

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
HELD VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE  
MUNICIPAL COURT /COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
10 LAWLOR DRIVE, OAKLAND, NEW JERSEY  
MONDAY DECEMBER 21, 2020 7:30 PM.

MOVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, (N.J.S.A. 10:4-12) permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist,

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

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of action upon the hereinafter specified subject matter.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:  
Personnel
3. The Mayor and Council shall release and disclose to the general public the discussion and actions taken on the subject matter of the above mentioned closed session once the Mayor and Council has arrived at a final decision on the specified subject matter.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

Discussion regarding Personnel matters. No action taken.

CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION:

On motion of Councilman Talamini, seconded by Councilman Pignatelli, the Executive Session be closed.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: By Mayor Schwager at 7:30 pm.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Schwager called the meeting to order and the Clerk called the roll. Present: Mayor Schwager, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini. Absent: Councilman Van Eck. Also Present: Lisa M. Duncan, Borough Clerk; Richard Kunze, Borough Administrator; Nylema Nabbie, Borough Attorney.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG:

MOMENT OF SILENCE:

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT: Mayor Schwager announced this meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, duly announced, submitted to the newspaper and advertised more than 48 hours in advance of the meeting and notice posted in the Municipal Building and on the Borough website.

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EXCUSE ABSENCE:

On motion of Councilman Biale, seconded by Councilman Kulmala, the absence of Councilman Van Eck be excused.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Schwager congratulated the Green Team on achieving Silver Certification from Sustainable Jersey. She also thanked Mr. Kunze and Michael Carelli for all their efforts. Mayor Schwager advised that the DPW did an incredible job with the snowfall last week. The Stream House has been dismantled. The Mayor and Councilman Biale have plans on building a children's museum. Mayor Schwager announced that anyone interested in volunteering for Boards or Commissions should submit a Citizen Leadership form. The NY Times is writing an article about the Borough which will be published in March. The Holiday Decorating contest judging is taking place. The decorations are beautiful. Mayor Schwager wished everyone a Happy Holiday season and reminded everyone not to be complacent and stay safe.

OPENED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

No comments made.

CLOSED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: NOVEMBER 30, 2020 SPECIAL PUBLIC HEARING

On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, seconded by Councilman Talamini, the minutes from the Mayor and Council Special Public Hearing of November 30, 2020 be approved.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: NOVEMBER 30, 2020 EMERGENCY MEETING**

On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, seconded by Councilman Knapp, the minutes from the Mayor and Council Emergency meeting of November 30, 2020 be approved.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: DECEMBER 9, 2020**

On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, seconded by Councilman Knapp, the minutes from the Mayor and Council meeting of December 9, 2020 be approved.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: NOVEMBER 30, 2020 EMERGENCY EXECUTIVE**

On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, seconded by Councilman Knapp, the minutes from the Mayor and Council Emergency Executive Session of November 30, 2020 be approved.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: DECEMBER 9, 2020 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, seconded by Councilman Knapp, the minutes from the Mayor and Council Executive Session of December 9, 2020 be approved.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

**SPECIAL REQUEST: DISABLED VETERAN EXEMPTION**

Mr. Kunze advised that Mr. Joziph Soliman of 107 Pawnee Avenue has requested a property tax refund due to being declared permanently disabled by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Based on Mr. Soliman's application to the Borough, the Tax Assessor made his property fully tax exempt as of the date of the application which was October 24, 2020. Mr. Soliman is requesting that the tax exemption be made effective as of the date he was declared permanently disabled, which is December 1, 2019. Mayor Schwager advised this will be done by resolution at the first meeting in January.

**RESOLUTION 20-306 HIRE POLICE OFFICER-JONATHAN LYONS**

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

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland has determined the need to authorize the hiring of a police officer for the Oakland Police Department based on a vacancy and the current table of organization; and

WHEREAS, the Police Chief has recommended the appointment of Jonathan Lyons pending the completion of the necessary pre-employment testing and background checks;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of Oakland that Jonathan Lyons be and is hereby appointed as a police officer for the Borough of Oakland, which appointment is effective December 21, 2020 and being made in accordance with

the New Jersey Department of Personnel Certification of Eligibles for Appointment List, and his salary shall be at Step 6, \$ 60,808 in accordance with the current PBA contract.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

#### RESOLUTION 20-307 AUTHORIZE BOSWELL-STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN

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

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland is in need of preparing a Stormwater Prevention Plan in order to comply with new regulations from the NJDEP; and

WHEREAS, Boswell Engineering has submitted a proposal dated November 25, 2020 for the work required in an amount not to exceed \$ 5,000.00; and

WHEREAS, Boswell Engineering has submitted all the paperwork necessary to comply with the Borough of Oakland's Pay-to-Play requirements; and

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

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available in Account # 0-01-20-165-100;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council hereby authorize Boswell Engineering to prepare the Stormwater Prevention Plan at a cost not to exceed \$ 5,000.00 as specified in their proposal; and

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

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

#### RESOLUTION 20-308 AUTHORIZE 2021 WELLNESS GRANT APPLICATION

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

WHEREAS, the Borough established an Employee Wellness Program; and

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to make application to the Bergen Municipal Health Insurance Fund for a grant for our 2021 employee wellness program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council hereby authorize a grant application in the amount of \$ 10,000 be submitted to the Bergen Municipal Health Insurance fund.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

#### RESOLUTION 20-309 EXTEND OUTDOOR DINING

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

WHEREAS, restaurants are an integral part of the local economies and social fabrics of municipalities; and

WHEREAS, policies regarding restaurants established by the State of New Jersey through law, regulation and executive order rightfully prioritize public health; and

WHEREAS, the proper adherence of measures to mitigate the spread of the Covid-19 virus has greatly affected the business model of restaurants; and

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to help its local businesses through this difficult time; and

WHEREAS, many restaurants are owned and operated by local families that depend upon continued economic activity; and

WHEREAS, the Borough had previously adopted Resolution No. 20-214, which allowed for outdoor dining; and

WHEREAS, Borough had previously adopted Resolution No. 20-253 to extend the time period for outdoor dining through the end of the year 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Borough supports and follows the recommendations of health care professionals to continue proactive measures such as social distancing to curtail the spread of the Covid-19 virus; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland in the County of Bergen in the State of New Jersey hereby agree to allow outdoor dining to continue through March 31, 2021 under the same terms and conditions as set forth in Resolution No. 20-214

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution shall be provided to: (i) the eateries located within the Borough of Oakland; (ii) the Zoning Officer of the Borough of Oakland; (iii) Brian M. Chewcaskie, Borough Attorney.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

**RESOLUTION 20-310 WAIVE BUILDING PERMIT FEES FOR OUTDOOR DINING TENTS**  
On motion of Councilman Biale, seconded by Councilman Talamini, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have authorized outdoor dining to help local restaurants during this difficult time due to Covid-19; and

WHEREAS, the structures required for the winter for outdoor dining require a Building Permit due to the snow load requirements; and

WHEREAS, restaurants are an integral part of the local economies and social fabrics of municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to help its local businesses through this difficult time;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council hereby waive the Borough portion of the Building permit fees for any restaurant submitting a permit for outdoor dining structures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution shall be provided to the Construction Official.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

#### RESOLUTION 20-311 APPOINT TEMPORARY RECREATION COMMISSION SECRETARY

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

WHEREAS, the Recreation Commission Secretary is on maternity leave so there is a need to hire a temporary secretary;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council authorize the hire of Debbie Henry as temporary Recreation Secretary from December 1, 2020 to February 26, 2021 at a rate of \$ 100 per meeting.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

#### RESOLUTION 20-312 AUTHORIZE PURCHASE SCBA PACKS

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

WHEREAS, there is a need to purchase 34 SCBA packs for the Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey Fire Equipment Co., 119-131 Route 22 East, Green Brook, NJ 08812, has State Contract #17-FLEET-00819 for the equipment desired for a total amount of \$ 221,347.80; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available in Account #C-04-56-786-111 \$ 10,871.61 and Account # G-02-13-001-002 \$ 210,476.19;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council hereby authorize the Borough Administrator to issue a Purchase Order to New Jersey Fire Equipment Co. in the amount of \$ 221,347.80.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

#### RESOLUTION 20-313 BUDGET TRANSFER

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

WHEREAS, it has become necessary to expend funds in excess of the amounts approved in the Calendar Year 2020 budget of the Borough of Oakland; and

WHEREAS, there exist certain budget expenditures with funds available in excess of the amounts approved in the Calendar Year 2020 budget of the Borough of Oakland; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58 permits the transfer of such funds during the last two months of the fiscal year;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland, that based on the recommendation of the Chief Financial Officer, the following transfers be made to the Calendar Year 2020 Current Fund budget:

<u>Current Fund</u>		From	To
0-01-20-106-022	Gen Svcs – Postage	\$ 1,000.00	
0-01-36-472-000	Social Security	\$ 2,000.00	
0-01-31-460-001	Gasoline	<u>\$ 5,500.00</u>	
Sub-total		\$ 8,500.00	
0-01-20-145-041	Tax Coll – Tax Bills & Notices		\$ 1,000.00
0-01-36-473-000	Defined Contribution Plan		\$ 2,000.00
0-01-31-430-005	Electricity – Sr Center		\$ 500.00
0-01-31-440-003	Telephone – Police		<u>\$ 5,000.00</u>
Sub-total			\$ 8,500.00

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

#### RESOLUTION 20-314 CANCEL SEWER FUND APPROPRIATION

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

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland wishes to cancel the unexpended balances of certain appropriations in the 2020 Sewer Utility Budget and transfer said funds to Sewer Utility fund balance; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-60 requires that such cancellations be made by resolution prior to the end of the fiscal year

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland, that based on the recommendation of the Chief Financial Officer,, that the amounts entered next to such appropriations listed below be and hereby are canceled and transferred to the Sewer Utility fund balance:

#### FROM:

Sewer – Penalties	0-07-55-501-180	<u>\$ 63,000.00</u>
	Total	\$ 63,000.00

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

#### RESOLUTION 20-315 HIRE SEASONAL SNOW PLOW EMPLOYEES

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

WHEREAS, there is a need to hire seasonal snow plow employees for the Department of Public Works; and

WHEREAS, the seasonal snow plow employees will be paid the snow rate as specified in the Blue Collar Labor Agreement for which the current snow rate of \$31.00 per hour;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Mayor and Council hereby authorize the hiring of the following seasonal snow plow employees for the Department of Public Works effective December 16, 2020:

Myles McMahon  
Tim Trainor  
Tyler DelCorpo

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

#### RESOLUTION 20-316 AUTHORIZE ACCRUED TIME SELLBACK

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

WHEREAS, Civil Service rules and Borough policy permit the carryover of a maximum of one year's worth of vacation time; and

WHEREAS, Due to the press of Borough business, prior to 2008 the DPW Superintendent, Anthony Marcucilli, had been permitted to carryover additional vacation time in excess of the one year allotment; and

WHEREAS, the extra vacation time amounts to 23.37 days; and

WHEREAS, the Borough and Mr. Marcucilli wish to clear this extra vacation time from Mr. Marcucilli's accrued vacation time balance by compensating Mr. Marcucilli for the current value of this extra vacation time so as to be in compliance with all applicable rules and contractual requirements; and

WHEREAS, the total value of the vacation days is \$12,205.68 and the Chief Financial Officer has certified that sufficient funds and authority exist to pay this amount.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland that, in accordance with the provisions of NJAC 5:30-15, payment in the amount of \$12,205.68 be made to Anthony Marcucilli and that his accrued vacation time be reduced by 23.37 days.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

#### RESOLUTION 20-317 AUTHORIZE MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE GRANT AGREEMENT

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that Mayor Linda H. Schwager and CFO David Young are hereby authorized to execute the Municipal Alliance Grant Agreement on behalf of the Borough of Oakland.



ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

**FINAL PUBLIC HEARING: ORDINANCE NO. 20-CODE-816 AMEND RECREATION FEES**

The Clerk was directed to take from the table Ordinance No. 20-Code-816 and read by title for its final hearing.

The Clerk then read by title an Ordinance entitled " AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF OAKLAND CHAPTER IX, RECREATION FACILITIES AND RECREATION AREAS, SUBCHAPTER 9-2.3, ENTITLED "FEE SCHEDULE FOR ACTIVITIES," TO PROVIDE FOR THE USE OF FACILITIES AND THE FEE SCHEDULE THEREOF."

**OPENED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:**

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

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

No comments made.

**CLOSED FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION:**

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

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

On motion of Councilman Biale, seconded by Councilman Kulmala, 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 The Revised General Ordinances Of The Borough Of Oakland Chapter IX, Recreation Facilities And Recreation Areas, Subchapter 9-2.3, Entitled "Fee Schedule For Activities," To Provide For The Use Of Facilities And The Fee Schedule THEREOF.", 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 Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

**FINAL PUBLIC HEARING: ORDINANCE NO. 20-CODE-818**

The Clerk was directed to take from the table Ordinance No. 20-Code-818 and read by title for its final hearing.

The Clerk then read by title an Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING 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 Biale, seconded by Councilman Knapp, this portion of the meeting be open for public comment.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

Alison Fleeson, 59 Seton Hall Drive and Chairwoman of the Green Team, advised that the ordinance should read an annual fee of \$ 50. Councilman Talamini asked if the fee would matter whether the plot is used a couple of months or the whole year. Ms. Fleeson responded the ordinance should say the fee is an annual fee. Mr. Kunze asked if the wording change would be substantive. Borough Attorney Nabbie advised it is not and the ordinance can be amended on the floor.

**MOTION TO AMEND:**

On motion of Councilman Talamini, seconded by Councilman Biale, the ordinance be amended to indicate the fee is annual.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

Councilman Kulmala asked how many plots there will be. Ms. Fleeson responded there are 28 plots. Councilman Pignatelli advised that people should register on community pass for a plot. Mr. Kunze advised that it will be listed on the website once registration is open. Councilman Talamini asked what the season will be. Ms. Fleeson indicated they want to get people using the garden as soon as possible. Councilman Kulmala asked if the website will indicate if plots are still available. Assistant to the Administrator Michael Carelli advised there will be a community garden webpage and it can be updated to reflect how many plots are still open.

**CLOSED FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION:**

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

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, seconded by Councilman Kulmala, 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 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 Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

**WORK SESSION:****STORMWATER MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE:**

Mr. Kunze advised that the DEP made substantial changes to the stormwater rules and regulations so the Borough needs to update the code to meet DEP requirements. The DEP has supplied a model ordinances. The packet included a comparison of the Borough's ordinance to the DEP model ordinance.

Mr. Yakimik advised he attended some seminars with the DEP on this matter. The DEP is going to pay particular attention to impervious surfaces with vehicles. We must filter water runoff before it gets into the aquifer. Councilman Pignatelli asked if clay would have to be excavated. Mr. Yakimik responded that it would have to go the DEP to prove they cannot percolate. Councilman Kulmala asked if this is only for new construction of 1 acre or greater. Mr. Yakimik responded it also includes the creation of an additional ¼ acre of impervious surface. He explained that the Borough can request a variance for road construction. Councilman Kulmala asked if this will affect an industrial property that wants to expand. Mr. Yakimik responded it would. Mr. Kunze advised that the ordinance will be listed for introduction the first meeting of January.

**AMEND PARKING ORDINANCE-MONHEGAN AVENUE**

Mr. Kunze explained that there are two entries in the code for Monhegan Avenue that conflict. The Police Department is recommending amending the Borough Code and keeping the one that bans parking on the street altogether. Councilman Talamini asked if residents have been parking on the street. Mr. Kunze responded that one resident had an off-street parking issue but there have been people parking on the street. He stated the Police feel that parking on Monhegan Avenue is a safety issue. Councilman Kulmala asked if notice will be given to residents. Mayor Schwager encouraged residents to look at the Borough code to see the list of streets with no parking. Councilman Knapp wants to ensure the streets are properly signed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Councilman Knapp spoke about the Borough's ability to help residents whose mailbox has been destroyed by the plow or by the snow. The Borough Administrator is working on something to standardize a policy.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Councilman Talamini commented that the Stream House still looks like a construction site. Mr. Kunze responded that the construction site will be wrapped up soon. They are talking about putting some kind of fencing that doesn't look like construction fencing. Councilman Talamini advised that Wayne had Passaic County purchase a historical property. He suggested that perhaps the Borough can pursue that with Bergen County. Mayor Schwager stated that it would be nice for the County since Oakland was once the County seat. Councilman Biale advised he will call the Parks Department to see if they would be interested.

Councilman Talamini spoke about a sidewalk project in Mountain Lakes similar to what the Borough will be doing on Ramapo Valley Road and advised that there were some homes with mailboxes in the wrong spot. He asked if we are looking at that with residents on Ramapo Valley Road. Mr. Yakimik responded he is looking at that issue.

**COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Councilman Knapp: He advised that Great Oak Park closes at the first snowfall and it will be closed until spring. The Fire Department thanked all residents who showed support for the Santa drive through this past Saturday. The Fire Department spent 8 ½ hours driving around town and

it was the biggest crowd they ever had. Councilman Knapp thanked Danny D'Elia for setting this up and planning the event. The Police Department received and distributed the community outreach to the public. It contains useful information for the public. The Police Chief thanked families who brought decorations for the Police Department Christmas tree. The members of the Oakland Police Department thank residents for their kind gestures and PPE donations as well as their resiliency in 2020. Councilman Knapp advised that Officer Lyons was appointed tonight. He is a transfer from the Hoboken Police Department. Councilman Knapp congratulated the two Police recruits who are set to graduate this month from the Police Academy. In November, the Police Department had 298 motor vehicle stops which resulted in 492 summons, 48 school checks, responded to 17 motor vehicle crashes. The Police Department has responded to 15491 calls for the year-to-date.

Councilman Kulmala: He spoke about the resiliency of the Oakland residents. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and is looking forward to a better 2021.

Councilman Biale: The Senior Center has winter hours through February 26<sup>th</sup> and are open Monday to Friday from 9 am to 2 pm. There is a mix of zoom, hybrid and in-person programs which are held according to CDC guidelines. Pre-registration is required for in-person programs. The next meeting of Book Club will be January 20<sup>th</sup> at 10 am and books are available to be picked up or delivered. Line Dance has been postponed indefinitely. Ipads are available for the Seniors to borrow. The weekly shopping trip takes place on Tuesday. The Senior Center and Library have a Books to Go program. Library materials will be dropped off and picked up on Tuesdays. Councilman Biale thanked the DPW for their efforts during the storm. The DPW asked residents not to park vehicles in the road during a snow storm because it is difficult to maneuver the plows around them. Residents should refrain from clearing snow onto the roadway. This creates an ice situation. There is rain predicted for Thursday night and residents should check storm drains to ensure they are not clogged. Councilman Biale received an email from a resident on Wilson Street about the bridge being blocked from snow. The DPW took care of the issue and will make sure that it is open during snow events. There is a new roof on the foundation of the Stream House. Councilman Biale asked residents who want to get involved with planning for a museum at that location to contact him. Councilman Biale extended sympathies to the family of long time resident Frank Monaco who passed away from COVID. There will be a meeting tomorrow with representatives of the sewer areas at 5:30 pm at the Senior Center.

Councilman Talamini: He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. The DPW did a great job during the storm. Councilman Talamini is looking forward to 2021.

Councilman Pignatelli: He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Councilman Pignatelli has hope that next year will return to normal again. There is a vacancy on the Environmental Commission. Councilman Pignatelli congratulated the Green Team who were able to accumulate 485 points to achieve Silver certification. This makes the Borough eligible for more grants. He congratulated the Police Academy graduates Matthew Lopez and Jacqueline Jensen.

Mayor Schwager congratulated Ryan Schwertfeger for being named one of Congressman Gottheimer's Hometown Heroes for his work on the Dog Park and the OCC.

OPENED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

No comments made.

CLOSED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

BILLS TO BE PAID:

On motion of Councilman Talamini, 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 Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

On motion of Councilman Biale, seconded by Councilman Knapp, the meeting be adjourned at 8:46 pm.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Pignatelli, Talamini.

*Lisa M. Duncan*

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Lisa M. Duncan, Borough Clerk  
January 13, 2021

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Date Approved

*Linda H. Schwager*

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Mayor Linda H. Schwager