

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2019
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 TINA LOMANNO - PRESENT
TOM COLLINS, COUNCILMAN - ABSENT
PATRICK GILLIGAN, COUNCILMAN - PRESENT
PATRICK GREEN, COUNCILMAN- PRESENT
LINDA HALL, COUNCILWOMAN- PRESENT
FRANK HARTMAN, COUNCILMAN – PRESENT
ALEN ARNAUTOVIC, SOLICITOR - PRESENT
VINNIE JESS, POLICE SERGEANT - PRESENT
MICHAELA BOSLER, DEPUTY CLERK - PRESENT
BEN ANGELI, BOROUGH CLERK - PRESENT

PUBLIC PORTION FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

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

John Gentless – 111 Union Ave. – Questioned the advertisement for tonight’s meeting with the designated newspapers for 2019. Questioned redevelopment on Laurel Road.

Gilligan 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.

REPORTS:

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

DECEMBER 2018
Follow Up's: 28
Warning Letters: 25
Violations Resolved: 22
Complaints Signed: 1

Submitted by Stephen Gagliardi, Code Enforcement Officer

YEAR END 2018
Follow Up's: 289
Warning Letters: 423
Violations Resolved: 346
Complaints Signed: 61

Submitted by Stephen Gagliardi, Code Enforcement Officer

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
 TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2019
 7:00 P.M.

FINANCE & REVENUE

Councilman Patrick Gilligan read his report as follows:

Balance as of 12-1-18 – \$2,370,761.21
 Total Receipts - \$330,626.82
 Total Disbursements - \$1,248,664.17
 Balance as of 12-31-18 – \$1,452,723.86
 Total in other Funds - \$2,372,503.92

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Councilman Frank Hartman read portions of the following reports:

Ambulance Association

The Stratford Ambulance Association **Paid Crew** responded to 137 Alarms in the month of **December 2018**, the following is a breakdown of the same:

	<u>Paid</u>	
	<u>Month</u>	<u>Y.T.D.</u>
1. Assault	0	17
2. Bleeding	5	32
3. Cardiac	9	113
4. CVA	3	22
5. Diabetic	1	18
6. Fall	18	167
7. Fire Call	5	33
8. Haz-Mat	0	0
9. Maternity	0	3
10. Medical Emergency	31	381
11. Medical Alarm	3	20
12. MVA	10	110
13. Overdose	2	33
14. Ped/MVA	1	13
15. Psych. Emergency	9	96
16. Respiratory	21	119
17. Seizures	2	37
18. Sick Person	5	44
19. Special Assignment	0	2
20. Unconscious Person	12	105

Year to Date Calls

Paid: 1365

Submitted by Lois Tadley, Chief-Stratford Ambulance

The Stratford Ambulance Association **Volunteer Crew** responded to 13 Alarms in the month of **December 2018**, the following is a breakdown of the same:

	<u>Volunteer</u>	
	<u>Month</u>	<u>Y.T.D.</u>
1. Assault	0	3
2. Bleeding	0	9
3. Cardiac	0	15
4. CVA	0	3
5. Diabetic	0	3
6. Fall	1	13
7. Fire Call	0	3

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2019

7:00 P.M.

8. Haz-Mat	0	0
9. Maternity	0	0
10. Medical Emergency	5	54
11. Medical Alarm	0	0
12. MVA	1	13
13. Overdose	0	6
14. Ped/MVA	0	1
15. Psych. Emergency	1	25
16. Respiratory	1	14
17. Seizures	1	4
18. Sick Person	1	6
19. Special Assignment	0	0
20. Unconscious Person	2	13

Year to Date Calls

Volunteer: 185

Submitted by Lois Tadley, Chief-Stratford Ambulance

PUBLIC WORKS & LIGHTING Councilman Frank Hartman read the reports as follows:

Sewer Utility

- Call outs for emergency service: 15
- Performed preemptive checks and required maintenance of all manholes and pump stations
- Sewer line maintenance performed: N/A
- Work requests performed:
 - Assisted in repair of snow plow
 - Assisted in replacement of leaf machine
- 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 for the month
- Cleaning of storm drains
- Leaf clean up at War Memorial, Senior Center, Stratford Library, and Borough Hall
- Replaced three street signs and posts that were damaged in car accident on the corner of Vassar Ave. and White Horse Pike
- Assisted the Fire Department with a large tree that fell on Kirkwood Rd.
- Leaf clean up at the ball fields and playground on Vassar and Yale Ave.
- Maintenance of trucks and equipment

PUBLIC EVENTS

Councilwoman Linda Hall thanked everyone who participated in the House Decorating Contest and stated all participants did a wonderful job. She announced that this year we will be holding a Little Miss Stratford Contest sometime this Spring.

POLICE

Councilwoman Lomanno read the report as follows:

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2019

7:00 P.M.

30 Adult arrests,
0 Juvenile arrests,
0 assaults to police,
7 Simple assaults Complaints,
9 Criminal Mischief Complaints,
8 Harassment complaints,
129 Other investigations and complaints,
0 burglaries,
0 robberies,
8 thefts in the amount of \$1,905.00,
\$375.00 in stolen property recovered,
0 motor vehicle thefts,
10 D.W.I. arrests,
7 Narcotics arrests,
412 Traffic summonses issued,
37 Motor vehicle accidents,
8 injuries from accidents including one pedestrian
31 Alarm activations,

86 Total crime reports taken
771 total calls for police service
10 Properties inspected
3 Warning letters issued
3 Code summonses issued
Submitted by Ron Morello, Chief of Police

YEAR END 2018

518 Adult arrests,
14 Juvenile arrests,
0 Homicide
8 assaults to police,
90 Simple assaults Complaints,
60 Criminal Mischief Complaints,
133 Harassment complaints,
1576 Other investigations and complaints,
4 burglaries,
3 robberies,
112 thefts in the amount of \$66,934.00,
\$58,902.00 in stolen property recovered or cleared by arrest or otherwise,
7 motor vehicle thefts,
114 D.W.I. arrests,
98 Narcotics arrests,
5047 Traffic summonses issued,
369 Motor vehicle accidents,
77 injuries from accidents including 10 pedestrian accidents
0 Fatal motor vehicle accidents
365 Alarm activations,

988 Total crime reports taken
8332 total calls for police service
52 Properties inspected
12 Property warning letters issued
93 Junk vehicle letters issued
51 Code summonses issued
Family Dollar, 22 W. Vassar Ave, and Laurel Mills Shopping Center

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
 TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2019
 7:00 P.M.

were the top three code enforcement cases handled by the police department for the year 2018
Submitted by Ron Morello, Chief of Police

OLD BUSINESS:

○ ORDINANCE 2019:01 – BOND ORDINANCE

This is the first reading and introduction, the public hearing for this ordinance will be on February 12, 2019 at 7:00 p.m..

BE IT ORDAINED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Stratford, County of Camden, State of New Jersey (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) as follows:

SECTION 1. The improvements described in Section 3 of this Bond Ordinance are hereby respectively authorized to be undertaken by the Borough of Stratford, New Jersey as a general improvement. For the improvement or purpose described in Section 3, there are hereby appropriated the respective sums of money therein stated as the appropriations made for the improvements or purposes, such sums amounting in the aggregate to \$30,000.00 including the aggregate sum of \$1,500.00 as the down payment for the improvements or purposes required by the Local Bond Law. The down payments have been made available by virtue of provisions for down payment or for capital improvement purposes in one or more previously adopted budgets.

SECTION 2. In order to finance the cost of improvement or purpose not covered by application of the several down payments, negotiable Bonds are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of \$28,500.00 pursuant to the Local Bond Law. In anticipation of the issuance of the Bonds, negotiable Bond Anticipation Notes are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to and within the limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

SECTION 3. The improvement hereby authorized and the purpose for which the Bonds are to be issued, the estimated cost for each improvement and the appropriation therefore, the estimated maximum amount of Bonds or Notes to be issued for each improvement and the period of usefulness for each improvement are respectively as follows:

PURPOSE	APPROPRATION & ESTIMATED COST	ESTIMATED MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF BONDS OR NOTES	PERIOD OF AVERAGE USEFULNESS
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SEE SCHEDULE "A" ATTACHED

The excess of the appropriation made for each of the improvements or purposes aforesaid over the estimated maximum amount of Bonds or Notes to be issued therefore, as above stated, it is amount of the down payment for each purpose.

SECTION 4. All Bond Anticipation Notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the Chief Financial Officer; provided that no Note shall mature alter than one year from its date. The Notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as many be determined by the Chief Financial Officer. The Chief Financial Officer shall determine all matters in connection with notes issued pursuant to this Ordinance, and the Chief Financial Officer's signature upon the Notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All Notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time subject the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:2-8 (a). The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the Notes from time to time at public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchasers thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price plus accrued interest from their dates to the date of delivery thereof. The Chief Financial Officer is directed to report in writing to the governing body at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the Notes pursuant to this ordinance is made. Such report must include the amount, the description, the interest rate and the maturity schedule of the Notes sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

SECTION 5. The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited and state:

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2019
7:00 P.M.

- (a) The purposes described in Section 3 of this Bond Ordinance are not current expenses. They are improvements, and no part of the costs thereof have been or shall be specifically assessed on property specially benefited thereby.
- (b) The average period of usefulness, computed on the basis of the respective amounts of Obligations authorized for each purpose and the reasonable lives thereof within the limitations of the Local Bond Law, is five (5) years or more.
- (c) The Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly Prepared and filed in the office of the Clerk, and a complete executed duplicate thereof as been filed in the office of the Director of the Division of the Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey. Such statement shows that the Gross debt of the Borough as defined by the Local Bond Law is increased by the authorization of the Bonds and Notes provided in this Bond Ordinance by \$28,500.00 and the obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.
- (d) \$3,000.00 of expenses listed in and permitted under N.J.S.A. 40A:2-20 are included in the estimated cost herein for the purposes of improvements.

SECTION 6. Any grant moneys received for the purposes described in Section 3 hereof shall be applied either to direct payment of the costs of the improvements or to payment of the obligations issued pursuant to this Ordinance. The amount of obligations authorized by not issued hereunder shall be reduced to the extent that such that such funds are so used.

SECTION 7. The full faith and credit of the Borough are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and the interest on the obligations authorized by this Bond Ordinance. The obligations shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Borough, and the Borough is obligated to levy ad valorem taxes upon all the taxable real property within the Borough for the payment of obligations and the interest thereon without limitation of rate or amount.

SECTION 8. This Bond Ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption as provided by the Local Bond Law.

Hartman motioned to approve the introduction of Ordinance 2019:01. Lomanno seconded the motion and all members present voting in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

o RESOLUTION 2019:31 – CREATE COUNCIL LAUREL ROAD REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the Borough of Stratford Governing Body has designated Block 36, Lots 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, & 16; Block 40, Lots 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, & 10; and Block 41, Lots 2, 2.01, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, & 8 as an area in need of Rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS, Block 36, Lots 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, & 16 ; Block 40, Lots 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, & 10; and Block 41, Lots 2, 2.01, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, & 8 as an area in need of Rehabilitation will now be referred to as the Laurel Road Redevelopment area; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body desires to appoint a Council Redevelopment Committee to oversee the process and progress of the Laurel Road redevelopment area; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body has recommended the following appointments:
LINDA HALL, FRANK HARTMAN and PATRICK GREEN; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by Mayor and Council to appoint to the Berlin Road Redevelopment Area as CHAIRPERSON LINDA HALL, ASSOCIATE MEMBER FRANK HARTMAN and ASSOCIATE MEMBER PATRICK GREEN; and

FURTHERMORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Mayor and Council to recognize in the absence of any appointed Councilperson to the Redevelopment Committee any fellow Councilperson can act as an alternate as long as there are no more than three (3) Governing Body Members represented; and

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2019
7:00 P.M.

FURTHERMORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Mayor and Council to recognize this Council Redevelopment Committee as the municipal point of contact for any discussions, meetings, correspondence and negotiations related to the redevelopment site.

Gilligan motioned to approve the resolution. Lomanno seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a Voice Vote.

RESOLUTIONS 2019:27 THROUGH 2019:30 WILL BE DONE AS A CONSENT AGENDA

The Clerk stated that Council can at this time request to remove any of the resolutions from the consent agenda and they can be voted on separately. There were no requests to remove any of the resolutions from the consent agenda and the Clerk read the resolutions by title.

○ RESOLUTION 2019:27 – SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM GRANT (\$30,000.00)

WHEREAS, the Borough of Stratford wishes to apply for funding of approximately \$30,000 for a project under the State of New Jersey Safe and Secure Police Officer Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the Stratford Borough Council has reviewed the accompanying application and has approved said request; and

WHEREAS, the Subaward number is 19-0432; and

WHEREAS, the Subaward period is between April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the project is a joint effort between the Department of Law and Public Safety and Stratford Borough for the purpose of funding a full-time police officer; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Stratford will be paying the fringe benefits as it is a requirement of the grant.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council to authorize the application and execute all required documents to obtain the Safe and Secure Grant Funding.

NOW, FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Borough of Stratford is authorized to accept the Subaward 19-0432.

○ RESOLUTION 2019:28 – VETERAN'S TAX CANCELLATION AND EXEMPTION (BLOCK 97, LOT 8)

WHEREAS, an application has been received from Robert J Parker at 13 Meadow Lark Road, Block 97, Lot 8, for an exemption from the payment of property taxes; and

WHEREAS, Robert J Parker suffered from a service-connected disability and has been declared 100% permanently and totally disabled by the U.S. Veterans Administration; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Assessor has determined that Robert J Parker has submitted the required documentation and is entitled to an exemption from property taxes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford to place Mr. Parker's property on the Exempt Property List effective November 1, 2018.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that property taxes billed for the 4th quarter 2018 in the amount of \$1,230.71 be canceled and the amount of \$1,230.71 refunded to Robert J Parker.

○ RESOLUTION 2019:29 – VETERAN'S TAX CANCELLATION AND EXEMPTION (BLOCK 57, LOT 27)

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2019
7:00 P.M.

WHEREAS, an application has been received from Bruce J McIntosh at 104 Suburban Terrace, Block 57, Lot 27, for an exemption from the payment of property taxes; and

WHEREAS, Bruce J McIntosh suffered from a service-connected disability and has been declared 100% permanently and totally disabled by the U.S. Veterans Administration; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Assessor has determined that Bruce J McIntosh has submitted the required documentation and is entitled to an exemption from property taxes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford to place Mr. McIntosh's property on the Exempt Property List effective December 1, 2018.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that property taxes billed for the 4th quarter 2018 in the amount of \$384.87 be canceled and the amount of \$1,230.71 refunded to Bruce J McIntosh.

○ RESOLUTION 2019:30 – REFUND BIRTH CERTIFICATE OVERPAYMENT

WHEREAS, an overpayment was received in the Borough office for for a birth certificate;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford that the overpayment in the amount of \$5.00 be refunded to Erik Pappa.

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

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Animal checks	1791	through	1792	
Manual checks	19872	through	19877	
Payroll checks	49809	through	49810	and
Payroll checks	49883	through	49887	
Automated checks	32648	through	32751	
Various electronic transfers and potential interim payments to LexisNexis, Atlantic City Electric, South Jersey Energy, South Jersey Gas, and Line Systems				

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

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

- Councilwoman Lomanno – Stated she will be asking the Deputy Clerk for assistance in surveying the businesses in Stratford to see if they would be interested in sponsoring the purchase of seasonal banners to be placed along Warwick and Laurel Road.
- Councilwoman Hall – None
- Councilman Hartman – Stated many businesses have already contacted the fire department to participate in the Knox Box program. Stated Council should reconsider the voluntary nature of this

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2019
7:00 P.M.

program and make it mandatory for, not just newly constructed commercial properties, but for all businesses in Stratford.

- Councilman Gilligan – None
- Councilman Green – Wished everyone a happy new year.

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.

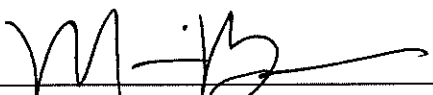
- Agnes Moore – Laureba Ave. – Questioned why she did not receive the agenda via e-blast. Expressed concerns regarding Berlin Road redevelopment. Believes the banners are a good idea and asked to make sure all businesses are included. Questioned the settlement of the litigation involving Royal Farms.
- John Gentless – 111 Union Ave. – Comment about banners that the Borough may already own. Questioned the trash collection contract with Magnolia. Questioned whether or not the supplemental school tax will affect Laurel Springs as well, as children from that municipality also attend Yellin School for two years. Commented about a fence code violation on N. Atlantic Ave., and a removal of a tree on Kirkwood
- Mike Mancini – Winding Way Rd. – Appreciates the Borough's efforts in educating residents on new recycling guidelines.

Hall 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

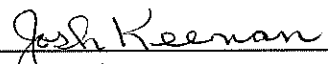
ADJOURN:

Hall motioned to adjourn the meeting. Lomanno seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a voice vote.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:



Michaela Bosler, Acting Borough Clerk



Mayor Josh Keenan