

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2018  
7:00 P.M.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Keenan called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Keenan led the Pledge and said an opening prayer.

**STATEMENT OF ADVERTISEMENT:** The Mayor read the following statement:

Notice of this meeting has been provided to the Courier Post and Central Record and is posted on the Borough Hall Bulletin Board stating the time and the place of the meeting.

**ROLL CALL:**

MAYOR JOSH KEENAN - PRESENT  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT FRANK HARTMAN- PRESENT  
TOM COLLINS, COUNCILMAN - PRESENT  
PATRICK GILLIGAN, COUNCILMAN - PRESENT  
PATRICK GREEN, COUNCILMAN- PRESENT  
LINDA HALL, COUNCILWOMAN- PRESENT  
TINA LOMANNO, COUNCILWOMAN – PRESENT  
ALEN ARNAUTOVIC, SOLICITOR - PRESENT  
RON MORELLO, POLICE CHIEF - PRESENT  
MICHAELA BOSLER, DEPUTY CLERK - PRESENT  
BEN ANGELI, BOROUGH CLERK - PRESENT

**PUBLIC PORTION FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:**

Gilligan motioned to open the public portion on agenda items only. Green seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a voice vote.

No questions or comments from the public.

Hall motioned to close the public portion for agenda items. Lomanno seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a voice vote.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- RES. 2018:224 – APPOINTMENT – DESIGNATING A POLICE COPORAL

WHEREAS, the Mayor & Borough Council of the Borough of Stratford finds that for the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Municipality that the designation of a POLICE CORPORAL is required to assist in the management of the police force of the Borough of Stratford; and

WHEREAS, Officer Michael D. Meyers is a Senior Patrolman within the department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough of Stratford, that under the designation authority of the Chief of Police, Michael D. Meyers is hereby designated as a Police Corporal effective immediately.

Hartman motioned to approve the resolution. Green seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

- RES. 2018:225 – APPOINTMENT OF POLICE SERGEANT

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2018  
7:00 P.M.

WHEREAS, the Mayor & Borough Council of the Borough of Stratford finds that for the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Municipality, that the appointment of a POLICE SERGEANT is required to assist in the management of the police force of the Borough of Stratford; and,

WHEREAS, New Jersey Civil Service Commission Certification # PL181248 has been activated for the title of Police Sergeant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor & Borough Council of the Borough of Stratford to appoint Bret W. Johnson to the position of Police Sergeant effective 1/1/2019 to fill an immediate vacancy in said title.

Hartman motioned to approve the resolution. Lomanno seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

- RES. 2018:226 – APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER CLASS II

WHEREAS, the Mayor & Borough Council of the Borough of Stratford finds that for the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Municipality, that the appointment of Special Law Enforcement Officers Class II's are required to assist the regular police force of the Borough of Stratford; and

WHEREAS, an experienced Class II Special Law Enforcement Officers is required to serve the police department to fill an immediate vacancy that exists.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor & Borough Council of the Borough of Stratford to appoint Scott D. Beasley as Class II Special Law Enforcement Officers in accordance with 40A:14-146.14 at the rate of \$20.00 per hour.

Hartman motioned to approve the resolution. Green seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

- RES. 2018:227 – AUTHORIZE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH STRATFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

WHEREAS, the Stratford School Board desires to have the services of school resource officers; and

WHEREAS, Stratford Police Department has the ability and resources to provide school resource officers at the Yellin and Parkview Schools; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Stratford desires to provide the services of school resource officers for a period beginning on January 1, 2019, and expiring on June 30, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the parties desire to continue in a Shared Services Agreement with the Borough of Stratford providing School Resource Officers, and

WHEREAS, this agreement promotes the health and safety of the people of Stratford;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council to authorize the execution of the Memorandum of Understanding (EXHIBIT A) between Stratford Board of Education and the Borough of Stratford.

Lomanno motioned to approve the resolution. Green seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

- RES. 2018:228 – 2018 TRANSFER OF FUNDS

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2018  
7:00 P.M.

**BUDGET TRANSFER**

FROM:

PUBLIC WORKS S & W	13,500.00
ASSESSOR OE	600.00

TO:

VEHICLE REPAIR PUBLIC WKS	3,500.00
TAX COLLECTOR OE	600.00
SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL	6,000.00
GASOLINE OE	4,000.00

Gilligan motioned to approve the resolution. Hall seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

- RES. 2018:229 – A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR A MEETING NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough of Stratford is subject to certain requirements of the *Open Public Meetings Act*, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., and

WHEREAS, the *Open Public Meetings Act*, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, provides that an Executive Session, not open to the public, may be held for certain specified purposes when authorized by Resolution, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Governing Body of the Borough of Stratford to discuss in a session not open to the public certain matters relating to the item or items authorized by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b and designated below:

\_\_\_\_\_ (1) **Matters required by Law to be Confidential:** Any matter which, by express provision of Federal law or State statute or rule of court shall be rendered confidential or excluded from the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

\_\_\_\_\_ (2) **Matters Where the Release of Information Would Impair the Right to Receive Funds:** Any matter in which the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the Government of the United States.

\_\_\_\_\_ (3) **Matters Involving Individual Privacy:** Any material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy such as any records, data, reports, recommendations, or other personal material of any educational, training, social service, medical, health, custodial, child protection, rehabilitation, legal defense, welfare, housing, relocation, insurance and similar program or institution operated by a public body pertaining to any specific individual admitted to or served by such institution or program, including, but not limited to information relative to the individual's personal and family circumstances, and any material pertaining to admission, discharge, treatment, progress or condition of any individual, unless the individual concerned (or, in the case of a minor or incompetent, his guardian) shall request in writing that the same be disclosed publicly.

\_\_\_\_\_ (4) **Matters Relating to Collective Bargaining Agreements:** Any collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of the terms and conditions thereof with employees or representatives of employees of the public body.

\_\_\_\_\_ (5) **Matters Relating to the Purchase, Lease or Acquisition of Real Property or the Investment of Public Funds:** Any matter involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of banking rates or investment of public funds, where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matters were disclosed.

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2018  
7:00 P.M.

\_\_\_\_\_ (6) **Matters Relating to Public Safety and Property:** Any tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public, provided that their disclosure could impair such protection. Any investigations of violations of possible violations of the law.

\_\_\_\_\_ X \_\_\_\_\_ (7) **Matters Relating to Litigation, Negotiations and the Attorney-Client Privilege:** The topic of discussion is related to Attorney/Client Privilege. These items are for #7 of the Executive Session Resolution for matter relating to litigation, negotiations, and the Attorney-Client Privilege.

\_\_\_\_\_ (8) **Matters Relating to the Employment Relationship:** Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance of promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all the individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting.

\_\_\_\_\_ (9) **Matters Relating to the Potential Imposition of a Penalty:** Any deliberations of a public body occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty upon the responding party or the suspension or loss of a license or permit belonging to the responding party bears responsibility.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of Stratford, assembled in public session on December 11, 2018 that an Executive Session closed to the public shall be held on December 11, 2018 at approximately 7:00 p.m. in the Justice Facility, 315 Union Avenue, Stratford, NJ for the discussion of matters relating to the specified items designated above. It is anticipated that the deliberations conducted in Closed Session may be disclosed to the public upon the determination of the Governing Body that public interest will no longer be served by such confidentiality.

Hartman motioned to approve the resolution. Green seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

**OATHS OF OFFICE**

- Councilman Collins administered the Oath of Office to Sergeant Brett Johnson
- Councilwoman Lomanno administered the Oath of Office to Corporal Michael Meyers

Chief Morello gave a speech about Corporal Meyers and Sergeant Johnson's dedication and service to Stratford.

**REPORTS:**

**ORDINANCE & PROPERTY** Councilman Patrick Green read the Code Enforcement report as follows:

Follow Up's: 29  
Warning Letters: 19  
Violations Resolved: 17  
Complaints Signed: 2  
Due to the weather no high grass issues  
*Submitted by Stephen Gagliardi, Code Enforcement Officer*

**FINANCE & REVENUE** Councilman Patrick Gilligan read his report as follows:

Balance as of 11-1-18 – \$3,049,880.99  
Total Receipts - \$1,660,318.17  
Total Disbursements - \$2,339,437.95  
Balance as of 11-30-18 – \$2,370,761.21

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL  
 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
 TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2018  
 7:00 P.M.  
 Total in other Funds - \$2,382,293.55

EMERGENCY SERVICES      Councilman Frank Hartman read portions of the following reports:

Fire Department

The Stratford Fire Department responded to 35 Alarms 2 Drills in the month  
 November 2018. The following list is a breakdown of the same:

	MONTH	YEAR TO DATE
Dwelling Fires	1	9
Building Fires	0	8
Investigations	4	26
Out of Town Assists	16	163
Alarm Systems	1	55
Assist Ambulance, Police, Public	3	55
Car Fires	1	3
Wires, Trees Down	1	34
Rescues & M.V.A.'s	8	44
Brush Fires	1	8
Drills	2	23

Total man hours on the above alarm drills was 443  
*Submitted by Stephen Gagliardi, Deputy Chief*

Ambulance Association

The Stratford Ambulance Association **Paid Crew** responded to 132 Alarms  
 in the month of **November 2018**, the following is a breakdown of the same:

	Paid	
	Month	Y.T.D.
1. Assault	2	17
2. Bleeding	3	27
3. Cardiac	12	104
4. CVA	2	19
5. Diabetic	3	17
6. Fall	14	149
7. Fire Call	2	28
8. Haz-Mat	0	0
9. Maternity	0	3
10. Medical Emergency	39	350
11. Medical Alarm	2	17
12. MVA	9	100
13. Overdose	2	31
14. Ped/MVA	3	12
15. Psych. Emergency	11	87
16. Respiratory	10	98
17. Seizures	3	35
18. Sick Person	3	39
19. Special Assignment	0	2
20. Unconscious Person	12	93

Year to Date Calls

**Paid: 1228**

*Submitted by Lois Tadley, Chief-Stratford Ambulance*

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL  
 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
 TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2018  
 7:00 P.M.

The Stratford Ambulance Association **Volunteer Crew** responded to **17 Alarms** in the month of **November 2018**, the following is a breakdown of the same:

	<u>Month</u>	<u>Y.T.D.</u>
1. Assault	1	3
2. Bleeding	1	9
3. Cardiac	4	15
4. CVA	1	3
5. Diabetic	1	3
6. Fall	0	12
7. Fire Call	1	3
8. Haz-Mat	0	0
9. Maternity	0	0
10. Medical Emergency	2	49
11. Medical Alarm	0	0
12. MVA	1	12
13. Overdose	0	6
14. Ped/MVA	0	1
15. Psych. Emergency	1	24
16. Respiratory	2	13
17. Seizures	1	3
18. Sick Person	0	5
19. Special Assignment	0	0
20. Unconscious Person	2	11

Year to Date Calls

**Volunteer: 172**

*Submitted by Lois Tadley, Chief-Stratford Ambulance*

**PUBLIC WORKS & LIGHTING** Councilman Tom Collins read his reports as follows:

Sewer Utility

- Call outs for emergency service: 14
- Performed preemptive checks and required maintenance of all manholes and pump stations
- Sewer line maintenance performed: N/A
- Work requests performed:
  - Set up Borough Christmas Tree and replaced burned out light bulbs on the light set
  - Set up the courtroom for the midterm election and restored the room afterwards
  - Checked the Library roof for leaks
  - Removed all building fire extinguishers for annual inspection and restored to their respective locations
  - Removed and replaced a new liner for the Public Works leaf machine
  - Picked up 24 lights in Philadelphia for the Parks Commission (to be installed at Vassar Courts)
- Regular maintenance activities performed include:
  - Weekly trash pickup and cleanup at Yellin School, Parkview School and Vassar Ave. ball fields
  - Clearing of debris from storm drains after rain
  - Bi-weekly town wide metal/appliance collection

Public Works

- Both leaf machines out each day weather permitting. For the month of November: 1,100 yards of leaves were collected
- Had some time down on both machine for repairs
- Snow plowing of town 3 ½ inches of snow

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2018  
7:00 P.M.

- Leaf clean up of front yards at Sterling Arms
- Put up Christmas Tree at the War Memorial
- Leaf clean up at the Library
- Cleaning of storm drains

**PUBLIC EVENTS** Councilwoman Linda Hall thanked Mayor and Council for their help with the tree lighting as well as the Fire Department, Public Works, and everyone else who assisted with the event. Teacher from Sterling received a grant and provided crafts for the events and donated the rest to the Parkview School. House Decorating contest is coming up soon. She suggested nominating the Yellin Choir for a Citizenship Award. She also mentioned the Fire Department's Annual Christmas Tree Sale.

**POLICE** Councilman Gilligan read the report as follows

40 Adult arrests,  
1 Juvenile arrests,  
0 assaults to police,  
11 Simple assaults Complaints,  
7 Criminal Mischief Complaints,  
6 Harassment complaints,  
133 Other investigations and complaints,  
0 burglaries,  
1 attempted robberies,  
10 thefts in the amount of \$4,440.00,  
\$3,320.00 in stolen property recovered,  
0 motor vehicle thefts,  
12 D.W.I. arrests,  
13 Narcotics arrests,  
464 Traffic summonses issued,  
39 Motor vehicle accidents,  
10 injuries from accidents including two pedestrians  
23 Alarm activations,

97 Total crime reports taken  
767 total calls for police service  
3 Properties inspected  
3 Warning letters issued  
6 Code summonses issued  
*Submitted by Ron Morello, Chief of Police*

Councilwoman Lomanno also read a letter thanking Mayor and Council for their support of the Stratford School District for School Resource Officer

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- ORDINANCE 2018:13 – CREATING A KNOX BOX “RAPID ENTRY SYSTEM” IN THE BOROUGH OF STRATFORD

Hartman motioned to open the public hearing on ordinance 2018:13. Green seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL  
 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
 TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2018  
 7:00 P.M.

There were no comments from the public.

Hall motioned to close the public hearing on ordinance 2018:13. Lomanno seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

Hartman motioned to adopt Ordinance 2018:13. Green seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

Animal checks	1786	through	1790	
Manual checks	19867	through	19871	
Payroll checks	49620	through	49621	and
Payroll checks	49693	through	49697	
Automated checks	32525	through	32647	
Various electronic transfers and potential interim payments to ACE,SJE,SJG,Great American Financial, Constellation				

Collins motioned to approve the payment of the bills. Hall seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

- Councilwoman Lomanno – Thanked the Fire Department for their support for the during the Tree Lighting. Congratulated the Sergeant Johnson and Corporal Meyers on their promotions.
- Councilwoman Hall – Congratulated Sergeant Johnson and Corporal Meyers on their promotions. She also gave recognition to Laurel Manor’s Christmas decorations. Wished everyone a happy holiday and happy new year.
- Councilman Collins – Thank you for everyone who helped with the Stratford Mom’s Food Drive. Stated 38 families were given food. Congratulated Sergeant Johnson and Corporal Meyers on their promotions.
- Councilman Hartman – Congratulated Sergeant Johnson and Corporal Meyers on their promotions. Congratulated the Clerk for passing his test to become an RMC. Congratulated Deputy Clerk for passing all of her classes as well. Wished everyone a happy holiday and happy new year.
- Councilman Gilligan – Congratulated Sergeant Johnson and Corporal Meyers on their promotions. Thanked Councilwoman Hall for the work she did at the Tree Lighting. Wished everyone a happy holiday.
- Councilman Green – Congratulated Sergeant Johnson and Corporal Meyers on their promotions. Also congratulated the Clerk and Deputy Clerk. Stated the Stratford Mom’s Food Drive was a success and thanked Councilman Collins and his family for organizing the event.

**GOOD AND WELFARE:**

Hartman motioned to open the meeting to the public for Good and Welfare. Lomanno seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a voice vote.



STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2018  
7:00 P.M.

- John Gentless – 111 Union Ave. – Congratulated the officers, the Clerk, and the Deputy Clerk. Suggested Resolutions 2018:224, 2018:225, and 2018:226 as the appointed the persons in each resolution were not listed in the title. The Solicitor stated that was not necessary and the Resolutions are valid as they stand. Questioned how the list of trees to be taken down was created. The Clerk responded that himself, the Director of Public Works, and the Public Works Supervisor inspected each tree on the list. Suggested having Atlantic City Electric come out to trim trees below the wires. The Clerk stated this is the normal process. Questioned trees that were being taken down on the County roads by the Borough. The Clerk stated the County has a history of not taking trees down even if they are a safety concern. Councilman Collins agreed if the tree is a safety concern, it needs to be taken down regardless of who pays for it. Expressed concerns about the way the contractors were picked to do the work on the trees. Wished everyone a good holiday.

Hartman motioned to close the Good and Welfare portion of the meeting. Green seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a voice vote

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Collins motioned to go into executive session. Lomanno seconded the motion and all members present voting in favor in a voice vote.

Hartman motioned to close executive session. Collins seconded the motion and all members present voting in favor in a voice vote.

No action was taken in Executive session.

The Mayor, all Council members that were present before the executive session, the Solicitor and the Clerk were present upon return to open session.

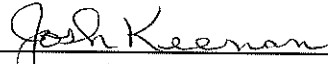
No members of the public were in attendance after the executive session.

**ADJOURN:**

Hartman motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 PM. Collins seconded the motion and all members present vote in favor in a voice vote.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michaela Bosler, Deputy Borough Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Josh Keenan