



The Borough of Mendham

Meeting of the Mayor and Council

August 26, 2024

7:00 PM

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Serrano Glassner called the August 26, 2024, Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Garabrant Center, 4 Wilson Street, Mendham, New Jersey.

2. **FLAG SALUTE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Mayor Serrano Glassner led a moment of silence and proceeded with the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **OPENING STATEMENT**

Notice of this meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mendham was published in the Daily Record and Star Ledger, posted in the Bowers Building, and was filed in the Office of the Borough Clerk in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Official action will be taken at this meeting.

4. **ROLL CALL**

The following officials were present:

Mayor Christine Serrano Glassner

Council President James Kelly

Council Member Marilyn Althoff

Council Member Steve Andrew

Council Member Matthew Bruin

Council Member Will Russo

Council Member Neil Sullivan

Also present were:

Fred Semrau, Esq., Dorsey & Semrau, LLC

Lauren McBride, Acting Borough Clerk

5. **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

1. **Minutes:** a. **August 7, 2024**

2. **Special Event Permit Application:** a. **Shofar in the Park, 10/3/2024**

b. **MBHSA Harvest Hustle, 10/5/2024**

Motion to Approve: Council Member Althoff
Second: Council Member Bruin
Ayes: Kelly, Althoff, Andrew, Bruin, Russo, Sullivan
(Council member Russo and Sullivan Recused from Minutes)
Nays: None
Abstain: None

6. PRESENTATION

1. Mackenzie Kay presented her Girl Scout Silver Project, "Mendham Maps". She plans to place two map kiosks at the Dean Rd and Knollwood Dr entrances of Patriots Path. The maps are intended to help guide people along the trails and provide information about Mendham.

Council Members Sullivan and Russo commended Ms. Kay on her project.

Mayor Serrano Glassner asked for a motion to approve the project. Member Russo made a motion to approve, and it was seconded by member Sullivan. All were in favor.

2. Karl Maurer presented his Eagle Scout Project, "Flag Collection Boxes". He plans to build boxes for collecting flags in need of retirement. Flag collection boxes will be placed at the police station and the Phoenix House.

Council Members Althoff and Russo commended Mr. Maurer on his idea. Mayor Serrano Glassner asked Mr. Maurer to please submit his budget to Lauren McBride, Acting Borough Clerk.

Mayor Serrano Glassner asked for a motion to approve the project. Member Kelly made a motion to approve, and it was seconded by member Althoff. All were in favor.

7. ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION AND PUBLIC HEARING

#11-2024 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 38 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM, ENTITLED "POLICE DEPARTMENT"

Public Hearing: Mayor Serrano Glassner opened the public hearing and stated any interested person will be given an opportunity to be heard on this Ordinance. You must clearly state their name and address for the record. THE SPEAKER DOES NOT NEED TO PROVIDE THEIR ADDRESS IF THEY HAVE BEEN VERIFIED BY THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION PRIVACY AS A COVERED PERSON IN THE BOROUGH UNDER DANIEL'S LAW.

Jon Alpern of 30 Phoenix Dr read a statement from the Mendham First Aide Squad. They are not in favor of Ordinance 11-2024, section 38-22, item D.

Richard Pace of 5 Forest Drive asked what is the benefit? Why would you have a non-police professional running the department?

Borough Attorney, Fred Semrau stated that the Public Safety Director position works to facilitate growth within the police department. They are usually retired chiefs of police. They coordinate with the governing body new ideas to make the department stronger. It is not a permanent position. They will help the department grow during this transitional time. To prepare before the next chief is appointed.

Tom Rudd of 15 Hoffman Rd asked, what is the cost? What is the value? Is this the standard for when someone retires?

The mayor stated that the position is not intended to be permanent. It is to help the department grow and prepare for the future.

Carol Pace of 5 Forest Drive asked, why are you doing this? What are you looking for that we do not have?

Ken Lordy of 17 Florie Farm Rd stated he didn't realize this position was an interim position. He would like to add that the position is interim to the ordinance.

Jon Alpern of 30 Phoenix Drive stated the ordinance states there cannot be a chief of police and public safety director simultaneously.

Council member Bruin stated that he is in favor of the public safety director position on a short-term contract basis.

Council member Russo stated that he is in support of the position as a short term to establish a long-term plan.

Council member Althoff explained that the public safety committee is in agreement that the position is short term.

Mayor Serrano Glassner asked for a motion to approve the ordinance with the change of “shall” to “may” in section D.

Motion to Approve: Council Member Althoff
Second: Council Member Kelly
Ayes: Kelly, Althoff, Bruin, Russo, Sullivan
Nays: Andrew
Abstain: None

#12-2024 ORDINANCE AMENDING AN APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY, HERETOFORE ADOPTED ON APRIL 12, 2023 (#05-2023)

Public Hearing: Mayor Serrano Glassner opened the public hearing and stated any interested person will be given an opportunity to be heard on this Ordinance. You must clearly state their name and address for the record. THE SPEAKER DOES NOT NEED TO PROVIDE THEIR ADDRESS IF THEY HAVE BEEN VERIFIED BY THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION PRIVACY AS A COVERED PERSON IN THE BOROUGH UNDER DANIEL’S LAW.

Motion to Approve: Council Member Kelly
Second: Council Member Althoff
Ayes: Kelly, Althoff, Andrew, Bruin, Russo, Sullivan
Nays: None
Abstain: None

#13-2024 ORDINANCE AMENDING AN APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY, HERETOFORE ADOPTED ON OCTOBER 24, 2022 (#09-2022)

Public Hearing: Mayor Serrano Glassner opened the public hearing and stated any interested person will be given an opportunity to be heard on this Ordinance. You must clearly state their name and address for the record. THE SPEAKER DOES NOT NEED TO PROVIDE THEIR ADDRESS IF THEY HAVE BEEN VERIFIED BY THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION PRIVACY AS A COVERED PERSON IN THE BOROUGH UNDER DANIEL’S LAW.

Motion to Approve: Council Member Kelly
Second: Council Member Russo
Ayes: Kelly, Althoff, Andrew, Bruin, Russo, Sullivan

Nays: None
Abstain: None

#14-2024 BOND ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$1,020,000, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$850,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH, FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS OR PURPOSES AUTHORIZED TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY

Public Hearing: Mayor Serrano Glassner opened the public hearing and stated any interested person will be given an opportunity to be heard on this Ordinance. You must clearly state their name and address for the record. THE SPEAKER DOES NOT NEED TO PROVIDE THEIR ADDRESS IF THEY HAVE BEEN VERIFIED BY THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION PRIVACY AS A COVERED PERSON IN THE BOROUGH UNDER DANIEL'S LAW.

Motion to Approve: Council Member Althoff
Second: Council Member Sullivan
Ayes: Kelly, Althoff, Andrew, Bruin, Russo, Sullivan
Nays: None
Abstain: None

8. RESOLUTIONS

#125-2024 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO THE MORRIS COUNTY TRAIL DESIGN GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE BOROUGH PARK AND ARBORETUM TRAIL

Motion to Approve: Council Member Kelly
Second: Council Member Bruin
Ayes: Kelly, Althoff, Andrew, Bruin, Russo, Sullivan
Nays: None
Abstain: None

**#126-2024 AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF PAYMENT RECEIVED FROM VARIOUS REGISTRANTS FOR THE 2024 MENDHAM DAY CAMP PROGRAM
#127-2024 RESOLUTION TO REFUND TAX OVERPAYMENT FOR BLOCK 1701, LOT 13**

Motion to Approve: Council Member Althoff
Second: Council Member Russo

Ayes: Kelly, Althoff, Andrew, Bruin, Russo, Sullivan
Nays: None
Abstain: None

#128-2024 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PASTIME CLUB TO CONDUCT A FIREWORKS DISPLAY AT BOROUGH PARK ON LABOR DAY, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2024 (RAIN DATE SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2024)

Motion to Approve: Council Member Althoff
Second: Council Member Russo
Ayes: Kelly, Althoff, Andrew, Bruin, Russo, Sullivan
Nays: None
Abstain: None

#129-2024 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM AND THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE WEST MORRIS REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PROVIDE THE SERVICES OF A SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER CLASS II/CLASS III FOR PURPOSES OF SCHOOL SECURITY AT THE WEST MORRIS MENDHAM HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

Motion to Approve: Council Member Kelly
Second: Council Member Russo
Ayes: Kelly, Althoff, Andrew, Bruin, Russo, Sullivan
Nays: None
Abstain: None

#130-2024 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF PAYMENT RECEIVED FROM FOOD TRUCK VENDORS FOR EVENT FOOD LICENSE AND EVENT FIRE PERMIT

Motion to Approve: Council Member Althoff
Second: Council Member Sullivan
Ayes: Kelly, Althoff, Andrew, Bruin, Russo, Sullivan
Nays: None
Abstain: None

#131-2024 RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING COUNCIL (HIGHLANDS COUNCIL) FOR FUNDING ASSISTANCE TO ACHIEVE COMPLIANCE UNDER THE 2023 TIER A MUNICIPAL STORMWATER GENERAL PERMIT (NJPDDES: NJG0151483)

Motion to Approve: Council Member Russo
Second: Council Member Kelly
Ayes: Kelly, Althoff, Andrew, Bruin, Russo, Sullivan
Nays: None
Abstain: None

9. ADMINISTRATOR OPERATIONS REPORT

Administrator Bushman reported that there was an update with the Borough's Finance software. MSI now automatically posts Tax and Sewer journal entries.

10. COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Works and Utilities– Chair Steve Andrew

The chair reported: The milling and paving on Main Street will begin 9/3 from 7:30 pm – 5:00 am.

Land Use - Chair Neil Sullivan

JLUB: Met last week for the V-Fee application. Testimony will be heard next Tuesday September 17, 2024.

Personnel/Volunteer Projects Liaison - Chair Will Russo

Nothing to report.

Finance - Chair Jim Kelly

Nothing to report.

Recreation and Parks/School Boards Liaison – Matthew Bruin

The chair reported: Met with the committee to start future planning for next year's events. Labor Day Parade is on 9/7.

Public Safety/Board of Health Liaison - Chair Marilyn Althoff

The chair reported: The "see me" flags are now in place on Bowers to help pedestrians cross.

11. MAYOR'S ITEMS

Mayor Serrano Glassner stated there will be a special meeting held this Thursday night.

12. BOROUGH ATTORNEY REPORT

Borough attorney Fred Semrau commended Ms. Kay and Mr. Maurer on their impressive presentations.

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS -AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Mayor Serrano Glassner opened the public session.

14. APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Bills List Dated August 24, 2024

Motion to Approve:	Council Member Althoff
Second:	Council Member Russo
Ayes:	Kelly, Althoff, Andrew, Bruin, Russo, Sullivan
Nays:	None
Abstain:	None

15. ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to conduct, Mayor Serrano Glassner asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion to Adjourn: Council Member Kelly

Second:	Council Member Russo
Ayes:	Kelly, Althoff, Andrew, Bruin, Russo, Sullivan
Nays:	None

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm

Respectfully Submitted:

Lauren McBride
Acting Borough Clerk
The Borough of Mendham