply for these funds to complete this important project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Oakland, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey expresses its full support of the submission of the request for Community Project Funding, which would be used to fund the Borough of Oakland Patriot's Way Bridge Superstructure Replacement Project.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

RESOLUTION 22-141 AUTHORIZE SUBMISSION COMMUNITY PROJECT FOR PATRIOTS WAY BRIDGE

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Saliani, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

WHEREAS, there exists an opportunity for the Borough of Oakland to apply for funding through the Office of U.S. Senator Cory Booker for the Patriot's Way Bridge Superstructure Replacement Project through a funding request for a Community Project; and

WHEREAS, the assistance of these federal funds is in the best interest of the Oakland community; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland finds it exceptionally beneficial to apply for these funds to complete this important project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Oakland, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey expresses its full support of the submission of the request for Community Project Funding, which would be used to fund the Patriot's Way Bridge Superstructure Replacement Project.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

RESOLUTION 22-142 AUTHORIZE SUBMISSION COMMUNITY PROJECT FOR PATRIOTS WAY BRIDGE TO SENATOR MENENDEZ

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Saliani, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

WHEREAS, there exists an opportunity for the Borough of Oakland to apply for funding through the Office of U.S. Senator Robert Menendez for the Borough of Oakland Patriot's Way Bridge Superstructure Replacement Project through a funding request for a Community Project; and

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WHEREAS, the assistance of these federal funds is in the best interest of the Oakland community; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland finds it exceptionally beneficial to apply for these funds to complete this important project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Oakland, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey expresses its full support of the submission of the request for Community Project Funding, which would be used to fund the Borough of Oakland Patriot's Way Bridge Superstructure Replacement Project.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

RESOLUTION 22-143 AUTHORIZE CONTRACT RENEWAL FOR 5G CONSULTANT
On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Saliani, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Borough of Oakland to retain a Consultant to provide municipal services with regard to the Borough's communication carriers as carrier agreements and facilities are beyond the scope and expertise of professionals normally utilized by the Borough; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Municipal Land Use Law, N.J.S.A. 40:55D-53.2, application review and inspection charges shall be limited only to professional charges for review of applications, review and preparation of documents and inspections of developments under construction and review by outside consultants where an applications is of a nature beyond the scope of the expertise of the professionals normally utilized by the municipality; and

WHEREAS, the Borough desires to appoint Hoplite Communications, LLC, as a Consultant to provide municipal services with regard to the Borough's communications carriers; and

WHEREAS, Hoplite Communications has provided a copy of its summary of services, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, Peter J. Lupo of Hoplite Communications will serve as Consultant at no cost to the Borough for the term of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, all compensation paid to the Consultant for services rendered to the Borough will be paid the communications / utility carrier.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey that Hoplite Communications, LLC, be and is hereby appointed as a Consultant to the Borough to provide municipal services with regard to the Borough's communication carriers as set forth in its summary of services attached hereto and made a part hereof; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Consultant will provide its services to the Borough at no cost to the Borough for the term of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are duly authorized to enter into a professional services contract with Consultant to memorialize the terms of this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution to appoint Consultant is made without competitive bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, specifically N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6.1, because the value of the goods or services does not exceed the bidding threshold; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Hoplite Communications, LLC has submitted all necessary paperwork to comply with the Borough of Oakland's Pay-to-Play requirements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all services rendered to the Borough will be paid by the communications / utility carrier; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough Clerk be and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this resolution to Peter J. Lupo, Esq., upon its passage.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

RESOLUTION 22-144 AUTHORIZE RELEASE OF WEST BERGEN MENTAL HEALTH BOND

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Saliani, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

WHEREAS, West Bergen Mental Healthcare, Inc. posted a New Jersey Subdivision/Site Plan Bond with the Borough of Oakland, in the amount of \$397,200.00; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned Site Improvement Bond was posted in April, 2009, in connection with proposed on site improvements at 12 West Oakland Avenue; and

WHEREAS, no construction was commenced by West Bergen Mental Healthcare, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Selective Insurance Company of America has requested a release of the New Jersey Subdivision/Site Plan Bond.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland as follows:

1. The project that was approved by the Oakland Planning Board was not commenced by West Bergen Mental Healthcare, Inc. at the property located at 12 West Oakland Avenue.
2. Based upon the recommendation of the Borough Attorney, the Mayor and Council authorize the release of the New Jersey Subdivision/Site Plan bond in the amount of \$397,200.00.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution shall be provided to: (i) the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Oakland; (ii) the Construction Code Official of the Borough of Oakland; (iii) the Borough Engineer of the Borough of Oakland; (iv) West Bergen Mental Healthcare, Inc.; (iv) Selective Insurance Company of America and (v) Brian M. Chewcaskie, Borough Attorney.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

RESOLUTION 22-145 AWARD COMPUTER NETWORK UPGRADE PROJECT

On motion of Councilman Saliani, seconded by Councilman Van Eck, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

WHEREAS, there is a need to upgrade the Borough's Computer Network; and

WHEREAS, Altitude Unlimited has State Contract M7000 for Data Communications Products and Services; and

WHEREAS, Altitude Unlimited has submitted a proposal in the amount of \$ 217,496.41 for the equipment and services required for the Computer Network Upgrade project; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that the funds are available in Account #C-04-56-882-205;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland hereby authorized the Borough Administrator to issue a Purchase Order to Altitude Unlimited in the amount of \$ 217,496.41 for the Borough's Computer Network upgrade project as per the specifications.

Councilman Saliani asked when the last time the system is upgraded. Mr. Kunze advised it was upgraded seven years ago. Councilman Saliani asked how long this upgrade will last. Mr. Kunze advised it will be five to seven years.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

RESOLUTION 22-146 AUTHORIZE HIRE DEPUTY BOROUGH CLERK

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Saliani, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

WHEREAS, there is a need to hire a Deputy Borough Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council believes such action would be in the best interest of the Borough.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Oakland, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey hereby hire Wendi Francis-Seelin as Deputy Borough Clerk effective May 16, 2022 at an annual salary of \$48,000.00.

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ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

RESOLUTION 22-147 AUTHORIZE AMENDMENT-ACO

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Saliani, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland owns and operates the Skyview Highbrook Sewage Treatment Plant; and

WHEREAS, the treatment plant is operated pursuant to New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. NJ 0021342 (NJPDES Permit); and

WHEREAS, the Borough, in accordance with the permit, has been submitting various discharge monitoring reports to the NJDEP; and

WHEREAS, for the July, 2020 period the Skyview Highbrook Sewage Treatment Plant violated the NJPDES permit limitation for total copper; and

WHEREAS, the Borough entered into an Administrative Consent Order on July 17, 2020 to address inter alia the total copper violation; and

WHEREAS, the NJDEP has provided a Settlement Agreement to the Borough which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, the Settlement Agreement has been reviewed by Special Counsel and has recommended that same be executed on behalf of the Borough of Oakland.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland that the Settlement Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit "A" be executed by the Mayor and Borough Clerk; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Settlement Agreement shall be provided to Special Counsel in order that same can be filed with the NJDEP.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

RESOLUTION 22-148 REQUEST DEP TO MAKE FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR PFAS TREATMENT SYSTEMS

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Saliani, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) adopted ground water quality standards and maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) effective June 1, 2020 for polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS); perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS); and

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WHEREAS, these new standards are significantly lower than the recommended guidance set by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); and

WHEREAS, well #10 has exceeded the MCLs established by the NJDEP for PFOA and PFOS; and

WHEREAS, although the contaminant level is below the standards set by the EPA, it is above the standard established by the NJDEP; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland will incur significant costs of several million dollars to remediate the Oakland Water System to provide for the elimination and reduction of PFOA and PFOS levels; and

WHEREAS, only limited funding will be available through the ibank and said funding will not be allocated in time to assist many water systems faced with the need to construct PFAS treatment systems; and

WHEREAS, the cost for PFAS treatment will solely be borne by the water utility ratepayers of the Borough of Oakland; and

WHEREAS, the NJDEP, by requiring these new standards, should have provided funding sources for municipalities in order to address the level of contaminants identified; and

WHEREAS, given the level of concern surrounding these compounds, an expedited permit review process should have been established as well;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland as follows:

- The NJDEP should establish a funding program in order that municipalities can address necessary remediation to their water systems for PFOA/PFOS contaminants. This program should be streamlined and linked to the issuance of the required permit.
- The State Legislature should adopt a program to provide for a phase-in period to address PFOA/PFOS contaminants and establish funding sources for the remediation of same.
- The NJDEP should establish an expedited permit approval process to allow water systems to install treatment systems as quickly as possible.
- A copy of this Resolution shall be provided to the Commissioner of the NJDEP and the legislative representatives for the Borough of Oakland, Sen. Holly Schepisi, Assembly members, Robert Auth and DeAnne DeFuccio.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

FINAL PUBLIC HEARING: ORDINANCE NO. 22-CODE-883 SHADE TREE ORDINANCE

The Clerk was directed to take from the table Ordinance No. 22-Code-883 and read by title for its final hearing.

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The Clerk then read by title an Ordinance entitled “AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL AND REPLACE CHAPTER 19 TREE REMOVAL AND PROTECTION”

OPENED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Saliani, this portion of the meeting be open for public comment.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

Ed Clark, 6 Morton Place, thanked everyone who worked on this ordinance. He is looking forward to this moving through. Mayor Schwager thanked the Shade Tree Commission for their work on this ordinance.

CLOSED FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Talamini, this portion of the meeting be closed to public comment.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Talamini, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed on a roll call vote.

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled, An Ordinance To Repeal And Replace Chapter 19 Tree Removal And Protection, be adopted;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk be and she is hereby directed to cause said Ordinance to be published by title in The Record in the manner provided by law.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

Mr. Chewcaskie entered the meeting at 7:33 pm.

FINAL PUBLIC HEARING: ORDINANCE NO. 22-CODE-884 AMEND CHAPTER 17-CIVIL SERVICE ELIGIBILITY-RESIDENT PREFERENCE

The Clerk was directed to take from the table Ordinance No. 22-Code-884 and read by title for its final hearing.

The Clerk then read by title an Ordinance entitled " AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 17, SECTION 1.5 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF OAKLAND, ENTITLED “CIVIL SERVICE ELIGIBILITY; RESIDENCE PREFERENCE”

OPENED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Saliani, this portion of the meeting be opened for public comment.

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ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

Kevin Heffernen, 40 Grove Street, asked if there is a preference for Veterans. Mr. Kunze responded that there is an automatic preference from Civil Service.

CLOSED FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Kulmala, this portion of the meeting be closed to public comment.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

On motion of Councilman Kulmala, seconded by Councilman Van Eck, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed on a roll call vote.

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 17, Section 1.5 Of The Code Of The Borough Of Oakland, Entitled “Civil Service Eligibility; Residence Preference”, be adopted;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk be and she is hereby directed to cause said Ordinance to be published by title in The Record in the manner provided by law.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

WORK SESSION:

ROTARY PARK SIGN:

Rick Lepre, 199 Long Hill Road, and Dave Stolby from Mahwah were in attendance to represent the Oakland-Franklin Lakes Rotary Club. Mr. Lepre advised that the Rotary Club donated the message board many years ago. The sign has now been rendered obsolete. They are proposing three different options. Mr. Lepre advised that there are brick pavers in Rotary Park to memorialize various individuals and those will be reset. There will be a memorial stone and benches to be placed in the Park.

Councilman Talamini stated if the Rotary Club is going to keep the sign, the sign should include their logo. He stated that the scaled down version of the sign was more appealing. The consensus of the Council was to support that scaled down version of the sign. Councilman Van Eck thanked Rotary Club for all they do.

EV CHARGING STATION GRANTS:

Mr. Kunze advised that due to time constraints, the request for Federal funding has been submitted to Congressman Gottheimer. The State grant has a mid-May deadline. Michael Carelli advised that the Borough has been working with the Sustainable Oakland Green Team on this issue. They feel the best location for an EV charging station is in the public parking located within the new Station Park plan. That lot attracts visitors to promote the downtown businesses. Mr. Carelli advised that there are grant opportunities through the State of NJ. The Community

fast charger can charge a car within 20 minutes. Mr. Carelli is hoping if the Borough receives a grant, that Orange & Rockland Electric will have a program in place to donate the electric.

Mr. Carelli advised that he has received many quotes. The grant covers \$ 200,000. Mr. Carelli is hoping to get quotes under \$ 200,000. He stated that Bergen County does not have any fast chargers on public land. Councilman Van Eck asked who would pay for the electricity. Mr. Carelli advised that it would be the responsibility of the Borough but the cost will be minimal. Mr. Kunze advised that they were thinking of charging the users. Councilman Talamini asked if this is a matching grant. Mr. Carelli responded it is not. Councilman Van Eck asked what the maintenance and replacement schedule is. Mr. Carelli responded usually five years. Mr. Kunze advised that a five year maintenance agreement is included with the purchase of the charger. Mr. Carelli advised that the useful life is ten years.

Councilman Kulmala stated that the Borough is pursuing Federal and State grants for the charger. The DEP is allocating nine charging stations in Bergen County. He supports this project if we are not using taxpayer dollars. Councilman Talamini asked if Mr. Carelli has spoken to other towns. Mr. Carelli spoke to Pompton Lakes, Franklin Lakes. Glen Rock also did a community survey of residents. Councilman Talamini asked if the chargers are being used in other towns. Mr. Kunze responded there is a better likelihood of usage for a fast charger. Franklin Lakes did a prior grant round for a level 2 charger. This is different to what most other towns put in. Mayor Schwager stated that there is a bill which states that a person can't park in an EV spot. Councilman Talamini stated that if this charger is put in, it is taking away spots from non-electric vehicle drivers. Mayor Schwager stated that Glen Rock's program is very successful.

Councilman Van Eck asked if this would be better placed in a private lot for them to get revenue. Mr. Kunze responded there are shopping malls that have put them in. The State is mandating EV charging stations for new development. Councilman Kulmala stated that a building in the Industrial Park was required to put in a Level 2 charger last year. He stated if the Borough gets a grant for funding, we should put the charger in. Mr. Kunze advised that the grant application is due May 13th. A resolution will be listed on the next agenda

Mayor Schwager asked Mr. Chewcaskie to respond to Ms. King's statements. Ms. King stated that Mr. Rose has seen no remediation. There has been no consequence for his actions and no apology. Mr. Chewcaskie responded that the Borough did a thorough investigation which resulted in findings. Appropriate action was taken and there were measures taken by Mr. Rose. Mr. Chewcaskie advised it is a personnel matter. Ms. King stated she will come to every meeting to remind the public what Mr. Rose did.

NO PARKING ON TRUMAN AND ROOSEVELT:

Mayor Schwager stated she received many calls and emails about no parking on Truman and Roosevelt. She stated that for many years, there has been an ordinance on the books for no parking. After some residents complained, the ordinance was discovered and no parking signs were erected. The signs were erected without notifying the residents. Mayor Schwager asked the Council to drive there so then they can meet with the Police Chief and Traffic Officer to discuss. Councilman Kulmala will discuss this with the Public Safety Committee and will bring the findings back to the Council. Mr. Kunze advised that signs were put up after an accident occurred and the Police have been issuing warnings. Mayor Schwager stated that the Council and residents need to know before signs are put up.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Talamini stated that the cost of garbage collection keeps going up and we continue to receive only one bid. He mentioned to Mr. Kunze about calculating the cost of in-house garbage collection. He stated if the collection is going up \$ 300,000 per year, it will eventually be cost effective to do in-house. Mayor Schwager stated that Glen Rock has in-house garbage collection but they are now looking to do a hybrid because of the cost of the employees. Mr. Kunze advised that he has been discussing this with his colleagues. Even if we decide to do in-house collection, it will take a couple of years to implement because of the need to obtain equipment. He has been talking to Franklin Lakes and Wyckoff about going out to bid again. Mayor Schwager advised that the Northwest Bergen Mayors wrote letters and called legislators as did the Bergen County League of Municipalities. Councilman Kulmala stated the CFO is sending him a breakdown of costs so he can call State legislators.

OLD BUSINESS:

Councilman Van Eck stated that the Council should send another resolution to Optimum asking them to upgrade Channel 77 to HD which is the industry standard. Verizon upgraded our channel two years ago. This will be listed on the next agenda.

RECOGNITION OF 3RD GRADE GIRLS BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS:

Mayor Schwager and Councilman Van Eck presented certificates to the 3rd Grade Champion Girls Basketball Team. Councilman Van Eck read the team accomplishments.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilman Saliani: He congratulated the Shade Tree Commission on the adoption of the ordinance that they started revising two years ago. There will be free saplings given out at the Arbor Day event. The Borough's shredding event will be held May 14th.

Councilman Slasinski: The contractor for the Sewer Plant Decommissioning project is forwarding construction submittals to Boswell and they will order materials as their submittals are approved. The Water Department employees are doing fire hydrant flushing and leak detection. The Library of Things is now live and the Library has museum passes available.

Councilman Talamini: He advised that he will be recusing himself from the school budget process because his wife is employed by the Board of Education. Councilman Talamini advised that long time school Board member Jim Gaffney recently passed away. Mr. Gaffney taught Councilman Talamini about being an elected official as well as being a better father and friend. He will be missed.

Councilman Pignatelli: There was great feedback from the memoir writing program at the Senior Center. There will be another one held. The Senior Center will be closed May 10th for installation of a new AV System. Hazardous Waste Collection will take place May 14th at Campgaw. Councilman Pignatelli warned of scams.

Councilman Kulmala: The Police Department acquired a Humvee out of the LESO program. This will be used for flood rescues. On April 25th, the Police Officers started wearing body worn cameras in accordance with the law. This is required for all law enforcement. In the month of March, the Police had 291 motor vehicle stops, issued 256 summonses and had two DWI arrests. There was a complaint about speeding on Rutgers Drive. The Police did a study and there was minimal speeding on the roadway. They will continue to monitor the situation. The OEM will be doing a cleanup on Skyline Drive on May 14th. The OEM is updating the Emergency Operation Plan. The Green Team is printing up 1000 bags using artwork from the schools. The

Arts Amble is taking place June 10th to June 12th. There will be food trucks on June 11th. This is part of the Creative Bergen program. There will be a bird watching walk through Great Oak Park. There was a clean up of the community garden this past weekend. The Green Team would like to share one of the ADA beds with the Access for All Committee.

Councilman Van Eck: Rec Summer Camp signups will take place May 1st to May 10th and there will be no late signups this year. Summer Sports Camps, Football, Soccer and Cheerleading are currently holding registrations. The tennis court schedule is available. The Rec Commission extends condolences to Jim Gaffney, Gary Gerisi and Shirley Dooley who all passed away recently. The OCC newsletter committee is looking for volunteers. The Welcome Committee is working on a welcome packet. The TV committee has announced that programing can be viewed 24/7. The TV Committee is trying to get the K-8 Board of Education meetings televised. The next OCC meeting will be held May 2nd at 7:30 pm. The 2021 LOSAP payments will be posted to accounts in May. The State has completed the budget review. Councilman Van Eck announced he will be moving out of Oakland and this is his last meeting. He stated it has been a lifelong dream to be in public service and he was first able to do this in Oakland. It has been a great experience. He thanked all the commissioners he worked with. It has been an honor to serve this community. Mayor Schwager thanked him for what he has done for the town.

OPENED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Kulmala, this portion of the meeting be opened for public comment.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

Dave Richardson, 320 Ramapo Valley Road, commented that the Bergen County Road Department has been on Ramapo Valley Road filling potholes. He stated it makes no sense to pave if there is going to be a sewer line put in. Mayor Schwager advised that the County will pave Ramapo Valley Road in 2023. Mr. Richardson spoke of an illegal stop sign on River Road.

Mike Guadagnino, 34 Hopper Street, advised that parking is needed on Roosevelt and Truman for the soccer field. He thanked Councilman Van Eck for everything he has done in a couple of years.

Filomena LaForgia, 54 Saratoga, thanked Councilman Van Eck for being an inspiration.

Deb Mutterer, 101 Walnut Street, thanked Councilman Van Eck for starting Access for All.

CLOSED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Pignatelli, this portion of the meeting be closed to public comment.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

BILLS TO BE PAID:

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Pignatelli, the following bills be submitted for payment:

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(see following pages)

BE IT RESOLVED that the foregoing bills be paid and charged to their respective accounts when the funds are available.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

Councilman Kulmala advised that the next inspection of Patriots Way Bridge is scheduled for June 22nd. The Borough has applied for Federal funding. The current cost of replacement is \$7 million.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, seconded by Councilman Kulmala, the meeting be adjourned at 8:58 pm.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

Lisa M. Duncan

Lisa M. Duncan, Borough Clerk
May 11, 2022

Date Approved

Linda H. Schwager

Mayor Linda H. Schwager