

**BOROUGH OF FAR HILLS**  
Borough Council Regular Meeting  
**MINUTES**  
October 25, 2021  
VIA REMOTE MEETING ACCESS ONLY

**CALL TO ORDER**

Council President Karner called the remote meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and read the open public meetings statement in accordance with the law.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Council President Karner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Councilman Joseph Carty, Councilwoman Mary Chimenti, Council President David Karner, Councilman Ted McLean, Councilman Kevin Welsh  
Absent, as Excused: Councilwoman Sheila Tweedie, Mayor Paul J. Vallone, MD  
Absent:  
Also Present: Borough Clerk Dorothy S. Hicks, Chief of Police Michael DeCarolis, and Borough Attorney Joseph Sordillo

**REPORTS**

**Councilman Kevin Welsh – Fire, Water, Light, Buildings & Grounds**

No report.

**Councilman Ted McLean – Roads**

Councilman McLean provided an update on the PSE&G gas installation project along US Route 202 and stated Mayor Vallone had sent a letter to the Borough's PSE&G representative to address the concerns raised regarding the exposed soil.

Councilman McLean continued providing an update on the Somerset County paving project along Peapack Road as well as the cleaning of the stormwater inlets throughout the Borough. Ms. Hicks added Somerset County had been contacted and via a shared services agreement would be cleaning and jetting the stormwater inlets on the municipal roadways.

Lastly, he indicated there were two small decaying trees in the island on Sunnybranch Road and inquired as to the process to have them removed. Mr. Sordillo responded the Borough Engineer, Paul Ferriero had been contacted and would be reviewing the site to determine the responsible party as well as the condition of the trees.

**Councilman Joseph Carty – Finance/Insurance**

Councilman Carty reported he met with CFO, Ms. Stern and the Borough's finances were in good order.

**Councilwoman Mary Chimenti – Laws and Ordinances**

No report.

**Council President David Karner – Police**

Council President Karner reported on the Far Hills Race Meeting event which was held on October 16, 2021 at Moorland Farm and acknowledged the efforts of the Far Hills Police Department. He noted there were approximately 30,000 in attendance and 13 arrests were made.

**Chief Michael DeCarolis**

Chief DeCarolis stated he anticipated the milling and paving project on Peapack Road would continue through October 27, 2021 due to weather related delays.

**REGULAR AGENDA****APPROVAL OF MINUTES****10/12/21 – Regular Meeting Minutes**

Motion by Councilwoman Chimenti, seconded by Councilman Carty was unanimously carried that these minutes be approved for content and release.

**NEW BUSINESS****ORDINANCES – INTRODUCTION**

ORDINANCE 2021-14 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF FAR HILLS' ACCEPTANCE OF A STREAM CORRIDOR CONSERVATION EASEMENT AND DEED OF ROADWAY DEDICATION FROM DANIEL AND AMY NEU IN CONNECTION WITH THE PLANNING BOARD'S GRANT OF VARIANCE RELIEF.

Mr. Sordillo provided an overview of the Ordinance and indicated the acceptance of the easement and roadway dedication were a few of the conditions of approval imposed by the Borough Planning Board. He informed the Council that due to the variation of right of ways along Lake Road it was recommended by the Borough Engineer, Paul Ferriero to establish a dedication of roadway, in conjunction with Planning Board applications, on an ongoing basis.

Motion by Councilman McLean, seconded by Councilman Carty that Ordinance 2021-14 be introduced.

Roll Call:

Aye: Carty, Chimenti, McLean, Welsh, Karner

Nay:

Abstain:

Motion Carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The items listed within the Consent Agenda portion of the meeting have been referred to the Borough Council for reading and study and are considered routine and will be enacted with one motion of the Borough Council with no separate discussion. If separate discussion is required, the item may be removed from the Consent Agenda by Borough Council action and placed on the Regular Agenda under New Business.

**RESOLUTIONS**

1. Resolution 21-130 – Appointment – Deputy Court Administrator
2. Resolution 21-131 – Authorizing Cancellation and Refund of Taxes  
B16 L14.02 - 9 Schley Road
3. Resolution 21-132 – Authorizing Payment of Bill List

Motion by Councilman Carty, seconded by Councilwoman Chimenti that Resolutions 21-130 through 12-132 be approved.

Roll Call:

Aye: Carty, Chimenti, McLean, Welsh, Karner

Nay:

Abstain:

Motion Carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – *The Mayor and Council welcome comments from any member of the public. To help facilitate an orderly meeting and to permit the opportunity for anyone who wishes to be heard, speakers shall limit their comments to 5 minutes.*

Council President Karner informed members of the public that the Borough Council would be adhering to the five-minute time limit for public comment. Ms. Hicks would advise members of the public when one minute remained; and again when thirty seconds remained.

Motion by Councilman McLean, seconded by Councilwoman Chimenti, was unanimously carried to open the meeting to public comment.

Charles Schwester, 410 Lake Road, Far Hills read a statement regarding ad hominen comments made about him during prior Borough Council meetings and stated he intended to seek legal action.

Karen Reilly, 7 Fox Hunt Court, Far Hills clarified her comments made at prior Council meetings, regarding the exposed dirt along Route US 202 from the PSE&G project, were expressed out of concern for public safety and not meant as a complaint towards the Borough.

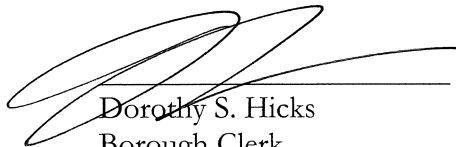
There were no further comments from the public.

Motion by Councilman Carty, seconded by Councilman McLean was unanimously carried to close the meeting to public comment.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Councilman Carty, seconded by Councilman McLean was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dorothy S. Hicks  
Borough Clerk

APPROVED – 11/8/21