

53 Park Ave  
Park Ridge, NJ

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING**  
**WORK SESSION MINUTES**

**May 23, 2023**

**7:00 P.M.**

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

**Absent:** Councilmember Goldsmith

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

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

**1. Admin Report:**

- **Tax Assessor:** Bob Campora is retiring at the end of the year and there were some resumes who were submitted, and interviews will be set up. Reviewed a spreadsheet of what the average salary of tax assessor around the County is from solicitation of all the County Clerk's.

**2. CFO Update:**

- a. **Bottiner Property:** All the money is in place for the closing.
- b. **Summer Internship:** Ben D'Alessandro Submitted his resume to be a paid finance intern around the office for the summer. A discussion ensued and the Council agreed to a \$15/hr internship not to exceed \$6,000 for the summer.
- c. The user-friendly budget is almost complete.

- 3. Planning Board:** Council President Fenwick stated that he recommends the appointment of Peter Montalbano to the Class 4 Planning Board Seat and stated that there has been a vacancy for over the last 30 days. Borough Attorney stated that some board appointments need council consent, but not the appointment of a Class4 Planning Board member, that is just a Mayor's appointment. Council President Fenwick stated the proposed member, Mr. Crisaldi, does not have any background or experience as a planning board member and that viewing his LinkedIn resume, it doesn't show experience. Mayor Misciagna will take everything into consideration.

4. **Park Ridge Summer Camp complaints:** Councilman Hoffman spoke about people complaining about the pricing of summer camp but when you break it down hourly, it is 23 days and 3 hours a day so that is 69hours which averages the rate of \$4.17/hr for child to attend. The cost of insurance, bowling trip, movie trip and pool has also increased.
5. **John Court drainage issue:** Council President Fenwick discussed the email sent by the Borough Engineer on the matter which said the issue at hand is a roof leader overflow pipe discharging at 5 John Court. The Borough Engineer met with the homeowner at 5 John Court and reviewed what was constructed as part of a court order from several years back. At this time, he recommends that we survey the road to determine the locations of the low points and where we would tie into existing drainage.
6. **Trees:** Residents around town are complaining about the tree roots uplifting their sidewalks and state that the trees were planted by the Borough. Currently the Borough's ordinance makes it the homeowners responsibility to fix the matter. Borough CFO discussed a service they use in Bogota which levels the side walk back into place. There is an escrow account that has \$30,000 which could be possibly used for the project, but the Borough Code would need to be changed. A discussion ensued.
  - a. Councilman Capilli will reach out to Jim Hespe to see if there is a list of Borough planted trees along streets, that either we planted or told residents to plant. Councilman Ferguson the possibility of a 50-50 split between Borough and the resident. Borough CFO will contact the vendor for pricing ideas.

**Open Work Session adjourned at 7:38pm**

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

Respectfully submitted,



Magdalena Giandomenico  
Borough Clerk