

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2021
7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: The Borough Clerk Bill Bray called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

STATEMENT OF ADVERTISEMENT: The Borough Clerk read the following statement:
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.

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

ROLL CALL:

JOSH KEENAN, MAYOR – PRESENT
LINDA HALL, COUNCIL PRESIDENT – PRESENT
STEPHEN GANDY, COUNCILMAN – PRESENT
PATRICK GILLIGAN, COUNCILMAN – PRESENT
TINA LOMANNO, COUNCILWOMAN – PRESENT
MICHAEL TOLOMEO, COUNCILMAN – PRESENT
JAMES KELLY, COUNCILMAN – PRESENT
STUART PLATT, BOROUGH SOLICITOR – PRESENT
RON MORELLO, POLICE CHIEF – PRESENT

PUBLIC PORTION FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

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

John Gentless, 111 Union Ave, asked what were the added resolutions. Mr. Gentless asked if there is any way to see the agenda before the Zoom meeting. Mr. Bray stated the agendas are posted online and sent to everyone registered to receive E-Blasts. Mr. Gentless stated the agenda is subject and he can't see the second page when the Zoom hosts shares their screen. Mr. Keenan asked Mr. Bray to state the new items on the agenda. Mr. Bray stated two resolutions were added to approve the contract for the Buttonwood Road Stormwater Outfall Repair and to authorize budget transfers.

There were no further comments.

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

REPORTS:

ORDINANCE & PROPERTY Councilman Kelly read the Zoning Code Officer's Inspection Report for the month of October.

Total number of properties inspected/reinspected: 57
Total number of violations found: 55
43 of the issues have been abated
2 of the issues were not abated
12 of the issues are pending follow up
Total number of citations issued: 3

Councilman Kelly also stated that property owners should make sure they have house numbers properly displayed to aid first responders in finding their location in case of an emergency.

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FINANCE & REVENUE

Councilwoman Lomanno read the report as follows:

BOROUGH FINANCIAL REPORT – October 2021
Balance as of 10-1-2021 – \$3,278,283.85
Total Receipts – \$4,087,769.89
Total Disbursements – \$1,846,231.87
Balance as of 10-31-2021 – \$3,348,493.34
Total in other Funds - \$2,538,026.20

POLICE

Councilman Gilligan read the reports as follows:

October 2021
19 Adult arrests,
2 Juvenile arrests,
0 Assaults to Police,
12 Simple assaults Complaints,
3 Criminal Mischief Complaints,
15 Harassment complaints,
482 Other investigations and complaints,
1 burglary,
0 robberies,
thefts in the amount of \$23,200.00
\$17,400.00 in stolen property recovered,
0 motor vehicle thefts,
5 D.W.I. arrests,
6 Narcotics arrests,
349 Traffic summonses issued,
19 Motor vehicle accidents,
3 injuries from accidents, 1 pedestrian
28 Alarm activations

With 103 Total Crime Reports Taken, and 741 Total Calls for Police Service
Submitted by Ron Morello, Chief of Police

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Councilman Stephen Gandy read portions of the following report.

Fire Department

The Stratford Fire Department responded to 30 Alarms 1 Drills in the month
October 2021. The following list is a breakdown of the same:

| | MONTH | YEAR TO DATE |
|----------------------------------|-------|--------------|
| Dwelling Fires | 0 | 10 |
| Building Fires | 0 | 9 |
| Investigations | 3 | 23 |
| Out of Town Assists | 11 | 112 |
| Alarm Systems | 8 | 83 |
| Assist Ambulance, Police, Public | 3 | 62 |
| Car Fires | 0 | 0 |
| Wires, Trees Down | 4 | 14 |
| Rescues & M.V.A.'s | 9 | 39 |
| Brush Fires | 1 | 6 |
| Drills | 2 | 22 |

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Total work hours on the above alarm drills was 90
Submitted by Michael Lewitt, Deputy Chief

Ambulance Association

The Stratford Ambulance Association **Paid Crew** responded to **137 Alarms** in the month of **OCTOBER 2021**, the following is a breakdown of the same:

| | Paid | |
|--------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| | <u>Month</u> | <u>Y.T.D.</u> |
| 1. Abdominal Pain | 0 | 8 |
| 2. Allergic Reaction | 0 | 5 |
| 3. Altered Mental Status | 0 | 2 |
| 4. Assault | 3 | 16 |
| 5. Bleeding | 8 | 46 |
| 6. Burn Victim | 0 | 0 |
| 7. Cardiac | 14 | 111 |
| 8. CVA | 3 | 22 |
| 9. Diabetic | 2 | 11 |
| 10. Fall | 14 | 114 |
| 11. Fire Call | 3 | 22 |
| 12. Fractures | 0 | 2 |
| 13. Haz-Mat | 0 | 0 |
| 14. Maternity | 0 | 2 |
| 15. Medical Emergency | 26 | 294 |
| 16. Medical Alarm | 3 | 19 |
| 17. MVA | 12 | 73 |
| 18. Overdose | 0 | 9 |
| 19. Ped/MVA | 2 | 6 |
| 20. Psych. Emergency | 11 | 121 |
| 21. Respiratory | 11 | 128 |
| 22. Seizures | 5 | 33 |
| 23. Sick Person | 8 | 43 |
| 24. Special Assignment | 0 | 2 |
| 25. Stabbing | 0 | 1 |
| 26. Unconscious Person | 16 | 103 |

Suspected COVID-19 Alarms: 0

Year to Date Calls

Paid: 1195

Submitted by Kristine Shafer, Chief-Stratford Ambulance

The Stratford Ambulance Association **Volunteer Crew** responded to **18 Alarms** in the month of **October 2021**, the following is a breakdown of the same:

| | Volunteer | |
|-------------------|------------------|---------------|
| | <u>Month</u> | <u>Y.T.D.</u> |
| Abdominal Pain | 0 | 3 |
| Allergic Reaction | 0 | 0 |
| Assault | 1 | 3 |
| Bleeding | 0 | 5 |
| Burn Victim | 0 | 1 |
| Cardiac | 1 | 13 |
| CVA | 0 | 2 |
| Diabetic | 0 | 5 |

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| | | |
|--------------------|---|----|
| Fall | 6 | 7 |
| Fire Call | 0 | 3 |
| Haz-Mat | 0 | 0 |
| Maternity | 0 | 1 |
| Medical Emergency | 4 | 45 |
| Medical Alarm | 0 | 1 |
| MVA | 1 | 9 |
| Overdose | 0 | 3 |
| Ped/MVA | 0 | 2 |
| Psych. Emergency | 2 | 19 |
| Respiratory | 3 | 21 |
| Seizures | 1 | 4 |
| Sick Person | 0 | 3 |
| Special Assignment | 0 | 0 |
| Stabbing | 0 | 1 |
| Unconscious Person | 3 | 11 |
| Fractures | 0 | 0 |

Suspected COVID-19 Alarms: 0

Year to Date Calls

Volunteer: 153

Submitted by Kristine Shafer, Chief-Stratford Ambulance

PUBLIC WORKS & LIGHTING Councilman Michael Tolomeo read the reports as follows:

Sewer Utility

- Call outs for emergency service: 7
- Performed preemptive checks and required maintenance of all manholes and pump stations
- Work orders:
 - Clean Storm Drains
 - Removed old Yard Sale Signs throughout Borough
 - Repaired broken metal bench at Veterans Park
 - Repaired Bike rack at Vassar Park
 - Removed & Installed signs at RR tracks
 - Repaired Estates I Sign at RR tracks

Regular maintenance activities performed include:

- Weekly trash pickup and cleanup at Yellin School, Parkview School and Vassar Ave. ball fields
- Bi weekly town wide metal/appliance collection.

Public Works

- Cutting at Borough properties, parks and ballfields
- Cutting of Sterling Arms, Quaker Store & railroad
- Chipper out two times during month
- Cleaning of storm drains.
- Trimming of bushes
- Metal and electronic pick up two times for a month
- Trimmed curb trees on Cooper and Cornell
- Serviced leaf machines
- Installed new hitch on F250 truck
- Installed bike rack from Christian Academy at Hagerty Park

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- Pick up filing cabinets from Knoll Road and transported to Borough Hall
- Reinstalled Stop Sign at Cornell Ave and White Horse Pike

PUBLIC EVENTS - Councilwoman Hall congratulated the 18 participants in the Halloween Decorating Contest. Councilwoman Hall stated the winners are: 1st Place - The Swallow Family, 23 Bryan Maur Ave.; 2nd Place - The Schmuckler Family, 109 Longwood Drive; 3rd Place - The Alonkoff Family, 11 Jefferson Ave; 4th Place - The McLaughlin and Roger Families' 10 Wright Ave.; 5th Place - The Facciolo Family, 6 Buttonwood Rd. Councilwoman Hall stated the Miss Stratford Contest would be Nov 11 and Little Miss Stratford will be Nov. 12. Councilwoman Hall stated the ribbon cutting for Tim Hortons would be Nov. 17, the Tree Lighting would be Dec 3 at 6:30 and the Stratford Moms Food Drive Dec. 11. Councilwoman Hall thanked John Keenan for his work to get decorative flags for Borough telephone poles.

OLD BUSINESS:
ORDINANCE 2021-20

Councilman Gandy motioned to open the public hearing on Ordinance 2021:20. Councilwoman Lomanno seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a Voice Vote.

There were no comments from the public.

Councilman Tolomeo motioned to close the public hearing on Ordinance 2021:20. Councilwoman Hall seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a Voice Vote.

Councilman Tolomeo motioned to adopt Ordinance 2021:20. Councilwoman Lomanno seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

ORDINANCE 2021:20
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 10.44 TRAFFIC SCHEDULES

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford:

SECTION 1

Delete the following from Schedule I – No Parking of 10.44.010:

| Name of Street | Sides | Location |
|----------------|-----------|--|
| Grand Avenue | Northwest | From west corner of Oxford Avenue extending 125 feet northwesterly along Block 35, Lot 2 |
| Oxford Avenue | Both | Entire length |

SECTION 2

Add the following to Schedule IV – Permit parking only of 10.44.040.

| Resident | Name of Street | Location |
|-----------------|----------------|--|
| Block 25, Lot 2 | Grand Avenue | From the curbline from Laurel Road to Union Avenue |

SECTION 3

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All Ordinances and provisions thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance shall be and are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 4

If any section, subsection, part, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance shall be declared invalid of judgment by any court of competent jurisdiction, such section, subsection, part, sentence, clause or phrase shall be deemed to be severable from the remainder of this Ordinance.

SECTION 5

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage and publication according to law.

NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE 2021:21 - AMENDING ORDINANCE 2021:06 ESTABLISHING SALARIES

The Borough Clerk announced this is the first reading and introduction; the public hearing for this ordinance will be on December 14, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Councilwoman Lomanno made the motion to introduce ORDINANCE 2021:21, with Councilman Gandy making a second with all Council voting aye by roll call vote.

**ORDINANCE 2021:21
AMENDING ORDINANCE 2021:06 ESTABLISHING SALARIES**

WHEREAS, it has become necessary to amend certain salaries set forth in ordinance 2021:06

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford, County of Camden, and State of New Jersey that Ordinance 2021:06 is amended for the following title:

Section 1:

Tax Assessor \$10,000.00 - \$20,000.00

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 and final passage in the manner prescribed by law.

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTIONS 2021:157 THROUGH 2021-162 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. 2021-157 AUTHORIZE CANCELLING OF TAX BILL – 317 Cornell Ave.
RES. 2021-158 AUTHORIZE REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENT – 116 Parkview
RES. 2021-159 AUTHORIZE REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENT – 105 Grand Ave
RES. 2021-160 APPOINT FIREFIGHTER - WALSH
RES. 2021-161 AWARD CONTRACT FOR BUTTONWOOD ROAD STORMWATER OUTFALL REPAIR PROJECT

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RES. 2021-162 AUTHORIZE 2021 BUDGET TRANSFERS

Councilman Gandy requested that Res. 2021-160 be read into the record.

WHEREAS, the Stratford Fire Company shall submit Firemen’s Association Application for Membership to the governing body for their approval; and

WHEREAS, an application for Garrett C. Walsh of Stratford, NJ has been submitted;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford to approve the Firemen’s Association Application for Membership for Garrett C. Walsh

Councilman Gandy made the motion to adopt the Consent Agenda of resolutions as submitted, with Councilman Gilligan making the second and all Council voting aye by roll call vote.

BUSINESS LICENSE

Mr. Bray stated the application for a business license from Fortunate Home Healthcare, 215 E. Lauren Road was reviewed and approved by the Stratford Police Department.

Councilwoman Hall made a motion to approve the Business License for Fortunate Home Healthcare, with Councilman Tolomeo making the second and all Council voting aye by roll call vote.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

| | | | | | |
|---|-------|---------|-------|-----|--|
| Animal checks | 1932 | through | 1935 | | |
| Manual checks | 20037 | through | 20042 | | |
| Payroll checks | 54928 | through | 55049 | and | |
| Automated checks | 35764 | through | 35844 | | |
| Various electronic transfers and potential interim payments | | | | | |

Councilman Kelly motioned to approve the payment of the bills. Councilman Tolomeo seconded the motion, with all members present voted in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

- Councilwoman Hall – Check the website, e-blast and Facebook for more info on upcoming events.
- Councilman Gandy – Thanks to Garrett Walsh on his appointment and thanks to the residents of Stratford for their support and looking forward to another three years on Council.
- Councilman Gilligan – Nothing at this time.
- Councilwoman Lomanno – Tim Hortons Grand Open in Nov. 17. It is great to see a new business coming to the Borough. Please come out to show your support.
- Councilman Tolomeo – Please take time on Veterans Day to remember those who have serve. Cannabis Committee has met and discussed the legislation coming for the state, how neighboring towns are responding and any new developments.
- Councilman Kelly – Thank you to all those who supported Councilman Gandy and I. I hope to earn the trust of those who did not. I am humbled and honored by the community’s support. I look forward to the next three years.

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GOOD AND WELFARE:

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

John Gentless, 111 Union Ave., asked if the CFO/Tax Collector is retiring. Mr. Keenan stated he is anticipated to retire next year and the Borough has posted the position in preparation. Mr. Gentless asked if there was any updates on the Bradlees site. Mr. Platt stated there is a hearing in early December between the County and Brandywine. Mr. Gentless asked if Tim Hortons was installing a mono poll sign. Mr. Keenan stated there are two free standing signs. Mr. Gentless asked if the Borough was authorizing condemnation in the new redevelopment area because of the asking price listed for some of the properties that are for sale.

There were no further comments. Mr. Platt stated there is no motivation being contemplated for the proposed redevelopment area. Mr. Platt stated this would be phase 2 of the Berlin Road Redevelopment. There were no further comments.

Councilwoman Hall made a motion to close the public portion, with Councilman Tolomeo making a second, and all Council voting aye.

ADJOURN:

Councilman Kelly motioned to adjourn the meeting at approx. 7:30 PM. Councilwoman Hall seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a voice vote.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Bill Bray, RMC
Borough Clerk