

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
BOROUGH OF CLOSTER

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 24, 2019 - 7:30 P.M

Mayor Glidden called the meeting to order at 8:15 p.m.

1. PROVISIONS OF OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT

This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey, was included in the Annual Notice of Meetings which was published in The Record and The Star Ledger on January 9, 2019, was posted on the Municipal Clerk's bulletin board and has remained posted as the required notices under the Statute. In addition, a copy of the notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

2. ROLL CALL

The following persons were present:

Mayor John C. Glidden, Jr.
Councilpersons Scott Devlin, Alissa Latner, Dolores Witko, Joseph Yammarino,
Jannie Chung and Victoria Amitai
Borough Attorney, Edward Rogan
Borough Auditor, Gary Vinci
Chief Financial Officer, Joseph Luppino
Borough Clerk, Loretta Castano
Borough Engineer, Nick DeNicola
Chief of Police, Dennis Kaine

3. MAYORAL PRESENTATION(S)

4. PRESENTATION(S)

The Girl Scout Troop 94765 presentation regarding the PHONES DOWN/EYES UP poster was made during the Work Session

5. MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS (Not made at the Reorganization Meeting held 1/2/19):

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>INCUMBENT</u>	<u>MAYOR GLIDDEN'S APPOINTMENT</u>	<u>TERM</u>	<u>EXPIRES</u>
*Environmental Commission				
Member	<u>Jeffrey Lee</u> (Declined Appointment)	<u>NO APPOINTMENT</u>	3 Years (Unexp. MacDonald)	31-Dec-20
Associate Member	<u>Jeffrey Lee</u>	<u>NO APPOINTMENT</u>	1 Year	31-Dec-19
*Planning Board				
Alternate No. 1	<u>Melissa Corso</u> (Resigned 3/11/19)	<u>NO APPOINTMENT</u>	2 Years (Unexp. Corso)	31-Dec-20
*Shade Tree Commission				
Alternate No. 2	<u>Tsun Tam</u>	<u>NO APPOINTMENT</u>	4 Years (Unexp. Tam)	31-Dec-19

6. RESOLUTION RE WAIVER OF READING IN FULL OF THE 2019 MUNICIPAL BUDGET PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-8

Borough Auditor explained that the Resolution eliminates the need for the governing body to read the entire document.

Motion of approval was made by Councilman Yammarino, seconded by Councilwoman Chung and declared carried by Mayor Glidden upon the affirmative vote of Councilpersons Devlin, Latner, Witko, Yammarino, Chung and Amitai.

7. PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION OF THE 2019 MUNICIPAL BUDGET AND RELATED RESOLUTIONS @8:00 P.M. OR AS SOON THEREAFTER AS THE MATTER MAY BE HEARD

The Municipal Budget was introduced at the Regular Meeting held 3/27/19; and the Municipal Budget Summary was published in The Record issue of 4/2/19, as stated in the printer's affidavit of publication. Reprint of the Summary was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board in accordance with statutory requirements, was posted on the Municipal Web Site pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-10; and copies have been made available to the general public.

CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 24, 2019 – 7:30 P.M.

Borough Auditor explained that the budget was introduced on March 27, 2019 and there will be an expected amendment that the Finance Committee has been working on. The total increase in the budget that was originally proposed is approximately \$130,000 and the tax levy increase is \$410,000 because the Borough surplus went down \$200,000, which limited the revenue source by that amount. In addition, the fees from the Building Department will decline because of the completion of the Plaza in the amount of \$125,000 and that is \$325,000 of the \$410,000 increase in the tax levy. Some of the other increases were salaries in various departments; and there will be an amendment in the DPW salaries after this hearing. There will be a decrease in the health insurance estimated at \$134,000; but offsetting that figure is an increase in the State Pension for police and public employees in the amount of \$114,000. There will be a reduction in the Debt Service in the amount of \$470,000. The ratables of the Borough have continued to increase; and at the end of 2018, the total ratables that were taxable were \$2,166,000,000 and the estimate for 2019 is \$2,226,000,000, which will reduce the impact on homeowners. The Finance Committee has met several times; and there will be an Amendment after this hearing; and, if approved, he will advise when the Budget can be adopted.

In answer to Councilwoman Amitai, Borough Auditor said the Plaza is paying more in taxes and is factored in the ratable increase; and it has lowered the impact on the homeowners. After the hearing is closed, the Amendment will be discussed which will further reduce the proposed increase.

Mayor Glidden opened the public hearing on the Municipal Budget.

Dr. Barad (26 Kinkaid Avenue) said the \$28 increase is on the average home but the County and two schools have not adopted their budgets. Homeowners have complained about the revaluation of their homes and Borough Auditor said he believed the valuation for commercial properties is higher in 2019; and there is more of a shift to the industrial/commercial properties. The key to a rolling assessment is that it should reduce the number of tax appeals that are filed.

In answer to Councilman Yammarino, Borough Attorney said that the rolling assessment specifically affected the Closter Plaza. The Plaza, pursuant to a settlement agreement from prior tax appeals, was locked into a particular tax amount; and by having the rolling assessment, they were reevaluated and assessed at full market value. In answer to Councilwoman Amitai, Borough Attorney said Metropolitan Farm is taxed as a farm; and as long as the property has over 5 acres and earns an income, they qualify under State law as a farm.

No one else wishing to be heard, Mayor Glidden closed the public hearing.

~~8.~~ RESOLUTION RE SELF EXAMINATION OF CY 2019 BUDGET
(Received from Borough Auditor 4/17/19)

Borough Auditor asked that this resolution, which allows the Chief Financial Officer to certify the Budget, be tabled. The resolution needs to be approved before the adopting resolution; and since there is a motion to amend the budget, this resolution cannot be adopted. If certain line items are changing by more than 10%, it requires that the resolution be advertised; and if the resolution is discussed and approved this evening, the resolution can be advertised. Mayor Glidden recommended that the resolution be pulled from the agenda and be included in the agenda for the next meeting. No objections were expressed by Council members.

Borough Auditor explained State Law requires that an amendment that increases or decreases a line item by more than 10% must be advertised. If the Council votes on the resolution this evening, an option would be to advertise on April 30th, with a hearing on the Amendment on May 8th. If the Council wishes to defer the action on the amendment this evening, it would be voted on May 8th, advertised thereafter, have the hearing on May 22nd and adopt the budget thereafter. In answer to Councilwoman Amitai, Chief Financial Officer said a delay would cause an issue with the DPW since the Department wants to purchase two trucks and obtain same before December. In order to purchase the vehicles, a Capital Plan and ordinance must be adopted in addition to the issuance of a purchase order. If there is a delay, a Temporary Capital Ordinance could be introduced at the next meeting, if the Council so desired. Borough Engineer noted that the paving program would also be delayed and could cause problems.

Chief Financial Officer noted that the changes to the Budget have been reviewed by the Finance Committee, himself and the Tax Collector noting that there are reductions in expenses and the levy. Borough Auditor explained that the amendment reduces the tax levy by \$78,000; and there are proposed changes to various operating accounts; and the net impact on the average home will be a \$28 increase. He said a tax point is \$220,000 so every change in the budget plus or minus the tax rate changes one (1) cent and because the average home is valued at \$700,000 the average tax break is \$70. The amendment isolates where there will be changes scattered throughout the budget; and if the Council votes on the amendment tonight, the hearing would be held on May 8th at which time the Budget can be adopted. We have not been able to get the school budget information. He noted that tax dollars are going up 2.98% and the tax rate is minor. Last year the municipal tax rate was .513 and it is estimated to be .514. The tax rates cannot be certified by the County until the State Aid is certified.

CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 24, 2019 – 7:30 P.M.

- 8a. RESOLUTION RE AMENDMENT TO THE 2019 MUNICIPAL BUDGET – PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION – 5/8/19 @ 7:30 P.M. OR AS SOON THEREAFTER AS THE MATTER MAY BE HEARD
(Received from Auditor 4/24/19 @11:31 a.m.)

Motion of approval was made by Councilman Yammarino, seconded by Councilwoman Latner and declared carried by Mayor Glidden upon the affirmative vote of Councilpersons Devlin, Latner, Witko, Yammarino, Chung and Amitai.

ORDINANCES

9. PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION OF THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES @ 8:00 P.M. OR AS SOON THEREAFTER AS THE MATTER MAY BE HEARD:

These Ordinances were introduced at the Regular Meeting held 3/27/19, and were published in The Record issue of 4/2/19, as stated in the printer's affidavit of publication. Reprint of these Ordinances were posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board in accordance with statutory requirements, and copies have been made available to the general public.

- a. ORDINANCE NO. 2019:1253, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CODE CHAPTER 53 TO DESIGNATE THE POSITION OF PURCHASING AGENT PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:11-9”

Mayor Glidden opened the public hearing

No one wishing to be heard, Mayor Glidden closed the meeting to the public.

Motion of approval was made by Councilman Devlin, seconded by Councilwoman Chung and declared carried by Mayor Glidden upon the affirmative vote of Councilpersons Devlin, Latner, Witko, Yammarino, Chung and Amitai.

- b. ORDINANCE NO. 2019:1254, “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CODE CHAPTER 50-29 C(1)(e) “ORGANIZATION OF DEPARTMENT: PROMOTIONS: CHAIN OF COMMAND”

Mayor Glidden opened the public hearing

No one wishing to be heard, Mayor Glidden closed the meeting to the public.

Motion of approval was made by Councilwoman Latner, seconded by Councilman Devlin and declared carried by Mayor Glidden upon the affirmative vote of Councilpersons Devlin, Latner, Witko, Yammarino, Chung and Amitai.

- 10a. VOTE ON CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Motion approving the Consent Agenda minus Item No. 18 was made by Councilwoman Latner, seconded by Councilwoman Chung and declared carried by Mayor Glidden upon the affirmative vote of Councilpersons Devlin, Latner, Witko, Yammarino, Chung and Amitai.

RESOLUTIONS

11. RESOLUTION OPPOSING SENATE BILL S2505 AND ASSEMBLY BILL A2558 KNOWN AS THE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT RESPONSE ACT (Received from Administrator's Office 4/12/19)
12. RESOLUTION REJECTING HATE WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF CLOSTER
(Received from Borough Attorney 4/17/19)
13. RESOLUTION REJECTING ALL BIDS FOR CLOSTER NATURE CENTER DEER EXCLOSURE FENCING PROJECT (Received from Borough Attorney 4/15/19)
14. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DEPUTY TREASURER TO CLOSE OUT ATTACHED TWENTY-NINE (29) NAMED ESCROW ACCOUNTS AND DEPOSIT THE FUNDS INTO THE BOROUGH'S MISC TRUST #1 ACCOUNT #2010005169 DUE TO EXHAUSTION OF ALL MEANS OF LOCATING THE DEPOSITORS (Received from Deputy Treasurer 4/15/19)
15. RESOLUTION AWARDING CONTRACT FOR COMPOSTING AND RELATED SERVICES TO KEN'S TREE CARE, INC. (Received from Borough Attorney 4/16/19)
16. RESOLUTION APPROVING ISSUANCE OF AD INTERIM PERMIT NO. 11 FOR PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE NO. 0207-33-006-009 (CINEMEX)
17. RESOLUTION PROMOTING JOSEPH BALDOMERO III FROM THE RANK OF PATROLMAN TO SERGEANT (Received from Borough Attorney 4/17/19)

18. ~~AT APPROXIMATELY 8:45 P.M. OR AS SOON THEREAFTER AS THE MATTER MAY BE HEARD – PERSONNEL MATTER PURSUANT TO RICE NOTICE SENT 4/17/19~~
19. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DEPUTY TREASURER TO RELEASE AND RETURN REMAINING ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT LEGAL ESCROW FEES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275.00 TO APPLICANT: THOMAS & JEANETTE WATTERS FOR SATISFACTORY COMPLETION OF ALL REQUIRED IMPROVEMENTS FOR BLOCK 504 LOT 69, 65 FARRINGTON AVE. (Received from Deputy Treasurer 4/17/19)

MOTIONS

20. MOTION APPROVING THE FOLLOWING MINUTES (Distributed 4/18/19): NO ABSTENTIONS
- a. REGULAR MEETING HELD APRIL 10, 2019
 - b. WORK SESSION HELD APRIL 10, 2019
21. MOTION APPROVING THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS NOT MADE AT THE REORGANIZATION MEETING HELD 1/2/19:

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>INCUMBENT</u>	<u>APPOINTEE</u>	<u>TERM</u>	<u>EXPIRES</u>
Board of Health				
Alternate No. 2	<u>Benjamin Latner</u>	<u>NO APPOINTMENT</u>	2 Years (Unexp. Latner)	31-Dec-19
Food and Assistance Board				
Member	<u>VACANT</u>	<u>NO APPOINTMENT</u>	2 Years (Unexp. Vacant)	31-Dec-19
Member	<u>VACANT</u>	<u>NO APPOINTMENT</u>	2 Years (Unexp. Vacant)	31-Dec-19
Historic Preservation Commission				
Alternate No. 2	<u>VACANT</u>	<u>NO APPOINTMENT</u>	2 Years (Unexp. Vacant)	31-Dec-19
Improvement Commission				
Alternate No. 2	<u>Mor Gil Hefetz</u>	<u>Andrew Correa</u>	2 Years	31-Dec-20

22. MOTION GRANTING APPROVAL FOR ISSUANCE BY POLICE DEPARTMENT OF THE FOLLOWING HAWKERS AND PEDDLERS LICENSE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2019, PER BOROUGH CODE CH. 127 (Received from Chief of Police 4/18/19):
- a. PERMIT NO 2019-003 – FOR CHETNA SHAH, 165 HERBERT AVENUE, CLOSTER, NJ 07624 FOR REAL ESTATE ON BEHALF OF REMAX SIGNATURE HOMES
23. REPORTS
(None received at time of preparation of this Agenda)

Borough Auditor Gary Vinci left the meeting at this time.

At 8:45 p.m. Mayor Glidden asked the Borough Attorney to make a statement on the following item and what it entails so we can stick to the subject and not get off on a tangent:

18. AT APPROXIMATELY 8:45 P.M. OR AS SOON THEREAFTER AS THE MATTER MAY BE HEARD – PERSONNEL MATTER PURSUANT TO RICE NOTICE SENT 4/17/19

Mr. Rogan stated: “This evening’s meeting at this stage is pursuant to a RICE Notice that the Mayor and Council has requested Maria Passafaro to be here present and she has agreed; and just for the record in the standard RICE Notice an employee is given the option of having this type of discussion in open or closed; and just to confirm Ms. Passafaro has indicated to the Borough Clerk she wants to have it in open.

Ms. Passafaro: “that is correct”.

Mr. Rogan: “Okay. So, essentially the reason that we’re here tonight to talk about really two issues which the Council has some concerns about and wished to talk to you about and also to get your input on them.

First, essentially is the circumstances and procedures and the protocol that was followed regarding the hiring of your son; and those issues include but are not limited to how he was hired; by whom; why the Mayor and Council did not do the hiring by way of a governing body Resolution; when the hiring was made; who determined the rate of compensation; if it was temporary what the term was projected to be; and whether there was any consideration given to the terms and conditions of the Closter Personnel Manual with regard to nepotism... and again this hearing is very narrow in terms of what’s to be discussed...”

CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 24, 2019 – 7:30 P.M.

Ms. Passafaro: “Well, I need to know what can and cannot because this is my first RICE Notice, so...”

Mr. Rogan: “That’s fair – that’s fair and appreciated because we can’t – what we all need to be careful of – we would anyway even if it was in Closed Session – we need to be careful not to violate any *other* employee’s rights. Any time we talk about a job performance or lack of performance by any employee they are entitled to a RICE Notice. We’ve already had one RICE Notice on this issue which was done in Closed Session; so I think if we could limit it to just basically answering the question without any type of criticism, or basically criticism of an employee or of the situation just basically stick to a factual basis as opposed to either a justification or a blame game type of thing. Are you okay with that?”

Ms. Passafaro: “I’m assuming the blame game is why I’m sitting before you.”

Mr. Rogan: “Well, not necessarily, no. The questions came up – they came to the attention of the Mayor and Council fairly recently, I guess that your son was employed by the Borough as opposed to possibly being an unpaid intern. So that was one of the concerns that was raised and then that led to discussions and kind of questioning – of not you yet because you’re here tonight – as to how it happened without the Mayor and Council being aware of it; how it happened without a formal resolution as the governing body typically is the entity or person, if you will, in a legal sense that does the hiring and it sets the rate of compensation. So, there’s already, as you know, there’s already been some investigation into this, and this was kind of the Mayor and Council’s opportunity to ask *you* exactly what the background of it is.”

Ms. Passafaro: “Sure, sure...”

Mr. Rogan: “So, without completely dominating this, in your own words could you basically tell the Mayor and Council how it came about; what was done; whether certain protocols compared to prior hirings were followed; if they weren’t why not – that type of thing. So, just let’s start with when did he start with the Borough.... Approximately – I’m not gonna hold you – this isn’t a test”

Ms. Passafaro: “...I gave the letter to Councilwoman Witko I think it was July...”

Mr. Rogan: “2018?”

Ms. Passafaro: “Correct, correct, yes...”

Mr. Rogan: “Okay, that would be the letter written by the Administrator...”

Ms. Passafaro: “That is correct.”

Mr. Rogan: “Okay. Okay, so that was – prior to that he was not a paid employee?”

Ms. Passafaro: “Prior to that he was he was interning...”

Mr. Rogan: “Okay...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... but this was not up to that time... he was in school, so...yes.”

Mr. Rogan: “And... again, feel free to talk, but...”

Ms. Passafaro: “I will... I know... you know I will...”

Mr. Rogan: “Okay. So, when was it determined that that particular position needed to be filled?”

Ms. Passafaro: “Well it needed to be filled when we lost a previous employee... and since... I can say “my son”, correct?”

Mr. Rogan: “Please.”

Ms. Passafaro: “Okay... since my son was graduating from school – I don’t know who to look at – since my son was graduating from school... since my son was graduating from school, and was interviewing, I thought that it would be a good idea and I asked my superior if it would be possible to hire him on a temporary basis while he interviewed. This took a while to come about and said he would grant his hiring. So, I don’t know...”

Mr. Rogan: “At that time when it was described as “temporary” was there a ballpark as to what that meant? A month, six (6) months... a year?”

Ms. Passafaro: “No. No.”

Mr. Rogan: “Okay. Is that the normal way, to your knowledge, that the Borough hires people?”

CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 24, 2019 – 7:30 P.M.

Ms. Passafaro: “That is not... what do you mean?”

Mr. Rogan: “In other words – by a letter from...”

Ms. Passafaro: “Well, we didn’t even get to the letter... I didn’t... I didn’t get to that...”

Mr. Rogan: “Oh, okay so this is all verbal so far...”

Ms. Passafaro: “This was all verbal... this was all verbal... and I had asked... that it was...be done correctly - number one because he was my son; and number two I know there’s the issues of nepotism, that certain Council people have an issue with. I wanted it done correctly.”

Mr. Rogan: “And what did you understand “correctly” to mean?”

Ms. Passafaro: “A Resolution for the governing body like I would want for anyone else... stating his hours, his salary, his position... like any other normal hiring Resolution would have...”

Mr. Rogan: “Was there discussion between you and your supervisor or superior or whatever you referred to as to the number of hours?”

Ms. Passafaro: “No.”

Mr. Rogan: “Was there discussion as to the pay compensation or hourly rate?”

Ms. Passafaro: “No.”

Mr. Rogan: “Okay... and what happened after you verbally had this discussion?”

Ms. Passafaro: “...the discussion of hiring him?”

Mr. Rogan: “Yes...”

Ms. Passafaro: “...and then him saying yes?”

Mr. Rogan: “Yes... was that all one discussion?”

Ms. Passafaro: “No, it was over a period of time, you know asking him to... you know if he decided because we wanted someone else... we’ve always had someone else, and when he came... when he said yes, I had asked in my Department in front of others that it should be done correctly.”

Mr. Rogan: “So you were at some point verbally told we can do this... or he would approve it?”

Ms. Passafaro: “...I said when would it... when would it, like the anticipation of, you know, creating a Resolution to put it on and so on and so forth. I had no knowledge in the beginning that that was never going to be...”

Mr. Rogan: “Okay. At some point did you or your Department receive anything in writing from him?”

Ms. Passafaro: “Yes.”

Mr. Rogan: “Okay... and what was that?”

Ms. Passafaro: “That was the letter I gave to Mrs. Witko.”

Mr. Rogan: “That was the first time you had anything in writing?”

Ms. Passafaro: “That was the only... I asked for something in writing because we had nothing. We had nothing and he... yes.”

Mr. Rogan: “Okay. And is that the first time you saw the number of hours that would be...”

Ms. Passafaro: “That is correct.”

Mr. Rogan: “So the number of hours were not requested at any time prior to that?”

Ms. Passafaro: “Not at all. Not at all.”

Mr. Rogan: “It was something that you saw for the first time in that letter?”

Ms. Passafaro: “Yes, I never discussed anything prior... any specifics of the hiring except for possibly having an extra person in my Department... did not ask for a salary; did not ask for any – anything specific.”

CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 24, 2019 – 7:30 P.M.

Mr. Rogan: “Was that the first time you saw the hourly rate?”

Ms. Passafaro: “Yes, yes. That was the rate that we’ve had from other employees, so I’m assuming that’s why it was kept at that.”

Mr. Rogan: “When you say “other employees” what kind of - in that position?”

Ms. Passafaro: “In that position – that same exact position, correct.”

Mr. Rogan: “And was there any type of interview process involved in this hiring?”

Ms. Passafaro: “No... no.”

Mr. Rogan: “Do you know if your supervisor personally interviewed or even met with prior to this letter?”

Ms. Passafaro: “He had met him prior from when he was helping out in the office interning, yes.”

Mr. Rogan: “As a volunteer?”

Ms. Passafaro: “Correct.”

Mr. Rogan: “Okay. Was there any discussion regarding any concerns over the nepotism provision in the Personnel Manual?”

Ms. Passafaro: “From me – yes.”

Mr. Rogan: “And how did - did you express those concerns?”

Ms. Passafaro: “Yes, I have and I have witnesses to that as well...”

Mr. Rogan: “To whom?”

Ms. Passafaro: “To my superior, my supervisor... yes...”

Mr. Rogan: “And what was the sum and substance of that discussion?”

Ms. Passafaro: “... How do I do that and not put someone... how do I answer that without hurting someone?”

Mr. Rogan: “Well, I’m just saying don’t mention people’s names...”

Ms. Passafaro: “I’m not...I won’t...I won’t...”

Mr. Rogan: “... what was the feedback that you got with regard to whether or not there was any concern about that being violative of the Personnel Manual?”

Ms. Passafaro: “I was told that he did not want to... create a... an uncomfortable situation for himself having to ask for my son to be hired in my Department... so it was a nepotism thing he did not want to bring it before the governing body... to actually, I guess, to have to answer for it... I offered that I would come and plead a case as well...”

Mr. Rogan: “Was this before or after the letter was sent... this discussion of the nepotism?”

Ms. Passafaro: “This is from the beginning when he said...”

Mr. Rogan: “...So before the letter?”

Ms. Passafaro: “Sure...sure.”

Mr. Rogan: “To your knowledge, within your Department at least, has anyone ever been hired without a Resolution?”

Ms. Passafaro: “Yes... In my Department?”

Mr. Rogan: “Yes.”

Ms. Passafaro: “”... in my Department ... no... In the Borough – yes.”

Mr. Rogan: “Okay. So, at this point is there a projection as to how long he would be still with – I mean, I understand from what you are saying it was a temporary position. Is there an end date to that or where...”

CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 24, 2019 – 7:30 P.M.

Ms. Passafaro: “No... I mean we have a temporary on staff for ten years...”

Mr. Rogan: “Okay...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... so now I never...”

Mr. Rogan: “What does temporary mean in that...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... well a ten year I think would be a little ridiculous to say that’s a temporary position. To me, that’s a formal, permanent position.”

Mr. Rogan: “Well what about when this was initially discussed and there was conversation held...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... I didn’t give it a term... I didn’t give it a term because that term... I mean I said on a temporary basis but... I don’t know... I mean... I wanted help. I needed help. As far as anyone else’s projections, I don’t... I was praying he had a full time job, you know, and it wouldn’t come to even being this long.”

Mr. Rogan: “Other than speaking to your supervisor about that did you speak to anybody else about a possible Resolution...”

Ms. Passafaro: “No, I did not. No, I did not.”

Mr. Rogan: “So, in one of the correspondences I believe that you sent to maybe the HR Committee there was mention that there was a request that it be put on *this* year’s Reorg Meeting...”

Ms. Passafaro: “...that is correct.”

Mr. Rogan: “... and that request was made to whom?”

Ms. Passafaro: “My supervisor.”

Mr. Rogan: “... HR people... Council people... any there any follow up questions or... on *this issue*? We’re only dealing with this issue right now.”

Mayor Glidden: “We are only dealing with the hiring of her son.”

Councilman Devlin: “Oh, ok... so the facts or...”

Mr. Rogan: “Yeah, yeah it’s just not a broad issue about any item; it’s just about this topic.”

Councilman Devlin: “Sure... so... my question is why did you ask to deviate from the normal hiring process?”

Ms. Passafaro: “I did not... I didn’t ask to deviate...”

Councilman Devlin: “...well I think you said you tried to keep on the person who was there previously... and then...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... I tried to what?”

Councilman Devlin: “... you said someone left, right? So did the prior... the prior clerk left...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... that is correct... the prior clerk left, that is correct.”

Councilman Devlin: “... and then you asked your supervisor if it was okay to hire Mr. Passafaro... is that how to say that?”

Ms. Passafaro: “Yes... yes... yeah.”

Councilman Devlin: “... So that meant that you’re deviating from the normal hiring process which route should be interviews, posted online ... things like that... generally open positions are advertised to the public...”

Ms. Passafaro: “...some are, yes... yes... that’s correct...”

Councilman Devlin: “... so my question is why would you... you sought to deviate from that normal process (unintelligible)...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... I honestly didn’t think it that... that big of a deal honestly... I mean I thought it was gonna be done correctly... I never anticipated to be standing here to be... you know... I mean... I don’t know how to answer that question... I didn’t deviate – I followed the book the way it’s supposed to – if I

CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 24, 2019 – 7:30 P.M.

know someone can do a job... in order to – when you hire within the... I mean he was good enough to do the work when he interning, but he wasn't good enough to do the work to be paid for. So, I don't see the reason for going out to look for someone, to get someone for *that salary*... that I would have to retrain all over again – that was my issue. I had someone to step in and do the work.”

Councilman Devlin: “... But again, so it seemed like no one even had a shot at this position... the only... you know, you had specifically requested to your supervisor please hire this one candidate who I may or may not be related to – to deviate from normal hiring process... (unintelligible)...”

Ms. Passafaro: “Okay...”

Councilman Devlin: “... so if you were aware of the Personnel Manual on nepotism, I mean why would you even, I guess – attempt to bring – to request to hire your son into the Department when you would be literally overseeing him?”

Ms. Passafaro: “I'm not overseeing him. I'm not overseeing him... the only part I oversee is the tax part. Finance is done by another member as well as the Borough Administrator...”

[to Borough Attorney “Is that alright? Is that alright that I said...?”]

Mr. Rogan: “Yes that's fine.”

Ms. Passafaro: “Okay.”

Councilwoman Witko: “So who is his direct supervisor? If he wants to take a day off who does he tell “I'd like to take a day off” or “I'm gonna be sick tomorrow”? Who is his direct supervisor?”

Ms. Passafaro: “It would be Dee... Dee Woods or Arthur.”

Councilman Devlin: “... so as the department head of the Finance Department, you... (unintelligible)...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... I'm not the... I'm not the Finance... I am not the department head of the Finance Department – the CFO is.”

Councilman Devlin: “Okay...”

Ms. Passafaro: “...and my boss...”

Councilman Devlin: “... so then he would ask Mr. Luppino...”

Ms. Passafaro: “I don't want to get someone else involved in this...”

Mayor Glidden: “You *are* the head of the Tax Collecting Department... correct?”

Ms. Passafaro: “That is correct...”

Mayor Glidden: “Alright.”

Councilman Devlin: “Okay... so there *is* a relationship because he does taxes and you're head of the Tax Department...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... He does taxes during the tax collection period... yeah he does billing – he's been doing billing since he was a child...”

Councilman Devlin: “... So another concern I had is the fact that, I believe you met with Mr. Yammarino requesting raises for certain people...”

Ms. Passafaro: “...correct...”

Councilman Devlin: “...and I mean I think it's hard to take that seriously when you don't if mom is asking for it (or the) boss of Tax Collection is asking for it... and to split those roles into two, I mean, I think that's – I think there's potential for...”

Ms. Passafaro: “Well if you knew me you would know the answer to that question – if you knew me... and my tenure here. If you knew me you would know that I wouldn't ... first of all I wouldn't even ask for a raise for someone who I didn't think you knew about... I mean... why are you making that gesture?”

Councilman Devlin: “... I don't know... I mean this is blatantly... again, to me we have a clear nepotism policy and this is just ...it seems like you (unintelligible)...”

CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 24, 2019 – 7:30 P.M.

Ms. Passafaro: "... *Again*, this was not a - I did not *remove* someone from a position as other people have done; I have not *created* a position for him; I did not set his time; his salary, his rate, *anything*... anything..."

Mayor Glidden: "That's not the question the Councilman is asking you about the nepotism issue. There is a firm Borough policy against nepotism."

Ms. Passafaro: "...but it can't *be*, Mayor, because it's been *done*... I mean it's been done within the same Departments – it has been *done*... we had supervisors doing... doing their spouses – I mean it's not new... It's not new..."

Mr. Rogan: "Well, we're not gonna get into any details..."

Ms. Passafaro: "...*right*... right... but I mean..."

Mr. Rogan: "We may separately but not here..."

Ms. Passafaro: "...I'm *telling* you it's..."

Councilman Devlin: "... Sure... so another concern I had about the process is the fact normal processes were deviated from and we also have an Ethics Code..."

Mr. Rogan: "We have an ethics ordinance..."

Councilman Devlin: "... so we have an Ethics Code and it seems like you're trying to secure unwarranted privileges for you and your family... by pre-selecting the candidate for the job, ensuring that no one else could even apply for it..."

Ms. Passafaro: "...if that's what – if that's what you say I can't... I can't refute that...I can't refute that... I can't..."

Mr. Rogan: "... So, in terms of your understanding or your impression of both the nepotism procedure – you were aware of the nepotism procedure that's in the Personnel Manual..."

Ms. Passafaro: "...Yeah...yeah, of course"

Mr. Rogan: "... and... in *your* mind... forget what – more based upon what he may have said to you or whatever – why did you believe that this action was *not* a violation of that particular provision of the Personnel Manual?"

Ms. Passafaro: "... for the nepotism? ... Like my hiring of Louie or my suggesting Louie..."

Mr. Rogan: "Both..."

Ms. Passafaro: "Both?"

Mr. Rogan: "Both."

Ms. Passafaro: "...because it's been done *before*... it's been done before. I mean... this is not a full time position; I didn't *create* a position; I didn't *remove* someone from a position to *insert* my son – this was an *empty* position that I asked – he has a *degree* in finance – he's *helped* here... I didn't see the big deal with it because I knew we wouldn't probably get anybody to be hired there.... So in the time being when I was needing – someone, I had someone – I offered it. Did I think of an *ethics* violation? Absolutely not. Not since it's been done."

Councilman Yammarino: "Per early on you mentioned this is a temporary position... would you say there was the expectation that this position would be filled at some point by someone (unintelligible)..."

Ms. Passafaro: ".... I was praying it would be, yeah..."

Councilman Yammarino: "...alright, and I guess your son graduated college – I assume he was looking for a job – didn't get a job..."

Ms. Passafaro: "... correct, yes... he still hasn't, yes..."

Councilman Yammarino: "Has he continued looking for a job while..."

Ms. Passafaro: "He's interview... he took a whole week off - not recently, just... interviewing... that's the mom saying that..."

Councilman Yammarino: "... Okay... and is she allowed to say the salary?"

CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 24, 2019 – 7:30 P.M.

Mr. Rogan: “Sure.”

Councilman Yammarino: “How much does he get paid?”

Ms. Passafaro: “\$17.00 an hour.”

Councilman Yammarino: “And how much was the person prior to him whose spot he took over?”

Ms. Passafaro: “\$17.00 an hour.”

Councilman Yammarino: “Alright, that’s all I have.”

Mayor Glidden: “Anybody else have any questions on this issue?”

Councilwoman Chung: “I have one...”

Mayor Glidden: “Go ahead...”

Councilwoman Chung: “Were you aware that a Resolution had not been passed for him and that the Council was not aware of his hiring?”

Ms. Passafaro: “I was told you were.”

Councilwoman Chung: “So you were under the understanding that we had all knew...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... yeah... yeah”

Councilwoman Chung: “... but didn’t pass a Resolution.”

Ms. Passafaro: “Correct.”

Councilwoman Witko: “Who told you that we were aware?”

Ms. Passafaro: “My supervisor.”

Councilwoman Amitai: “I didn’t hear that...”

Ms. Passafaro: “My supervisor, Vicky.”

Mayor Glidden: “Okay, anybody else have any questions?”

Councilman Devlin: “Yeah. So the letter that was signed by... I guess your supervisor... was that drafted by you or by him or by...?”

Ms. Passafaro: “It was drafted by my supervisor. Drafted and signed by my supervisor.”

Councilman Devlin: “So, was... is the... was Mr. Passafaro ever required to interview or provide a resume or... transcripts or anything like that?”

Ms. Passafaro: “Transcripts? No we never ask that of anyone, no.”

Councilman Devlin: “...no resume... no transcripts... no...”

Ms. Passafaro: “Resume we have...”

Councilman Devlin: “...Resume...”

Ms. Passafaro: “Yes.”

Mr. Rogan: “Anything else?”

Mayor Glidden: “Let’s move on to the other...”

Mr. Rogan: “Okay, the second issue is basically a... again, limited not so much to the substance of the discussions because that’s been handled by the HR Department over basically... complaints that you had made regarding certain treatment you had received within the Borough. But the purpose of tonight’s questioning involves the... I guess the tone or perceived attitude of the e-mails to the HR Committee...”

Ms. Passafaro: “Mmm-hmm.”

Mr. Rogan: “... and the HR Committee felt that it was inappropriate in terms of some of the more... personal or... arguably unprofessional tone of the e-mails...”

CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 24, 2019 – 7:30 P.M.

Ms. Passafaro: “Mmm-hmm.”

Mr. Rogan: “... and as you know, you had made a complaint regarding something and the HR Committee was involved in an investigation... there were e-mails being exchanged, and I guess a few of them had some... offensive tones to them...”

Ms. Passafaro: “Mmm-hmm.”

Mr. Rogan: “... and just wanted to bring that up to see what your response to that was... and I’ll let some of the HR Members speak for themselves as to some of the particular verbiage – again, without getting into the content of it because those individuals who have been already interviewed – some actions have already been taken – so that this is not the time to add on to that. There’s been interviews by all... by the Committee with all the people involved in it and there’s been appropriate action taken in terms of any type of punishment, if you will.”

Mr. Rogan: “...Sorry, Dee?”

Mayor Glidden: [bangs gavel three times] “This is a private hearing and I would ask you to not speak until the public portion of the hearing; and if there’s another outburst I’m gonna have to ask you to leave the room.”

Mr. Rogan: “So, a couple of the e-mails involved verbiage of disgraceful, and lying and things like that; and basically the Council wanted to sit down and talk about the tone of those e-mails; why you felt it appropriate to write them to the members of the governing body.”

Ms. Passafaro: “Sure... Oh, you want me to answer to that?”

Mr. Rogan: “Sure.”

Ms. Passafaro: “I’m sick of being abused here. I’m sick of being abused here. I’m sick of being the person that everybody goes to and needs... when needs a fire being put out or an answer to a question and everybody runs to *me*... yet, *I’m* supposed to sit here and take rumors and sordid tales being told about me... being threatened to be sued... being *verbally* assailed *in* my office with the door open where any resident walking *in* or out of this front of this building or my fellow colleagues... to hear... and to be *subjected* to this on a *daily* basis that I’ve *held* my tongue long enough. *Being assailed* and not being heard and not hearing from my HR... I don’t know *what* the chain of command should be when your superior is *berating* you in public with witnesses there – and that was the *final* straw for me and not hearing from *no one* – *no one* for two days and then being told I was being unprofessional, not the perpetrator – but the victim. *Yes*, I was *beyond* agitated and I *still* am.

Mr. Rogan: “But you came to learn that the... perpetrator, as you say... was actually sat down the very day of the incident, correct?”

Ms. Passafaro: “That was after the fact.”

Mr. Rogan: “But he was – the very day it occurred.”

Ms. Passafaro: “I was *informed* that after the e-mails were sent.”

Mr. Rogan: “Okay.”

Ms. Passafaro: “After not hearing a peep for two days. I was told I was negative, I was unprofessional, but what was *done* to me and what *has* been done to me has been more than unprofessional.”

Mr. Rogan: “So you feel that that gives you license to go after...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... I think I *earned* that...”

Mr. Rogan: “... the Mayor and Council...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... I *think* I earned not being spoken... not... like it never happened. I was dismissed once again, yes. It gave me the right – I had the right to... I have to defend myself here because no one has my back.”

Mr. Rogan: “Did I not speak to you the day it happened?”

Ms. Passafaro: “I’m not claiming you... yes, you... you called... you came down to my office the day unbeknownst to me... I didn’t know you and Councilwoman were present here that day.”

Mr. Rogan: “Okay.”

Ms. Passafaro: “Yes, you did speak to me. But at that point, nothing was done after the fact.”

CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 24, 2019 – 7:30 P.M.

Councilwoman Latner: “Many times when Ed is speaking very often on our behalf because for various reasons... whether it be his opportunity to or something... we were here that day. I know that what transpired – there certainly should not be any type of abuse and for that I absolutely, you know, am sorry for what he had done...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... but you know what Councilwoman... *now* is not the time for that...”

Councilwoman Latner: “Well now is not the time to just not recognize that that was...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... *now* is not the time for that...”

Councilwoman Latner: “... A *series* of times where there was – there were – is there a protocol for complaints to the HR Committee?”

Mr. Rogan: “There could be a formal complaint filed – sure... yes, it’s in the Personnel Manual”

Mayor Glidden: “Well, file a formal complaint...”

Councilwoman Latner: “Okay, so what does that formal complaint look like?”

Mr. Rogan: “It’s basically a form that can be filled out and sent in.”

Councilwoman Latner: “Okay, so I’ve never seen one of those forms...”

Ms. Passafaro: “...I’ve never... I’ve never.”

Councilwoman Latner: “Okay, well I mean, you know, in terms of that there is a manual and employees are supposed to...you know, hypothetically know about it... for *myself* personally, when an e-mail is... one in all caps or there is something there...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... well I’m in caps because my software is in caps...”

Councilwoman Latner: “... okay...”

Ms. Passafaro: “...so, I... I normally am in caps all day so, because my finance software is in – I need to be in caps...”

Councilwoman Latner: “...Well I’ll let you know *personally* that’s important to know, because to me it sounds like yelling when I get an e-mail...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... I don’t – I get that from Jim Oettinger all the time – he’s like stop yelling... We’re in caps all day long...”

Councilwoman Latner: “... Okay... okay, alright, so that’s one part... In terms of the tone, I mean, I don’t print out every email (unintelligible)...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... I have them...”

Councilwoman Latner: “...Okay, well there was one time where let’s say the HR Committee on the day that you left was notified and then a *period* of time had gone by... I don’t know if it was a half hour, or forty minutes, an hour – and when you hadn’t heard back from us, you...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... it was two days...”

Councilwoman Latner: “...Okay, no... no... there was - no it wasn’t...”

Councilwoman Witko: “The day it happened...”

Councilwoman Latner: “...the day it happened...”

Ms. Passafaro: “I did *not* get an e-mail from HR the day it happened... and I... waited... I left that day because I told... I told the Borough Clerk and the Borough Attorney that I was leaving for the day... that was March 6th, Ash Wednesday; I left that afternoon – it was around twelve o’clock... I hadn’t heard a *word* from HR on March 8th... *that’s* when... on that day until March 8th until I started my e-mails. I have all my e-mail threads....”

Councilwoman Latner: “...Well... all I know is...”

Ms. Passafaro: “*That’s* why – I just said that – I was *angry*...”

Councilwoman Latner: “...there’s an e-mail somewhere where you hadn’t heard back within like, the hour and (unintelligible)...”

CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 24, 2019 – 7:30 P.M.

Ms. Passafaro: “*That’s not true*... that is *so* not true...”

Councilwoman Latner: “...I mean... I just don’t have everything (laid out in front of me)...”

Ms. Passafaro: “an hour...”

Councilwoman Latner: “...whatever it was you wanted a response back and we were unable to respond back *in* that timely manner... and it then becomes, you know.... We’re not in the building... okay...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... I know that...”

Councilwoman Latner: “... we were doing an investigation in terms of what had happened...”

Ms. Passafaro: “Unbeknownst to *me*...”

Councilwoman Latner: “... okay, well there’s a lot of things that are unbeknownst, but, you know, in terms of just... there was a lot of times where *personally* I did not respond because the e-mail sent was offensive...”

Ms. Passafaro: “...yeah, so was the behavior I’ve been enduring. So is the behavior I’ve been enduring... yes... yes...”

Councilwoman Latner: “...Okay... alright, so in that regard... in terms of what we were *trying* to do... it was very much as if the blame was being put back on us for not being able to just... remedy... or – or fix the situation... and that’s why Ed – *Ed* was speaking to you...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... I will take something back – Councilwoman Chung did respond to me...”

Councilwoman Latner: “... okay...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... Councilwoman Chung *did* respond to me...”

Councilwoman Latner: “... and when the one day where...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... sorry, I didn’t mean to point...”

Councilwoman Latner: “...the one day where the three of us *did* respond... that was when...”

Ms. Passafaro: “That was March 8th, two days after...”

Councilwoman Latner: “... yes...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... I waited *two days* and heard *nothing*... nothing... I...”

Mr. Rogan: “... I did leave a message on the 7th saying that we had talked to Arthur... and that the investigation was started...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... no, you told me to call you back... I wasn’t...”

Mr. Rogan: “... No, I left it on the message as well. I said we started – I met with Arthur with Alissa and that I would get back to you as soon as I had a schedule for when we could meet with...”

Councilwoman Latner: “... and I know that Ed said that he was following up with you...”

Ms. Passafaro: “...no, I...”

Councilwoman Latner: “... okay, I knew that Ed said that he was following up with you, and so a *lot* of this is miscommunication...”

Ms. Passafaro: “...oh, without a doubt...”

Councilwoman Latner: “... I knew... what?”

Ms. Passafaro: “...without a doubt... I’m sure...”

Councilwoman Latner: “... we volunteer, okay? And it’s been incredibly insulting with some of the things that you have written to us. I’ve *really* not responded most of the time, and this goes back – this was *not* the only instance where we’ve had e-mails from you that ...”

Ms. Passafaro: “... because I have asked... and asked... I can go back... I have a folder (gesturing) this big from HR that I... I wait *months* for a response to... we’ll get back to you... we’ll get back to you...”

CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 24, 2019 – 7:30 P.M.

I've only heard "I'll get back to you" for *months*... I've pleaded to meet with you... I get the letter after six months... we're good... I'm coming to you because I need help... I'm not coming to you because I want to start *fight* with you... I'm coming because I need *help*... and *no one* is helping... *where* do I go - to an attorney?"

Councilwoman Latner: "...No... we're trying in whatever way..."

Ms. Passafaro: "... well that's what I'm trying to find out... because *I* get no help here... I get *no* help here... *I will* defer that the may – that the Borough Attorney does... calm me down and talk to me and stuff like that... *but* it's not his job either."

Councilwoman Latner: "...It's not. And if there were some - a formal form in some way – would have more bearing because a lot of the times... they're definitely, *rightfully so* are emotions flying about. I'm not gonna say that there isn't any reason or expectation for that..."

Ms. Passafaro: "... if you – if you lived in my hostile work environment that's nothing in comparison to what I have endured... and I'm telling you I have *witnesses*... I've complained to the Borough Attorney about this as well. This is *not* an environment *anyone* should be in. I've complained over and over again... things need to be changed here... *nothing* gets done... But *I'm* sitting..."

Councilwoman Witko: "What specifically needs to be changed?"

Ms. Passafaro: "... I've... I've said this in..."

Councilwoman Witko: "... we met with you..."

Ms. Passafaro: "... yes, I've said it..."

Councilwoman Witko: "... (Unintelligible)...you said you've never met with us – we *have* met with you..."

Ms. Passafaro: "... No, no, no, no... I never said I never met with you... *I never* said that... don't put words in my mouth..."

Mr. Rogan: (unintelligible)

Ms. Passafaro: "... *I did not* say that..."

Councilwoman Witko: "... well we *did meet* with you, and so..."

Ms. Passafaro: "... and when *I* met with you, and you said you that you were going to take things into consideration... things are the same... *I'm* still..."

Councilwoman Witko: "... *who's* making it... *who's* making it hostile?"

Ms. Passafaro: "... *who's* making it – my superior... my superior..."

Councilwoman Witko: "...so you – after him, *who* – you come to us..."

Ms. Passafaro: "... well, *who* do – what's the chain of command then for a complaint? By law... by law..."

Mayor Glidden: "If you have an issue with your supervisor, you go to the next level and that would be the HR Committee."

Ms. Passafaro: "Thank you... thank you..."

Mayor Glidden: "Let me say – I have to say this because I was offended by those e-mails. I was *terribly* offended that an employee of this Borough – and somebody in *your* position would *write* something like that and copy it to as many people as you copied it... it was *unprofessional* and *I don't like it*."

Ms. Passafaro: "Mayor... did you like the way *I* was treated, Mayor?"

Mayor Glidden: "We're not talking about *anybody* else being treated – we're talking about *your e-mails*..."

Ms. Passafaro: "... I'm talking about *me*..."

Mayor Glidden: "I'm talking about *your* e-mails sent to people..."

Ms. Passafaro: "... what about e-mails sent to *me*?"

CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 24, 2019 – 7:30 P.M.

Mayor Glidden: "... we're not – we're not having a discussion about that tonight..."

Ms. Passafaro: "... Oh, okay, so it only goes one way..."

Mr. Rogan: "No, we've had discussions with the other individuals and action *has* been taken..."

Ms. Passafaro: "... unbeknownst to me..."

Mr. Rogan: "... well, there's no obligation – if we reprimand someone or (punish?) someone there's no obligation..."

Ms. Passafaro: [talking at the same time as Mr. Rogan] "... I don't want it... I don't want to know that..."

Mr. Rogan: "... for the Mayor and Council to publicize that..."

Ms. Passafaro: "... but... okay..."

Mr. Rogan: "... and it would be *inappropriate* frankly, to publicize that..."

Ms. Passafaro: "... *correct*... correct..."

Mr. Rogan: "... to at a public meeting say we reprimanded someone or..."

Ms. Passafaro: [talking at the same time as Mr. Rogan] "... as my business is also..." as *my* business is also spread around from other individuals..."

Mr. Rogan: "... we suspended someone..."

Ms. Passafaro: [talking at the same time as Mr. Rogan] "... as *my* business is also spread around from other individuals..."

Mr. Rogan: "... Well it's not going to come officially from this body, anyway... maybe people talk and they shouldn't..."

Ms. Passafaro: [talking over Mr. Rogan] "... well, that's why I chose – I'd rather it go in open record that it's all done..."

Mr. Rogan: "... and that's fine... but again to the Mayor's point... we're dealing with individuals each time we meet, okay... so... don't think that because you weren't notified that someone was punished that they weren't... I think that's – there's no obligation..."

Ms. Passafaro: "... I don't want anybody to be punished... I... I don't want anybody to be punished but I wanna *know* that there's ..."

Councilwoman Latner: "... that there's been consequences..."

Ms. Passafaro: "... that there's some just... there's some equity here..."

Councilwoman Latner: "... Okay... there have been consequences and things that you know that have transpired as a result..."

Ms. Passafaro: "... I've been lied to and I'm sitting *here*... *I'm* sitting here... No one else... no one else..."

Councilwoman Latner: "... well, we had a previous RICE meeting..."

Ms. Passafaro: "... I'm not talking about a previous RICE... what *I'm* saying is *everything* I have done for this Borough in seventeen years... other administrations... other Mayors and Administrators... *I've* been here... *I've* been a constant... *I'm* always the one everybody goes to for help..."

Councilwoman Latner: "... can I tell you something Maria?"

Ms. Passafaro: "Yes."

Councilwoman Latner: "... you're incredible... there is not one person here that is not gonna say what your work ethic is... okay? I will tell you that ..."

Ms. Passafaro: "... there ..."

Councilwoman Latner: "... I have absolute respect and admiration for what you pull together and what you do. These e-mails *contradict* who you are..."

CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 24, 2019 – 7:30 P.M.

Ms. Passafaro: "... because it's anger... it's done in anger ..."

Councilwoman Latner: "... these e-mails ... okay – but in the business world somebody can't *send* an e-mail in anger... It – it's simply *this* doesn't match with the person that is taking care of what you take care of in the Borough. I *get* the passion; I *get* all of the things that you're saying. *We* simply, you know – keeping this regarding just e-mails – there was the incident even before this one where... it's just been – maybe we're not doing *enough* by you... but we're doing the best that we can on top of a lot of other Committees and obligations and it's so un – what's the word?... talk about feeling like, taken for granted – disrespected - we don't want to do anything when we're attacked. We're *trying* to do the best that we can... the same way that Ed and I – you didn't know that we had a meeting that day but we *did*... we *did*..."

Ms. Passafaro: "... right... I left for the day... right, I know that but from what *I* perceived... from what *I* perceived... it happened Wednesday, I left for the day – I told the Borough Attorney and the Borough Clerk that I was leaving for the day because I wasn't speaking to my supervisor; but I put it in an e-mail *in* writing... I left... two days later I *still* hear nothing..."

Councilwoman Latner: "... well he had left you a message on Thursday..."

Ms. Passafaro: "... I spoke with the Borough Attorney..."

Councilwoman Latner: "... Okay... okay... which with all of us between work and other things that are going on – we knew that Ed had spoken to you – so there had been some communication..."

Mr. Rogan: "... I left a message on Thursday... I think you were at a seminar or something on Thursday..."

Ms. Passafaro: "... I did, I had a seminar – yes..."

Councilwoman Latner: "... Yeah... right... right..."

Councilwoman Witko: "... and we met with you shortly after that incident when we started our investigation..."

Ms. Passafaro: "... we met after... the... tales and the rumors and the *gossip* continued..."

Councilwoman Witko: "... well we can't stop what people say here... we can't stop that – that's something that the employees here have to talk about amongst themselves..."

Mr. Rogan: "... well, we can *try*... we *did* try – we did have a Department Head meeting, which I *thought* - at least for a short term – it worked... and then apparently it didn't... so, but there was an attempt made by the HR Committee to schedule that... and *my* reports back – I'm not here during the day – but my reports back were that it did kind of calm down at least for a couple of weeks or so..."

Ms. Passafaro: "This was a culmination of incidents... this wasn't a *sole* incident that happened... this was *more* than one... *more* than one... I've gone to – during our interview process I went through everything that I've been dealing with... I was angry... and I - I'm *not* going to defend my anger – I was *hurt* Mayor... I was *hurt*..."

Mayor Glidden: "... You were also unprofessional."

Ms. Passafaro: "Okay."

Mayor Glidden: "Very unprofessional and *I* was offended."

Ms. Passafaro: "Okay."

Mayor Glidden: "Never had an employee in public practice or private practice who has acted the way you have... and..."

Ms. Passafaro: "... and so was the – unprofessional..."

Mayor Glidden: "... I'm very, very offended. I'm very offended – we're talking about the e-mails. Any other questions? Any other comments from the members of the Council?"

Councilman Devlin: "What item is next?"

Mayor Glidden: "Beg your pardon?"

Mr. Rogan: "Those were the only two issues."

Mayor Glidden: "If you have nothing else, I think we're done here."

CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 24, 2019 – 7:30 P.M.

Mr. Rogan: “Not on this issue.”

Mayor Glidden: “We’re done.”

Mr. Rogan: “Thank you.”

Ms. Passafaro: “We’re done?”

Mr. Rogan: “Thank you, thank you very much.”

Ms. Passafaro: “You’re welcome.”

10b. VOTE ON ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

24. OPEN MEETING TO PUBLIC FOR ANY MATTER, PER N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (a)
(Subject to 5-minute limit per By-Laws General Rule No.11)

Mayor Glidden opened the meeting to the public. No one wishing to be heard, Mayor Glidden closed the meeting to the public.

25. ANY OTHER MATTER WHICH MAY COME BEFORE THE GOVERNING BODY

Motion approving the following Closed Session Resolution at 9:30 p.m. was made by Councilwoman Latner, seconded by Councilwoman Witko and declared carried by Mayor Glidden upon the affirmative vote of Councilpersons Devlin, Latner, Witko, Yammarino, Chung and Amitai.

25a. OMNIBUS OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT RESOLUTION authorizing the governing body pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 to exclude the public from the next portion of the meeting in order to permit the governing body to discuss per N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b)(4) “A collective bargaining agreement”; N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b)(7), “A matter falling within the attorney-client privilege”; and N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b)(8), “A matter involving public employees”; and that the items under discussion in the closed meeting would be disclosed to the public at the conclusion of the matter which should be within 12-15 weeks.

Mayor Glidden resumed the Regular Meeting at 10:30 p.m.

25b. Motion approving an amount not to exceed \$5,000 for the Borough Auditor to prepare a report regarding PBA negotiations was made by Councilwoman Latner, seconded by Councilman Yammarino and declared carried by Mayor Glidden upon the affirmative vote of Councilpersons Devlin, Latner, Witko, Yammarino and Amitai.

26. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 10:34 p.m. was made by Councilwoman Witko, seconded by Councilwoman Chung and declared unanimously carried by Mayor Glidden.

Provided to the Mayor and Council on
May 2, 2019 for approval at the
Regular Meeting to be held
May 8, 2019

Loretta Castano, RMC
Borough Clerk

Prepared by Carol A. Kroepke
and Arlene Marie Gray, RMC
Utilizing recording and Borough Clerk’s
Notes

Approved at the Regular Meeting held May 8, 2019
Consent Agenda Item. No. 17a

**BOROUGH OF CLOSTER
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
WAIVER OF READING IN FULL OF THE 2019 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-6 requires the Municipal Budget to be advertised in full or in summary as provided in section 12 of P.L. 1995, c.259 (C.40A:4-6.1); and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-8 permits that the Budget as advertised may be read by its title providing that at least one week prior to the date of the public hearing, and at the public hearing, a complete copy of the approved Budget shall:

- a. be made available for public inspection, and
- b. be made available to each person upon request; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Closter has complied with the aforesaid requirements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that reading in full of said Municipal Budget of the Borough of Closter for the year ending December 31, 2019 be waived as allowed under the Statute.


Councilperson	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Devlin			X			
Councilwoman Latner			X			
Councilwoman Witko			X			
Councilman Yammarino	X		X			
Councilwoman Chung		X	X			
Councilwoman Amitai			X			

Adopted: April 24, 2019

ATTEST:


Loretta Castano, Borough Clerk

APPROVED:


John C. Glidden, Jr., Mayor

Certified to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter at the Regular Meeting held April 24, 2019.

Loretta Castano, Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF CLOSTER
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION NO. ____

Resolution Re: Amendment to 2019 Budget

WHEREAS, the local municipal budget for the year 2019 was approved on the 27th day of March, 2019, and

WHEREAS, the public hearing on said budget has been held as advertised, and

WHEREAS, it is desired to amend said approved budget,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Closter, County of Bergen, that the following amendments to the approved budget of 2019 be made:

Recorded Vote

Ayes	(Devlin	Nayes	(Abstained	(
	(Latner		((None
	(Witko		(None		(
	(Yammarino		((
	(Chung		((None
	(Amitai		((

ANTICIPATED REVENUES

Amount To Be Raised by Taxes for Support of Municipal Budget

Local Tax For Municipal Purposes	\$ 11,520,320	\$ 11,442,320
Total Amount to Be Raised By Taxes for Support of Municipal Budget	12,257,694	12,179,694
Total General Revenues	\$ 16,377,379	\$ 16,299,379

GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS

Operations - Within "CAPS"

General Administration		
Salaries and Wages	\$ 150,000	\$ 175,000
Other Expenses	40,850	62,100
Financial Administration		
Other Expenses	76,550	73,950
Tax Assessment Administration		
Other Expenses	81,450	76,550
Revenue Administration		
Other Expenses	15,650	15,400
Engineering Services		
Other Expenses	38,500	48,500
Economic Development		
Closter Improvement Committee	18,300	15,300
Planning Board		
Other Expenses	31,805	30,805
Police Department		
Other Expenses	109,400	107,400
Streets and Road Maintenance		
Salaries and Wages	1,143,500	1,138,500
Other Expenses	89,000	86,000
Solid Waste Collection		
Salaries and Wages	365,000	300,000

GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS (Continued)

	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Shade Tree Commission		
Other Expenses	\$ 86,500	\$ 60,000
Public Health Services		
Other Expenses	84,536	84,036
Construction Code		
Other Expenses	13,700	13,200
Telephone and Telegraph	100,000	80,000
Total Operations Within "CAPS"	10,540,522	10,462,522
Total Operations Including Contingent Within "CAPS"	10,540,522	10,462,522
Detail: Salaries and Wages	6,317,500	6,272,500
Other Expenses	4,223,022	4,190,022
Total General Appropriations for Municipal Purposes Within "CAPS"	11,959,022	11,881,022
Subtotal General Appropriations	15,435,379	15,357,379
Total General Appropriations	<u>\$ 16,377,379</u>	<u>\$ 16,299,379</u>

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that two certified copies of this resolution be filed forthwith in the Office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for certification of the 2019 local municipal budget so amended.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this complete amendment, in accordance with NJSA 40:4-9 be published in the Record in the issue of April 30, 2019, and that said publication contain notice of a public hearing on said amendment to be held at Borough Hall on May 8, 2019 at 7:30 pm.

It is hereby certified that this is a true copy of a resolution amending the budget, adopted by the Borough Council on the 24th day of April, 2019.

Introduced by: Council President Yammarino

Seconded by: Councilwoman Latner

Approved: April 24, 2019

ATTEST:

Certified by me

Municipal Clerk



Mayor

It is hereby certified that the approved budget amendment annexed hereto and hereby made a part is an exact copy of the original on file with the Municipal Clerk of the Governing Body, that all additions are correct. All statements contained herein are in proof and the total of anticipated revenues equal the total of appropriations.

Certified by me, this 24th day of April, 2019

Gary J. Vinci

Registered Municipal Accountant

R. to Direct 4/26/19

BOROUGH OF CLOSTER

RESOLUTION ADOPTING ORDINANCE NO. 2019:1253

WHEREAS, public notice has been given by the Borough Clerk of the Borough of Closter that an Ordinance entitled:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CODE CHAPTER 53 TO DESIGNATE THE POSITION OF PURCHASING AGENT PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:11-9

was introduced and passed at a meeting held on March 27, 2019 and that further consideration of said ordinance for final passage and the hearing of all persons interested in said ordinance would be conducted at this meeting; and

WHEREAS, all persons interested were given an opportunity to be heard concerning such ordinance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that said ordinance pass final reading and be published according to law.


Councilperson	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Devlin	X		X			
Councilwoman Latner			X			
Councilwoman Witko			X			
Councilman Yammarino			X			
Councilwoman Chung		X	X			
Councilwoman Amitai			X			

Adopted: April 24, 2019


ATTEST:


Loretta Castano, Borough Clerk

APPROVED:


John C. Glidden, Jr., Mayor

Certified to be a true copy of Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter at the Regular Meeting held April 24, 2019.


Loretta Castano, Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF CLOSTER
ORDINANCE NO.: 2019:1253

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CODE CHAPTER 53 TO DESIGNATE THE
POSITION OF PURCHASING AGENT PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:11-9**

WHEREAS, P.L. 2009, c. 166, codified as N.J.S.A. 40A:11-2 *et seq.*, supplementing and amending Chapter 11 of Title 40A of the New Jersey Statutes, allows local contracting units in New Jersey to create the position of Purchasing Agent; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Closter desires to create the position of Purchasing Agent;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey as follows:

Section 1

CHAPTER 53, PURCHASING AGENT, shall be amended to add the following section:

§ 53-3 Qualified Purchasing Agent

1. There is hereby created the position of Purchasing Agent for the Borough of Closter.
2. The Purchasing Agent shall be appointed by the governing body of the Borough of Closter according to the routine personnel appointment procedures of the Borough.
3. The Purchasing Agent is required to and shall possess a valid Qualified Purchasing Agent certificate, as issued by the New Jersey Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, and shall meet all other criteria as established by applicable laws and regulations.
4. The Purchasing Agent shall have, on behalf of the governing body of the Borough of Closter, the authority, responsibility and accountability for the purchasing activity pursuant to Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 *et seq.*); to prepare public advertising for and to receive bids and requests for proposals for the provision or performance of goods, services and construction contracts; to award contracts pursuant to New Jersey law in accordance with the regulations, forms and procedures promulgated by state regulatory agencies, and any purchasing policy guidelines of the Borough; and to conduct any activities as may be necessary or appropriate to the purchasing function of the Borough of Closter.
5. The salary for the position of Purchasing Agent shall be as provided in the Borough's salary ordinance and/or Professional Service Agreement as established or agreed to by the governing body of the Borough.

Section 2

If any sentence, section, clause or other portion of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall, for any reason, be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, unenforceable, illegal or unconstitutional, such word, phrase, clause, section, or provision shall be severable from the balance of the ordinance and the remainder of the ordinance shall remain in full force and effect. All Ordinances or parts thereof inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication as required by law.

Councilperson	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Devlin	X		X			
Councilwoman Latner			X			
Councilwoman Witko			X			
Councilman Yammarino			X			
Councilwoman Chung		X	X			
Councilwoman Amitai			X			


Introduced: March 27, 2019

Adopted: April 24, 2019

ATTEST:


Loretta Castano, RMC, Borough Clerk

APPROVED:


John C. Glidden, Jr., Mayor

Certified to be a true copy of an Ordinance adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter at the Regular Meeting held April 24, 2019.

Loretta Castano, Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF CLOSTER

RESOLUTION ADOPTING ORDINANCE NO. 2019:1254

WHEREAS, public notice has been given by the Borough Clerk of the Borough of Closter that an Ordinance entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CODE CHAPTER 50-29 C(1)(e) "ORGANIZATION OF DEPARTMENT: PROMOTIONS: CHAIN OF COMMAND

was introduced and passed at a meeting held on March 27, 2019 and that further consideration of said ordinance for final passage and the hearing of all persons interested in said ordinance would be conducted at this meeting; and

WHEREAS, all persons interested were given an opportunity to be heard concerning such ordinance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that said ordinance pass final reading and be published according to law.


Councilperson	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Devlin			X			
Councilwoman Latner	X		X			
Councilwoman Witko			X			
Councilman Yammarino		X	X			
Councilwoman Chung			X			
Councilwoman Amitai			X			

Adopted: April 24, 2019

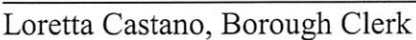
ATTEST:


Loretta Castano, Borough Clerk

APPROVED:


John C. Glidden, Jr., Mayor

Certified to be a true copy of Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter at the Regular Meeting held April 24, 2019.


Loretta Castano, Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF CLOSTER
ORDINANCE NO.: 2019:1254

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CODE CHAPTER 50-29 C(1)(e) "ORGANIZATION OF
DEPARTMENT: PROMOTIONS: CHAIN OF COMMAND**

WHEREAS, the Governing Body has determined that a change is required to Chapter 50, Police Department of the Borough's Code, specifically, Article VIIA, Department Organization and Chain of Command, § 50-29.1, Organization of Department; promotions; chain of command; and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police has informed the Governing Body that due to certain pending promotions, there is a need to change the ordinance in order to ensure supervisory coverage on all shifts; and

WHEREAS, the proposed change was discussed at a public meeting and there was a consensus by the Governing Body that the amendment was necessary for the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Borough.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey as follows:

Section 1. § 50-29.1 Organization of Department; promotions; chain of command

Revise paragraph C (1)(e) as follows:

(e) Six Sergeants, effective up to December 31, 2019. As of 1/1/2020, there shall be Five Sergeants.

The rest of paragraph A shall remain unchanged.

Section 2.

If any sentence, section, clause or other portion of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall, for any reason, be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair or repeal the remainder of this Ordinance. All Ordinances or parts thereof inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication as required by law.

Councilperson	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Devlin			X			
Councilwoman Latner	X		X			
Councilwoman Witko			X			
Councilman Yammarino		X	X			
Councilwoman Chung			X			
Councilwoman Amitai			X			

Introduced: March 27, 2019

Adopted: April 24, 2019

ATTEST:



Loretta Castano, RMC, Borough Clerk

APPROVED:



John C. Glidden, Jr., Mayor

Certified to be a true copy of an Ordinance adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter at the Regular Meeting held April 24, 2019.

Loretta Castano, Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF CLOSTER
COUNTY OF BERGEN

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING SENATE BILL S2505 AND ASSEMBLY BILL A2558
KNOWN AS THE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT RESPONSE ACT**

WHEREAS, the Vegetation Management Response Act was introduced in the New Jersey State Senate (S2505) and the Assembly (A2558) in 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Closter greatly values our public and private trees and their great benefits to a healthy environment, beautification, and property values, while also recognizing the importance of maintaining the reliability of our public utilities, communications and cable television services; and

WHEREAS, the Vegetation Management Response Act is overreaching and removes local government's ability to plan and manage vegetation in the right-of-way in stating that "The Council, a Shade Tree Commission, and any entity empowered pursuant to this chapter, shall not interfere with or restrict an electric public utility's removal, replacement, or maintenance of dangerous vegetation pursuant to the provisions"; and

WHEREAS, this bill creates a new definition – "dangerous vegetation" – that is not used in any universally accepted professional tree management standards, and gives the utility, cable and communications company sole discretion to determine what meets the criteria of "dangerous vegetation" without input from licensed tree experts representing the public or private property and expands the zone of the utility companies' unilateral authority to 100 feet from a utility line, effecting cedes control of large swaths of public and private land to the utilities; and

WHEREAS, the utility, cable or communications company is under no requirement to confer with or receive input or hear objections from local government, private property owners or the public prior to clearing, moving, cutting, and destroying the vegetation in either the public right-of-way or on private property; and

WHEREAS, utilities, cable or communications companies would not be bound by any local municipal regulations concerning tree preservation and vegetation management; and

WHEREAS, there is no mechanism for recourse or compensation for the loss of property value or the loss of the public good that trees provide, when removed; and

WHEREAS, there is an opportunity for a law that is crafted by all of the key stakeholders representing local government, private property owners, utilities, cable and communication companies, tree and vegetation management experts, so that it balances the interests of reliable power, cable and communications infrastructure with responsible tree preservation and vegetation management;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of Closter, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, opposes the enactment of The Vegetation management Response Act in its current form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the Act is to be given further consideration by the Legislature, it should be amended as per the concerns above and so that the Act is narrowly tailored to accomplish its objectives: (1) with minimum intrusion on private and public property; (2) with no damage nor impact on healthy vegetation and trees; (3) in accord with universally accepted professional standards established by licensed tree experts; (4) with prior notice and local government involvement; and (5) to include a program of tree-planting and restoration; and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Borough of Closter's governing body that on behalf of our administration, residents and Shade Tree Commission that this legislation as currently drafted by amended to address the concerns above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Murphy, DPE Commissioner McCabe, Senate President Sweeney, Senator Cardinale, Assembly Speaker Coughlin, Assemblywoman Schepisi and Assemblyman Auth.


Councilperson	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Devlin			X			
Councilwoman Latner	X		X			
Councilwoman Witko			X			
Councilman Yammarino			X			
Councilwoman Chung		X	X			
Councilwoman Amitai			X			

Adopted: April 24, 2019

ATTEST:


Loretta Castano, Borough Clerk

APPROVED:


John C. Glidden, Jr., Mayor

AG
4/25/19

Certified to be a true copy of Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter at the Regular Meeting held April 24, 2019.

Loretta Castano, Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF CLOSTER
COUNTY OF BERGEN

RESOLUTION REJECTING HATE WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF CLOSTER

WHEREAS, the United States of America is a diverse nation with citizens from every corner of the globe and a place that strives for racial, ethnic, cultural, and religious acceptance; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Closter reflects the greater American community; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Closter recognizes that violence against others due to their identity is not in keeping with American values; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Closter rejects hate in all its forms, especially the type that results in violence against any particular group; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Closter rejects the labeling of groups of being less valued than any other group; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Closter values its diverse and culturally rich community; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Closter supports efforts by members of its community that foster communication and understanding between the diverse religious, cultural, and racial communities within the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Closter supports efforts of local, county, state, and national leaders to take steps to reject hate through legislative initiatives' and to speak out against hate to ensure others do not feel that hate is the norm; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Closter supports efforts of other organizations that call out hate in all its forms and tries to follow American values that no one should be targeted because of their identity; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Closter supports the efforts of local, county, and state police organizations in their efforts to keep all houses of worship and gathering places the safe refuge they should be;

WHEREAS, the Borough of Closter supports community efforts to reach out and learn about different groups in order to increase our understanding of others, decreasing the isolation of communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey that the Borough rejects hate in all its forms.

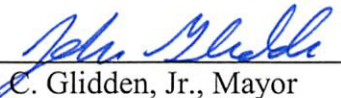
Councilperson	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Devlin			X			
Councilwoman Latner	X		X			
Councilwoman Witko			X			
Councilman Yammarino			X			
Councilwoman Chung		X	X			
Councilwoman Amitai			X			

Adopted: April 24, 2019

ATTEST:


 Loretta Castano, RMC, Municipal Clerk

APPROVED:


 John C. Glidden, Jr., Mayor

AMG 4/25/19

Certified to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter at the Regular Meeting held on April 24, 2019.

 Loretta Castano, RMC, Municipal Clerk

**BOROUGH OF CLOSTER
COUNTY OF BERGEN**

**RESOLUTION REJECTING ALL BIDS FOR CLOSTER NATURE CENTER
DEER EXCLOSURE FENCING PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Governing Body previously authorized the Borough Attorney to prepare bids specifications for the Deer Exclosure Fencing Project on Borough property in the Closter Nature Center; and

WHEREAS, three contractors returned the sealed bid documents, and on March 26, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. all bids received were opened; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the bid documents and New Jersey law, the contract must be awarded or all bids rejected within 60 days from the bid opening, which would be May 25, 2019; and

WHEREAS, at the public meeting held on April 10, 2019, the Governing Body discussed the submissions and determined it was in the best interests of the Borough of Closter to reject all bids;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey as follows:

All bids for the Closter Nature Center Deer Exclosure Fencing Project are hereby rejected.


Councilperson	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Devlin			X			
Councilwoman Latner	X		X			
Councilwoman Witko			X			
Councilman Yammarino			X			
Councilwoman Chung		X	X			
Councilwoman Amitai			X			

Adopted: April 24, 2019

ATTEST:


Loretta Castano, RMC, Municipal Clerk

APPROVED:


John C. Glidden, Jr., Mayor

Certified to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter at the Regular Meeting held on April 24, 2019.

Loretta Castano, RMC, Municipal Clerk

**BOROUGH OF CLOSTER
BERGEN COUNTY
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the following individuals or companies have escrow funds deposited with the Borough for development of the attached listed properties

WHEREAS, the Borough Deputy Treasurer has exhausted all means to locate the attached Depositors to include Purchase Orders, internet search and phone calls; and

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to clear these accounts from record:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter that the Deputy Treasurer is hereby authorized to close out the attached accounts and credit the funds (\$1769.69) in the Misc Trust #1 Account#2010005169


Councilperson	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Devlin			X			
Councilwoman Latner	X		X			
Councilwoman Witko			X			
Councilman Yammarino			X			
Councilwoman Chung		X	X			
Councilwoman Amitai			X			

Adopted: April 24, 2019

ATTEST:


Loretta Castano, Borough Clerk

APPROVED:


John C. Glidden Jr., Mayor

Certified to be a true copy of Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter at the Regular Meeting held April 24, 2019.

Loretta Castano, Borough Clerk

Block	Lot	Address	Name	Amount
1318	4	48 PERRY STREET	BEM SYSTEMS, INC	\$ 7.96
2305	17	511 HOMANS AVE	B&H DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION CO	\$ 150.00
608	9	53 TALLON TERRACE	M8 LLC	\$ 13.29
1306	1	1 RUCKMAN ROAD	FAEB	\$ 750.00
1104	15.02	59 WEST STREET	VIRAL TOLAT	\$ 1.28
2302	42	12 LAURENCE COURT	MICHAEL ARGENZIANO	\$ 19.00
2103	5	72 HICKORY LANE	ANTHONY & ROSEMARY TRISTANI	\$ 72.00
1718	3	12 FOURTH STREET	JAYESH & AMITA PATEL	\$ 47.29
1002	18	383 DURIE AVE	DARSHANKU DHORAJIA	\$ 1.22
1501	17	165 HERBERT AVE	MERV FERNANDES	\$ 22.39
907	6	204 HIGH STREET	204 HIGH STREET LLC	\$ 72.50
2305	11.01	256 PARSELLS LANE	ROY & ZOE FREADMAN	\$ 14.00
1713	34	28 MAPLE AVE	WILLIAM & JACQUELYN CARLOS	\$ 120.61
1301	22	247 WEST STREET	BH DESIGN GROUP LLC	\$ 43.36
1702	14	561 HIGH STREET	OTTOMAN HOME IMPROVEMENT CO.	\$ 13.32
704	10	40 FIARVIEW AVE	ALLBERT CO. LLC	\$ 42.22
1202	6.01	15 WILLIAMS STREET	MULTI-PHASE ELECTRICAL SERVICE	\$ 20.73
1407	16	85 CARLSON COURT	ITTAI & MOR BALABAN	\$ 15.00
204	3	46 UNION STREET	GARABED MINASSIAN	\$ 21.50
1301	7	142 CLOSTER DOCK ROAD	YEMYUNG REDEEMER K.M. CHURCH	\$ 9.05
2406	18	25 MAPLEWOOD ROAD	BRETT BERN	\$ 25.00
2305	16.01	519 HOMANS AVE	ROY A. FRIEDMAN	\$ 21.25
1713	15	426 CLOSTER DOCK ROAD	ROMEL H. FERMANO	\$ 73.00
611	2	130 DURIE AVE	ROBERT A SILBER, P.C.	\$ 11.36
2303	5	3 LAURENCE COURT	ADVOCAT PROPERTIES LLC	\$ 34.75
612	14	99 OAK STREET	RF PROPERTIES LLC	\$ 44.72
803	9	166 HARRINGTON AVE	JOELO ENTERPRISES, LLC	\$ 18.38
2302	41	10 LAURENCE COURT	NVN HOME IMPROVEMENT LLC	\$ 36.98
606	28	99 HARING STREET	HOWARD K. PARK	\$ 47.50
TOTAL				\$ 1,769.66

DW 4/28/15

**BOROUGH OF CLOSTER
COUNTY OF BERGEN**

**RESOLUTION AWARDING CONTRACT FOR COMPOSTING AND RELATED
SERVICES TO KEN'S TREE CARE, INC.**

WHEREAS, sealed bids were requested through advertisement pursuant to the New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law for Composting and Related Services for the Borough; and

WHEREAS, two contractors returned the sealed bid documents on January 17, 2019, at 11:00 a.m.; and

WHEREAS, at the public meeting held on February 13, 2019, the Governing Body discussed the submissions and determined it was in the best interests of the Borough to reject all bids and re-bid; and

WHEREAS, sealed bids were requested through re-advertisement pursuant to the New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law for Composting and Related Services for the Borough; and

WHEREAS, following the re-bid, two contractors returned the sealed bid documents on March 26, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Ken's Tree Care, Inc., 401 Paulding Avenue, Northvale, New Jersey 07647, was the lowest responsible bidder with a compliant bid, submitting a bid amount of \$0 for the first 100 yards per week, \$8 per yard thereafter, and a total bid amount of \$0 amounting to a No Cost Contract per the bid specifications; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of the Closter Department of Public Works recommends that the contract be awarded to Ken's Tree Care, Inc. as the lowest responsible compliant bidder; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Attorney has reviewed the bid documents and found them to be in order; and

WHEREAS, at the public meeting held on April 10, 2019, the Governing Body discussed the submissions and determined it was in the best interests of the Borough of Closter to award the contract to Ken's Tree Care, Inc.;

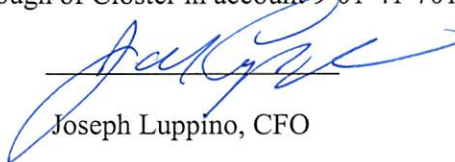
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter as follows:

1. This award is made to Ken's Tree Care, Inc., submitting a bid amount of \$0 for the first 100 yards per week, \$8 per yard thereafter, and a total bid amount of \$0 amounting to a No Cost Contract per the bid specifications, with the services to be provided in accordance with the bid package and specifications prepared by the Borough which were used in the bidding process and are considered part of this award.
2. The Borough Attorney is hereby authorized to prepare contracts and/or other documents pursuant to the award of this contract.
3. The Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to execute contracts and/or documents pursuant to the award of this contract.

CERTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

I, Joseph Luppino, Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Closter, hereby certify, pursuant to N.J.S.A.40A:-9140.1, et seq. and N.J.A.C 5:30-5.4, that the funds, which are required for the **Emergency Equipment Operator labor** are available to the Borough of Closter in account 9-01-41-701-000-201.

April 24, 2019



Joseph Luppino, CFO

Councilperson	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Devlin			X			
Councilwoman Latner	X		X			
Councilwoman Witko			X			
Councilman Yammarino			X			
Councilwoman Chung		X	X			
Councilwoman Amitai			X			

Adopted: April 24, 2019

APPROVED BY:

ATTEST:


 John C. Glidden, Jr., Mayor


 Loretta Castano, Borough Clerk

Certified to be a true copy of Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter on April 24, 2019.

 Loretta Castano, Borough Clerk

**BOROUGH OF CLOSTER
COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY**

**RESOLUTION NO. 11
AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF AN AD INTERIM PERMIT**

WHEREAS, the Liquor Licenses within the Borough of Closter expire on June 30th of each year; and

WHEREAS, certain Licensees have applied for renewal but have been unable to obtain a Tax Clearance Certificate from the Division of Taxation; and

WHEREAS, the Licensees may apply for a temporary permit to continue operation under the Liquor License pending receipt of the Tax Clearance Certificate;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter that the Borough of Closter does not object to the issuance of an Ad Interim Permit to the following Licensee:

LICENSEELICENSE NO.

CINEMEX NJ, LLC
t/a CMX
130 Vervalen Street

0207-33-006-009

Councilperson	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Devlin			X			
Councilwoman Latner	X		X			
Councilwoman Witko			X			
Councilman Yammarino			X			
Councilwoman Chung		X	X			
Councilwoman Amitai			X			

Adopted: April 24, 2019

APPROVED:


John C. Glidden, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:


Loretta Castano, Borough Clerk

Certified to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter at the Regular Meeting held April 24, 2019.

Loretta Castano, Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF CLOSTER
COUNTY OF BERGEN

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PROMOTION OF POLICE OFFICER JOSEPH
BALDOMERO, III TO THE RANK OF SERGEANT**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council believes it is in the best interests to fill anticipated vacancy in the position of Sergeant in the Closter Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body has undertaken interviews, testing procedures, and gained input from supervisory officers; and

WHEREAS, Officer Joseph Baldomero, III has been found to be qualified for promotion to the rank of Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police has recommended that Joseph Baldomero, III be promoted to Sergeant and to be sworn in at the Public Meeting of May 8, 2019; and

WHEREAS, at the Public Meeting of May 8, 2019 the Governing Body considered that recommendation and hereby approved same; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter that Patrolman Joseph Baldomero, III be promoted to the rank of Sergeant in the Closter Police Department effective May 1, 2019 at the base salary of \$139,850.00.


COUNCILPERSON	MOTION	SECOND	YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Councilman Devlin			X			
Councilwoman Latner	X		X			
Councilwoman Witko			X			
Councilman Yammarino			X			
Councilwoman Chung		X	X			
Councilwoman Amitai			X			

Adopted: April 24, 2019

ATTEST:


 Loretta Castano, RMC, Municipal Clerk

APPROVED:


 John C. Glidden, Jr., Mayor

Certified to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter at the Regular Meeting held on April 24, 2019.

Loretta Castano, RMC, Municipal Clerk

BOROUGH OF CLOSTER
BERGEN COUNTY
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the following applicant has posted legal escrow fee with the Closter Zoning Board of Adjustment

WHEREAS, Zoning Board of Adjustment professionals have determined that all required legal fees due for services rendered have been received for application at

<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Amount</u>
504	69	65 Farrington Ave	Thomas & Jeanette Watters	\$275.00

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter that the Deputy Treasurer is hereby authorized to release and return the remaining escrow funds to the applicant.

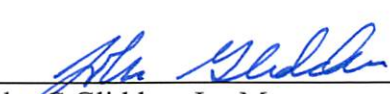
Councilperson	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Devlin			✕			
Councilwoman Latner	✕		✕			
Councilwoman Witko			✕			
Councilman Yammarino			✕			
Councilwoman Chung		✕	✕			
Councilwoman Amitai			✕			

Adopted: April 24, 2019

ATTEST:


Loretta Castano, Borough Clerk

APPROVED:


John C Glidden, Jr., Mayor

Certified to be a true copy of Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter at the Regular Meeting held April 24, 2019.

Loretta Castano, Borough Clerk

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
BOROUGH OF CLOSTER

WORK SESSION NOTES – WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2019 - 7:30 P.M.

The Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter held a Work Session on Wednesday, April 24, 2019. Mayor Glidden called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Glidden invited all to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. PROVISIONS OF OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT

This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey, was included in the Annual Notice of Meetings which was published in The Record and The Star Ledger on January 9, 2019, was posted on the Municipal Clerk's bulletin board and has remained posted as the required notices under the Statute. In addition, a copy of the notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

3. ROLL CALL

The following persons were present:

Mayor John C. Glidden, Jr.
Councilpersons, Scott Devlin, Alissa Latner, Dolores Witko, Joseph Yammarino, Jannie Chung
and Victoria Amitai
Borough Attorney, Edward T. Rogan
Borough Auditor, Gary Vinci
Chief Financial Officer, Joseph Luppino
Borough Clerk, Loretta Castano
Borough Engineer, Nick DeNicola
Chief of Police, Dennis Kaine

Mayor Glidden deviated from the Agenda and asked that the following item on the Regular Meeting Agenda be addressed at this time:

“4. PRESENTATION(S)”

The Mayor announced that a couple of Girl Scouts from Troop 94765 were present this evening to talk about a project they have. He asked them to please come forward, to address the Council.

Danielle Lee, Rachel Rudin and Suhyla Acar reported that many students walk downtown after school and we have seen many of them crossing the street while on their cell phones completely disregarding traffic. It was noted that many of the drivers have the same issue and many around town have their eyes glued to their electronics. A vast number of people have been injured because of inattention by distracted drivers. We have created a poster with a friendly reminder for drivers to keep their eyes on the road. We thought the perfect location for the poster would be placed on the Memorial Field fence facing the Tenakill School. Drivers tend to be more alert in school zones. The poster which would be 6 feet by 8 feet, states “PHONES DOWN/EYES UP” showing a woman driver looking at a cell phone while driving with a young girl looking at a cell phone while walking in a crosswalk in front of her automobile. The Scouts hope that the poster remains for several years.

Chief Kaine said the Department has no issue with the placement of the sign. Councilwoman Chung noted it was a great idea to highlight the issue of pedestrians on their electronics; and Councilwoman Amitai suggested a letter be sent to the Department of Transportation depicting the poster. No objections were expressed by Council members; and Mayor Glidden advised the three Girl Scouts to go ahead with the project and make an appointment with his office to schedule placement of the poster by the DPW.

4. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF COMMUNICATION ITEMS

a. MAIL LIST OF APRIL 11, 2019 – Mayor Glidden asked if any member of the Council wished to address any matter or provide any comments. Item No. 3a was removed by Councilwoman Latner; Item No. 7 was removed by Councilwoman Amitai.

Item No. 3a: Received 04/05/19, Dated 03/29/19, from Catherin F. Krostek, Enrollment Services Coordinator/NJ STARS Representation, Enrollment Services Bergen Community College re 2019 NJ STARS Information Sessions Flyer re Session to be posted

Councilwoman Latner asked that this information be further promoted and placed on the website. She is assuming it has been sent to the High School but she said we should make sure they have it as well so all of the students are aware of the program.

Item No. 7: Received 04/05/19, Dated 04/03/19, from Nick DeNicola, P.E., Borough Engineer, Boswell Engineering, to Mr. Nabil Ayoub, State of New Jersey Department of Transportation; Cc: Closter Mayor & Council, Arthur Dolson, Administrator re Homans Avenue (Section 5) information for final reimbursement of \$55,000.00 (letter only!) Copy to Borough Administrator (letter only!)

In answer to Councilwoman Amitai, the Borough Engineer explained this is the final reimbursement for the NJDOT Local Aid Grant from last year which covered 75% of the costs of the project up front. The remainder is a reimbursement paid on submission of final paperwork and this was for the Homans Avenue Project. This year's project includes Railroad Avenue, Closter Dock Road and Naugle Street.

b. MAIL LIST OF APRIL 18, 2019 – Mayor Glidden asked if any member of the Council wished to address any matter or provide any comments. Item No. 4b was removed by Mayor Glidden; Item No. 5 was removed by Councilwoman Latner.

Item No. 4b: Received 04/12/19, Dated 04/12/19, from Kerry Kirk Pflugh, Director, Office of Local Government Assistance, NJDEP re *NJDEP Weekly Update – April 12, 2019 re 100th Anniversary of passage of the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote

Mayor Glidden wanted all to be aware of the 100th Anniversary of passage of the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote.

Item No. 5: Received 04/15/19, Dated 04/15/19, from Closter Board of Health Secretary to Loretta Castano, Edward T. Rogan, Board of Health Members re Resignation of Ben Latner as Alt. No. 2 member of Board of Health for a 2 year term to 12/31/19 due to move out of state (Copy to Board of Ethics)

Councilwoman Latner informed her son is moving out of town so he resigned his position on the Board of Health. She said he did enjoy the experience even though he worked late every Thursday and it bothered him he was never able to make the meetings; but between that and the Stigma Free, she is thankful on his behalf.

CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL
WORK SESSION NOTES – WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2019 – 7:30 P.M.

5. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS FROM REGULAR MEETING
(Refer to Regular Meeting Agenda of April 24, 2019)

Mayor Glidden asked if any member of the Council wished to remove any item for discussion. Councilwoman Amitai referred to Item Nos. 13 and 14; Mayor Glidden referred to Item No. 21; Councilwoman Chung referred to Item No. 22.

13. RESOLUTION REJECTING ALL BIDS FOR CLOSTER NATURE CENTER DEER EXCLOSURE FENCING PROJECT (Received from Borough Attorney 4/15/19)

In answer to Councilwoman Amitai, Borough Attorney noted the Borough received three (3) bids: two (2) of which were in the \$70,000 range, and one under \$40,000. He recommended that, if possible, the QPA should discuss with potential vendors entering into a contract below \$40,000 which we would be better off doing rather than awarding any type of a bid.

14. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DEPUTY TREASURER TO CLOSE OUT ATTACHED TWENTY-NINE (29) NAMED ESCROW ACCOUNTS AND DEPOSIT THE FUNDS INTO THE BOROUGH'S MISC TRUST #1 ACCOUNT #2010005169 DUE TO EXHAUSTION OF ALL MEANS OF LOCATING THE DEPOSITORS (Received from Deputy Treasurer 4/15/19)

Councilwoman Amitai asked if this list completed the previous escrows that had been unable to be returned and was advised by Assistant CFO that there would be more accounts that would need to be closed out.

*21. MOTION APPROVING THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS NOT MADE AT THE REORGANIZATION MEETING HELD 1/2/19:

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>INCUMBENT</u>	<u>APPOINTEE</u>	<u>TERM</u>	<u>EXPIRES</u>
Board of Health				
Alternate No. 2	<u>Benjamin Latner</u>	<u>NO APPOINTMENT</u>	2 Years (Unexp. Latner)	31-Dec-19
Food and Assistance Board				
Member	<u>VACANT</u>	<u>NO APPOINTMENT</u>	2 Years (Unexp. Vacant)	31-Dec-19
Member	<u>VACANT</u>	<u>NO APPOINTMENT</u>	2 Years (Unexp. Vacant)	31-Dec-19
Historic Preservation Commission				
Alternate No. 2	<u>VACANT</u>	<u>NO APPOINTMENT</u>	2 Years (Unexp. Vacant)	31-Dec-19
Improvement Commission				
Alternate No. 2	<u>Mor Gil Hefetz</u>	<u>Andrew Correa</u>	2 Years	31-Dec-20

Mayor Glidden noted he circulated the resume of Andrew Correa and said he would be appointing him as Alternate No. 2 on the Improvement Commission to take the place of Mor Gil Hefetz.

- *22. MOTION GRANTING APPROVAL FOR ISSUANCE BY POLICE DEPARTMENT OF THE FOLLOWING HAWKERS AND PEDDLERS LICENSE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2019, PER BOROUGH CODE CH. 127 (Received from Chief of Police 4/18/19):
- a. PERMIT NO 2019-003 – FOR CHETNA SHAH, 165 HERBERT AVENUE, CLOSTER, NJ 07624 FOR REAL ESTATE ON BEHALF OF REMAX SIGNATURE HOMES

In answer to Councilwoman Chung, Chief Kaine said the realtor is not from this area and wanted to be thorough.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. FINANCE AND TECHNOLOGY – YAMMARINO (DEVLIN/WITKO)

1) REPORT RE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS – Councilman Yammarino reported they worked closely with the Borough Administrator; and the Finance Committee reviewed every line item in the Budget to see what could be adjusted. He thanked the Chief Financial Officer and Auditor for their assistance along with the Finance Department. At this time, he deferred to the experts to review the Budget which will be done in the Regular Meeting.

At this time, Councilwoman Amitai asked how to have something added to the My Town app because she noted the Budget Hearing/Agenda was not on the app. Mr. Yammarino said it should have been; and it is only as informative as we make it; and they are still waiting for information from other Departments as well. In answer to Councilwoman Chung, he said Kevin Whitney will post the items similar to the Borough website. She suggested informing all of the Boards and Commissions as to how to get information posted to the app and Mr. Yammarino agreed.

At this time, Councilwoman Chung asked if there were still discussions of hiring a grant writer; and Mr. Yammarino affirmed same.

2) REPORT RE TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETINGS – Mr. Yammarino reported there are two (2) new apps up and running: Recycle Coach and My Town. They are both local, Closter only apps. They are compatible with Alexa and Google if you're technologically advanced.

3) LIAISON REPORTS – Councilman Yammarino reported on the following:

a. Historic Preservation Commission – They still have one (1) open seat to be filled. It is his understanding now that Erik Lenander is the Qualified Purchasing Agent, he has to resign his position; and Borough Attorney affirmed same. Regarding the Lustron House, the Commission is seeking bids for work that needs to be done there so they are trying to find out the timing of our replacement Borough Administrator to get all of that in place. In answer to Councilwoman Latner, he explained they want to apply for Open Space funds; and to do that, you have to go to the County with numbers; therefore, obtaining bids is the first step.

b. Recreation Commission – No report.

Councilman Yammarino reported he spoke to the Board of Ethics Chair this morning and was told that as of today, out of 105 individuals required to file, 75 have filed and 30 have not. They followed up with the Board and Commission Chairs to follow up on that. All of the governing body members have filed. The Ethics Chair will send him a list which he will circulate to the Council Liaisons for follow up.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY - LATNER (CHUNG/YAMMARINO)

1) REPORT RE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETINGS – Councilwoman Latner reported that, in light of Chief Kaine's upcoming retirement, they will be setting up a Public Safety Meeting to interview some of the candidates who will be getting promoted; and then they will bring the candidates back for approval and interviews with the Mayor and Council. At this time, she requested a Closed Session discussion regarding personnel on this matter.

2) LIAISON REPORTS – Councilwoman Latner reported the following:

a. Board of Education – NVRHS – The District Tech Ed Programs won a 5 star exemplary award.

b. Library Board of Trustees – Out of all 78 BCCLS Libraries, Closter is the 4th lowest in cost for circulated items. Spring programs are well attended; and this year's book sale netted \$3,524.05. In answer to Councilwoman Chung, she said the money goes back to the Library.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

C. PUBLIC WORKS - CHUNG (AMITAI/LATNER)

1) REPORT RE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETINGS – Councilwoman Chung informed she had no report this evening.

2) LIAISON REPORTS

- a. Board of Health
- b. Zoning Board of Adjustment
- c. Northern Valley Greenway

3) Special Mayoral Assignment – Stigma Free (WS 6/27/18)

D. ORDINANCES - DEVLIN (WITKO/AMITAI)

1) REPORT RE ORDINANCE & LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS – Councilman Devlin reported the Ordinance Committee has not met recently but they are working on scheduling.

2) LIAISON REPORTS – Councilman Devlin reported the following:

a. Environmental Commission (Voting member) – There's nothing new to announce since the prior meeting.

b. Shade Tree Commission (Voting member) – This Friday is Arbor Day and there will be tree plantings at 9:30 a.m. at Tenakill and at 10:30 a.m. at Hillside. Mr. Devlin asked the Borough Engineer if he had any updates on the Shade Tree ordinance; and Mr. DeNicola informed he spoke to the Construction Official and they will follow through on getting a check box added to the checklist. He is in the process of investigating right now.

At this time, Councilwoman Amitai asked for an update on the road opening ordinance. Mr. Devlin said he had a copy of it that he forwarded to the DPW Superintendent for input because it is not his forte. He asked him to go line by line and review the current ordinance to identify the problems. Mrs. Amitai asked that the Borough Engineer be included in these discussions the next time they have a call. Mr. Devlin noted they have a copy of the County's ordinance which they are using as a guide.

E. HUMAN RESOURCES – WITKO (CHUNG/LATNER)

1) REPORT RE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING(S) – Councilwoman Witko reported there are a lot of things going on right now with Human Resources; and she requested a Closed Session to discuss same.

2) LIAISON REPORTS – Councilwoman Witko reported the following:

a. Board of Education – Closter Public Schools hired a new Superintendent, Vincent McHale, who is currently an Assistant Superintendent in Teaneck; and he will start July 1st.

b. Fire Department – Two (2) firefighters graduated from Fire School; and on Tuesday, the Department did some live fire training. They will be doing it again in July. She passed on gratitude from Chief Lupardi to the Mayor and Council for all their help.

At this time, Councilwoman Amitai questioned if the Human Resources Committee had scheduled interviews for a temporary Borough Administrator yet; and Mrs. Witko informed they had not.

F. LAND USE AND CONSTRUCTION - AMITAI (DEVLIN/YAMMARINO)

1) REPORT RE CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT MEETING(S) – Councilwoman Amitai informed she did not have a long report this evening.

2) LIAISON REPORTS – Councilwoman Amitai reported the following:

a. Planning Board (Voting member)

b. Improvement Commission (Voting member) – As of the last Commission meeting, they now have as a result of a request, a new subcommittee called the "Town Beautification Committee" which will be chaired by Ann Brewster. They discussed having an Oktoberfest this year and will discuss same further at their next meeting. Councilman Devlin asked that they try not to create a conflict with the Environmental Commission's MacBain Farm Festival although he does not know the date yet for this year; and she agreed to pass along the information.

c. Senior Citizens

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

G. MAYOR'S LIAISON REPORT – Mayor Glidden reported the following:

- a. Ambulance Corps – They are alive and well.
- b. Borough Engineer – He is alive and well.
- c. Northern Valley Mayor's Association – They haven't met lately but are scheduled to meet tomorrow night.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. CONTINUED DISCUSSIONS RE THE FOLLOWING:

- 1) Borough Attorney report re consultation with Borough Engineer re follow up on status of EMERGENCY REPAIRS TO BE MADE AT DWARSKILL BRIDGE ON BLANCH AVENUE ALONG THE NORWOOD BORDER (Requested by Mayor WS 12/12/18/Discussed at WS 12/20/18, WS 1/9/19, WS 1/23/19, WS 2/13/19, WS 2/27/19, WS 3/13/19, WS 3/27/19 and WS 4/10/19)

Borough Attorney said he has left messages with the Norwood Engineer but no response has been received.

In answer to Councilwoman Latner, Borough Engineer said he did not believe the property owners have been contacted as yet relative to providing easements to the Borough for the installation of sidewalks. Mayor Glidden said he would look into the matter.

Relative to CSX train crossing, Councilwoman Latner said the public should be advised that we are working on it. Chief Kaine said his Department was contacted by the DOT and a preconstruction meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, April 30th. Work is scheduled to start on May 11th and 12th with a three-day closure and the Mayor noted with a detour through Harrington Park. The Chief added that sign boards would be put in place.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Councilwoman Witko announced that the retirement dinner was held for Vicky Sidrow last night; and it was suggested by Assemblywoman Valerie Huttie to change Van Sciver to Vicky Sidrow Way. It would not be an official name change but a name addition. Councilman Devlin asked about protocol for this and expressed his concerns that it would open up a lot of future requests because he believed this type of thing was reserved for Veterans. Councilwoman Amitai noted there are other ways to honor a person. Mayor Glidden suggested that former Mayor Sophie Heymann be invited to a meeting to discuss the matter and Councilwoman Chung suggested that Assemblywoman Huttie send us a narrative on the contribution of Vicky Sidrow.

Borough Engineer reminded that on 4/9/19 he had sent a Boswell proposal to our Borough Administrator (10. M.L. 4/11/19) regarding SP3 plan revision/updates in the suggested allocation of \$5,000 for the initial phase amount for follow through regarding Tier A Municipal Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan. They recently changed the regulations in 2003. Our plan was updated in 2003; in 2016 they came out with some additional criteria; the DEP issued a letter directed to the DPW citing outstanding issues that must be addressed to get our house in order for next year. Since it was copied to our Superintendent of Public Works, who said he has the time frame, and he sent it to the Borough Administrator for follow through, he is waiting for approval of same as soon as possible at the next Regular Meeting.

CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL

WORK SESSION NOTES – WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2019 – 7:30 P.M.

Councilman Yammarino reminded that although he had missed the letter (to the Mayor and Council from R. Scott King, Esq. dated 2/6/19, 13. M.L. 2/7/19), it was informing that the Planning Board supports the Historic Preservation Commission's Hearing Report and the Council's decision to consider the MacBain Farmhouse Structure for historical designation as a historic structure; and to add the MacBain farm property (Block 2102, Lot 37.07) to the Borough's Recreation and Open Space Inventory (ROSI). Therefore, the Mayor asked the Borough Attorney to prepare a resolution confirming same for the next meeting.

Borough Engineer referred to the licensing of CSX property off Railroad Avenue; and said an application would have to be filled out and executed; and same could be used for parking for businesses in the area. Mayor Glidden said he would take care of this tomorrow.

Councilwoman Amitai said the Improvement Commission suggested that Rainworks be considered for sidewalk messages that appear when it rains and then disappears when it dries. The messages would have to be approved. Mayor Glidden asked her to provide information which they can review and consider. She also suggested that a ping pong table be purchased for the Senior Center. Councilman Devlin voiced his concern that the Seniors are getting a \$20,000 increase every year out of the Budget; and suggested they could use those funds to purchase same. She asked if there would be any interest in a community garden as it appears that some of our parks are underutilized; and it was suggested that same could be on Closter Dock Road and Piermont. Councilman Devlin cautioned that it could pose a problem with deer.

9. OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC FOR ANY MATTER PER NJSA 10:4-12(A) SUBJECT TO A 5-MINUTE LIMIT (PER GENERAL RULE NUMBER 11) EXCEPT FOR ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING AT THE REGULAR MEETING

David Barad said he met with Bill Dahle and the Borough Engineer in 2017 relative to street openings; and he suggested that the Council meet with Bill Dahle on the matter.

10. DISCUSSION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS, IF APPROPRIATE
11. ANY OTHER MATTER WHICH MAY PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE GOVERNING BODY
12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Work Session at 8:15 p.m. was made by Councilwoman Amitai, seconded by Councilwoman Witko and declared unanimously carried by Mayor Glidden.

Provided to the Mayor and Council
on May 2, 2019 for approval
at the Regular Meeting to be held
May 8, 2019

Loretta Castano, RMC
Borough Clerk

Prepared by Carol A. Kroepke
and Arlene Marie Gray, RMC, utilizing
recording and the Borough Clerk's
notes

Approved at the Regular Meeting held May 8, 2019
Consent Agenda Item No. 17b