

Borough Council Minutes
New Providence, New Jersey
January 22, 2018

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of New Providence, County of Union and State of New Jersey was held on Monday, January 22, 2018 at 7:00 pm at the Municipal Center. Mayor Morgan called the meeting to order.

Present on Roll Call: Mayor Morgan, Council President Muñoz, Councilman Madden, Councilwoman Geoffroy, Councilman Kapner, Councilman Gennaro, Councilman Robinson

Entered After Roll Call: None

Absent: None

Also Present: Administrator Marvin, Borough Clerk Barry, Deputy Borough Clerk Brinkofski, Attorney Rizzo

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mayor Morgan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC NOTICE:

Mayor Morgan stated this is a public meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of New Providence, County of Union and State of New Jersey. Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, in that an annual notice or revision was made in conformance with Section 13 of the Act.

Mayor Morgan stated the council chambers was in the process of being renovated and should hopefully be completed by April or May. He stated in the meantime council meetings would be held in the 3rd Floor Conference Room.

APPOINTMENTS:

1. Resolution 2018-046 "Resolution Appointing Nicole C. Chirico As Class II Special Police Officer In The Police Department Of The Borough Of New Providence"

Mayor Morgan presented Resolution 2018-046 appointing Nicole C. Chirico as Class II Special Police Officer in the Police Department of the Borough of New Providence. Councilman Kapner moved passage of Resolution 2018-046, seconded by Council President Muñoz and unanimously approved on roll call. Mayor Morgan administered oath of office to special officer Chirico.

2. Resolution 2018-047 "Resolution Appointing Kevin C. Jow As Class II Special Police Officer In The Police Department Of The Borough Of New Providence"

Mayor Morgan presented Resolution 2018-047 appointing Kevin C. Jow as Class II Special Police Officer in the Police Department of the Borough of New

Providence. Councilman Kapner moved passage of Resolution 2018-047, seconded by Council President Muñoz and unanimously approved on roll call. Mayor Morgan administered oath of office to special officer Jow.

3. Resolution 2018-048 “Resolution Appointing Jeffrey A. Bruder, Jr. As Class II Special Police Officer In The Police Department Of The Borough Of New Providence”

Mayor Morgan presented Resolution 2018-048 appointing Jeffrey A. Bruder, Jr. as Class II Special Police Officer in the Police Department of the Borough of New Providence. Councilman Kapner moved passage of Resolution 2018-048, seconded by Councilman Madden and unanimously approved. Mayor Morgan administered oath of office to special officer Bruder.

4. Resolution 2018-049 “Resolution Appointing Carmine Boccellari As Class II Special Police Officer In The Police Department Of The Borough Of New Providence”

Mayor Morgan presented Resolution 2018-049 appointing Carmine Boccellari as Class II Special Police Officer in the Police Department of the Borough of New Providence. Councilman Kapner moved passage of Resolution 2018-049, seconded by Councilman Madden and unanimously approved on roll call. Mayor Morgan administered oath of office to special officer Boccellari.

5. Rupa Kale Economic Development Committee

Mayor Morgan asked for a motion to appoint Rupa Kale to the Economic Development Committee. Councilman Madden made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Geoffroy and unanimously approved.

6. Susan Peterson Community Activities Advisory Board

Mayor Morgan asked for a motion to appoint Susan Peterson to the Community Activities Advisory Board. Councilman Madden made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Geoffroy and unanimously approved.

7. Dave Snyder Community Activities Advisory Board

Mayor Morgan asked for a motion to appoint Dave Snyder to the Community Activities Advisory Board. Councilman Madden made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Geoffroy and unanimously approved.

JCP&L UPDATE:

Rob Walton, Area Representative from JCP&L, addressed Mayor and Council to give his monthly report. He discussed the PSI Lineman Program and also brought a piece of equipment to demonstrate what happens when the public hears a transformer “explode”. He explained the fuse in the device will open which makes a loud noise sounding like an explosion. He stated sometimes this happens from a falling branch or a squirrel. Mayor Morgan thanked Mr. Walton for always keeping them informed and making himself available.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 4, 2017

Councilman Gennaro stated there was a typo under item 1 of correspondence. He stated it should read “a resolution” not “on resolution”. Councilman Madden moved the minutes of the December 4, 2017 council meeting be approved as amended, seconded by Council President Muñoz and unanimously approved.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. 33 Countryside, LLC, December 19, 2017. Re: Planning Board Public Hearing, 33 Countryside Drive. No action required.
2. Public Service Electric & Gas, January 3, 2018. Re: Petition for Approval of the Next Phase of the Gas System Modernization Program and Associated Cost Recovery Mechanism. No action required.
3. Langan Engineering and Environmental Services, January 8, 2018. Re: Supplemental Remedial Action Report – Bell Laboratories, Murray Hill Facility. No action required.
4. New Jersey Conservation Foundation, January 8, 2018. Re: New Jersey Land Conservation Rally. No action required.
5. New Providence Fire Department, January 10, 2018. Re: Junior Membership, Christopher Hasenkopf. Mayor Morgan thanked Mr. Hasenkopf for his membership.
6. New Providence Fire Department, January 10, 2018. Re: Membership Resignation, Joseph Parlapiano. Mayor Morgan thanked Mr. Parlapiano for his service.
7. NJ Reentry Corporation, January 10, 2018. Re: New Site in Union County. No action required.
8. Union County Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense, January 11, 2018. Re: Mayors Against Illegal Guns Signing Event. No action required.
9. Township of Union, January 12, 2018. Re: Resolution Urging Creation of Tax Credits for Contributions to Charitable Trust Funds. No action required.
10. Andrew Burkett, January 16, 2018. Re: Owning Alpacas. Mayor Morgan thanked Mr. Burkett (in attendance) for his letter and stated he would refer the request to the Board of Health for consideration. Councilman Robinson encouraged Mr. Burkett to attend the next Board of Health meeting.
11. County of Union, Department of Human Services, January 18, 2018. Re: Point in Time Count and Survey of Homeless Individuals and Families. No action required.
12. Peggy McHugh Hagen, January 19, 2018. Re: Taxes as Charity. Mayor Morgan thanked Ms. Hagen for her letter (in attendance) and stated he would discuss at the next Mayor’s Meeting.

COUNCIL BUSINESS:

Community Activities: Councilman Madden, Councilwoman Geoffroy, Councilman Robinson

1. Resolution 2018-050 Salary Resolution

Councilman Madden presented Resolution 2018-050 approving salaries for various program and camp staff in the Community Activities Department.

2. Resolution 2018-051 Resolution Correcting Resolution 2017-315
“Resolution Employing Seasonal Help In The Public
Works Department Of The Borough Of New
Providence”

Councilman Madden presented Resolution 2018-051 correcting Resolution 2017-315 “Resolution Employing Seasonal Help In The Public Works Department Of The Borough Of New Providence”. He stated the original resolution should have read “Community Activities Department” rather than “Public Works Department”.

Finance: Councilman Gennaro, Councilwoman Geoffroy

1. Resolution 2018-052 Resolution Amending 2018 Temporary Operating
Budget

Councilman Gennaro presented Resolution 2018-052 amending 2018 Temporary Operating Budget. He stated this amends certain line items and adds \$2,200 to two different accounts in the temporary budget.

2. Resolution 2018-053 Resolution Authorizing Payment Of The Attached Bills
Payable Lists, In The Amount Of \$ 2,685,350.60

Councilman Gennaro presented Resolution 2018-053 authorizing payment of the bills payable list in the amount of \$2,685,350.60. He stated the largest items are payment to the Board of Education, Library, and Shared Dispatch Center.

Legal and Regulatory: Council President Muñoz, Councilman Gennaro, Councilman Kapner

1. Resolution 2018-054 Resolution Accepting Bid And Approving Lease
Agreement For The Premises Known As 1243
Springfield Avenue, New Providence, NJ 07974

Council President Muñoz presented Resolution 2018-054 accepting bid and approving lease agreement for the premises known as 1243 Springfield Avenue, New Providence, NJ 07974. He stated the current tenant, Lassus Wherley, was the only bidder.

Municipal Alliance Committee: Councilman Madden, Councilwoman Geoffroy, Councilman Robinson

1. Resolution 2018-055 Resolution Approving Request Of The New Providence
Municipal Alliance To Present A Vaping Program To Be
Held On January 30, 2018 At The New Providence High
School

Councilman Madden presented Resolution 2018-055 approving request of the New Providence Municipal Alliance to present a vaping program to be held on January 30, 2018 at the New Providence High School. He stated the program material has been approved by the Board of Education and the Municipal Alliance Communication Officer.

Planning & Development: Councilman Madden, Council President Muñoz

1. Resolution 2018-056 Resolution Approving Change Order #1 For Fine Construction, In The Amount Of \$40,349.56 For The Municipal Court Renovation Project

Councilman Madden presented Resolution 2018-056 approving change order #1 for Fine Construction, in the amount of \$40,349.56 for the Municipal Court Renovation Project. He stated this related to the purchase of mahogany benches for the space.

Public Safety: Mayor Morgan, Councilman Kapner, Council President Muñoz

1. Raffle Requests: RA1090 New Providence High School PTSA
RA1091 New Providence High School PTSA

Mayor Morgan presented raffle requests RA1090 and RA1091 for New Providence High School PTSA.

2. Limousine Requests: NP Car & Limo
Summit Express

Mayor Morgan presented limousine license requests from NP Car & Limo and Summit Express. Councilman Kapner asked for a separate vote on Summit Express due to a conflict of interest.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS.

Mayor Morgan – reported on the following:

- 1) Goal Setting Meeting – discussed setting up a special meeting with members of Council to discuss goals for 2018.
- 2) Council Committee Assignments 2018 – expressed his concerns about changes that were made with regard to co-liaisons and alternates compared to prior years. He stated his role as Mayor makes him the ex-officio and entitled to attend all committee and advisory board meetings. He stated by adding a third council member, in addition to the Mayor, would constitute a public meeting. Council members discussed Robert’s Rules and Council By-Laws with Attorney Rizzo.
- 3) Vehicle Thefts – discussed recent thefts that had occurred and commended the New Providence Police Department for apprehending the suspects.
- 4) Water Main Breaks – he stated there were several water main breaks due to temperature changes, as well as a gas leak on Glenside Avenue. He encouraged the residents to be patient while the infrastructure is upgraded.
- 5) NP Public Art Committee – attended fundraiser.
- 6) Eagle Scout Ceremony – 5 eagle scouts received an award as well 2 eagle scouts the week prior.

- 7) Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts – attended pinewood derby at Allen W. Robert’s School.
- 8) NP Education Foundation – attended fundraiser “Touchdown for Education”.
- 9) MLK Day of Service – attended event at Glenside Nursing Center and The Annex.
- 10) Mayor’s Meeting – will attend meeting on January 30th and will discuss charitable contributions.
- 11) Suburban Chamber of Commerce Mayor’s Breakfast – February 2nd (Summit, New Providence, Berkeley Heights)

Councilman Kapner – reported on the following:

- 1) Communications Committee – met on January 12th and stated their goal is to keep all Borough communications in one place, under the responsibility of the Public Information Officer. He stated they drafted an ordinance that would be floating around for review.
- 2) NJ Transit Meeting – exploring possibilities to fill the gaps for commuters. They will meet again on February 7th.
- 3) Met with Downtown Property owners regarding redevelopment, parking, and trash in the downtown – will meet again Feb 5th.
- 4) Planning Board – Countryside Drive application moved to March. Planning Board meeting February 6th.
- 6) Sustainability Committee – meeting scheduled for February 7th. Sustainability Committee looking to adopt a checklist for silver certification.
- 7) DPW Chairperson – would be meeting with DPW Manager and with Councilwoman Geoffroy on January 23rd. Discussed brine and salt usage during last snow storm.
- 8) Economic Development Committee meeting scheduled for January 23rd – would be discussing downtown master plan, goals for Downtown Improvement District, quality of life greenway project with sustainability committee.
- 9) BPA meeting scheduled for January 25th.
- 10) Suburban Chamber of Commerce Roundtable Meeting – February 2nd.

Councilman Gennaro – reported on the following:

- 1) Moody’s issued a favorable annual comment regarding the Borough’s AAA bond rating and financial status.

Councilwoman Geoffroy – reported on the following:

- 1) Municipal Alliance – encouraged public to attend the vaping session on January 30th.
- 2) Communication Committee – great opportunity to get as much information out to the public as possible.
- 3) CAAB meeting - discussed spring and summer programs.
- 4) MLK Day of Service – attended event at Glenside Nursing Home with her son.
- 5) Diversity Committee – would attend meeting on January 25th.

Council President Muñoz – reported on the following:

- 1) Eagle Scout Ceremony – attended ceremony and congratulated 5 eagle scouts.
- 2) Diversity Committee meeting – would attend meeting January 25th and would be discussing mission statement and role of the liaison.

Councilman Madden – reported on the following:

- 1) Municipal Alliance – discussed upcoming Vaping Session and stated he spoke with the State League Coordinator with regard to funding for heroin and opioid abuse programs.

- 2) Train Commuter Meeting – representative from NJ Transit and from Boxcar also attended. Next meeting scheduled for February 7th.
- 3) Ping Wang monitoring wells installed – test results to come back end of January.
- 4) CAAB Meeting – discussed several items at meeting regarding upcoming programs and also elected officers Cecile Seth and Bill Harvey.
- 5) MLK Day of Service – attended event at Glenside Nursing Center.
- 6) Beautification Committee – scheduling a town clean-up day in March.
- 7) Oakwood Park – asked Maser about a possible brick façade on the existing buildings.

Councilman Robinson – reported on the following:

- 1) Temporary Ice Rink – discussed temporary ice rink installation at the community pool basketball courts with regard to weather.
- 2) Personnel Committee – discussed employee evaluating system to be implemented in 2018.
- 3) Board of Health meeting - discussed correspondence from a hair salon and also a heating situation at one of the apartment complexes. He stated a resident from one of the apartments attended the BOH meeting complaining she was without heat since October. He stated with the help of Attorney Rizzo they amended the heating ordinance with regard to heat requirements and providing accommodations to tenants who are without heat.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR REPORT.

Administrator Marvin reported on the following:

- 1) Ping Wang Property – The following was received from Maser concerning the status of the testing at the Ping Wang Property:
 - a) Soil borings have been completed and samples have been collected and submitted to Test America for analysis per the approved work plan. Results should be available next week (W/E 1-12-18).
 - b) Two monitoring wells were installed per the approved work plan. In addition, there were three wells that were part of the previous investigation and were installed in the 90's. Only two of those wells were able to be fixed/developed and are usable for our investigation.
 - c) Groundwater sampling is scheduled for January 9th. Results for the groundwater samples should be available by the end of the month.
 - d) Once we have the soil and groundwater sample results, we will be able to work on the report. Looking at the end of February for a report due date.
- 2) New Ice Skating Surface - The new ice skating rink has been delivered and installed at the Community Pool basketball courts.
- 3) Courtroom/Council Chambers Renovation - The renovation is moving along nicely with all of the windows removed and the new wall installed. The new benches will be delivered by the end of March so we're hoping that construction will be completed by then – or shortly thereafter so we can move back into the chambers.

PUBLIC COMMENTS.

This is an opportunity for any member of the public to be heard about issues that are not separate topics, scheduled for public hearings tonight. To help facilitate an orderly meeting, and to permit all to be heard, speakers are asked to limit their comments to three (3) minutes, and may only speak once on any one topic.

Mayor Morgan opened the meeting for public comment.

Sunil Abrol – Diversity Committee

Mr. Abrol stated he received a number of emails from Councilman Madden with regard to the upcoming meeting and standard operating procedures for communication. He stated he felt a phone call would have been easier and he questioned the amount of oversight. He stated the events are scheduled well in advance and he copied the former council liaison on all correspondence. He also discussed expenses incurred by the Diversity Committee over the last 5 years. He stated he checked with the Borough Clerk that afternoon, and over the course of 5 years the committee's expenses totaled \$137.05. Mayor Morgan thanked Mr. Abrol for all of his efforts with the Diversity Committee.

John Everitt – 1756E Springfield Avenue

Mr. Everitt asked why the government is getting involved in Diversity Committee expenses. Councilman Gennaro explained how the Diversity Committee was formed and that the Council continues to support this committee in everything they do.

Rupa Kale – 143 Crane Circle

Ms. Kale expressed her appreciation for the Diversity Committee and thanked them for all the events they hold in New Providence.

Matt Pietrontone – 255 Union Avenue

Mr. Pietrontone discussed traffic safety near his house stating they had 2 more accidents recently where the vehicles ended up on their front lawn. Council members suggested adding reflective arrows along the bend. Mayor Morgan stated he would discuss with Traffic Safety Officer and Borough Engineer.

Angela Lazari – 185 Central Avenue

Ms. Lazari expressed concerns about a section of sidewalk not being maintained on Maple Street. She stated her 10 year old son walks to Salt Brook School and when it snows he has to walk in the street. She stated she called the Police Department 6 times about the sidewalk not being shoveled and nothing was done. Mayor Morgan stated he would look into and make sure the situation is addressed.

There being no one else wishing to speak, this portion of the meeting was closed.

FORMAL ACTION.

CONSENT AGENDA (routine items that may be passed by a single roll call vote; any Council member may call for a separate discussion or vote on any item)

Councilman Kapner moved items 1-10 of the consent agenda, seconded by Council President Munoz and on Roll Call: Council President Munoz, Councilman Madden, Councilwoman Geoffroy, Councilman Kapner, Councilman Gennaro, and Councilman Robinson voted "aye". Carried on Roll Call.

Councilman Madden moved item 11 of the consent agenda, seconded by Councilwoman Geoffroy and on Roll Call: Council President Munoz, Councilman Madden, Councilwoman Geoffroy, Councilman Gennaro, and Councilman Robinson voted "aye". Councilman Kapner abstained. Carried on Roll Call.

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2. Resolution 2018-051 Resolution Correcting Resolution 2017-315
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Budget
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Municipal Court Renovation Project
8. Raffle Request: RA1090 New Providence High School PTSA
9. Raffle Request: RA1091 New Providence High School PTSA
10. Limousine Requests: NP Car & Limo
11. Limousine Requests: Summit Express
SEPARATE VOTE

ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business, on motion by Councilman Kapner, seconded by Council President Munoz, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendi B. Barry
Borough Clerk

These minutes have not yet been officially approved.

Minutes approved at the March 26, 2018 meeting of the Borough Council, as submitted.