

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 12, 2023 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

The following are the Minutes of the April 12, 2023 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 Serra read a short prayer and led participants in saluting the flag. He then read the Open Public Meeting Law Statement of Compliance.

A Roll Call indicated the following members were present: Mayor Michael Serra, Council President Jennifer Polidori, Councilmen Bobby Cruz and Ekamon Venin. Councilmen William Baig and Erik DeLine were excused from the Meeting. Councilwoman Kent arrived at 8:05pm.

Also present were Borough Attorney, Kim Ruiz, Borough Administrator, Paula Cozzarelli and Borough Clerk, Elizabeth Brandsness.

MAYOR PRESENTATION AND UPDATES:

Mayor Serra wished Councilman Baig well as he recuperates from a recent fall.

Mayor Serra offered condolences to former Councilman Lloyd Kent as well as the School Superintendent, Dr. Amoroso and their families on the passing of their fathers.

PROCLAMATION

Pompton Lakes Woman's Club / Child Abuse Prevention Month

Mayor Serra read a Proclamation in support of *Child Abuse Prevention Month* and acknowledged members of the Pompton Lakes Woman's Club who were in attendance of the meeting. Mayor Serra thanked the members for their leadership and the service they provide to the community.

Mayor Serra stated the presentation scheduled for Redevelopment this evening will be rescheduled due to the absence of several Council Members.

MEETING OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Motion moved by Councilwoman Polidori, second by Councilman Cruz to open the Meeting for public comments. All voted in favor of the motion.

ED MEAKEM, Howard Street

Mr. Meakem commented on Redevelopment and the 525 Wanaque Avenue project and stated no diagrams/drawings for the project are posted on the Borough website. Mayor Serra responded and stated he would notify the secretary for the Redevelopment Agency to update their website. Mayor Serra stated within the next few months the Redevelopment Meetings will be recorded /videotaped and posted to both PLTV 77 and the website for the public to view. Mr. Meakem also questioned why the Business Improvement District (BID) has not posted any of their meeting minutes back to 2016. After further discussion, Mayor Serra stated he would contact the BID and request they address his concerns.

RANDY HINTON, Montclair Avenue

Mr. Hinton requested an update as to ownership of trees on Clerihew Lane. Mayor Serra replied and stated no determination has been made and this is an ongoing matter.

Mr. Hinton commented on fallen limbs and trees in the woods near the area that is used by the Board of Education to store equipment and questioned who would be responsible for maintenance and removal of trees. Ms. Cozzarelli to further research the lease agreement for use of the fields by the Board of Education to determine who would be responsible for tree maintenance.

Mr. Hinton requested costs for the Police to attend the classes for boat training; Ms. Cozzarelli to provide the information at the next Council Meeting.

GEORGE POPOV, Colfax Avenue

Mr. Popov commented on a drainage issue that has persisted over the past several years and requested an update regarding the repair of a pipe located at 1102 Colfax Avenue. Ms. Cozzarelli responded and stated the Borough Engineer is involved with the ongoing drainage issue and once the Engineer makes a determination as to the cause of the drainage issue the Borough will proceed based on the results of the Borough Engineer’s assessment.

JUDY BRADARIC, Albert Street

Ms. Bradaric commented on recent incidents in schools in our nation and the need for additional security in the schools. Ms. Bradaric suggested metal detectors be considered for the schools to assure the safety of students. Mayor Serra stated he has had discussions regarding school security with Dr. Amoroso and there are plans to enhance security within schools in the near future.

Motion moved by Councilman Venin, second by Councilwoman Polidori to close the Meeting for public comments. All voted in favor of the motion.

MINUTES:

Motion moved by Councilman Venin, second by Councilman Cruz to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 22 2023. All voted in favor of the motion.

Motion moved by Councilman Venin, second by Councilman Cruz to approve the Closed Session Meeting Minutes of March 22, 2023. All voted in favor of the motion.

BILL LISTS: None

Current Fund	\$
Capital Fund	\$
Recreation Trust	\$
Unemployment	\$
Dog Trust Account	\$
Other Trust Account	\$
Clerk’s Account	\$
Open Space Trust	\$

PETITIONS: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

(No Council Members Required Resolution Any Resolutions to Be Pulled from the Consent Agenda)

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 not desire to remove any Resolutions from that Agenda, and

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

1. Resolution 23-99 Authorizing the Use Of Hershfield Park By The Bicycle Touring Club Of North Jersey During the Ramapo Rally
2. Resolution 23-100 Authorizing Amended Work Hours For Administrative Offices At Borough Hall
3. Resolution 23-101 Amending Resolution No. 23-97 100% Disabled Veteran Exemption Refund Of Q1 2023 Property Taxes
4. Resolution 23-102 Authorizing the Borough Of Pompton Lakes To Submit the 2024 Strategic Plan To The Governor’s Council On Alcoholism Through The County Of Passaic For Fiscal Year 2024
5. Resolution 23-103 Authorizing the Submission Of A DMHAS Youth Leadership Grant

6. Resolution 23-104 Authorizing The Award Of A Non-Fair And Open Contract For Lake Restoration And Aquatic Vegetation Management to Aquaclear, LLC In An Amount Not To Exceed \$25,334.00
7. Resolution 23-105 Awarding A Contract For Professional Community Rating System Services To Ecoadapt Strategies, LLC
8. Resolution 23-106 Authorizing To Support And Participate In The Volunteer Tuition Credit Program
9. Resolution 23-107 Accepting The Resignation Of John F. Keating, Assistant Fire Alarm Superintendent From The Pompton Lakes Fire Department Fire Prevention Bureau
10. Resolution 23-108 Appointment of Jake Sonne To The Position Of Assistant Fire Alarm Superintendent For The Borough Of Pompton Lakes Fire Department Fire Prevention Bureau
11. Resolution 23-109 Authorizing The Appointment Of Natasha S. Turchan As Certified Municipal Finance Officer Pursuant To NJSA 40A:9-140.10
12. Resolution 23-110 Amending The Salary And Wage Resolution For The Borough Of Pompton Lakes For The Calendar Year 2023
13. Resolution 23-111 Amending Resolution 23-98 To Establish Fees For Department Of Recreation Programs And Events

Motion moved by Councilman Venin, second by Councilman Cruz to approve the Consent Agenda. All voted in favor of the motion.

RESOLUTION 23-99

WHEREAS, over the years, the Bicycle Touring Club of North Jersey has utilized Hershfield Park as a rest stop during their annual Ramapo Rally; and

WHEREAS, the club has provided the necessary information to coordinate this event with the Pompton Lakes Police Department; and

WHEREAS, a certificate of insurance will be issued to the Borough for use of the park prior to the event date of August 20, 2023; and

WHEREAS, any additional use permits will be secured prior to the event date as well; and

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 approves the request of the Bicycle Touring Club of North Jersey to utilize Hershfield Park on Sunday, August 20, 2023, for the Ramapo Rally.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any and all conditions for the use must be met by Monday, August 14, 2023 through coordination with the Pompton Lakes Police Department and Administration and that documentation supporting this submission is available at 25 Lenox Avenue, Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442 and maintained for no less than five years from this date.

RESOLUTION 23-100

WHEREAS, in an effort to provide residents the opportunity to conduct Borough business during summer hours, the Mayor and Council have approved an amended work schedule for Borough Hall staff; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator has recommended Borough Hall be opened in accordance with the following schedule; and

Monday	8:00 am – 4:30 pm
Tuesday	8:00 am – 4:30 pm
Wednesday	8:00 am – 4:30pm
Thursday	8:00 am – 4:30 pm
Friday	8:00 am – 1:00 pm (no lunch hour for employees)

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator has suggested this schedule commence on Monday, May 22, 2023 and run through Friday, September 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the proposed work schedule has been presented to the Teamsters Local 11;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pompton Lakes the proposed amended work schedule shall commence on Monday, May 22, 2023 and run through Friday, September 1, 2023. The office hours for all administrative departments will be as follows:

Monday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm
 Tuesday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm
 Wednesday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm
 Thursday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm
 Friday 8:00 am – 1:00 pm (no lunch hour for employees)

RESOLUTION 23-101

WHEREAS, the refund was created for the reasons indicated below, and the Collector of Taxes recommends the revision of such refund, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pompton Lakes that Resolution No. 23-97 for the Quarter 1 2023 property tax refund be amended and established as stated below.

Reason:	100% Disabled Veteran Exemption	Revised Amount	
Block/Lot	Name	Amount	Period
5500/18.01	Farber, Daniel K & Lori 14 Cedar Street Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442	\$3,064.00	2023/Q1
	Resolution Total	\$3,064.00	

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the original check No. 6124 in the amount of \$3,640.00 has been voided and replaced with check No. 6210 with the corrected amount of \$3,064.00.

RESOLUTION 23-102

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

WHEREAS, The Borough Council of the Borough of Pompton Lakes, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Council further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has applied for funding to the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Passaic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough of Pompton Lakes, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

- The Borough Council does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the Pompton Lakes Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2024 in the amount of:

DEDR	<u>\$8,276.48</u>
Cash Match	<u>\$2,069.12</u>
In-Kind	<u>\$6,207.36</u>

2. The Borough Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

RESOLUTION 23-103

WHEREAS, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (GCADA) established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention Of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey. In coordination with GCADA, the New Jersey Department of Human Services/Division on Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) has awarded a Youth Leadership Grant to the GCADA Municipal Alliance; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Pompton Lakes, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has applied for DMHAS Youth Leadership funding through the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Passaic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough of Pompton Lakes, County of Passaic and State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Borough Council does hereby authorize submission of an application for DMHAS Grant funding for the Pompton Lakes Municipal Alliance for Grant Term Two (9/1/23 – 9/30/25) in the amount of:
DMHAS Grant Funding \$5,302.55
2. The Borough Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

RESOLUTION 23-104

WHEREAS, the Borough of Pompton Lakes has a need to acquire lake restoration and aquatic vegetation management services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.; and,

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Agent has determined and certified in writing that the value of the contract will exceed \$17,500; and,

WHEREAS, the anticipated term of this contract is one year; and

WHEREAS, Aqua Clear, LLC has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide lake restoration and aquatic vegetation management for Pompton and Twin Lakes at an annual amount not to exceed \$25,334.00; and

WHEREAS, Aqua Clear, LLC is required to complete and submit a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough of Pompton Lakes in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit Aqua Clear, LLC from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Treasurer has certified funds are available in the 2023 temporary budget and shall be available in the 2023 adopted budget for this service.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Borough of Pompton Lakes authorizes the Mayor or Borough Administrator to enter into a contract with Aqua Clear, LLC for the services described herein upon receipt of requested documentation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution.

RESOLUTION 23-105

WHEREAS, the Borough of Pompton Lakes has a need to acquire professional services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of P.L. 2004, c.19 (N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.); and

WHEREAS, the Business Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of these services will not exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, the Business Administrator recommended an award be given to Ecodapt Strategies, LLC; and

WHEREAS, Ecodapt Strategies, LLC has indicated that they will provide services as requested by the Borough per the schedule of fees indentified in the proposal, attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, Ecodapt Strategies, LLC will complete and submit a Business Entity Disclosure Certification, which Certification provides that the firm has not made any reportable contributions to candidate committees, joint candidates committees or political party committees representing the elected officials of the Borough in the one year period preceding the award of the Contract, and that the Contract will prohibit the firm from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract that would bar the award of this Agreement pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, Ecodapt Strategies, LLC will complete and submit a Political Contribution Disclosure Form as required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.26, no later than 10 days prior to entering into the contract, disclosing all reportable political contributions (more than \$300 per election cycle) made over the 12 months prior to submission to the committees of the government entities listed on the form provided by the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Treasurer of the Borough of Pompton Lakes has certified in writing that funds are available in the 2023 temporary budget and to be appropriated in the 2023 budget.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. That the Borough Council of the Borough of Pompton Lakes authorizes the Mayor and Borough Clerk to enter into an agreement effective January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, with Ecodapt Strategies, LLC, for professional community rating system services; and
2. Ecodapt Strategies, LLC will complete and submit a Business Disclosure Entity Certification and Political Contribution Disclosure Form which shall be placed on file with this Resolution.
3. That this agreement be awarded through a non-fair and open process and without a competitive bid pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 and as professional services, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.; and
4. A notice of this award will be printed in the official newspaper of the Borough of Pompton Lakes in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.

RESOLUTION 23-106

WHEREAS, the Borough of Pompton Lakes in the County of Passaic, deems it appropriate to enhance the recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters and emergency medical volunteers in the Borough of Pompton Lakes and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has enacted P.L. 1998, c.145 which permits municipal governments to allow their firefighting and emergency medical volunteers to take advantage of the Volunteer Tuition Credit Program at no cost to the municipal government.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough of Pompton Lakes in the County of Passaic that the Volunteer Tuition Credit Program as set forth in P.L. 1998, c. 145 is herewith adopted for the volunteer firefighters and emergency medical volunteers in the municipality; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Clerk for the Borough of Pompton Lakes is herewith delegated the responsibility to administer the program and is authorized to enter into all agreements and to maintain files of all documents as may be required under the P.L. 1998, c. 145, a copy of which is herewith made part of this Resolution.

RESOLUTION 23-107

WHEREAS, John F. Keating, notified the Fire Chief that he would be resigning from his position of Assistant Fire Alarm Superintendent effective February 28, 2023; and

WHEREAS, his formal letter dated February 28, 2023 is on file with the Borough; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pompton Lakes, County of Passaic and State of New Jersey that it hereby accepts this letter of resignation and thanks John for his service to the Borough and wishes him well in his future endeavors

RESOLUTION 23-108

WHEREAS, John F. Keating, resigned as the Borough Assistant Fire Alarm Superintendent on February 28, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Jake Sonne is a practicing electrician and a member of the Pompton Lakes Volunteer Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Fire Chief and Borough Administrator that Jake Sonne be appointed Assistant Fire Alarm Superintendent effective February 28, 2023 at an annual rate of \$1,758.00; and

WHEREAS, that the CFO has certified that sufficient uncommitted funds are available in the 2023 Borough of Pompton Lakes Budget for the purposes set forth herein and made a part of this resolution.

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 appoints Jake Sonne, Assistant Fire Alarm Superintendent effective February 28, 2023 at an annual rate of \$1,758.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this appointment be transmitted to the Division of Community Affairs, Division of Safety.

RESOLUTION 23-109

WHEREAS, the position of Certified Municipal Finance Officer requires to be filled pursuant N.J.S.A. 40A:9-140.10 due to the dissolution of the Shared Services agreement for said services; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator interviewed several qualified candidates and has recommended hiring Natasha S. Turchan for the part-time position of Certified Municipal Finance Officer at an annual salary of \$27,500.

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:9-140.10(a), “the term of office shall be four years, which shall run from January 1 in the year in which the Chief Financial Officer is appointed”; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council desire to appoint Natasha Turchan effective May 1, 2023, for a four-year term commencing January 1, 2023, and running through December 31, 2026.

WHEREAS, that the CFO has certified that sufficient uncommitted funds are available in the 2023 Borough of Pompton Lakes Budget for the purposes set forth herein and made a part of this resolution.

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 here appoints Natasha S. Turchan to the position of Certified Municipal Finance Officer effective May 1, 2023, for a four-year term

commencing January 1, 2023 and running through December 31, 2026, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:9-140.10(a).

RESOLUTION 23-110

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pompton Lakes, County of Passaic and State of New Jersey following salary scale be adopted and 2023 salary and wage hereby be amended for part time Fire Inspectors:

Step 1	\$16.32ph	no certification required
Step 2	\$22.44ph	certification required: Fire Inspector
Step 3	\$23.46ph	certification required: Fire Inspector & Fire Official

RESOLUTION 23-111

BE IT RESOLVED Resolution 23-98 that established fees for the Department of Recreation Programs and Events be amended to reflect revised Programs/Activities Fees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pompton Lakes that they hereby approve the following Amended Department of Recreation Program; and

Event fees:

Programs/Activities

Paddle Boat/Kayak Rentals \$20/hour

SEPARATE ACTION RESOLUTIONS: None

ORDINANCE FOR FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION:

(Ordinance will be presented for second reading and final adoption on April 26, 2023)

ORDINANCE 23-14

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR PURPOSES TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF POMPTON LAKES, IN THE COUNTY OF PASSAIC, NEW JERSEY, AND APPROPRIATING \$88,600.00 THEREFOR FROM MONIES IN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND OF THE BOROUGH

Motion moved by Councilwoman Polidori, second by Councilman Venin to approve Ordinance No. 23-14 for Introduction.

Roll Call: Councilman Cruz, Yes, Councilman DeLine, Excused, Councilwoman Kent, Excused, Councilwoman Polidori, Yes, Councilman Venin, Yes, Councilman Baig, Excused.

ORDINANCE FOR SECOND READING AND FINAL ADOPTION:

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

ORDINANCE 23-11

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND RECORDING OF THE ENCROACHMENT EASEMENT AGREEMENT WITH 525 WANAQUE AVE., ASSOCIATES, LLC

Mayor Serra stated Ordinance 23-11 verifies that the Borough and 525 Wanaque Ave. Associates, LLC, desire to enter into an Encroachment Easement Agreement granting the easement to the Borough to use the encroachment area.

Motion moved by Councilman Venin, second by Councilman Cruz to open the Meeting for public comments on Ordinance No. 23-11.

No one from the public wished to comment.

Motion moved by Councilwoman Polidori, second by Councilman Venin to close the Meeting for public comments on Ordinance No. 23-11

Motion moved by Councilman Venin, second by Councilman Cruz to approve Ordinance No. 23-11 for Final Adoption.

Roll Call: Councilman Cruz, Yes, Councilman DeLine, Excused, Councilwoman Kent, Excused, Councilwoman Polidori, Yes, Councilman Venin, Yes, Councilman Baig, Excused.

ORDINANCE 23-12

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND RECORDING OF THE ACCESS EASEMENT AGREEMENT FOR INGRESS AND EGRESS WITH 525 WANAQUE AVE. ASSOCIATES, LLC

Motion moved by Councilman Venin, second by Councilman Cruz to open the Meeting for public comments on Ordinance No. 23-12.

No one from the public wished to comment.

Motion moved by Councilwoman Polidori, second by Councilman Venin to close the Meeting for public comments on Ordinance No. 23-12.

Motion moved by Councilman Venin, second by Councilwoman Polidori to Approve Ordinance No. 23-12 for Final Adoption.

Roll Call: Councilman Cruz, Yes, Councilman DeLine, Excused, Councilwoman Kent, Excused, Councilwoman Polidori, Yes, Councilman Venin, Yes, Councilman Baig, Excused.

ORDINANCE 23-13

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF POMPTON LAKES, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER 14 ENTITLED REFUSE AND RECYCLING, ARTICLE II OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF POMPTON LAKES

Motion moved by Councilwoman Polidori, second by Councilman Venin to open the Meeting for public comments on Ordinance No. 23-13.

LISA KIHBERG, Mountainside Drive

Ms. Kihlberg requested additional information as to the intent of Ordinance 23-13. Ms. Cozzarelli stated the Ordinance allows residents (veterans, seniors, disabled citizens and surviving spouses) who qualify for specific reductions, to have their grass clippings/brush be brought to the Recycling Center by a landscaper.

Motion moved by Councilwoman Polidori, second by Councilman Cruz to close the Meeting for public comments on Ordinance No. 23-13.

Motion moved by Councilwoman Polidori, second by Councilman Venin to Approve Ordinance No. 23-13 for Final Adoption.

Roll Call: Councilman Cruz, Yes, Councilman DeLine, Excused, Councilwoman Kent, Excused, Councilwoman Polidori, Yes, Councilman Venin, Yes, Councilman Baig, Excused.

MAYOR MICHAEL SERRA:

Mayor Serra reported on the following.

- attended a meeting hosted by Congressman Pascrell for Mayors to get acquainted and to discuss federal funding for security in schools. Mayor Serra stated the Borough is redistricting and he will be meeting with the Mayor of Oakland to discuss shared concerns.
- performed several weddings

- attended the successful Easter Egg Hunt
- attended the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Ceremony along with Council President Polidori to honor our soldiers. Mayor Serra thanked all groups involved in the preparation, especially the Elks for hosting a luncheon after the ceremony.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT POLIDORI:

Councilwoman Polidori reported on the following.

- thanked the Marine Corps Lakeland Detachment for sponsoring the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Ceremony
- attended the Community Citizen Appreciation dinner honoring Karen Murphy and Michael Fasoletous for their commitment in service to the Borough
- announced as a member of the Rotary she coordinates the monthly speakers and anyone interested in providing a presentation should contact her.
- she along with Councilwoman Kent and Shade Tree Commissioner, Mr. Hinton will distribute the saplings donated by the New Jersey Forestry to third grade students in Lincoln and Lenox Elementary Schools.
- during Financial Literacy Month she will read to 4th, 5th and 6th graders at the Library Wednesday afternoon
- thanked Ms. Cozzarelli and the Department of Public Works for their assistance with expediting the Recycling Ordinance
- inquired whether the Transparency Ordinance would be introduced during the next Council Meeting

COUNCILMAN BAIG:

Councilman Baig was excused.

COUNCILMAN CRUZ:

Councilman Cruz reported on the following.

- commented on upcoming changes for school security. The Student Safety Committee will develop security measures for the schools. Councilman Cruz noted the levels of concern included in developing security procedures and noted the timeline with developing a safety plan. Councilman Cruz assured the public the Board of Education would implement new security measures at the start of the 2023-24 school year. Additional information to follow.

Motion moved by Councilman Cruz, second by Councilman Venin to approve request for Cub Scout Pack 88 to close Hershfield Park Place between Ramapo Avenue and Arcadia Road from 9:00am to 3:00pm for the Soapbox Derby scheduled for Saturday, May 20, 2023 with a rain date of Sunday, May 21, 2023 from 9:00am to 3:00 pm – Pompton Lakes/Riverdale First Aid not on duty, Police to assist with Traffic Control – traffic cones and barricades. Board of Education confirmed no events or activities are scheduled at Hershfield Park. (Notify Police/Fire/First Aid) All voted in favor of the motion.

Motion moved by Councilman Cruz, second by Councilwoman Polidori to approve request for Lakeside Middle School to close a portion of Lakeside Avenue (Lakeside Avenue from Van Avenue to Mandeville Street) for the 8th Grade Awards Ceremony scheduled for Thursday, June 15, 2023 (rain dates, June 16, 2023 & June 19, 2023) from 6:15pm to 8:30pm and to make Van Avenue between Lakeside Avenue and Lenox Avenue a one-way street from 6:00-8:30pm (Notify Police/Fire/First Aid) All voted in favor of the motion.

COUNCILMAN DELINE:

Councilman DeLine was excused.

COUNCILMAN VENIN:

Councilman Venin reported on the following.

- congratulated the Pompton Lakes High School Musical Director, Mr. Nappa and the cast for an outstanding performance for the High School musical *Footloose*
- the Borough of Riverdale celebrated its 100th year anniversary
- thanked Ms. Chazzotte for her comments to encourage the use of reusable water bottles in an effort to reduce plastic and stated he was using a refillable water bottle this evening
- Girl Scout Camporee 2023 sign-ups are in progress
- the next Trails Maintenance Day will be held on Saturday, May 13, 2023 beginning 10:00am at the Willow Field parking lot

COUNCILWOMAN KENT:

Councilwoman Kent reported on the following.

- the Shade Tree Commission has received *Tree City USA* Award for the 15th year and thanked the commission for all their hard work
- the Shade Tree Commission will be sponsoring a 5th grade Arbor Day Essay contest in Lincoln and Lenox Schools. Students will receive their awards during a future Council Meeting.
- the Shade Tree has begun pruning and removing dangerous branches on shade trees throughout the Borough
- a water bottle refill fountain has been installed at Hershfield Park. Councilwoman Kent thanked the Municipal Utilities Authority (MUA) for their assistance.
- reminded residents to check the town calendar for the brush, branches and leaf collection schedule
- the Recreation Commission has introduced the spring/summer programs. Check their website for more information.
- summer camp counselors – interview dates are April 24, 2023 and May 2, 2023 and will be held at the Civic Center from 6:30pm to 8:30pm
- Pompton Day meeting is scheduled for April 19, 2023 at 7:00pm at the Prevention Coalition office on Wanaque Avenue
- paddle boats and kayak rentals will open on Memorial Day along with ping pong at Lakeside Park
- commented on the successful Easter Egg Hunt (thanked the Fire Department for their assistance)
- the Woman's Club and the Knights of Columbus sponsored an Easter Breakfast
- the Town Wide River clean-up will be held on May 7, 2023. Special thanks to Colombia Bank for their assistance. The Business Improvement District (BID) has agreed to donate \$500.00 worth of BID bucks for prizes to be given to the volunteers at the clean-up.
- the Flood Advisory Board has been invited to a Rutgers Corporative Education Service zoom meeting and flooding and property buy-outs will be discussed

PROFESSIONAL REPORTS:

KIM RUIZ, Borough Attorney

Ms. Ruiz had no report.

PAULA COZZARELLI, Borough Administrator

Ms. Cozzarelli reported on the following.

- commented on the gas main replacement by Public Service Electric & Gas (PSE&G) and the paving to be completed for certain roads which include the center line to the curb. Working with PSE&G to provide curb to curb repair on some smaller roadways.
- in the process of putting together capital projects and the Borough is active in pursuing grants. Curb cuts will be completed in several locations from a grant for \$60,000.00 that was authorized in 2021. The curb cuts are American Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible.
- the Borough will be paving on Hershfield Street, the second phase of Lincoln Avenue, Dawes Highway and Maple Avenue through grant funds. Mayor Serra stated

companies that dig up roadways should be paving curb to curb. Ms. Cozzarelli replied moratorium roads must be paved curb to curb.

- Councilman Venin questioned the outcome of unlit street lamps on Riverdale Road and Beech Ave. Ms. Cozzarelli replied and stated she would follow up.
- Councilwoman Kent asked for an update on several parking meter poles that need repair. Ms. Cozzarelli stated she had spoken with Mr. O'Rourke and he believes the problem is with the original installation. Ms. Cozzarelli stated she will discuss the situation with the engineers and reevaluate the condition, installation and cost. Mayor Serra acknowledged that the Pond Hole meter installation will take place within the next few months utilizing only credit cards.

MEETING OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Motion moved by Councilwoman Polidori, second by Councilman Cruz to open the Meeting for public comments. All voted in favor of the motion.

LISA KIHMBERG, Mountainside Drive

Ms. Kihlberg questioned whether the parking meters generate revenue. Mayor Serra replied and stated the meters do generate revenue. Ms. Cozzarelli confirmed the amount collected from meters is approximately \$35,000.00 per year.

Ms. Kihlberg stated she has noticed an abundance of trash on Wanaque Avenue the day before collection as well as on the day of collection and requested the Governing Body address the issue. Mayor Serra agreed there is an issue with garbage along Wanaque Avenue and stated it is difficult to identify who the offenders are disposing trash illegally. Mayor Serra agreed the area at times looks unsightly and advised residents to contact the Police Department if they witness anyone illegally discarding trash along Wanaque Avenue.

ED MEAKEM, Howard Street

Mr. Meakem commented on Redevelopment projects and questioned whether conceptual documents for Meridia were posted. Mr. Meakem voiced his concerns with the number of potholes on Walnut and Howard Streets and questioned whether the project would include handicap corners. Mr. Meakem stated there are no curbs on Howard Street. Mr. Meakem commented on the funding for projects and questioned whether funding was included with the capital improvement funds. Mayor Serra replied and stated the Budget has not been completed nor adopted as of this time.

Mr. Meakem thanked the Governing Body and staff for participating in the Community Rating System (CRS) program and commented with his concerns for the credit points awarded for some of the mandatory activities required within the program.

PAUL BOWLBY, Romain Avenue

Mr. Bowlby commented on pedestrians crossing Wanaque Avenue and requested the installation of an additional crosswalk on the corner of Colfax and Wanaque Avenues. Mayor Serra replied and stated Wanaque Avenue is a County roadway and he would contact the County and request they consider an additional crosswalk.

DENNIS KIHMBERG, Mountainside Drive

Mr. Kihlberg remarked on security and detailed a program designed for schools called *Go-to-Green*, a directional evacuation system that uses sensors and overhead lighting to direct students / staff away from gunfire while directing police towards the gunfire. Councilman Cruz stated he would provide the *Go-to-Green* program to the Board members during the next Board of Education meeting and report his findings to Mayor and Council.

RANDY HINTON, Montclair Avenue

Mr. Hinton asked for an update on the Curb Ordinance. Mayor Serra stated the committee reviewed the Ordinance and determined to address the issue on a case by case basis. Ms. Ruiz, Borough Attorney to speak to Mr. Semeraro for a response.

Mr. Hinton commented – trees blooming along with the daffodil plantings. Mayor Serra commented on a resident’s suggestion and stated they suggested the Borough sponsor a *daffodil festival*.

Mr. Hinton reported on the addling of geese eggs and stated over the past several years there has not been many eggs to addle so therefore the program is effective.

Motion moved by Councilwoman Polidori, second by Councilwoman Kent to close the Meeting for public comments. All voted in favor of the motion.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Ms. Kent stated she is proud to be the Vice-President of the Woman’s Club and proud of the services and programs the members provide to the community. Ms. Kent acknowledged the pinwheels planted around the Borough symbolizing Child Abuse Prevention Month. Mayor Serra recognized the members of the Woman’s Club and stated they have always been very supportive of the town.

Councilman Venin credited the many volunteers who assisted with planting the daffodils.

RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN INTO CLOSED SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion moved by Councilwoman Polidori, second by Councilman Venin to Adjourn the Meeting at 8:35 PM. All voted in favor of the motion.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

**ELIZABETH BRANDSNESS, RMC
MUNICIPAL CLERK**

**MICHAEL SERRA
MAYOR**

Dated: April 12, 2023