

February 9, 2022

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
HELD AT THE
MUNICIPAL COURT /COUNCIL CHAMBERS
10 LAWLOR DRIVE, OAKLAND, NEW JERSEY
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 9, 2022

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; John Yakimik, Borough Engineer.

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.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Schwager advised that Oakland resident Alexandra Valdez, received the Academy of Holy Angel's Sister Catherine Kindness Award in January and was named to the Principal's list for maintaining a 95+ average. Mayor Schwager read a certificate for former Environmental Commission member Alex Myers who recently resigned. Councilman Pignatelli advised that Mr. Myers was on the Environmental Commission for over ten years and he was a tremendous help. Mayor Schwager advised that no dogs are allowed at the Recreation complex. It is prohibited by Borough ordinance. The Police will start enforcing the ordinance.

CERTIFICATES FOR ROLLER HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS:

The 2020/21 Junior Roller Hockey Gold and Blue teams are being recognized. The Gold team went undefeated throughout the season only having two losses in the playoffs to the Oakland Blue team. Oakland Blue team went on to win the championship for the first time in Oakland history. Mayor Schwager thanked the parents. Councilman Van Eck congratulated the young athletes because this was not an easy feat to accomplish. He hears they are having another great season this year. Recreation Commissioner and Coach Mike Bleeker spoke of the talent on the team and advised they are having a great season this year as well.

OPENED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

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

Jodi Goffredo, 44 Sioux Ave, spoke about campaigning on Halloween in front of the children. She stated that kids should not be exposed to this and asked that it not happen again.

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CLOSED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, 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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JANUARY 12, 2022

On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, seconded by Councilman Van Eck, the minutes from the Mayor and Council meeting of January 12, 2022 be approved.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JANUARY 26, 2022

On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, seconded by Councilman Van Eck, the minutes from the Mayor and Council meeting of January 26, 2022 be approved.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JANUARY 12, 2022 EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, seconded by Councilman Saliani, the minutes from the Mayor and Council Executive Session of January 12, 2022 be approved.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JANUARY 26, 2022 EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, seconded by Councilman Kulmala, the minutes from the Mayor and Council Executive Session of January 26, 2022 be approved.

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

APPROVE RAFFLE LICENSE RL1417

On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, seconded by Councilman Van Eck, approval be granted for Raffle License RL1417 for Rebuilding Together North Jersey to hold an off-premise raffle for merchandise on June 6, 2022 at 341 Ramapo Valley Road.

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

RESOLUTION 22-74 AUTHORIZE CONTRACT-SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR CANNABIS

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

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Borough of Oakland to engage the services of an Attorney experienced in cannabis licensing and law for 2022; and

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WHEREAS, the Borough has determined that Ronald P. Mondello, Esq. Will be the most advantageous to the Borough, all relevant factors considered; and

WHEREAS, funds will be available by way of escrow account to compensate Mr. Mondello; and

WHEREAS, Ronald P. Mondello has submitted paperwork certifying that he has not made any disqualifying pay to play contributions pursuant to the Borough's Pay-to-Play Ordinance No. 12-CODE-669 adopted July 11, 2012; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et. seq. exempts professional services from certain requirements of public bidding provided a notice of the appointment be printed in a newspaper of general circulation within the municipality; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has received or will receive a Business Registration certificate and Affirmative Action compliance statement from Mr. Mondello prior to entering into a contract; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland that Ronald P. Mondello, Esq., be and the same, is hereby appointed for the year 2022 as cannabis attorney.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that compensation for Ronald P. Mondello, Esq. for the year 2022 shall be claimed, approved and paid in the manner set forth in N.J.S.A. 40A:5-18 and pursuant to agreement to be entered into between the parties.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the agreement on behalf of the Borough.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk shall cause a notice of the adoption of this resolution be printed in a qualified newspaper within ten (10) days after passage hereof.

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

RESOLUTION 22-75 AUTHORIZE CONTRACT-SPECIAL WATER & SEWER COUNSEL
On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, seconded by Councilman Kulmala, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland is pursuing discussion with the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority for sewer service and has a need for legal expertise related to both the water and sewer utilities; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to seek special counsel to represent the Borough of Oakland in this regard; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has received a proposal from John Napolitano and the firm of Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri & Jacobs, LLC at a cost not to exceed \$25,000.00; and

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WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified funds are available in account #2-01-20-155-028; and

WHEREAS, this contract is for professional service for which no public bidding is required; and

WHEREAS, Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri and Jacobs, LLC has complied with the Borough's Pay-to-Play requirements as outlined in Ordinance 12-CODE-669 adopted July 11, 2012;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council hereby award a contract to John Napolitano of Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri and Jacobs, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized to sign the agreement on behalf of the Borough.

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

RESOLUTION 22-76 HIRE DEPUTY COURT ADMINISTRATOR

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council authorize the hiring of Tabish Tahir as Deputy Court Administrator at an annual salary of \$ 48,000 effective Monday February 14, 2022.

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

RESOLUTION 22-77 HIRE BUS DRIVER FOR SENIOR CENTER

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

WHEREAS, the Senior Center Director has advised there is a need to hire a part-time bus driver for the Senior Citizens Center and has made a recommendation to the Borough Administrator to hire Timothy Clark;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Timothy Clark be hired as the Senior Center Bus Driver at a salary of \$ 20 per hour effective February 10, 2022.

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

RESOLUTION 22-78 ACCRUED TIME PAYOUT-C. ELDRIDGE

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

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:30-15 establishes rules that govern how local government units manage and finance compensation for accumulated absence time for their respective employees, and

WHEREAS, accumulated absence includes any sick days, vacation days, personal days, compensatory time or any other absence time authorized as part of an employer agreement, which is not used by the employee during the allowed period and which is permitted to accumulate over time to the benefit of the employee, and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that the funds and authority exists to pay the part of the accumulated absence, as per the attached schedule, to Chris Eldridge for sick, vacation, personal and compensatory time accumulated in the amount of \$ 192,529.48; and

WHEREAS, the attached certification and documentation are presented to comply with the rules and regulations established by the Local Finance Board.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland that the total sum \$ 192,529.48 composed of 240 hours of vacation time, 1,511.5 hours of sick time, and 24 hours of personal time and 480 hours compensatory time be paid out to Chris Eldridge. Said payment to be paid out of the Accumulated Absence Trust Fund established in 2010 for this purpose.

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

RESOLUTION 22-79 AUTHORIZE APPLICATION TO COMPLETE STREETS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

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

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation Complete Streets Design Guide defines Complete Streets as follows: “Complete Streets are streets designed for all users, all modes of transportation, and all ability levels. They balance the need of drivers, pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, emergency responders, and goods movement based on local context.” and;

WHEREAS, while the primary benefit of Complete Streets is improved safety, particularly for people who walk or bike who are the most vulnerable users of the street, there are other positive outcomes. Complete Streets create better places to live, work, and do business. They can help improve the health of a community by encouraging to people to walk or bike, bolster the local economy by generating foot traffic in business districts and provide greater mobility options for residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, when streets are not complete, the negative impacts on public health safety, equity, and the economy and the environment are disproportionately borne by low-income and minority communities; and

WHEREAS, through the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority’s FY22 Complete Streets Technical Assistance Program, Sustainable Jersey will coordinate and the Voorhees Transportation Center at Rutgers University will provide planning-level technical assistance

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services to municipalities for a specific project related to advancing complete streets initiative in their community; and

WHEREAS, although no direct funding is provided, selected municipalities will receive free direct technical assistance services to complete a specific task related to advancing a complete streets initiative in their communities; and

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 Borough Administrator and his/her designee to submit an application to the Complete Streets Technical Assistance Program to receive free direct technical assistance services to complete a specific task related to advancing complete streets, and also commits pertinent Borough Staff members to coordinate and collaborate with Sustainable Jersey, Voorhees Transportation Center, and North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority to support the successful and timely delivery of technical assistance services.

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

RESOLUTION 22-80 AUTHORIZE CONTRACT-COPIERS

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

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland wishes to lease seven (7) copiers for various Borough buildings; and

WHEREAS, TGI Office Automation, 775 Passaic Avenue, West Caldwell, NJ 07006, has State Contract #GS-03F-0085U for the Ricoh copiers desired; and

WHEREAS, the lease and service cost for the seven (7) copiers will be \$ 1,208 per month for 48 months and the per copy cost will be \$.0049 for black & white copies and \$.049 for color copies; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available in Account #2-01-20-106-103 from appropriation in the 2022 temporary budget and future budgets, subject to adoption;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council hereby authorize the copier lease from TGI Office Automation and the Borough Administrator is authorized to execute the agreements on behalf of the Borough.

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

RESOLUTION 22-81 AWARD BID-IROQUOIS PUMP STATION UPGRADES

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

WHEREAS, on December 7, 2021, the Borough of Oakland received two (2) bids for the Iroquois Pumping Station Improvements Project; and

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WHEREAS, VNL Inc., 158 Old Turnpike Road, Califon, New Jersey, 07830 had the lowest responsive and responsible bid with a total bid price of \$ 582,500; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer and the Borough Attorney have reviewed the bids and have recommended acceptance of the bid from VNL Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified funds are available in Account #C-06-56-874-202 \$ 582,500;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the bid of VNL Inc., in the total amount of \$ 582,500 accepted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough Administrator is directed to prepare an appropriate contract for the same; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are directed to execute the agreement on behalf of the Borough.

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

RESOLUTION 22-82 HIRE TEMPORARY TECHNICAL ASSISTANT

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

BE IT RESOLVED that Gail Bowitz be hired as a temporary Technical Assistant to the Construction Official at a salary of \$ 40 per hour for 20 hours per week for approximately 18 weeks effective Monday February 7, 2022.

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

RESOLUTION 22-83 AWARD CONTRACT-2022 TAX APPEAL ASSISTANCE

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

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to appoint an expert for 2022 Tax Appeal Assistance; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Assessor and Borough Administrator have recommended that Integra Realty Resources be retained to provide Tax Appeal Assistance, in accordance with their proposal; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland wishes to award a contract to Integra Realty Resources to provide 2022 Tax Appeal Assistance services for the Borough; and

WHEREAS, Integra Realty Resources will provide the services at a cost not to exceed \$ 20,000; and

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WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available in Account #2-01-55-904-001; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid award of contract is an exemption to the public bidding laws and one for professional services, for which no public bidding is required;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of Oakland hereby awards and authorizes the Mayor and Borough Clerk to execute an agreement with Integra Realty Resources to provide Tax Appeal Assistance services for an amount not to exceed \$ 20,000.00.

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

RESOLUTION 22-84 AWARD CONTRACT-TAX MAP MAINTENANCE

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

WHEREAS, the Borough must update its tax maps annually; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Assessor and Borough Administrator have recommended that Civil Solutions be retained to provide tax map updates, in accordance with their proposal; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland wishes to award a contract to Civil Solutions to provide 2022 Tax Map Maintenance services for the Borough; and

WHEREAS, Civil Solutions will provide the services at a cost not to exceed \$ 5,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available in Account # 2-01-20-150-104; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid award of contract is an exemption to the public bidding laws and one for professional services, for which no public bidding is required;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of Oakland hereby awards and authorizes the Mayor and Borough Clerk to execute an agreement with Civil Solutions to provide Tax Map Maintenance Services for an amount not to exceed \$ 5,000.00.

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

RESOLUTION 22-85 AWARD CONTRACT 2022 REASSESSMENT SERVICES

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

WHEREAS, the County of Bergen ordered a full reassessment be done on all properties in the Borough of Oakland and the reassessment was conducted by Associated Appraisal Group; and

WHEREAS, the Borough issued a Request for Proposals for the services required; and

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WHEREAS, for reasons of efficiency and equity in the administration of property assessments, the Borough has determined to implement an annual reassessment program; and

WHEREAS, Associated Appraisal Group is capable of providing annual reassessment services in accordance with their proposal dated January 31, 2022 for a cost of \$55,000; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available in Account # 2-01-20-150-029 \$ 55,000; and

WHEREAS, Associated Appraisal Group has complied with the Borough of Oakland's Pay to Play requirements as outlined in Ordinance 12-CODE-669 adopted on July 11, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the award of the contract is for a professional service for which no public bidding is required;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council award a contract for the annual reassessment program to Associated Appraisal Group in an amount not to exceed \$55,000; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized to execute the agreement on behalf of the Borough.

Councilman Talamini asked if this is part of the revaluation. Mr. Kunze advised this is for the first year of the annual reassessment rolling project. Last year, the contract was for \$ 250,000. The annual program will cost \$ 55,000.

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

RESOLUTION 22-86 AWARD CONTRACT-IT MANAGED SERVICES

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

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland is in need of I.T. Managed Services for the Borough main network, Police network and Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, Altitude Unlimited, 1050 Wall St. West, Suite 203, Lyndhurst, NJ 07071 has State Contract #M-7000 for the services required ; and

WHEREAS, Altitude Unlimited has submitted a proposal for the services required at an annual cost not to exceed \$ 46,886;

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available in Account 2-01-20-140-029;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council hereby authorize the Borough Administrator to issue and sign the contract to Altitude Unlimited to perform the I.T. Managed Services for the Borough of Oakland at a cost not to exceed \$ 46,886 as specified in their proposal.

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

RESOLUTION 22-87 APPROVAL OF 2021 LOSAP LIST

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

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:14-191, emergency service organizations participating in a Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP) shall annually certify to the sponsoring agency a list of all volunteer members who have qualified for credit for the previous year, and;

WHEREAS, the certification shall be based on records maintained by the emergency service organization in accordance with the sponsoring agency's adopted point system, and;

WHEREAS, the required certifications have been presented by the Oakland Fire Department & by the Oakland First Aid Squad to the Local Plan Administrator, and;

WHEREAS, the Local Plan Administrator has reviewed the annual list, and supporting documentation from the Oakland Fire Department & from the Oakland First Aid Squad to substantiate the information provided, and is satisfied that the list is complete and accurate;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey that the certified list of volunteer members of the Oakland Fire Department & the Oakland First Aid Squad who have qualified for credit under LOSAP for the year 2021 is hereby approved, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the approved certification list is posted at the office of the Municipal Clerk, and returned to the Oakland Fire Department & the Oakland First Aid Squad for posting at their locations, for a period of 30 days to allow sufficient time for membership review.

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

RESOLUTION 22-88 AUTHORIZE GRANT APPLICATION TO SUSTAINABLE JERSEY PSE&G GRANTS PROGRAM

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

WHEREAS, a sustainable community seeks to optimize quality of life for its residents by ensuring that its environmental, economic and social objectives are balanced and mutually supportive; and

WHEREAS, Oakland strives to save tax dollars, assure clean land, air, and water, improve working and living environments; and

WHEREAS, Oakland is participating in the Sustainable Jersey Program; and

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WHEREAS, one of the purposes of the Sustainable Jersey Program is to provide resources to municipalities to make progress on sustainability issues, and they have created a program called the 2022 Sustainable Jersey Grants Program - \$2,000; and

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Oakland Green Team wishes to apply for a grant for the 2022 Sustainable Jersey Grant Program in the amount of \$2,000 in order to implement an education and reusable bag campaign for the Borough;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland has determined that the Borough of Oakland should apply for the aforementioned grant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland hereby authorizes the submission of an application for the aforementioned Sustainable Jersey PSE&G Grant in the amount of \$2,000.00.

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

FINAL PUBLIC HEARING: ORDINANCE NO. 22-CODE-875 AMEND COMMUNITY GARDEN FEE

The Clerk was directed to take from the table Ordinance No. 22-Code-875 and read by title for its final hearing.

The Clerk then read by title an Ordinance entitled " AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 22 ENTITLED "COMMUNITY GARDEN" SECTION 22-1 ENTITLED "ANNUAL FEE" OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF OAKLAND TO ESTABLISH A FEE FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE COMMUNITY GARDEN"

OPENED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

On motion of Councilman Kulmala, seconded by Councilman Van Eck, 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 DISCUSSION:

On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, 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 Pignatelli, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed on a roll call vote.

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled, An Ordinance Amending And Supplementing Chapter 22 Entitled “Community Garden” Section 22-1 Entitled “Annual Fee” Of The Revised General Ordinances Of The Borough Of Oakland To Establish A Fee For Membership In The Community Garden , 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.

FINAL PUBLIC HEARING: ORDINANCE NO. 22-BOND-876 SEWER PLANT DECOMMISSIONING

The Clerk was directed to take from the table Ordinance No. 22-Bond-876 and read by title for its final hearing.

The Clerk then read by title an Ordinance entitled “BOND ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE AN ADDITIONAL SUM OF \$2,000,000 FOR THE DECOMMISSIONING AND CONVERSION OF VARIOUS SANITARY SEWER TREATMENT PLANTS TO PUMP STATIONS AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF FORCE MAINS TO CONNECT TO THE NORTHWEST BERGEN COUNTY UTILITIES AUTHORITY TREATMENT SYSTEM IN, BY AND FOR THE SEWER UTILITY OF THE BOROUGH OF OAKLAND, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.:

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 DISCUSSION:

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.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled, Bond Ordinance To Appropriate An Additional Sum Of \$2,000,000 For The Decommissioning And Conversion Of Various Sanitary Sewer Treatment Plants To Pump Stations And The Construction Of Force

Mains To Connect To The Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority Treatment System In, By And For The Sewer Utility Of The Borough Of Oakland, In The County Of Bergen, State Of New Jersey, To Authorize The Issuance Of Bonds To Finance Such Additional Appropriation And To Provide For The Issuance Of Bond Anticipation Notes In Anticipation Of The Issuance Of Such Bonds, 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:

ENGINEERING PROPOSAL FOR TENNIS COURT RESURFACING:

Mr. Kunze asked that this item be held because we may be pursuing another path. He explained that we are pursuing utilizing a vendor who is part of a coop which means there is no bidding involved.

ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 59-9 APPEALS:

Mr. Chewcaskie advised that the Governing Body recently had an appeal of a Zoning Board decision which is unusual. Usually an appeal goes to Superior Court. The Borough's ordinance permitted an appeal of a use variance to go to the Governing Body. Mr. Chewcaskie suggested repealing that section of the ordinance so that appeals would now go to the Superior Court. Councilman Kulmala asked if an appeal would go the Courts before coming to the Mayor and Council. Mr. Chewcaskie responded it would go to the Court and never come to the Mayor and Council. He stated that most towns have eliminated an appeal going to the Governing Body. This ordinance will be introduced at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Kulmala asked who is responsible for taking the old sign out of Rotary Park. Mr. Kunze responded that the Rotary Club is making plans to move the sign.

Councilman Van Eck stated that the Access for All Committee held its first meeting. They want to know how we can provide better access for people who cannot attend a meeting due to physical barriers.

Councilman Van Eck spoke of an idea to hang banners to honor veterans. Mayor Schwager stated that the banners that are currently up were paid for by the businesses for a period of five years. Councilman Van Eck suggested this year putting a photo and bio on social media honoring veterans before Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Mayor Schwager advised that there will be a ceremony at the American Legion for Vietnam Veterans in March.

OLD BUSINESS:

Councilman Pignatelli advised that there will be a meeting regarding the traffic study on March 2nd.

Councilman Talamini asked if anything was done about a fillable Citizen Leadership form on the website. Mr. Kunze responded that we are currently working in this.

Councilman Van Eck asked for a timeline of lifting the mask mandate on Borough buildings. Mr. Kunze responded he is monitoring the issue and does not have an exact date.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilman Van Eck: The Finance Committee met and reviewed the budget. He explained that we are going to find a fiscally responsible path but maintain services. We are planning towards pay as you go. He stated he is happy to be serving as Finance Chair. Recreation baseball and softball signups are ongoing. There is a late fee of \$ 30. Sports clinic signups are open. The OCC is now broadcasting Ramapo Indian Hills Board of Education meetings. They are looking for volunteers for the newsletter and social media committees. The Access for All Committee held its first meeting and Jodi Goffredo was elected Chair. They are trying to recruit new members. They are going to apply for grants. He spoke of ideas to expand events such as the carnival to make them more accessible. Councilman Talamini suggested they attend a Public Events meeting.

Councilman Kulmala: He reiterated that dogs are not allowed at the Recreation field. He is currently scheduling a meeting with Emergency Services.

Councilman Pignatelli: He thanked Councilman Van Eck for stepping up with the Access for All Committee. The Cannabis Committee met with Attorney Ron Mondello who gave suggestions as well as complimented our ordinance. Hazardous Waste collection dates in Mahwah will take place May 14, July 16, and September 10. Councilman Pignatelli read the annual report from the Environmental Commission. They assisted the Green Team planting trees for the Roots for Rivers reforestation project. They have a battery recycling program and are working on a GIS mapping system for the Borough's open space. They have had ongoing discussions about the PFOS in the water and they ran town cleanups. The town cleanup for this year will be held April 30th.

Councilman Talamini: The Public Events Committee is a wonderful group of people who is always looking for new members. Their next meeting will be held via zoom on February 15th.

Councilman Slasinski: The Skyview lining project's last section is scheduled to be completed today. The Water main on Doty Road will be complete today. The Lakeview Terrace water main is scheduled to be completed the first week of March and then the Grandview and Mountainview water main replacements will begin. He read some items available at the Library.

Councilman Saliani: He attended the Shade Tree Committee meeting-they meet the first Monday of each month. They have started an Adopt-A-Tree program and 18 houses have signed up already. They are looking for an additional member. He thanked DPW for repairing the water main break so quickly today. Metal collection takes place the second Thursday of the month. Electronics pick up takes place the first and third Wednesdays and you must call DPW for a pick up. The DPW has recycling barrels for purchase. The DPW will be out each week to repair potholes as the weather allows.

Councilman Pignatelli stated that the Environmental Commission is looking for an additional member.

Councilman Kulmala stated that the Patriots Way Bridge remains safe for vehicular and pedestrian traffic. The next inspection is slated for June of 2022. The estimated cost for replacement is \$ 5.66 million. He stated that Congressman Gottheimer is saying the Borough is going to receive money for the bridge.

OPENED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

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

William Sisti, 12 Eagle Crest, asked about an update on sidewalks on the north end of town. He stated the TV Committee is looking for volunteers. Mayor Schwager asked if we can allow access to the public that cannot attend in person. Mr. Chewcaskie advised that the Governing Body must have a policy in place first. He explained that an appraisal was needed for the sidewalk project and we should have that for the next meeting. Mr. Sisti asked if construction will take place in 2022. Mr. Chewcaskie responded that theoretically it should.

Kathleen McCarthy, 10 Dacotah, asked about the annual reassessment and if they will need access to her house. Mr. Kunze responded that about a quarter of the properties will be reassessed each year. Mr. Chewcaskie explained that the rolling program will take place for the next four years. Only about a quarter will be inspected and the others will be reviewed from data. Councilman Van Eck stated that this annual program is the more fiscally responsible path rather than do a reassessment every ten years. Mr. Kunze explained that the County orders a reassessment when the ratio of market to assessed value falls below 80%. The Borough was ordered to do the reassessment in 2020 and it was postponed one year due to Covid. Letters will be sent to residents in the next week with the new values.

CLOSED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, 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.

BILLS TO BE PAID:

On motion of Councilman Van Eck, seconded by Councilman Pignatelli, 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: All yeas, Councilmembers Kulmala, Pignatelli, Saliani, Slasinski, Talamini, Van Eck.

February 9, 2022

MEETING ADJOURNED:

On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, seconded by Councilman Van Eck, the meeting be adjourned at 8:52 pm.

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

Lisa M. Duncan

Lisa M. Duncan, Borough Clerk
February 23, 2022

Date Approved

Linda H. Schwager

Mayor Linda H. Schwager