

53 Park Ave
Park Ridge, NJ

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING

WORK SESSION

June 27, 2023

7:01 P.M.

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

Absent: Councilmember Capilli

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. **Rat Infestation:** The Borough Administrator updated everyone about the possibility of a rat infestation around on North 5th. She spoke about the actions taken by the County and property maintenance and about complaints from the residents.
 - a. Mayor Misciagna spoke about issues with the chicken coop on the one property and how it was taken down. The restrictions on having a chicken coop in the Borough are very stringent and require large setbacks from all property lines.
2. **Memorial Field:** Councilman Ferguson spoke about the hinges that get popped off so the field light can be turned on. There was a suggestion to put an enclosure box and put a camera right over the box with a sensor light on it.
3. **Williams Crest:** Borough Engineer addressed the residents concern on Williams Crest, who claimed the staging on the street by PSEG caused damage and cracks in the road. He believes that was probably there before and that there are worse roads to be paved that have been prioritized. He will however write a letter to PSEG and see what they say as requested by Councilman Ferguson and Council President Fenwick.
4. **Federal Cable Franchise Fee:** Councilman Goldsmith spoke about a proposed resolution opposing the H.R. 3557, "American Broadband Act of 2023," the proposed bill would give broadband providers an unprecedented federal grant of access to state and local public property and would pre-empt local governments' rights-of-way compensation and management authority, zoning powers, cable franchising authority, and property rights. He would like to have a resolution passed in opposition.

5. **Finance**: the Borough CFO stated that the auditors are here working on the 2022 audit and collecting and reviewing our financial information.
6. **Mill Pond Referendum**: Council President Fenwick spoke about doing a referendum as previously mentioned for the dredging of Mill Pond. Both the Mayor and the Council President are not opposed to a referendum to gauge input from the residents. The Borough Attorney suggested first speaking with the Borough Auditor to see what the impact on the municipal debt would be, even though it is a nonbinding referendum, should it pass then the residents might want it done. Councilman Hoffman also suggested holding a town hall meeting about it.

Open Work Session adjourned int Closed Session at 7:32 pm

Councilman Ferguson made a motion to adjourn and seconded by Councilman Cozzi confirm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Magdalena Giandomenico".

Magdalena Giandomenico
Borough Clerk