

Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale  
Work Session Meeting Minutes  
June 23, 2016

PRESENT: Mayor Elizabeth White and Council members Ari Bernstein, Jackie McSwiggan, and Amy Wilczynski

ABSENT: Council members Liz Homan, Steve Sasso, and Jim Strauch

ALSO PRESENT: Borough Attorney Ray Wiss  
Municipal Clerk Anne Dodd

A Work Session Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale was held in the Municipal Building at 500 West Crescent Avenue, Allendale, NJ on June 23, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor White who asked that the Municipal Clerk read the open public meetings statement:

“In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the notice requirements have been satisfied. The meeting dates for the year are confirmed at the Annual Meeting, are posted on the public bulletin board in the Municipal Building, published in the Record within the first 10 days of the New Year, and copies are sent to the Ridgewood News and Star Ledger.”

***Presentations:***

A. Dedication – Bob Paterson

Mayor White thanked everyone for coming, especially Bob Paterson who is being honored this evening. She advised that the table at which the public sits to speak during Public Comment is being dedicated to Mr. Paterson with plaque reading “In Recognition of Robert Paterson For His Dedication & Outstanding Service As A Councilman & Planning Board Member From 1991 – 2004.” She expressed her belief that Mr. Paterson deserves this recognition as the Borough of Allendale would not be where it is today without him. She noted that this table was chosen as every time a member of the public sits there during Public Comment, the governing body thinks of Mr. Paterson and the questions that he has brought to that table over the years. She thanked him for walking her through the budget when she first began her term on Council and advised that when putting the budget together, the members of the Finance Committee always keep Mr. Paterson’s opinion in mind.

***Public Comment:***

Vince Barra, Mayor Emeritus, 7 Ceely Court, recounted Mr. Paterson’s contributions to the Borough of Allendale which included playing an important role in the school expansion as well as being named Bergen County Volunteer of the Year. He explained that Mr. Paterson was the architect and visionary of the Borough’s financial plan and helped pave the way for the 0% tax increase that has been maintained six years in a row. He finished by stating that Mr. Paterson has been both a friend and mentor to him.

Fred Litt, 32 Sheri Drive, expressed that Mr. Paterson is both a friend and a mentor and commented that Mr. Paterson has always provided great insight and been dedicated to the people of Allendale. He thanked Mr. Paterson for all he has done over the years.

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Eleanor Sorenson, 77 Ivers Road, advised that she volunteered with Mr. Paterson and witnessed that he had a work ethic to make everything about the town better. She commented that he is a great, warm and special person.

Councilman Bernstein stated that before his first term commenced, Mr. Paterson shared a wealth of knowledge that helped him when joining the Council. He noted that when preparing the budget and a decision needs to be made, they always ask what Mr. Paterson would do as he has always served as the voice of reason during the budget process. He thanked Mr. Paterson for all he has done for Allendale.

Councilwoman McSwiggan explained that her friendship with Mr. Paterson began when she was on the Allendale School Board and he was one of her staunch supporters. Much like his gardening talents, she expressed her opinion that Mr. Paterson is a seed planter of talent and leadership in Allendale. She noted that Mr. Paterson has been a source of inspiration and education to her in her role as Chair of the Water and Sewer Committee and she thanked him for his hard work and dedication to the community.

Councilwoman Wilczynski noted that her relationship with Bob Paterson goes back to the 1990s when she attended the Planning Board meetings to fight the condos. She commented that he took the time to listen to her group and meet with them. She advised that she and Mr. Paterson also gardened together. She stated that she has come full circle as she now serves on the Finance Committee where the line items are looked at scrupulously because of Mr. Paterson's influence.

B. Proclamation – Porus Pavri

Mayor White advised that she had the pleasure of meeting the Pavri family when attending the Trep\$ Market at Brookside School. She read the following proclamation into the record in honor of Porus Pavri who suffers from hemophilia:

*WHEREAS, Porus Pavri recently moved to the Borough of Allendale and is a 5<sup>th</sup> Grader at Brookside School; and*

*WHEREAS, Porus has hemophilia which is a genetic bleeding disorder that prevents the blood from clotting properly and causes excessive, uncontrolled bleeding due to a missing or defective protein called the clotting factor; and*

*WHEREAS, although hemophilia is present in all demographic groups, it is almost exclusively a male disease, affecting one out of every five thousand males; and*

*WHEREAS, hemophiliacs like Porus face a lifelong condition that requires treatment through intravenous administration of the clotting factor derived from human blood and produced through pharmaceutical processes; and*

*WHEREAS, although significant advances have been made in the diagnosis and treatment of hemophilia, there is no cure and treatment can be very costly and beyond the means of most individuals; and*

*WHEREAS, Porus and his family participate in the New York City Hemophilia Chapter's (NYCHC) – Hemophilia Walk and Porus has devotedly served as captain of Team Champion, raising over \$16,000 for the Hemophilia Walk since 2012; and*

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*WHEREAS, since moving to Allendale, Porus has spread awareness of hemophilia and collected funds from his friends at school and from his fellow Boy Scouts in the hope that one day a cure will be found for this painful bleeding disorder; and'*

*WHEREAS, Porus is an amazing young man who is dedicated and committed to helping others while dealing proactively with his disorder.*

*NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale, along with his friends, family, and the residents of Allendale, recognize Porus Pavri for his dedication to raising awareness of hemophilia and supporting research that seeks a cure and encourage his continued success in helping his community and all those who are suffering from this painful bleeding disorder.*

**Administration:**

A. Agenda Review

As there were no questions on the Regular Session agenda and all members expressed that they have had the opportunity to review it, Mayor White advised that she would not go through the agenda in detail.

B. Mayor's Report

1. County Invoice – PILOT Fees

Mayor White requested that Borough Attorney Wiss comment on the invoice that has been received from the County for PILOT fees.

Borough Attorney Wiss explained that this invoice appears to be a countywide initiative where the County has attempted to recoup its statutory 5% of the annual service charge collected by the municipalities when a PILOT has been granted. He advised that he will need to look at the progression of events to determine whether there are statute of limitation issues.

Mayor White requested that Borough Attorney Wiss look into this matter further as the purpose of granting PILOTs is simply to ensure that the Borough's costs are covered.

C. Council Reports

**Councilwoman McSwiggan** – Water, Sewer and Public Utilities

Councilwoman McSwiggan advised that last week's meeting was postponed as she was ill. She reported that all projects are unfolding as planned.

Mayor White advised that the NJ DEP is set to approve the Water Allocation Agreement with SUEZ. She noted that the committee is reviewing the sewer numbers and has also requested that the Borough Engineer review them as well as the sewer numbers are the second largest number in the budget.

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**Councilman Bernstein** – Administration, Finance and Human Resources

Councilman Bernstein stated that he has no report as the Administration, Finance and Human Resources Committee has not met since the last Mayor and Council meeting.

**Councilwoman Wilczynski** – Facilities, Parks and Recreation

Councilwoman Wilczynski reported that the next Facilities, Parks and Recreation Committee meeting is scheduled for July 20<sup>th</sup>. The next band night is scheduled for July 8<sup>th</sup> and there will be a movie night on Saturday. Revenues are in line with last year and will continue to grow with rentals of West Beach and Red Barn as well as the second playground area that has been opened.

D. Staff Reports

Ray Wiss, Municipal Attorney, advised that he will be in court tomorrow regarding the litigation involving Northern Highlands Regional High School and will have a report at the next meeting.

Anne Dodd, Municipal Clerk, advised that she has been reviewing the files in her office to determine how to better organize them and to identify those documents that can be destroyed based upon the retention schedule.

E. Correspondence

1. BCUA – 2016 BCUA Environmental Awareness Challenge Grant

Mayor White announced that both the Allendale and Northern Highlands Regional High School Districts were awarded the Environmental Awareness Challenge Grant in the amount of \$1,000. She congratulated them both and commented that they do a wonderful job.

***Adjournment:***

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, on a motion by Councilwoman McSwiggan, second by Councilman Bernstein, and unanimously carried, to adjourn this meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Dodd, RMC  
Municipal Clerk