

Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale  
Work Session Meeting Minutes  
September 22, 2016

PRESENT: Mayor Elizabeth White and Councilmembers Ari Bernstein, Steve Sasso, Jim Strauch and Amy Wilczynski

ABSENT: Councilmembers Liz Homan and Jackie McSwiggan

ALSO PRESENT: Borough Attorney Thomas Bouregy  
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 September 22, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 7:38 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.”

**Public Comment:**

No one came forward.

**Presentations:**

A. Proclamation – Richard “Dick” Van Houten

Mayor White read the following proclamation into the record:

*Proclamation  
In Honor of  
Richard “Dick” Van Houten*

*WHEREAS, Richard “Dick” Van Houten was born in 1924 and has resided in the Borough of Allendale for 92 years, having grown up at 50 West Maple Street overlooking the lake with his parents, Stephen T. and Marion Van Houten, his brother Stephen “Bud” and sister Marion “Peachy” Van Houten; and*

*WHEREAS, among other civic duties, Stephen built Allendale’s first firehouse, Marion was a charter member of the Allendale Garden Club, Dick was an active volunteer fireman and town Councilman, and Bud was a very active member of the Ambulance Corps; and*

*WHEREAS, Dick graduated from West Point Military and served in the army; and*

*WHEREAS, Dick and his loving wife, Betty, married in 1951 after having first met on the beach of Crestwood Lake; and*

*WHEREAS, Dick and Betty first lived on Heights Road and then moved to Forest Road in 1957 where they raised four children, Bonnie, Richard Jr, Drew and Sheri; and*

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*WHEREAS, Dick has been blessed with 12 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren; and*

*WHEREAS, in the 1920s, Dick's father, Stephen, and his business partner acquired a 70-acre parcel and developed a summer resort for swimming and recreation known as Crestwood Lake; and*

*WHEREAS, for 42 years, the Van Houten family managed this wonderful summer destination, attracting people throughout New Jersey and New York and employing many locals; and*

*WHEREAS, Dick and his brother, Bud, managed the lake from 1949 through 1971 while raising their families in Allendale, owning insurance and real estate businesses, and building homes as they developed many residential streets in town including Cedar Drive, Fairhaven Drive, and four streets named after their daughters, Leigh Court, Bonnie Way, Lori Lane, and Sheri Drive; and*

*WHEREAS, Dick also partnered with other builders to develop Valley Road, Byron Court, and many subdivisions for other homes throughout town; and*

*WHEREAS, although in 1968 Dick and Bud considered closing the swim club and obtained approval for 84 residential homes, they, instead, sold the 70 acres together with the lake to the Borough of Allendale in 1970, preserving the beautiful treasure known as Crestwood Lake to be enjoyed for many generations to come; and*

*WHEREAS, Dick and his family, past and present, have resided in and served the residents of the Borough of Allendale for generations, particularly with the development and management of the beautiful 70 acres of Crestwood Park.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale hereby dedicate the Red Barn Pavilion as the "Van Houten Pavilion" and thank Richard "Dick" Van Houten for his many contributions to this community.*

Mayor White advised that the dedication of the Red Barn as the "Van Houten Pavilion" will take place tomorrow night at 6 p.m. and Mr. Van Houten will be in attendance.

**Administration:**

A. Agenda Review

Mayor White reviewed the Regular Session agenda. She requested that Councilman Sasso explain the purpose of Ordinance 16-24 which is scheduled for adoption this evening.

Councilman Sasso advised that this ordinance has gone to the Planning Board and they gave their approval to proceed. He explained that this ordinance restricts 24-hour businesses within the Borough with the exception of a few parcels near Route 17.

Mayor White stated that the purpose of Ordinance 16-26 is to increase the fees to inspect and license retail food establishments. She expressed her opinion that the increases are

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minimal and were increased based on a survey that was conducted of the fees charged by surrounding towns.

Mayor White then reviewed the resolutions on the Consent Agenda. She noted that Resolution #16-245 gives authorization to hold an auction. Councilman Sasso commented that he is pleased to see that this auction is being held. He explained that when he was Chair of the Public Works Committee, he noticed that there was a lot of unused equipment in the DPW yard and suggested that they find a way to dispose of it and return the funds to the Borough.

In terms of Resolution #16-246, Councilman Strauch advised that the purpose of this resolution is to appoint the members of the Allendale Volunteer Goose Patrol Commission. He noted that by having a goose patrol, it benefits Crestwood Lake, the fields, and the schools. Councilman Bernstein inquired whether this committee is authorized by ordinance. Mayor White confirmed that the ordinance establishing this committee was adopted earlier this year and the members are appointed by her with the consent of Council. She thanked Councilman Strauch and Councilwomen Homan and Wilczynski for their hard work in drafting this ordinance.

Councilwoman Wilczynski explained that Resolution #16-248 authorizes a grant submission by the Concerned Citizens of Allendale to complete the envelope and painting of the John Fell House. She advised that this grant is a 75/25 match and commented that they are looking to further improve the condition of the house in the hopes of receiving more donations.

#### B. Mayor's Report

Mayor White noted that Resolution #16-249 recognizes October 6<sup>th</sup> as Knock Out Opiate Abuse Day within the Borough of Allendale. A vigil was held at the Red Barn last night in remembrance of those who lost their lives due to addiction. There were 250 people in attendance and Mayor White commented that it was a very moving and sad event. She thanked Gail Cole and Lani Bonifacic for organizing this event.

Mayor White advised that they have implemented Phase 2 Water Restrictions via Resolution #16-253 as Allendale's water tank is being taken offline for repairs and upgrades and they want to prevent major water line breaks which may result from spikes in water usage. She explained the restrictions involved and advised that the tank should be offline for approximately one month.

Highlands Presbyterian Church will be having its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration on Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor White distributed VIP tickets to the governing body members to attend the Brookside School's Class of 2016 carwash being held on Saturday.

Fyke Nature Association, who oversees the Celery Farm, will be having the Land Conservancy of New Jersey conduct an environmental evaluation to ascertain the plant life and water quality and devise a plan to combat any issues that they discover. Mayor White thanked Fyke for putting forth the \$5,000 fee associated with this evaluation and advised that she has offered them space in the upcoming newsletter to ask for donations and/or volunteers.

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The Library has received a great response to their newsletter that was sent by mail to residents.

Mayor White advised that she attended a seminar today regarding the criminal justice reform that is scheduled to take effect on January 1, 2017. She explained that a risk assessment will now be required as a condition of release as opposed to monetary bail. She noted that this change will have an effect on police overtime as they will need to escort the suspect to jail if arrested on a warrant and an immediate record will need to be generated.

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 Bernstein, second by Councilman Sasso, and unanimously carried, to adjourn this meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Dodd, RMC  
Municipal Clerk