PRESENT: Mayor Ari Bernstein and Councilmembers Liz Homan, Susanne

*(via teleconference)* Lovisolo, Matthew O’Toole, Steve Sasso, and Amy Wilczynski

ABSENT: Councilman Ed O’Connell

ALSO PRESENT: Raymond Wiss, Borough Attorney

*(via teleconference)* Michelle Ryan, Acting Municipal Clerk

A Work Session Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale was held via Zoom video and teleconference on January 20, 2022 due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and an uptick in cases in the month of January. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Mayor Bernstein who reminded the public to mute their devices so as not to distract from the business of the meeting. Mayor Bernstein advised the public that they would have an opportunity at an appropriate time during the meeting to be heard.

Mayor Bernstein asked that the Acting 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. Notice of this meeting by the January 18, 2022 Sunshine Notice was sent to The Record, Ridgewood News and Star Ledger and has been posted on the public bulletin board in the Municipal Building and Borough website.”

***Public Comment:***

None.

***Closed Session:***

Motion by Councilwoman Wilczynski, second by Councilwoman Lovisolo to approve Resolution 22-68, which authorizes the Governing Body to enter into Closed Executive Session under:

1. Pending Litigation in the Clerk’s Office (Attorney-Client Privilege)

On a roll call, the vote was recorded as follows:

Councilwoman Homan: aye Councilman O’Toole: aye

Councilwoman Lovisolo: aye Councilman Sasso: aye

Councilman O’Connell: absent Councilwoman Wilczynski: aye

The Mayor and Council entered into Closed Executive Session at 7:34 pm and exited at 7:52 pm. No formal action was taken. Minutes of this meeting were taken and will be released to the public at the time the matter is resolved.

The public meeting was resumed at 7:53 pm.

***Administration:***

1. Agenda Review

Mayor Bernstein reviewed the Regular Session Agenda, consisting of 13 Resolutions.

1. Council Reports

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

Councilwoman Homan reported that the Borough has received NJ DEP permit approval to implement a temporary PFAS treatment of PFOA and PFOS chemicals at the New Street facility. This is the first of several steps in the implementation process and will be facilitated upon the close of the water sale to Suez. The Borough takes water quality very seriously and is hopeful to have the temporary treatment facility operational prior to the end of 2022, and a permanent one within 3 to 3.5 years. Though PFAS compounds have been detected, Allendale Water is in compliance with NJ DEP regulations through 2021. Monitoring and testing will continue in 2022. Allendale and Suez, which is officially becoming part of Veolia, continue to work together on the purchase agreement for submission to the NJ Board of Public Utilities and are hoping to close in late Spring/early Summer. The Committee will also be continuing to monitor Allendale’s high sewage volume, which is a large expense, and look at what can be done to reduce it. She encouraged everyone to compost, which produces quality soil and is a great way to cut down on the weight of garbage. The Bergen County Utilities Authority sells composting units at their cost. Finally, Councilwoman Homan reminded everyone to start planning for the State’s plastic bag ban starting on May 4th. Stores and restaurants, along with other places, will be prohibited from providing single-use plastic carryout bags.

**Councilwoman Wilczynski – Finance, Human Resources and Administration**

Councilwoman Wilczynski reported that her committee met this week. The Borough is financially healthy. They will be analyzing each budget line and working with all departments to determine their needs. Mayor-Emeritus Barra was recently interviewed by Integrated Community Project to discuss Allendale’s efforts, which he helped spearhead during his tenure, to remove barriers and integrate the special needs and senior communities. They have selected Allendale as a model for its forward-thinking approach, which will be featured in their upcoming report.

Due to time constraints, the balance of these reports were held in the Regular Session.

1. Mayor’s Report

Due to time constraints, this was held in the Regular Session.

D. Staff Reports

Due to time contraints, this was held in the Regular Session.

***Adjournment***:

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, on a motionby Councilwoman Wilczynski, second by Councilman Sasso, and unanimously carried,

the meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Ryan

Acting Municipal Clerk