

BOROUGH OF OAKLAND
Borough Council Meeting
MEETING MINUTES

Municipal Court/Council Chambers
10 Lawlor Drive
Oakland, N.J. 07436

October 12, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.

Meeting of the Borough of Oakland Mayor and Borough Council opened on the above date at 7:00 p.m. in the Oakland Council Chambers, 10 Lawlor Drive, Oakland, N.J. 07436.

Mayor Linda H. Schwager presiding.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Linda H. Schwager, Councilmembers Kulmala, McCann, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini.

Also Present: Borough Administrator Richard Kunze, Borough Clerk Michael Carelli, Borough Attorney Brian Chewcaskie, Borough Engineer John Yakimik.

Absent: None.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Linda H. Schwager announced that proper notice of this meeting was made as to time, date, place, and agenda.

MAYORS REPORT:

Mayor Schwager commended the Oakland Volunteer Fire Department for a successful Fire Prevention Week Open House and congratulated the winners of the Annual Poster Contest. A free Rabies Clinic was announced for November 5, 2022. Residents may register by emailing health@oakland-nj.org. Mayor Schwager announced that residents received an additional public notice on the PFOA/PFOS issue and the water remains safe for drinking. The public notice is required by the State of New Jersey. The Borough is taking action to install treatment systems in late 2023. Councilman Pignatelli added that the treatment system is specifically designed for the Borough's water system and takes several months to manufacture. Mayor Schwager advised that a detailed inspection by the County of Bergen was performed this past June 2022 for the Patriot's Way Bridge. All findings will be provided to the Ramapo River Reserve residents in the near future. A meeting will be scheduled shortly with the homeowners. The Borough is awaiting results of several grant submissions. It was announced that the Borough has undertaken an annual reassessment program continuing through 2026. It was advised that no one should allow someone to enter their home without proper identification. A flier was provided for locations on Early Voting and Vote by Mail for the upcoming General Election. Locations are available on the Borough Website and social media.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT:

ALL IN FAVOR.

Councilman Pignatelli set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Kulmala, to open for public comment.

Michael Pritchard of 78 Calumet Avenue, Oakland, N.J. 07436 provided a handout from the Flood Commission on information regarding the Hovnanian Development off McCoy Road. Mr. Pritchard expressed concerns regarding runoff and stormwater control. Documentation was provided to the Borough Engineer for further review.

Joseph Kuhns of 73 Calumet Avenue, Oakland, N.J. 07436 expressed concerns about an Oakland Democratic Candidate Event, which was slated to honor a local law enforcement officer. Mr. Kuhns expressed specific concerns with attaching a political campaign to Borough resources, and that a portion of the proceeds were to be donated to the Junior Police Academy, which is a Borough program.

Andrea Levy of 780 Ramapo Valley Road, Oakland, N.J. 07436 spoke on the true intentions of the political event. Ms. Levy added that the intention of the event was to honor local volunteers. Ms. Levy advised that the event has been cancelled and that she is seeking a way to honor the volunteers using a different avenue. The Borough Council was also encouraged to enact a recognition program and/or event.

Deborah Mutterer of 101 Walnut Street, Oakland, N.J. 07436 commented that the flier was shared on Oakland social media.

Councilman Kulmala asked if the event is illegal. Councilman McCann commented that he has prior experience with this matter from a different County campaign. Mayor Schwager closed that all groups have learned their lesson.

Justin Lee of 7 Bannehr Street, Oakland, N.J. 07436 introduced himself as the co-owner of Kusala Care LLC, a marijuana cultivation company looking to obtain a Borough endorsement for a State Business License. Mr. Lee commented that his business is community oriented and he seeks to get involved with the Sustainable Oakland Green Team. Mr. Lee advised that his company is under a tight deadline for obtaining a Borough endorsement and a public hearing and presentation will be scheduled in the near future. Mr. Lee further added that the Borough's Cannabis Counsel Ron Mondello will attend as well. Mayor Schwager encouraged Mr. Lee to contact her.

Councilman Talamini set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Pignatelli, to close public comment.

ALL IN FAVOR.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

September 28, 2022

Councilman Pignatelli set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Kulmala, to approve the above listed minutes as read.

ROLL CALL: **Ayes:** Kulmala, McCann, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini
 Nays: None
 Abstain: None
 (6 ayes – 0 nays – motion carried)

September 28, 2022 Executive Session

Councilman Pignatelli set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Slasinski, to approve the above listed minutes as read.

ROLL CALL: **Ayes:** Kulmala, McCann, Pignatelli, Slasinski, Talamini
 Nays: None
 Abstain: Saliani
 (6 ayes – 0 nays – motion carried)

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS/APPOINTMENTS/RAFFLES/REQUESTS:

RECOGNITION OF IRIS PASCUAL FOR ARCHERY SPORTING ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Mayor Linda H. Schwager advised that Ms. Pascual could not make the meeting and will be present at the October 26, 2022 Council Meeting.

APPOINTMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION:

Councilman Pignatelli set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Kulmala, to appoint William Eilert as a Commissioner of the Oakland Environmental Commission for a three (3) year unexpired term, with a term expiration date of December 31, 2022.

ALL IN FAVOR.

APPOINTMENT TO SHADE TREE COMMISSION:

Mayor Linda H. Schwager appointed William Eilert as a Commissioner of the Oakland Shade Tree Commission for a five (5) year unexpired term, with a term expiration date of December 31, 2022.

**RL1437: APPROVE RAFFLE LICENSE #RL1437 FOR DOGWOOD HILL
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION TO HOLD
ON-PREMISE 50/50 RAFFLE ON OCTOBER 19, 2022 AT THE DOGWOOD
HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 25 DOGWOOD DRIVE, OAKLAND, N.J.
07436**

Councilman Pignatelli set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Kulmala, to approve Raffle License #RL1437.

ALL IN FAVOR.

RL1438: APPROVE RAFFLE #RL1438 FOR OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CHURCH TO HOLD ON-PREMISE MERCHANDISE DRAW RAFFLE ON NOVEMBER 5, 2022 AT THE OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CHURCH, 25 PURDUE AVENUE, OAKLAND, N.J. 07436

Councilman Pignatelli set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Saliani, to approve Raffle License #RL1438.

ALL IN FAVOR.

RL1439: APPROVE RAFFLE #RL1439 FOR GREATER RAMSEY CHAPTER OF UNICO TO HOLD AN ON-PREMISE 50/50 RAFFLE ON OCTOBER 28, 2022 AT PORTOBELLO BANQUETS, 150 RAMAPO VALLEY ROAD, OAKLAND, N.J. 07436

Councilman Saliani set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Pignatelli, to approve Raffle License #RL1439.

ALL IN FAVOR.

RESOLUTIONS – CONSENT AGENDA:

On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, seconded by Councilman Saliani, the following resolutions by consent be introduced, adopted, and duly passed by a roll call vote:

22-275: AUTHORIZE REFUND OF TAXES DUE TO DUPLICATE PAYMENT

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland has received a request (attached) for a refund of taxes in the total amount of \$2,500.16; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17 requires Governing Body approval for said refund; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has verified that the amount is due and that funds are available in account CF-01-55-998-002;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Oakland hereby authorize payment in the total amount of \$2,500.16 to:

Alexander Parisi	Block 4801
21 Oswego Avenue	Lot 54
Oakland, N.J. 07436	\$2,500.16

22-276: AUTHORIZE REFUND OF TAXES DUE TO DUPLICATE PAYMENT

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland has received a request (attached) for a refund of taxes in the total amount of \$2,666.81; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17 requires Governing Body approval for said refund; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has verified that the amount is due and that funds are

available in account CF-01-55-998-002;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Oakland hereby authorize payment in the total amount of \$2,666.81 to:

Denise Carey	Block 5101
71 Oneida Avenue	Lot 34
Oakland, N.J. 07436	\$2,666.81

22-277: AUTHORIZE REFUND OF TAXES FOR VETERANS DEDUCTION

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland has received a request (attached) for a refund of taxes in the total amount of \$250.00; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17 requires Governing Body approval for said refund; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has verified that the amount is due and that funds are available in account CF-01-55-998-002;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Oakland hereby authorize payment in the total amount of \$250.00 to:

Edward Lawn	Block 4306
19 Whittier Lane	Lot 43
Oakland, N.J. 07436	\$250.00

22-278: AUTHORIZE CHAPTER 159 FOR BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP GRANT AWARD

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget, and

WHEREAS, said Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for an equal amount, and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland has been awarded a Bullet Proof Vest Grant in the amount of \$455.00 for the purpose of acquiring bullet proof vests for the police department, and wishes to amend its 2022 budget to include this amount as a revenue,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough Council of the Borough of Oakland hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue from:

Miscellaneous Revenues:
Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written
Consent of Director of Local Government Services - Public and
Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:
Bullet Proof Vest Partnership

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a like sum of \$455.00 be and the same is hereby appropriated under the caption of:

General Appropriations:
(A) Operations - Excluded from "CAPS"
Public and Private Appropriations Offset by Revenues:
 Bullet Proof Vest Partnership
 Other Expenses - \$455.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk forward two copies of this resolution to the Director of Local Government Services.

**22-279: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF BERGEN COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE
GRANT APPLICATION FOR FY21 AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE READER
INITIATIVE**

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety Office of the Attorney General is offering the FY21 Automated License Plate Reader Initiative Grant Program to New Jersey Law Enforcement Agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the Bergen County Prosecutor wishes to apply on behalf of Bergen County Municipalities; and

WHEREAS, a total of \$9,750,000 will be awarded to New Jersey law enforcement agencies for use by November 30, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland Police Department wishes to apply for said grant through the Office of the Bergen County Prosecutor; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland Police Department wishes to apply for four (4) automated license plate readers at \$22,000.00 a piece, with a total grant request of \$88,000.00; and

WHEREAS, there is a local match requirement of 50% for aforesaid grant;

WHEREAS, applying for said grant would be of benefit to the Borough of Oakland and its taxpayers;

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. The Borough of Oakland authorizes and supports the Office of the Bergen County Prosecutor to submit aforesaid grant on behalf of the Borough of Oakland;
2. A copy of this resolution of support be forwarded to the Office of the Bergen County Prosecutor;
3. Authorizes the Police Chief to prepare any and all documentation concerning the grant application.

22-280: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF REQUESTS FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO THE BOROUGH OF OAKLAND FOR LEGAL, FINANCIAL, ENGINEERING, AND RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICES

WHEREAS, as of January 1, 2006, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.1 et seq., commonly known as the "State Pay to Play" law, enacted by the New Jersey State Legislature became effective; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.1 et seq., a municipality may not award contracts with a value in excess of \$17,500.00 to a business entity which has made reportable contributions in excess of \$300.00, in the aggregate, to the said municipality's political parties or to any candidate's committee of any person serving in an elective public office of the said municipality when such contract was awarded, unless said business entity is awarded a contract under a "fair and open process" pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, a "fair and open process" constitutes the following: (1) public advertisement of a Request for Qualifications (hereinafter the "RFQ") with ten (10) calendar days notice prior to the receipt of responses to the RFQ; (2) award of contract under a process that provides for public solicitation of qualifications; (3) award of contract under publicly disclosed criteria established, in writing, by the municipality prior to the solicitation of qualifications; and (4) the municipality shall publicly open and announce the qualifications when awarded; and

WHEREAS, it has become necessary for the Borough of Oakland (hereinafter the "Borough") to engage legal, financial and engineering professionals and the Borough desires to appoint such professionals for 2023 by a "fair and open process" pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.1 et seq. and in accordance with the Borough's Pay To Play Ordinance, Ordinance No. 12-Code-669.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Oakland, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey that Requests for Qualifications for professional services for the following professional services for the Borough and its agencies are hereby authorized:

1. Borough Attorney
2. Labor Attorney
3. Borough Auditor
4. Bond Counsel
5. Borough Engineer
6. Borough Prosecutor
7. Alternate Borough Prosecutor
8. Public Defender
9. Alternate Public Defender
10. Planning Board Attorney
11. Board of Adjustment Attorney
12. Borough Risk Manager
13. Borough Planner
14. Water and Sewer Engineer
15. Planning Board Engineer
16. Planning Board Planner
17. Board of Adjustment Engineer
18. Board of Adjustment Planner

19. Floodplain Manager

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all of the Requests for Qualifications for the professional services as set forth hereinabove shall be prepared and published in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.1 et seq. and all such RFQs shall be evaluated on the basis of the most advantageous RFQ, all factors considered, including, but not limited to: (1) experience and reputation in the profession; (2) knowledge of the subject matter to be addressed under contract; (3) availability to accommodate any required meetings of the Borough or Borough Agency; (4) and any other factors if demonstrated to be in the best interest of the Borough or Borough Agency.

22-281: AUTHORIZE REFUND OF RECREATION FEES

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland has received a request (attached) for a refund of recreation fees in the total amount of \$160.00; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17 requires Governing Body approval for said refund; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has verified that the amount is due and that funds are available in account CF-01-55-998-006;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Oakland hereby authorize payment in the total amount of \$160.00 to:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>SPORT TYPE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Yue Hua Pan	146 Hiawatha Boulevard, Oakland, N.J. 07436	Soccer	\$80.00
Susan Gluchanicz	39 West Sheffield Street, Oakland, N.J. 07436	Soccer	\$80.00

22-282: AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF ROCK SALT THROUGH THE 2022 NEW JERSEY COOPERATIVE PURCHASING ALLIANCE PRICING SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland needs to purchase rock salt; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland is a member of the New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Alliance (State I.D. #11-BeCCP); and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Alliance has awarded a contract, Rock Salt, to Atlantic Salt, Inc., and said contract was awarded through the open competitive bidding process and in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40a:11 et seq., Local Public Contracts Law; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator and Superintendent of Public Works have recommended that the Borough of Oakland purchase rock salt through the New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Alliance in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funds for these purchases, said funds to be encumbered from account number 2-01-26-306-058 and from appropriation in the 2023 budget, subject to adoption.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of

Oakland, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, that the Mayor and Borough Council hereby authorizes the purchase of Rock Salt, in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.00, through the New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Alliance, contract Rock Salt, awarded to Atlantic Salt, Inc.

ROLL CALL: **Ayes:** **Kulmala, McCann, Pignatelli, Salliani, Slasinski, Talamini**
 Nays: **None**
 Abstain: **None**
 (6 ayes – 0 nays – motion carried)

RESOLUTIONS:

On motion of Councilman Slasinski, seconded by Councilman McCann, the following resolution be introduced, adopted, and duly passed by a roll call vote:

22-273: RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE GOVERNING BODY HAS REVIEWED, AT A MINIMUM, THE COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS SET FORTH IN THE 2021 ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-4 requires the Governing Body of every local unit to have made an annual audit of its books, accounts and financial transactions; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Audit Report for the year 2021 has been filed by a Registered Municipal Accountant with the Municipal Clerk as per the requirements of N.J.S.A. 40A:5-6, and a copy has been received by each member of the Governing Body; and

WHEREAS, the Local Finance Board has promulgated N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5, a regulation, requiring that the Governing Body of each municipality shall by resolution certify to the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey that all members of the Governing Body have reviewed, at a minimum, the sections entitled "Comments and Recommendations"; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Governing Body have personally reviewed at a minimum the Annual Report of Audit, and specifically the sections of the Annual Audit entitled "General Comments and Recommendations" as evidenced by the group affidavit form of the Governing Body; and

WHEREAS, such resolution of certification shall be adopted by the Governing Body no later than forty-five (45) days after receipt of the annual audit; pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5; and

WHEREAS, all members of the Governing Body have received and familiarized themselves with, at least, the minimum requirements of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey, as stated aforesaid and have subscribed to the affidavit, as provided by the Local Finance Board; and

WHEREAS, failure to comply with the promulgations of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey, ay subject the members of the local Governing Body to the penalty R.S. 52:27BB-52 "A local officer or member of a local Governing Body who, after a date fixed for compliance, fails or refuses to obey an order of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, under a provision of this article, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be fined not more than one-thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, in addition shall forfeit office;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Oakland, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey hereby states that it has complied with N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5 and does hereby submit a certified copy of this resolution and the required affidavit to said Board to show evidence of said compliance.

ROLL CALL: **Ayes:** **Kulmala, McCann, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini**
 Nays: **None**
 Abstain: **None**
 (6 ayes – 0 nays – motion carried)

On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, seconded by Councilman Slasinski, the following resolution be introduced, adopted, and duly passed by a roll call vote:

**22-274: RESOLUTION APPROVING ANNUAL AUDIT CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN
PREPARED BY THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER IN RESPONSE TO THE
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE 2021 ANNUAL AUDIT
REPORT**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland is in receipt of the Report of Audit for the period ending December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Oakland formally accepted said audit on October 12, 2022; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to develop and obtain Mayor and Borough Council approval of an Audit Corrective Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, said plan must be approved and filed within sixty days of formal notice,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Oakland, that the required Audit Corrective Action Plan, having been prepared and submitted by the Chief Financial Officer, is hereby approved and further that said plan document be placed on file and made available for public inspection in the Office of the Borough Clerk.

ROLL CALL: **Ayes:** **Kulmala, McCann, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini**
 Nays: **None**
 Abstain: **None**
 (6 ayes – 0 nays – motion carried)

ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE 22-CODE-894

“AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF OAKLAND RELATED TO FEES”

The Borough Clerk was directed to take from the table Ordinance No. 22-Code-894 and read by title for its final hearing.

The Borough Clerk then read by title an Ordinance entitled **“AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF OAKLAND RELATED TO FEES”**.

OPENED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

ALL IN FAVOR.

No public comment.

CLOSED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

ALL IN FAVOR.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Kulmala, McCann, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini
 Nays: None
 Abstain: None
 (6 ayes – 0 nays – motion carried)

ORDINANCE 22-CODE-895

"AN ORDINANCE REGARDING FEES RELATED TO THE OAKLAND TELEVISION SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM"

The Borough Clerk was directed to take from the table Ordinance No. 22-Code-894 and read by title for its final hearing.

The Borough Clerk then read by title an Ordinance entitled **"AN ORDINANCE REGARDING FEES RELATED TO THE OAKLAND TELEVISION SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM"**.

OPENED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

ALL IN FAVOR.

No public comment.

CLOSED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

ALL IN FAVOR.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Kulmala, McCann, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini
 Nays: None
 Abstain: None
 (6 ayes – 0 nays – motion carried)

Councilman McCann left the Borough Council Meeting at 7:45 p.m.

WORK SESSION:

No work session items reported.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Linda H. Schwager advised that on Monday October 3, 2022, a meeting was held with the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority to move forward with the sewer project. The Sanitary Sewer Treatment Plant Decommissioning Project will be completed in 2023. After several meetings with the NJDEP, the sewer service area is anticipated to be approved in early 2023. Mayor Schwager thanked the Bush Plaza Park Ad-Hoc Committee for their work to beautify the downtown. Mayor Schwager encouraged the Borough Council to consider an Architectural Review Board in anticipation of future developments due to the installation of sewers. The Oakland Chamber of Commerce is preparing a Kickoff Breakfast with Oakland businesses and will be announced in the near future. It was noted that Councilman McCann has experience in constructing an Architectural Review Board ordinance in another municipality. Councilman Kulmala expressed support for such ordinance. Local business owners were encouraged to get involved.

OLD BUSINESS:

No old business reported.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS:

COUNCILMAN KULMALA: Councilman Kulmala reported that the Sustainable Oakland Green Team was recognized as Silver Certified for 2022 by Sustainable Jersey. A new Police Department Bike Patrol was announced. Be on the lookout for officers at special events. The September 2022 Statistics report was read aloud for the Police Department and First Aid Squad. Councilman Kulmala applauded the volunteers of the First Aid Squad. For any that may be interested in volunteering, please visit the First Aid Squad website. Councilman Kulmala met the Mayor and Borough Administrator at Exit 58 to see what can be done about the appearance and beautification. The Borough will trim trees and identify the property owner along the railroad tracks.

COUNCILMAN MCCANN: Absent.

COUNCILMAN PIGNATELLI: Councilman Pignatelli reminded the public that the next Planning Board Meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Oakland Senior Center, 20 Lawlor Drive, Oakland, N.J. 07436. Discussions will continue on the Hovnanian Development off McCoy Road. Residents were encouraged to get their flu shot at the Senior Center Flu Clinic on October 13, 2022. Appointments can be made by calling the Board of Health.

COUNCILMAN SALIANI: Councilman Saliani advised that the sidewalk project on the north end of Ramapo Valley Road is expected to commence in the next few weeks. The Shade Tree Commission

has posted an updated Tree Permit Application on the Borough website. The Bush Plaza Ad-Hoc Committee is working on fundraising.

COUNCILMAN SLASINSKI: Councilman Slasinski reported that upgrades to the Iroquois Pump Station are expected to be completed by the end of 2022. Boswell Engineering is in the process of preparing bid documents for the Acorn, Birch, and Florence Avenues Water Main Improvements Project and is scheduled to be released later this fall. The Oakland Public Library is hosting several events within the next few weeks. Residents are encouraged to visit their website for more information.

COUNCILMAN TALAMINI: Councilman Talamini encouraged residents to volunteer for the Public Events Committee. The Annual Halloween Parade and Trick or Trunk will be held on October 29, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. in the Municipal Plaza Parking Lot.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT:

Councilman Pignatelli set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Kulmala, to open for public comment.

ALL IN FAVOR.

Andrea Levy of 780 Ramapo Valley Road, Oakland, N.J. 07436 asked if the Borough could do anything about the appearance of the Van Allen House property. Ms. Levy asked if the mangled fencing could be removed. It was suggested to beautify the area with art projects and landscaping.

William Sisti of 12 Eagle Crest Place, Oakland, N.J. 07436 thanked the Borough Council for adopting the fee ordinance for the Television Sponsorship Program. Mr. Sisti encouraged a tight Master Plan when the time comes for Downtown redevelopment projects.

Councilman Pignatelli set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Kulmala, to close public comment.

ALL IN FAVOR.

Mayor Linda H. Schwager advised that a meeting is scheduled with the Historical Architect for the Van Allen House in the coming weeks.

BILLS TO BE PAID:

On motion of Councilman Slasinski, seconded by Councilman Kulmala, the following bills be submitted for payment:

(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: Ayes: Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini
 Nays: None
 Abstain: None
 (5 ayes – 0 nays – motion carried)

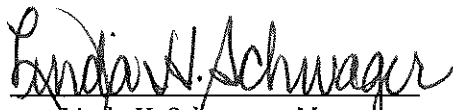
ADJOURNMENT:

On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, seconded by Councilman Kulmala, the meeting be adjourned.

ALL IN FAVOR.


Adjourned: 8:35 p.m.

APPROVED BY:



Linda H. Schwager, Mayor

ATTEST:



Michael E. Carelli, Borough Clerk