

53 Park Ave  
Park Ridge, NJ

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING**  
**WORK SESSION MINUTES**  
**February 14, 2022**  
**7:00 P.M.**

**Present:** Councilmember Hoffman, Councilmember Ferguson, Councilmember Cozzi, Councilmember Capilli, Councilmember Goldsmith, Council President Fenwick and Mayor Misciagna

**Also Present:** John Schettino, Borough Attorney  
Connie Carpenter, Borough CFO  
Magdalena Giandomenico, Borough Clerk  
John Dunlea, Borough Engineer

**Council President Fenwick read the compliance statement earlier as required by the Open Public Meeting Act, P.L. 1975, and Chapter 231.**

**1. Admin Report:**

- a. Open Space has officially been announced, the letter of intent is due on 4/14/23. We can resubmit for the Historic Preservation grant and use a historical architect and fix the pointers of why we got denied last year and resubmit for work that needs to be done at the train station, unless there is another project. All in favor of train station resubmission.
- b. FD Phones have not been working.
  - Phones in FD that are currently working:
    - 2 phones in the chief's office (Chief desk and Lieutenant desk)
    - 1 phone in the association office
    - 1 phone behind the bar
    - 1 phone by the clothing case upstairs
    - 1 phone in the radio room in the garage
    - 1 phone in the Fire Prevention office

Long term plan is to setup a VPN tunnel between the borough hall and FD. This is cheaper than running fiber between the two buildings.

**2. CFO Report:**

- a. The finance committee had a preliminary meeting and the Boro CFO will be looking to schedule another one shortly. We almost have the year end numbers from 2022 and she will set up another finance committee meeting.

**b. Pascack Municipal Court Finances:**

1. 2022 Revenue received: \$60,396.64
2. 2022 Expense charged: \$116,245.64

Discussion ensued.

c. **Air Quality Test:** Boro CFO asked to have an air quality test performed at the Boro Hall because since COVID one employee has not returned to work in person stating there was an issue with the air quality. Other employees want to know if they are exposed to any issues. John Dunlea can recommend a company.

**3. Engineers Report:**

a. **Glen Road Bridge Project:**

- i. Woodcliff Lake will be going out to bid for this project in the beginning of March because we have to award by April 2023 through Woodcliff Lake. Park Ridge had a grant \$149k that was restored and Woodcliff Lake never applied for that grant back in the day.
- ii. The Borough needs to check with Woodcliff Lake if they are the lead and bonding for it or if we need to start a bonding process to award by April 27, 2023.

- b. **2023 Roadway Project:** The engineer asked for a list of roads to be chose by the governing body so the Borough can bid the project early in the year. Council President Fenwick and Councilman Capilli stated roads by the schools are a priority and should be done first.

4. **John Court** Councilman Hoffman stated the one neighbor spoke about water not draining properly and freezing outside of his home. Borough Engineer

There was a settlement agreement between two neighbors LaScala and Zungoli, it was all court ordered and not by the Borough. "The defendants agree that they shall make a good faith effort to petition Park Ridge so that the front gutter leader at the right side of their house nearest to plaintiffs' property will be redirected so that the water from that gutter leader will run across the LaScala property and go under their driveway through an existing underground pipe that will lead to a seepage pit as permitted and approved by Park Ridge. The defendants further agree that they shall unclog the 12" by 12" box drain next to their patio on the outside of the perimeter of their pool near plaintiffs' property line."

- A discussion ensued. Borough Engineer will work on a letter to Mr. LaScala to disconnect the roof leader.

5. **29 West Park:** Councilman Hoffman spoke to the residents at 29 West Park about their flooding problem caused by the blocked storm drain on the public easement behind their home. Borough Engineer will go there to see the yard inlet to see if it is on a Borough Easement.

6. **Pascack Municipal Court** : Council President spoke about the meeting he and Councilman Capilli attending regarding updating the Pascack Joint Municipal Court Agreement. Montvale stated that based on the proportion of revenue they bring in, they do not like the way the Public Defender and Prosecutor are selected and wanted the vote to be cast based on a proportional vote, which Council President informed them statutorily that is not allowed.
  - a. A discussion ensued. The way the Public Defender and Prosecutor will be chosen in the new proposed agreement will be unanimous, where each town has the veto power. “Professionals being considered for appointment to the Joint Court. All recommendations for appointment of the Court Professionals shall be made by unanimous vote of the Advisory Committee.” All okay with it for now.

**Open Work Session adjourned at 7:39pm**

Councilman Capilli made a motion to adjourn open session into closed session and seconded by Councilman Ferguson confirm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Magdalena Giandomenico  
Borough Clerk