

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
AGENDA MEETING/REDEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP AGENDA
AUGUST 05, 2021
7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER:

The August 5, 2021 Stratford Borough Agenda Meeting/Redevelopment Workshop.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND PRAYER:

STATEMENT OF ADVERTISEMENT:

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

ROLL CALL:

MAYOR JOSH KEENAN	STUART PLATT, BOROUGH SOLICITOR
COUNCIL PRESIDENT LINDA HALL	STEVEN BACH, BOROUGH ENGINEER
COUNCILMAN STEPHEN GANDY	RON MORELLO, POLICE CHIEF
COUNCILMAN PATRICK GILLIGAN	JOHN D. KEENAN JR, ACTING BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR
COUNCILWOMAN TINA LOMANNO	BILL BRAY, BOROUGH CLERK
COUNCILMAN MICHAEL TOLOMEO	
COUNCILMAN JAMES KELLY	

PUBLIC PORTION FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

Motion to go to open public portion on agenda items only:

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Voice Vote _____

Motion to close public portion on agenda items:

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Voice Vote _____

POLICE REPORT:

ENGINEER REPORT:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

July 8, 2021 AGENDA MEETING/REDEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

July 13, 2021 REGULAR MEETING

Motion: _____ Second: _____ RCV: _____

OLD BUSINESS:

REPORT #1 UPCOMING PUBLIC HEARINGS OF ORDINANCES
ORD. 2021:15 AMEND 2.16 FIRE DEPARTMENT

NEW BUSINESS:

REPORT #2 UPCOMING INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES
ORD. 2021:16 AMEND YARD REQUIREMENTS

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
AGENDA MEETING/REDEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP AGENDA
AUGUST 05, 2021
7:00 P.M.

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTIONS 2021:109 THROUGH 2021:115 WILL BE DONE AS A CONSENT AGENDA
Council can at this time request to remove any of the resolutions from the consent agenda and they can be voted on separately.

- RES. 2021:1109 AUTHORIZE 2022 NJDOT GRANT APPLICATION
- RES. 2021:1110 AUTHORIZE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
- RES. 2021:1111 AUTHORIZE TAX OVERPAYMENT REFUND - 128 SUBURBAN TERRACE
- RES. 2021:1112 APPROVE ANNUAL SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE
- RES. 2021:1113 AUTHORIZE REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENT – 2 CORNELL AVENUE
- RES. 2021:1114 AUTHORIZE REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENT – 33 OVERHILL ROAD
- RES. 2021:1115 AUTHORIZE EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION

Motion: _____ Second: _____ RCV: _____

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

GOOD AND WELFARE:

Motion to open the meeting to the public for Good and Welfare:

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Voice Vote _____

Motion to close the public portion for Good and Welfare:

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Voice Vote _____

EXECUTIVE SESSION: none

ADJOURN:

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Voice Vote _____

ORDINANCE 2021:15

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2.16, ENTITLED “FIRE DEPARTMENT,” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF STRATFORD

WHEREAS, the Borough of Stratford is a municipal corporation organized and operating under the laws of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the recommendation has been made to the Governing Body to amend and clarify terminology stated in the Fire Department Code Section, known as the “Fire Ordinance of the Borough of Stratford”; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:48-2 the Mayor and Borough Council may make, amend, repeal and enforce such other ordinances, regulations, rules and by-laws not contrary to the laws of this state or of the United States, as it may deem necessary and proper for the good government, order and protection of persons and property, and for the preservation of the public health, safety and welfare of the Borough and its inhabitants; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council deem it in the best interest of the Borough to amend Chapter 2.16, entitled “Fire Department”.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford that the Code of the Borough of Stratford is hereby amended, revised and/or supplemented as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 2.16 of the Code of the Borough of Stratford, entitled “Fire Department,” is hereby amended and supplemented as follows:

2.16.20 Definitions.

Remove in whole the definition for “Fire company”.

2.16.030 Fire committee – Membership, appointment.

There shall be a fire committee composed of the council director of fire and two (2) other council members, all of which shall be appointed by the Mayor of the Borough of Stratford.

2.16.040 Director of fire.

The director of fire shall be the councilperson appointed by the Mayor of the Borough of Stratford charged with the supervision, responsibility of maintaining and controlling the Stratford Fire Department.

2.16.050 Appointment of fire chief and officers of fire department.

The fire chief and all of the other officers of the line of the Stratford Fire Department shall be appointed by the mayor of the borough at the annual reorganization meeting. Members of the Stratford Fire Department shall be appointed by the mayor and council of the borough upon recommendation of the fire chief.

2.16.060 Duties of the fire chief.

In addition to the usual administrative and procedural duties of the chief, he or she shall prepare and submit to the mayor and council, via the director of fire, a monthly report of all fires, calls, services, conditions and actions of the Stratford Fire Department on or before the fifth day of each month for the period of the preceding calendar month.

2.16.070 Funding of fire department.

The governing body shall provide in its annual budget such sums as are needed, in its direction, for the maintenance, equipment and supplies necessary to provide for the efficient operation of the fire department.

2.16.090 Insurance.

The mayor and council may maintain and continue any forms of insurance covering the members of Stratford Fire Department which it, the governing body, may determine to be necessary or desirable for the protection, safety and welfare of the members and for the protection and safety of the equipment and apparatus of said fire department, and are authorized by resolution to appropriate, from time to time, such sums of money as may be required to cover the premiums and costs of said insurance, or such portion of the same as the governing body, in its discretion, may consider proper and advisable.

2.16.100 Exempt firefighter’s certificate.

Any member or officer of the fire department shall be entitled to an exempt firefighter’s certificate; provided, however, that he or she qualifies for said certificate by virtue of the eligibility requirements of N.J.S.A. 40A:14-56 of the revised statutes of New Jersey and any amendment thereto.

SECTION 2. All Ordinances contrary to the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent that they are inconsistent herewith.

SECTION 3. If the provisions of any section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision, or clause of this Ordinance shall be judged invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such order of judgment shall not affect or invalidate the remainder of any section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision, or clause of this Ordinance.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon posting, publication, final passage in the manner prescribed by law.

_____/_____/2021
Mayor Josh Keenan Date

ATTEST:

Bill Bray, Borough Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE

The ordinance published herewith was introduced and passed upon first reading at the Regular Meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Stratford, in the County of Camden, State of New Jersey, held on the 13th day of July, 2021. It will be further considered for final passage after public hearing thereon, at the meeting of the Governing Body to be held in the Borough Hall, in the Borough of Stratford on the 10th day of August, 2021 at 7:00 PM. Copies of the ordinance will be made available during the week prior to and up to and including the date of such meeting at the Clerk’s Office in the Borough Hall to the members of the general public who shall request the same.

Bill Bray, Borough Clerk

RESOLUTION 2021:109
RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF STRATFORD AUTHORIZING APPLICATION BY
THE BOROUGH ENGINEER TO THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF CENTRAL AVENUE – PHASE II
AND KIRKWOOD AVENUE

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey provides funding for certain road projects under Municipal Aid Funding; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have chosen to submit an application for Municipal Aid Funding; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body has agreed to apply for funding for the following activity(s);
Reconstruction of Central Avenue from end of Phase I to Wright Avenue
Reconstruction of Central Avenue from Cornell Avenue to Laurel Avenue
Reconstruction of Kirkwood Avenue from Colombia Avenue to Laurel Avenue

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Council of Stratford formally approves the grant application for the above stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as MA-2022-Reconstruction of Central Avenue & Kirkwood Avenue-00396 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Borough of Stratford.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Borough of Stratford and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

CERTIFICATION

I, Bill Bray, Borough Clerk, do hereby certify the foregoing Resolution to be a true and complete copy of a Resolution duly adopted at a public meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Stratford held on August 5, 2021.

BILL BRAY, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK

**RESOLUTION 2021:110
BOROUGH OF STRATFORD**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF STRATFORD APPROVING THE
SETTLEMENT IN THE MATTER OF OWOH, ESQ. (O.B.O. DELORES SIMMONS, ET
AL.) V. STRATFORD POLICE DEP'T (CAMDEN), GRC COMPLAINT NO. 2020-148**

WHEREAS, Delores O. Simmons and Obafemi O. Simmons (“Simmons”) filed a Complaint with the Government Records Council (“GRC”) against the Stratford Borough Police Department, captioned and docketed as Owoh, Esq. (O.B.O. Delores Simmons, et al.) v. Stratford Police Dep’t (Camden), GRC Complaint No. 2021-148; and

WHEREAS, while Simmons alleges a violation of OPRA, the Borough specifically denies any violation of OPRA or any other law and believes that had this matter proceeded to a trial, the Borough would have prevailed and furthermore, the Borough asserts at all times that it has complied with OPRA and that Simmons was never denied access to any public records; and

WHEREAS, the parties have engaged in settlement negotiations; and

WHEREAS, as a result of those settlement negotiations, all controversies between Simmons and the Borough have been resolved; and

WHEREAS, the parties have agreed to resolve this matter to minimize costs and legal expenses to the Borough without admitting any liability whatsoever; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body is of the opinion that the settlement is in the best interests of the Borough.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Stratford, County of Camden and State of New Jersey for the reasons set forth above that it hereby approves the Settlement Agreement and Mutual Release, attached hereto as Exhibit “A”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Borough Solicitor are hereby authorized to implement this Resolution and execute any documents necessary in connection therewith.

CERTIFICATION

I, Bill Bray, Borough Clerk, do hereby certify the foregoing Resolution to be a true and complete copy of a Resolution duly adopted at a public meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Stratford held on August 5, 2021.

BILL BRAY, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK

RESOLUTION 2021:111
AUTHORIZE TAX OVERPAYMENT REFUND

WHEREAS, an overpayment was received in the Tax Collector's office for Block 57, Lot 38 - 128 Suburban Terr;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford the the amount of \$1,241.93 be disbursed to LERETA Tax Service for the overpayment.

CERTIFICATION

I, Bill Bray, Borough Clerk, do hereby certify the foregoing Resolution to be a true and complete copy of a Resolution duly adopted at a public meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Stratford held on August 5, 2021.

BILL BRAY, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK

RESOLUTION 2021:112

AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO SIGN MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE AGREEMENT

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 Stratford, County of Camden, 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 of the Borough of Stratford, 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, each year the Borough Council of the Borough of Stratford, has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Camden; and

WHEREAS, a shared service agreement with the Borough of Stratford, the Borough of Laurel Springs, the Borough of Somerdale, the Borough of Hi-Nella and the County of Camden has been provided,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Stratford, County of Camden, State of New Jersey hereby authorizes the Mayor to sign the agreement.

CERTIFICATION

I, Bill Bray, Borough Clerk, do hereby certify the foregoing Resolution to be a true and complete copy of a Resolution duly adopted at a public meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Stratford held on August 5, 2021.

BILL BRAY, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK

RESOLUTION 2021:113

WHEREAS, an overpayment was received in the Tax Collector's office for Block 44, Lot 1 - 2 Cornell Ave;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford the the amount of \$1,896.73 be disbursed to CoreLogic Real Estate Tax Service for the overpayment.

CERTIFICATION

I, Bill Bray, Borough Clerk, do hereby certify the foregoing Resolution to be a true and complete copy of a Resolution duly adopted at a public meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Stratford held on August 5, 2021.

BILL BRAY, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK

RESOLUTION 2021:114

WHEREAS, an overpayment was received in the Tax Collector's office for Block 103, Lot 3 - 33 Overhill Road;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford the the amount of \$1,986.17 be disbursed to CoreLogic Tax Service for the overpayment.

CERTIFICATION

I, Bill Bray, Borough Clerk, do hereby certify the foregoing Resolution to be a true and complete copy of a Resolution duly adopted at a public meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Stratford held on August 5, 2021.

**BILL BRAY, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK**