

**BOROUGH OF FAR HILLS**  
Borough Council Regular Meeting  
**MINUTES**  
October 15, 2019

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Vallone called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. at the Far Hills Municipal Building and read the open public meetings statement in accordance with the law.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Vallone led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Carty, Chimenti, Hand, Surks, Tweedie, Vallone

Absent, as Excused: Karner

Absent:

Also Present: Clerk Hicks, Attorney Sordillo

**REPORTS**

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

Councilman Hand noted the VNA Rummage Post Sale meeting was scheduled for October 17, 2019 at 9:30 am.

**Councilwoman Tweedie – Health/Sanitation**

No report.

**Councilman Surks – Roads**

Councilman Surks reported that bid specifications were being prepared for a potential joint project for the DeMun Place/Dumont Road Drainage and Ludlow Avenue road improvements.

**Councilman Carty – Finance/Insurance**

No report. In Chief DeCarolis' absence, Councilman Carty reported that preparations were underway throughout the Borough for the Race event on Saturday, October 19, 2019.

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

No report.

**Mayor Vallone**

Mayor Vallone echoed Councilman Hand's report regarding the VNA Rummage Sale.

Mayor Vallone reported that he met with representatives from the Far Hills Race Meeting Association this morning to review security measures and final event preparations. He also stated that there were several international entrants for the race this year and noted that it was the 99<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the event.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

9/23/19 – Regular Meeting

Motion by Councilman Hand, seconded by Councilman Surks, was unanimously carried that these minutes be approved for content and release.

9/23/19 – Executive Session

Motion by Councilman Surks, seconded by Councilman Carty, was unanimously carried that these minutes be approved for content only.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **ORDINANCES – PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION**

**ORDINANCE 2019-06** – AN ORDINANCE TO FIX AND DETERMINE THE SALARIES, WAGES OR COMPENSATION TO BE PAID TO CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF FAR HILLS, IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Motion by Councilman Hand, seconded by Councilwoman Tweedie and unanimously carried to open the public hearing.

There were no comments from the public. Clerk Hicks advised that the notice of the public hearing was published in the newspaper of record, and that no communication, either written or verbal, was received regarding the Ordinance.

Motion by Councilman Hand, seconded by Councilwoman Tweedie and unanimously carried to close the public hearing.

Motion by Councilman Surks, seconded by Councilman Carty that Ordinance 2019-06 be adopted.

Roll Call:

Aye: Carty, Chimenti, Hand, Surks, Tweedie

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 agenda by Borough Council action and placed on the regular agenda under new business.

1. Resolution 19-131 – Appointment – Planning Board Secretary – Shana Goodchild
2. Resolution 19-132 – Accepting Resignation – Administrative Assistant
3. Resolution 19-133 – Accepting Resignation – Planning Board – Cheryl Devine
4. Resolution 19-134 – Authorizing a Refund of Escrow Balance – Nazario M. Paragano
5. Resolution 19-135 – Authorizing Return of Maintenance Bond – Team Welsh
6. Resolution 19-136 – Authorizing a Financial Incentive Program – State Health Benefits Plan
7. Resolution 19-137 – Authorizing a Health Benefits Waiver Payment
8. Resolution 19-138 – Payment of Bill List

Motion by Councilwoman Tweedie, seconded by Councilman Surks that Resolutions 19-131 through 19-138 be approved.

Roll Call:

Aye: Carty, Chimenti, Hand, Surks, Tweedie

Nay:

Abstain:

Motion Carried.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Best Practices Inventory – 2019**

Ms. Hicks informed the Council that the Division of Local Government Services requires every municipality to annually complete the Best Practices Inventory. Responses are scored and determine the percentage of state aid to be received by the municipality. Ms. Hicks indicated that she and CFO, Debra Stern completed and certified the inventory and the Borough would be receiving 100% of its allotted state aid.

**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.*

Mr. Rick Rinzler, 11 Hurlingham Club Road, Far Hills inquired if there was a plan for trash pickup after the Far Hills Race Meeting event, specifically in the area from Lake Road to Sunnybranch Road.

Mayor Vallone responded that the Far Hills Race Meeting Association has arranged, as they have in prior years, to have a crew pick up trash early the next morning. He asked that residents inform the Borough of any areas that were not adequately cleared of debris.

Mr. Sordillo informed the Borough Council that there were no updates regarding affordable housing and advised that it was not necessary for the Council to meet in Executive Session this evening. He noted that a public presentation by the Matheny Group Home and introduction of the Zoning Ordinance, for the property located at 46 Peapack Road, was currently scheduled for the October 28, 2019 Borough Council meeting. He advised that presentations for the other affordable housing sites would be scheduled for subsequent Borough Council meetings.

Councilman Carty inquired as to the notice provided to residents to ensure that everyone is properly informed of these presentations.

Mr. Sordillo responded by detailing the public notice requirements per the Municipal Land Use Law for the public hearing and adoption of the Zoning Ordinance, which includes publication in the newspaper of record and certified and regular mailings to residents within 200' of the subject property boundary. Mr. Sordillo indicated, that although not required, a notice of the introduction of the Zoning Ordinance would also be published in the newspaper and mailed to residents within the 200' boundary. Notice of the public presentation would also be posted at the Municipal building and included on the Borough website. It was suggested that a Nixle alert also be sent.

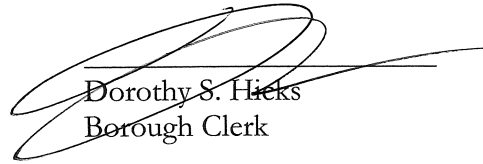
There were no further comments from the public.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Councilwoman Tweedie, seconded by Councilman Surks and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED – 10/28/19



Dorothy S. Hicks  
Borough Clerk