

**BOROUGH OF FAR HILLS**  
Borough Council Regular Meeting  
**MINUTES**  
January 3, 2022  
Via Remote Meeting Access Only

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Vallone called the remote meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. The flag salute and reading of the open public meetings statement and roll call was previously conducted at the Reorganization meeting held immediately prior to this Regular meeting.

**REPORTS**

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

Councilman Welsh reported he is continuing to obtain estimates for repairs and upgrades to the Fairgrounds and Municipal Building and a more detailed report would be forthcoming.

**Councilwoman Tweedie – Health/Sanitation**

Councilwoman Tweedie reported that the next meeting of the Sanitary Transmission Advisory Board (STAB) was planned for mid-January and the Borough of Peapack and Gladstone would be organizing the quarterly meetings this year. A preliminary 2022 Budget was presented at the December 7, 2021, STAB meeting but will be further reviewed at the meeting in January.

**Councilman McLean – Roads**

No report.

**Councilman Carty – Finance/Insurance**

No report.

**Councilwoman Chimenti – Laws, Ordinances & Elections**

No report.

**Council President Karner – Police**

Council President Karner reported the Police Department is working well and noted the addition of two new police officers.

**Chief DeCarolís – Police**

Chief DeCarolís expressed his appreciation to Mayor Vallone for the acknowledgment in the Mayor's Address this evening and wished everyone a happy and safe 2022.

**Mayor Vallone**

Mayor Vallone stated he would be meeting with the Ms. Stern, Borough CFO next week to review the 2022 Budget.

With respect to Covid-19 and the increased exposures as a result the Omicron variant, all public meetings will continue to be held remotely via Zoom and the Far Hills Municipal Building will be closed to the public until further notice to ensure the safety of our staff and residents.

Mayor Vallone indicated that Far Hills maintains a strong fiscal position and while being mindful of cost containment will continue to provide the best possible services to our residents. He reviewed the recently completed infrastructure projects on Peapack and Mine Brook roads and noted improvements to Pennbrook Road were planned for this year.

Once again, he expressed his appreciation to the members of Borough Council who have given wholeheartedly to the Borough and stated it was a privilege to work with such a talented group of people.

On behalf of the Council, Council President Karner expressed their appreciation for Mayor Vallone's dedication and leadership.

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

#### **12/27/21 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Motion by Council President Karner, seconded by Councilman McLean, was unanimously carried that these minutes be approved for content and release.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **ORDINANCES – INTRODUCTION**

#### **ORDINANCE 2022-01 – AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$40,000.00 FOR PENNBROOK RD IMPROVEMENTS – ENGINEERING**

Motion by Councilwoman Tweedie, seconded by Councilwoman Chimenti that Ordinance 2022-01 be introduced.

Roll Call:

Aye: Carty, Chimenti, Karner, McLean, Tweedie, Welsh

Nay:

Abstain:

Motion Carried.

#### **ORDINANCE 2022-02 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF FAR HILLS APPROPRIATING \$75,000.00 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND TO THE BOROUGH'S AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNITS.**

Mr. Sordillo provided a brief overview of the Ordinance.

Motion by Council President Karner, seconded by Councilman McLean that Ordinance 2022-02 be introduced.

Roll Call:

Aye: Carty, Chimenti, Karner, McLean, Tweedie, Welsh

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 is considered routine and will be enacted with one motion 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 22-040 – Temporary Capital Budget  
Pennbrook Road Improvements – Engineering
2. Resolution 22-041 – Temporary Capital Budget  
Development of Affordable Housing Units
3. Resolution 22-042 – Payment of Bill List

Motion by Council President Karner, seconded by Councilwoman Chimenti that Resolutions 22-040 through 22-042 be approved.

Roll Call:

Aye: Carty, Chimenti, Karner, McLean, Tweedie, Welsh

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.*

Motion by Council President Karner, seconded by Councilman McLean to open the meeting to public comment.

Thomas Rochat, 222 Mine Brook Road, Far Hills expressed his appreciation to the Mayor and Council.

Shanel Robinson, Somerset County Commissioner, wished everyone a happy and healthy New Year and looked forward to working with Far Hills again this year.

Mayor Vallone also expressed his appreciation to Commissioner Robinson and Somerset County for the support they have provided to the Borough of Far Hills.

There were no further comments from the public.

Motion by Council President Karner, seconded by Councilwoman Tweedie to close the meeting to public comment.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

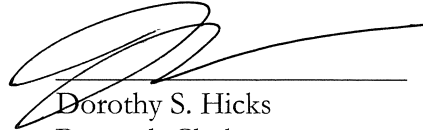
### **Resolution 22-043 - Attorney-Client Privilege – Potential Litigation – Zoning Violations**

Motion by Council President Karner, seconded by Councilwoman Chimenti, was unanimously carried to approve Resolution 22-043.

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AND ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Council President Karner, seconded by Councilwoman Tweedie was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dorothy S. Hicks', is written over a horizontal line.

Dorothy S. Hicks  
Borough Clerk

APPROVED – 1/24/22