

Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale
Work Session Meeting Minutes
May 25, 2017

PRESENT: Councilmembers Ari Bernstein, Liz Homan, Steve Sasso, and Jim Strauch

ABSENT: Mayor White and Councilmembers Jackie McSwiggan and Amy Wilczynski

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 May 25, 2017. The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. by Councilman Bernstein 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.”

Public Comment:

No one came forward.

Presentations:

A. Proclamation – 100th Anniversary of Troop 59

Councilman Bernstein read the following proclamation into the record:

**Proclamation
In Honor of the
100th Anniversary of Troop 59**

WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America were founded in 1910 by a charter granted by Congress, and seven years later, a group of Allendale men founded Allendale Troop 1;

WHEREAS, Allendale Troop 1’s main activities in the early years were the sale of bonds to support the American effort in World War I as well as the collection of old newspapers; and

WHEREAS, in 1920, the Boy Scouts were divided into Councils and Districts, and at that time, Troop 1 entered the North Bergen County Council and was reassigned the number 59; and

WHEREAS, during the 1930s, the first troop highlight trips began, they were visited by Dan Beard, a pioneer of the scouting movement, and the troop honored Norman Farrell as its first to reach the rank of Eagle Scout; and

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WHEREAS, during World War II, the troop collected paper, metal and rubber to support the American war effort for which 20 scouts earned the General Eisenhower Medal for outstanding service to their country; and

WHEREAS, throughout the years, the troop has grown under remarkable leadership, becoming one of the premier troops in the area and since 1939, Troop 59 has guided over 157 scouts who have achieved the rank of Eagle. This is a testament to the commitment and dedication of all members of the troop, past and present, and its leaders throughout these past 100 years; and

WHEREAS, the value of troop activities and Eagle Scout projects to not for profit organizations in under-served communities and our own community of Allendale is immeasurable; and

WHEREAS, the Scoutmasters of Allendale's Troop 59, men of generosity of time and talent, have led boys of great promise, and helped to instill the true brotherhood of scouting in each member and provided the support, friendship, and mentoring necessary for a scout to live a happy and fulfilling life; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale hereby recognize and honor Troop 59 on its 100th Anniversary and urge Allendale's citizens to join in expressing appreciation to this community organization and its leaders for bringing this valued-based program to the youth of Allendale.

Councilman Bernstein noted that there is a Boy Scout in the audience and asked him to come forward.

Justin Soell, 12 Beechwood Road, advised that he is in the process of earning his Citizenship in the Community badge. He further advised that he completed his Eagle Scout project which involved making improvements to Camp Acorn's computer room.

Councilman Bernstein commented that he is in awe of the work involved with becoming an Eagle Scout. He noted that the Centennial Celebration of Troop 59 will be held on Saturday, June 10th at the Red Barn.

Councilwoman Homan added that the Girl Scout Gold Awards will be held at 3 p.m. on that day.

B. Proclamation – National Gun Violence Awareness Day

Councilman Bernstein read the following proclamation into the record:

PROCLAMATION

DECLARING JUNE 2ND TO BE NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

WHEREAS, every day, 93 Americans are killed by gun violence and more than 200 have sustained non-fatal firearm injuries over the last 5 years; and

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WHEREAS, Americans are 25 times more likely to be killed with guns than people in other developed countries; and

WHEREAS, protecting public safety in the communities they serve is mayors' highest responsibility; and

WHEREAS, support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from dangerous people; and

WHEREAS, mayors and law enforcement officers know their communities best, are the most familiar with local criminal activity and how to address it, and are best positioned to understand how to keep their citizens safe; and

WHEREAS, June 2nd, 2017 would have been the 20th birthday of Hadiya Pendleton, a teenager who marched in President Obama's second inaugural parade and was tragically shot and killed just weeks later; and

WHEREAS, to help honor Hadiya – and the 93 Americans whose lives are cut short and the countless survivors who are injured by shootings every day – a national coalition of organizations has designated June 2nd, 2017, as the third annual National Gun Violence Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, the idea was inspired by a group of Hadiya's friends, who asked their classmates to commemorate her life by wearing orange; they chose this color because hunters wear orange to announce themselves to other hunters when out in the woods and orange is a color that symbolizes the value of human life; and

WHEREAS, anyone can join this campaign by pledging to Wear Orange on June 2nd to help raise awareness about gun violence; and

WHEREAS, by wearing orange on June 2nd, Americans will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives and lost human potential of Americans stolen by gun violence; and

WHEREAS, we renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the wrong hands, and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our children safe.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that, I, Mayor Elizabeth White, of the Borough of Allendale declares June 2 to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day. I encourage all citizens to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.

Cari Laughman, 41 Harreton Road, thanked the governing body for recognizing the importance of this issue. She noted that she spoke at the last meeting both as a mother and teacher and to give a voice to Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, advising that they are looking to honor victims and survivors of gun violence.

Councilman Bernstein thanked both Ms. Laughman and her team and commented that the governing body is in support and understands the importance of bringing awareness to this issue.

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Administration

A. Agenda Review

Councilman Bernstein explained that, due to two-thirds of the Administration, Finance and Human Resources Committee being absent this evening, they will not be holding the hearing and adoption of Ordinance 17-09 which establishes salary ranges for the Mayor and Council Members. He noted that he will request a motion to table this ordinance to June 29th.

Councilman Bernstein reviewed the Consent Agenda. He requested that Ron Kistner, Administrative Officer/Director of Operations, provide some background information on Resolution #17-162, which approves a Notice of Intent to Award a Contract under a National Cooperative Purchasing Agreement. Mr. Kistner advised that the surf rake will be a great improvement and noted that the Borough currently has it on loan. He explained that this piece of equipment has multiple uses as it can also be used for thatching the fields and to aid in leaf pickup. He noted that the actual purchase of the equipment will be authorized at the June 15th meeting.

In terms of Resolution #17-165, which authorizes hires for the 2017 Crestwood Lake season, Councilman Bernstein advised that he will be abstaining as his daughter's hire is being authorized by this resolution.

Councilman Bernstein requested that Mr. Kistner provide background information on Resolution #17-166, which approves another Notice of Intent to Award a Contract under a National Cooperative Purchasing Agreement. Mr. Kistner explained that, as the garbage truck is nearing the end of its useful life, it was decided to purchase two, self-contained compactors. One will be used for newspaper and cardboard and the other for plastic and glass. He noted that by making this purchase, there will be less runs to the Recycling Center which will increase efficiency and save on labor costs. In addition, two concrete pads will be installed and the electric will be upgraded. The garbage truck will be auctioned on GovDeals. Councilman Strauch noted that they will be moving to three-phase power. Mr. Kistner explained that they will also be working with Orange & Rockland to upgrade the electric at the Allendale Firehouse in order to accommodate the generator. Councilman Strauch added that by upgrading the electric, it will save the Borough 20% to 30% in electric costs. Mr. Kistner added that Orange & Rockland has agreed to waive the fees for both projects.

In regard to Resolution #17-178, approving the corrective action plan in connection with the 2016 audit, Councilman Bernstein thanked Alissa Mayer, CFO, for her guidance throughout the audit process and noted that the results show how well she does her job as only two minor comments were received.

CFO Mayer explained that the first comment resulted from not obtaining all of the proper paperwork prior to the award of a bid and she noted that a procedure has been put into place to address this issue going forward. The second comment was due to some purchases being made prior to the proper approval. She explained that although most of these purchases were due to emergencies, everyone has been advised that the funds need to be encumbered prior to a purchase being made.

B. Mayor's Report

Due to time constraints, this agenda item was carried to the Regular Session.

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C. Council Reports

Due to time constraints, this agenda item was carried to the Regular Session.

D. Staff Reports

Due to time constraints, this agenda item was carried to the Regular Session.

E. Correspondence

There were no correspondence items.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, on a motion by Councilman Strauch, second by Councilwoman Homan, and unanimously carried, to adjourn this meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Dodd, RMC
Municipal Clerk