

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 11, 2018 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

The following are the Minutes of the April 11, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pompton Lakes that was held in the Council Meeting room of the Municipal Building, 25 Lenox Avenue, Pompton Lakes, New Jersey and was called to order at 7:30 P.M.

Mayor Michael Serra opened the Meeting and led participants in saluting the flag.

Mayor Serra then read the Open Public Meeting Law Statement of Compliance.

A Roll Call indicated the following members were present: Mayor Michael Serra, Council President Terri Reicher, Councilmen William Baig, Christian Barranco, Erik DeLine and Ekamon Venin. Councilman Jaconetta was excused from the meeting.

Also present were Borough Attorney Joseph Ragno, Borough Administrator Kevin Boyle and Borough Clerk Elizabeth Brandsness.

MAYOR PRESENTATIONS AND UPDATES:

CLASS II SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER:

RESOLUTION NO. 18-93

APPROVING APPOINTMENT OF CLASS II SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER SCHRAGE

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police has advised Mayor and Council that Class II Special Police positions have become available due to vacancies; and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police has recommended Lisa Schrage who has met all the requirements for this appointment; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pompton Lakes that:

Lisa Schrage is hereby appointed to Class II Special Police effective April 11, 2018. Compensation to be paid to Lisa Schrage is \$30.83 which is in accordance with the salary resolution.

Motion moved by Councilman Baig, second by Councilman Venin to approve Resolution 18-93. All voted in favor of the motion.

Mayor Serra invited Lisa Schrage to come forward and administered the Oath of Office to her. Mayor and Council congratulated Ms. Schrage and welcomed her as a Class II Special Police Officer for the Borough of Pompton Lakes.

PRESENTATION: Pompton Lakes Prevention Coalition/Skip-HAWC

Skip McLaughlin, Student Assistance Counselor in Pompton Lakes High School stated members of the Health and Wellness Coalition (HAWC) Club recently submitted a video for a competition. Mr. McLaughlin stated the competition is designed to promote awareness of the dangers of substance abuse and the HAWC members participated in the production of the video. Members; President Carly and Event Coordinator Paolo of the Pompton Lakes High School HAWC Club provided a brief analysis for the video including the negative effects of alcohol and drug use.

Mayor Serra commented on the video presented this evening and commended the HAWC Club students for their initiative in producing the video. Mayor Serra remarked on the commitment of the club members and wished them well in the competition.

PROCLAMATION:

Prevention Coalition/Sticker Shock

Erin Brady, Prevention Coalition Coordinator began her presentation and commented on the formation of the Coalition. Ms. Brady stated the Pompton Lakes Prevention Coalition was formerly known as the

Pompton Lakes Municipal Alliance and the Borough was awarded federal and state funding. The funds provide prevention programs such as the HAWC Club and the Sticker Shock campaign.

Ms. Brady stated the Pompton Lakes Prevention Coalition in conjunction with the youth coalition from Pompton Lakes High School, Health and Wellness Coalition (HAWC) will participate in a “Sticker Shock” campaign along with the Pompton Lakes Police Department. Ms. Brady stated “Sticker Shock” is an underage drinking campaign that raises community awareness about the penalties of providing alcohol to minors through messages on bulk packages of alcohol.

Ms. Brady stated the Prevention Coalition meetings are held every 4th Thursday of the month at 274 Wanaque Avenue at 7:00pm and encouraged residents to attend the meetings.

Mayor Serra then presented a Proclamation to the Pompton Lakes Prevention Coalition and HAWC in support of the Sticker Shock campaign and awareness of the penalties for providing alcohol to minors.

2018 MUNICIPAL BUDGET:

Mr. James Cerullo reported the proposed 2018 Municipal Budget was presented for Introduction and scheduled for adoption this evening. Mr. Cerullo provided some input for the budget and stated the proposed budget addressed the 1977 cap law which limits expenditures within the budget cap and the 2010 law which is the two percent tax levy cap law. Mr. Cerullo stated the public would have the opportunity to a public hearing for the 2018 Municipal Budget and the Mayor and Council would adopt the budget resolution.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2018 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Motion moved by Councilwoman Reicher, second by Councilman Baig to open the Meeting for public comments on the 2018 Municipal Budget.

GARDNER SEMET, Summit Avenue

Mr. Semet commented on the budget process and questioned the approach the Borough uses with investment of funds. Mr. Boyle and Mr. Cerullo both explained the manner in which the Borough invests the Borough funds and assured Mr. Semet they seek to obtain the best return on their investments.

Mr. Semet also commented on budget line items and questioned some of the expenses. Mr. Boyle responded and provided input as to the expenditure of the funds and the reimbursement of expenses.

Mr. Semet questioned staffing within the Police Department and his concerns with the current drug trends and associated drug related issues within the community. Mayor Serra commented on the duties the Special Police Officers provide and stated the standards for the staffing within the Police Department is determined by the Table of Organization. Mr. Semet voiced his opinion in saying he believed the budget to be reasonable.

Councilman Barranco provided some additional comments and stated in the past the Police Department had been understaffed. Councilman Barranco commented on his concerns with current drug trends, the funding the Borough received for the Prevention Coalition, and the assistance the program provides in addressing the needs of the community.

RANDY HINTON, Montclair Avenue

Mr. Hinton questioned some budgeted items and also requested additional information on the vehicle storage building. Mr. Boyle stated the request had been made by Mr. Evangelista, OEM Coordinator, in the proposed First Aid Squad capital budget and as of this time the line item has not been finalized. Mr. Hinton also questioned whether grant funding was available for the Morris Canal Greenway. Mr. Boyle responded and stated the grant funding for the project was in phases and the Borough has received funding.

Motion moved by Councilman DeLine, second by Councilwoman Reicher to close the Meeting for public comments on the 2018 Municipal Budget.

ADOPTION OF THE 2018 MUNICIPAL BUDGET RESOLUTION

Be It Resolved by the Borough Council of the Borough of Pompton Lakes of the County of Passaic that the budget hereinbefore set forth is hereby adopted and shall constitute an appropriation for the purpose stated of the sums therein set forth as appropriations, and authorization of the amount of (a) \$10,199,777.50 for Municipal purposes and (d) \$121,696.00 Open Space, Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund Levy and (e) \$390,529.00 minimum Library Tax.

Motion moved by Councilman Barranco, second by Councilman Venin to adopt the 2018 Municipal Budget.

Roll Call: Councilman DeLine, Yes, Councilman Jaconetta, Excused, Councilwoman Reicher, Yes, Councilman Venin, Yes, Councilman Baig, Yes, Councilman Barranco, Yes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Motion moved by Councilman DeLine, second by Councilman Baig to open the Meeting for Public Comments. All voted in favor of the motion.

KAREN DEAN, Central Avenue

Ms. Dean stated in the past Chemours reimbursed the Borough for the Environmental Officer’s salary and questioned why Chemours was no longer reimbursing the Borough for those services. Mayor Serra confirmed the Borough no longer receives reimbursement for those services and stated the Environmental Officer would be retiring within the next few months.

Motion moved by Councilman DeLine, second by Councilman Venin to close the Meeting for Public Comments. All voted in favor of the motion.

MINUTES:

Motion moved by Councilwoman Reicher, second by Councilman Barranco to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 28, 2018. All voted in favor of the motion. Councilman Jaconetta was excused.

Motion moved by Councilwoman Reicher, second by Councilman Barranco to approve the Closed Session Meeting Minutes of March 28, 2018. All voted in favor of the motion. Councilman Jaconetta was excused.

BILL LISTS

Current Fund	\$ 2,506,851.18
Capital Fund	\$ -0-
Recreation Trust	\$ 966.52
Open Space Trust	\$ -0-
Clerk Trust	\$ -0-
Other Trust	\$ 2,979.75
Unemployment Trust	\$ -0-
Dog Trust	\$ -0-
PLMAC #2	\$ -0-

Motion moved by Councilman Venin, second by Councilman Baig to approve the Bill Lists. All voted in favor of the Bill Lists.

PETITIONS: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

(Council Members Required y Resolution 18-94 To Be Pulled from The Consent Agenda for Separate Action)

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pompton Lakes has reviewed the Consent Agenda consisting of various proposed Resolutions, and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pompton Lakes does desire to remove Resolution 18-94 for individual action from that Agenda,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda are hereby approved:

1. Resolution 18-94 Authorizing Harriet's Lawn Service To Undertake Emergency Property Maintenance On Property Deemed Vacant Or Abandoned By The Borough's Property Maintenance Office
2. Resolution 18-95 Authorizing Payment Of Accrued Benefit Time To Marlene E. Smith
3. Resolution 18-96 Authorizing The Appointment Of Saarah Okuyan To The Position Of Part Time Secretary To The Planning And Zoning Board Of Adjustment
4. Resolution 18-97 Authorizing The Appointment of Brinda Kostro To The Position Of Keyboarding Clerk 1/TACO
5. Resolution 18-98 Authorizing Amended Work Hours For Administrative Office At Borough Hall

Motion moved by Councilwoman Reicher, second by Councilman Barranco to approve the Consent Agenda. All voted in favor of the motion.

RESOLUTION NO. 18-95

WHEREAS, Marlene E. Smith provided notice she would be retiring from the Borough of Pompton Lakes on April 1, 2018; and

WHEREAS, upon separation she is entitled to payment of any accrued benefit time as outlined in the PLBEA Bargaining Agreement; and

WHEREAS, upon review of her personnel records it has been determined that she is owed some \$12,036.36 based upon her accrued balances of sick and vacation time.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pompton Lakes, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey that it hereby authorizes a terminal payment of \$12,036.36 to Marlene E. Smith as outlined in the bargaining agreement.

RESOLUTION NO. 18-96

WHEREAS, the Borough of Pompton Lakes advertised for the position of part time secretary to the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment; and

WHEREAS, some 11 applications were received and reviewed by the Construction Official and Borough Administrator; and

WHEREAS, 4 applicants were chosen to interview for the position; and

WHEREAS, based on these interviews it is recommended that Saarah Okuyan be appointed to fill the position of part time secretary to the Planning and Zoning Board of Adjustment effective March 26, 2018.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pompton Lakes, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey that it hereby authorizes the appointment of Saarah Okuyan to the part time position of secretary to the Planning and Zoning Board of Adjustment effective on March 26, 2018 at an hourly rate of \$15.61 as outlined in the current PLBEA contract.

RESOLUTION NO. 18-97

WHEREAS, Marlene E. Smith provided notice, her intent to retire on April 1, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Brinda Kostro has served as part time secretary to the Planning and Zoning Board of Adjustment which at the same time assuming some of Mrs. Smith's duties over the past 6 months; and

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Construction Officer and Borough Administrator to promote Brinda Kostro to fill vacancy in the Construction Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pompton Lakes, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey that it hereby authorizes the appointment of Brinda Kostro to the position of Keyboarding Clerk 1/TACO in the Pompton Lakes Construction Department effective April 2, 2018 at an annual salary including stipends of \$31,670.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 18-98

WHEREAS, Marlene E. Smith provided notice, her intent to retire on April 1, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Brinda Kostro has served as part time secretary to the Planning and Zoning Board of Adjustment which at the same time assuming some of Mrs. Smith's duties over the past 6 months; and

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Construction Officer and Borough Administrator to promote Brinda Kostro to fill vacancy in the Construction Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pompton Lakes, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey that it hereby authorizes the appointment of Brinda Kostro to the position of Keyboarding Clerk 1/TACO in the Pompton Lakes Construction Department effective April 2, 2018 at an annual salary including stipends of \$31,670.00.

RESOLUTIONS FOR SEPARATE ACTION:

RESOLUTION NO. 18-94

WHEREAS, John Lindberg serves as the Borough's Property Maintenance Officer; and

WHEREAS, in his capacity has determined various properties within the Borough are either vacant or have been abandoned by the property owner; and

WHEREAS, the lack of exterior property maintenance has led to health concerns and violation of the Borough's Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, given that lack of maintenance has impacted the quality of life in various neighborhoods throughout the community the Borough Administrator acting on the recommendation of the Property Maintenance Officer has solicited quotes from local landscaping firms to undertake the exterior property maintenance; and

WHEREAS, four local landscaping firms returned quotes to the Department of Public Works with Harriet's Lawn Service providing the lowest per property quote; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 79 of the Borough Code provides a mechanism by which this work may be performed and the cost of same placed as a lien upon the property in question; and

WHEREAS, it has been estimated that the cost to maintain properties through October, 2018 will not exceed \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the Treasurer has certified funds are available for the emergency property maintenance project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pompton Lakes, in the County of Passaic, State of New Jersey that it hereby authorizes Harriet's Lawn Service to undertake the emergency property maintenance project under the direction of the Property Maintenance Officer and Borough Administrator at a cost not to exceed \$17,500.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any and all costs associated with said maintenance be itemized and placed as a lien upon the property in question pursuant to Chapter 79 of the Borough Code and applicable State Law.

Mr. Boyle stated Harriet Lawn Service provided the lowest quote for providing exterior property maintenance at a cost not to exceed \$4,000.00 per year.

Motion moved by Councilman Venin, second by Councilman Barranco to approve Resolution 18-94. All voted in favor of the motion.

ORDINANCES:**ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION: None**

(Ordinance will be presented for second reading and final adoption on)

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING AND FINAL ADOPTION: None

(These Ordinances have been advertised and posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board)

MAYOR MICHAEL SERRA:

Mayor Serra reported on the following.

- commented on the OEM Seminar and stated residents should be prepared and patient during all emergencies. Mayor Serra commended the OEM for their service to the town.
- commented on redevelopment projects and announced the county plans to move the county garages. The County has plans for development and are considering senior housing as a replacement.
- during redevelopment projects the town should consider hiring additional staff in the building department for inspections. Mayor Serra stated additional revenue generated through the PILOT program would bring in extra income and assist with stabilizing taxes.

COUNCILWOMAN REICHER:

Councilwoman Reicher reported on the following.

- commented on the OEM Seminar and the information the seminar offers. Councilwoman Reicher reported the presentation would be posted on PLTV 77.
- acknowledged the retirement of Marlene Smith, Building Department employee, and wished her well
- Borough summer hours for 2018 will begin after Memorial Day and end after Labor Day. Summer hours are as follows; 8:00am-4:40pm, Monday – Thursday and Friday 8:00am-1:00pm.
- welcomed Class II Special Police Officer Lisa Schrage
- commented on the pin wheels located around town and its significance; the prevention of child abuse which is sponsored by the Women's Club.
- acknowledged Yom Hashoah a day of remembrance
- recently in Washington DC for a conference and commented on cherry blossom week

Mayor Serra also congratulated Ms. Smith on her retirement and welcomed her replacement Brinda Kostro former Planning and Zoning Board Secretary.

COUNCILMAN BARRANCO:

Councilman Barranco reported on the following.

- also welcomed Class II Special Police Officer Lisa Schrage
- on April 16, 2018 the MUA will begin their hydrant flushing program
- pleased with the Municipal Budget and stated the Borough has not been impacted by a ratable base loss and the Municipal tax increase is less than \$100.00 on the average assessed home.

COUNCILMAN DELINE:

Councilman DeLine reported on the following.

- congratulated Class II Special Police Officer Lisa Schrage
- recognized the HAWC Club students and commended them for the video presentation. Councilman DeLine thanked the Prevention Coalition for the work they provide to the community

- commented on the “Teacher of the Year” awards and the challenges teachers face especially with children who have learning difficulties
- changes to the boating ordinance were discussed during the Lake Restoration Committee meeting
- the eco layer is being deposited in the lake and outflow testing will begin within the next few weeks
- the EPA will provide a public information session at the Carnevale Center on April 24, 2018 from 10:00am to 8:00pm. (open session) to discuss the restoration of the lake shoreline after remediation.
- voiced his concerns regarding the over filled trash cans at Willow Field and requested the sports groups be mindful of cleaning the fields of all debris and removal of trash from trash receptacles.

Mayor Serra stated sporting groups must bring the trash cans to a specific area for collection by the DPW and remove trash cans from the grounds at the end of the season.

Mayor Serra voiced some concerns with parking in the area of the boat dock and stated over the weekend several trailers were blocking the roadway near Pompton Lake. Mayor Serra requested the boating ordinance be reviewed and amendments be made to the ordinance.

COUNCILMAN JACONETTA:

Councilman Jaconetta was excused.

COUNCILMAN VENIN:

Councilman Venin reported on the following.

- congratulated Class II Special Police Officer Lisa Schrage and wished her good luck at the Police Academy
- Friends of the Pompton Lakes Library are sponsoring a “How to Write the Best College Essay” class scheduled for April 18, 2018 from 7- 9pm at the library
- the Flood Advisory Board will be sponsoring a rain barrel seminar on April 28, 2018 at 10:00am at Hershfield Park. Councilman Venin stated the seminar is full but anyone wishing to attend may have a barrel delivered to construct at their home.
- a historic walking tour will be held on May 12, 2018 at 1:00pm and begin at the Library

Mayor Serra reported on debris from past storms and stated he would contact scouting groups and/or volunteers to ask for their services in cleaning up around the Lake Inez area.

COUNCILMAN BAIG:

Councilman Baig reported on the following.

- congratulated Class II Special Police Officer Lisa Schrage and wished her good luck at the Police Academy
- commented on the Volunteer Fire Department report for the month of March
- the Pompton Lakes Chamber of Commerce received notices from the Board of Health regarding several clinics being held
- the owners of Johnson Auto Repair were enlisted as new Chamber of Commerce members
- Rob Walker, BID Vice President, reported on marketing strategies by the Chamber of Commerce and the BID. Councilman Baig also reported the on updates for the website and promotions by the BID.
- the continuing “spotlight program” highlights several businesses every month on the website
- the Chamber of Commerce and the BID will be installing planters and new banners in the business district
- commented on the Pompton Lakes Riverdale First Aid Squad for the month of March

JOSEPH RAGNO, Borough Attorney

Mr. Ragno had no report.

KEVIN BOYLE, Borough Administrator

Mr. Boyle reported on the following.

- Millennium Strategies - March Monthly Report
- MUA Notice - Spring Hydrant Flushing
- EPA Update -#73 & #74
- NRESC-March Monthly Report
- MCMJIF-Safety Program
- CDBG Plan Meeting at the County -April 4, 2018
- PC Garage Site - Redevelopment Meeting
- Professionals Meeting -Redevelopment Process
- Staff Meeting -Redevelopment Reviews

Mayor Serra stated the DPW requested residents attach lids to their trash cans especially during windy days. Mayor Serra stated the DPW will resume normal schedule for pick up leaves/brush/ branches. Mayor Serra also noted an error in the calendar for paper and recycling pick up and advised residents Recycling Center is opened Monday through Saturday for residents to drop off their recycling.

TABLED ITEMS: None

MEETING OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Motion moved by Councilman DeLine, second by Councilwoman Reicher to open the Meeting for Public Comments. All voted in favor of the motion.

MILLIE TORSIELLO, Midland Avenue

Ms. Torsiello voiced her concerns regarding trash lids being damaged by DPW employees when picking up trash. Mayor Serra said he would report her concerns to the DPW.

RANDY HINTON, Montclair Avenue

Mr. Hinton acknowledged the retirement of Ms. Smith and offered his congratulations.

Mr. Hinton expressed his concerns with the video of the Council Meetings and stated you are unable to see the presentations on the new monitors. Councilman Venin responded and stated he believes it has to do with the contrast in the room and lighting in the room.

Mr. Hinton commented on the revaluation and questioned whether the present tax bill was final. Mr. Boyle replied and stated the tax bill is final once the County and School taxes are established.

Mr. Hinton questioned the number of homes acquired and demolished in the Borough; Mr. Boyle noted the number as approximately seventy-five homes. Mr. Boyle stated there are eight additional homes to be removed on the NJDEP list under the new Blue Acres program.

Mr. Hinton thanked the DPW for the service they provide to the town especially during the recent storms. Mr. Hinton added that the Shade Tree Commission is still pruning trees and removing debris.

LAUREN VENIN, Sunset Road

Ms. Venin, as member of the Flood Advisory Board and Trail Maintenance she would caution residents not to discard brush and storm debris into the rivers or on the riverbank as this will result in damming in the rivers.

AL EVANGELISTA, OEM Coordinator

Mr. Evangelista said he was pleased with the attendance at the OEM Seminar and reminded residents that the program may be viewed on PLTV 77. Mr. Evangelista stated materials regarding the seminar may be obtained in the main office. Mr. Evangelista reiterated that on hydrant flushing program will begin on April 16, 2018 and residents may experience discolored water. Mr. Evangelista is recommending a storage facility for immediate response vehicles to protect vehicle equipment from damage from outside sources.

Motion moved by Councilman Barranco, second by Councilman Venin to close the Meeting for Public Comments. All voted in favor of the motion.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Councilman DeLine thanked members of the Trails Committee for ensuring that the south end trails are in good condition and free of debris for the enjoyment of visitors and residents. Councilman DeLine announced that the Recreation Commission and the Trails Committee are sponsoring an "Earth Day Hike" on Sunday, April 22, 2018 at Tourne Park in Morris County. Mayor Serra said the county was impressed with the trails that are maintained in the Borough.

RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN INTO CLOSED SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion moved by Councilman Venin, second by Councilman Barranco to Adjourn the Meeting at 9:10 PM. All voted in favor of the motion.

ATTEST: _____
ELIZABETH BRANDSNESS, RMC
MUNICIPAL CLERK

APPROVED BY: _____
MICHAEL SERRA
MAYOR

April 11, 2018