

CAUCUS/FINANCE MEETING
November 4, 2020

A REGULAR CAUCUS/FINANCE MEETING of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Carlstadt was held in the Council Chambers of the Borough Hall, 500 Madison Street, Carlstadt, New Jersey on Wednesday, November 4, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.

Mayor Robert Zimmermann asked Claire Foy, Borough Clerk to call the roll: Mayor Robert Zimmermann, Council members David Stoltz, James Lenoy, Joseph Emerson, Suzanne Fonseca and Diane DeBiase were present. Councilman William Roseman arrived at 7:04 P.M.

Joseph Crifasi, DPW Operations Manager, Robert Ceberio of RCM Ceberio LLC and Joseph Donahue, Borough Attorney were also present.

Mayor Zimmermann led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Zimmermann – This meeting has been called pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Law and in accordance with Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting having been provided in the annual notice schedule which contained the time, date and location of the meeting, copies of which were sent and advertised in the following official newspapers of Carlstadt: The Record on January 6, 2020 and the Herald News on January 6, 2020 a copy of which is on the Bulletin Board in the Borough Hall and a copy on file in the office of the Borough Clerk.

PROFESSIONAL REPORTS

Robert Ceberio of RCM Ceberio, LLC read his report for the month regarding projects that are being done in the Borough of Carlstadt. A copy of his report is on file in the Borough Clerk's office.

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-237

WHEREAS, the County of Bergen, New Jersey, has experienced natural hazards that result in public safety hazards and damage to private and public property;

WHEREAS, the hazard mitigation planning process set forth by the State of New Jersey and the Federal Emergency Management Agency offers the opportunity to consider natural hazards and risks, and to identify mitigation actions to reduce future risk through the adoption of a Bergen County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan ("Hazard Mitigation Plan"); and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management is providing federal mitigation funds to support development of the Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

WHEREAS, a draft Hazard Mitigation Plan has been developed by the Mitigation Planning Committee; and

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WHEREAS, the draft Hazard Mitigation Plan includes a prioritized list of mitigation actions including activities that, over time, will help minimize and reduce safety threats and damage to private and public property; and

WHEREAS, the draft Hazard Mitigation Plan was provided to each participating jurisdiction and was posted on the County Office of Emergency Management's website so as to introduce the planning concept and to solicit questions and comments; and to present the Hazard Mitigation Plan and request comments, as required by law; and

WHEREAS, the draft Hazard Mitigation Plan was submitted by the Bergen County Office of Emergency Management to the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency on August 7, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency have approved the draft Hazard Mitigation Plan as submitted; and

WHEREAS, formal adoption and maintenance of the Hazard Mitigation Plan by the governing body is a condition of receipt of federal disaster aid; and

WHEREAS, the Bergen County Office of Emergency Management has recommended to the County Executive and Board of Chosen Freeholders that the Hazard Mitigation Plan, as submitted to the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency on August 7, 2020, be adopted as the official Hazard Mitigation Plan of the County of Bergen.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the **Mayor and Council of the Borough of Carlstadt**, upon the recommendation of the Bergen County Office of Emergency Management, as follows:

1. The Bergen County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, as submitted to the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency on August 7, 2020 by the Bergen County Office of Emergency Management is hereby adopted as an official plan of the County of Bergen; minor revisions recommended by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and/or the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management may be incorporated without further action.
2. A hard copy of the Hazard Mitigation Plan shall be kept on file at the Bergen County Office of Emergency Management, and a digital copy shall be posted on the web site of the Bergen County Office of Emergency Management.
3. Any action proposed by the Hazard Mitigation Plan shall be subject to and contingent upon budget approval, if required, which shall be at the discretion of the County of Bergen, and this resolution shall not be interpreted so as to mandate any such appropriations.

4. The Bergen County Office of Emergency Management shall prepare an annual progress report on the goals set forth in the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Copies of those reports will be kept on file at the office of the Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Bergen County Office of Emergency Management. The status reports shall be submitted on an annual basis by a predetermined date as agreed upon by all stakeholders, and as required by applicable statutes and regulations.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-238

WHEREAS, the Board of Officers has approved the membership of the following person as a regular member of the Carlstadt Fire Department:

1. Michael Bolwel – Engine Company Two

and

WHEREAS, said individual has satisfactorily passed the required physical examination.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Carlstadt that Michael Bolwel is hereby appointed as a regular member of the Carlstadt Fire Department.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-239 (Tabled)

**RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE CLOSURE OF THE PSEG BERGEN
GENERATING STATION IN RIDGEFIELD, NEW JERSEY**

Mayor Zimmermann entertained a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilman Emerson asked the Mayor to elaborate on Resolution No. 2020-239. Robert Ceberio said he would research the topic and provide more information to the Mayor and Council.

Mayor Zimmermann entertained a motion to table Resolution No. 2020-239.

On motion by Emerson, seconded by Fonseca, unanimous on call of roll.

Mayor Zimmermann entertained a motion to approve Resolution No. 2020-237 and Resolution No. 2020-238.

On motion by Emerson, seconded by Stoltz, unanimous on call of roll.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

The Mayor and Council discussed the annual Holiday Tree Lighting and the New Year's Day swearing in ceremony and post meeting reception/refreshments.

The Tree Lighting will be held outside on Wednesday, December 2, 2020 with all COVID-19 restrictions in place.

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The New Year's Day swearing in ceremony will also be held with COVID-19 restrictions in place. There will be no post meeting reception/refreshments.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Zimmermann tabled the approval of the draft of the sign received from the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War which needs to be approved before installing on Hackensack Street. Councilman Roseman would like to confirm the historical details/placement of the sign with the Carlstadt Historical Society.

Mayor Zimmermann entertained a motion to approve Borough employee, Dave Malinowski's request to collect unwrapped toys at Borough Hall for Tomorrows Children's Fund for the annual toy drive. The toy collection will start on Monday, November 9, 2020 to Friday, December 4, 2020. On motion by Stoltz, seconded by DeBiase, unanimous on call of roll.

Mayor Zimmermann informed the Council that Fire Chief Tony D'Amico invited the Mayor and Council to attend the annual Chief's election on Friday, November 20, 2020 at 8:00 P.M. at the Jefferson Street Firehouse.

Mayor Zimmermann entertained a motion to accept, with regret, the resignation of Walter M. Slomienski, Jr., as Zoning Board of Adjustment Attorney. He served in the position for forty-six years. His term ends on December 31, 2020.

The Mayor and Council agreed a plaque should be presented to him for his years of service. On motion by Stoltz, seconded by Roseman, unanimous on call of roll.

Mayor Zimmermann entertained a motion to approve the Open and Closed Session minutes of 10/7/2020 Caucus/Finance Meeting.

On motion by Stoltz, seconded by Emerson. Councilmembers Stoltz, Emerson, Roseman, Fonseca and DeBiase voted yes. Councilman Lenoy abstained.

HEARING OF CITIZENS

Mayor Zimmermann entertained a motion to open the floor to a hearing of citizens.

On motion by Stoltz, seconded by Lenoy, unanimous on call of roll.

Mayor Zimmermann asked if any citizens were present to speak at this time.

Mayor Zimmermann entertained a motion to close the floor to a hearing of citizens.

On motion by DeBiase, seconded by Fonseca, unanimous on call of roll.

Mayor Zimmermann asked if anyone had other matters to discuss.

COUNCILWOMAN SUZANNE FONSECA

She had nothing to discuss at this time.

COUNCILWOMAN DIANE DeBIASE

She had nothing to discuss at this time.

COUNCILMAN JOSEPH EMERSON

He had nothing to discuss at this time.

COUNCILMAN DAVID STOLTZ

He reminded the Mayor and Council to approve a Proclamation for Reverend Pra of the Cornerstone Church for his work with the Food Distribution at the Village Green in October.

Mayor Zimmermann entertained a motion to prepare a Proclamation for Reverend Pra.
On motion by Stoltz, seconded by DeBiase, unanimous on call of roll.

COUNCILMAN JAMES LENNY

He had nothing to discuss at this time.

BOROUGH ATTORNEY, JOSEPH DONAHUE

He updated the Mayor and Council on the case management conference for Fair Share Housing.
He hopes for a resolution by the end of the year.

COUNCILMAN WILLIAM ROSEMAN

He had nothing to discuss at this time.

JOSEPH CRIFASI, DPW OPERATIONS MANAGER

He had nothing to discuss at this time.

BOROUGH CLERK, CLAIRE FOY

She had nothing to discuss at this time.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING ACT
RECESS INTO CLOSED SESSION**

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Governing Body of the Borough of Carlstadt to conduct an executive session closed to the public in order to discuss one or more of the following subjects: personnel and property.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Carlstadt hereby moves to go into executive session in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et. Seq. for the purpose of discussing one or more of the following subjects: personnel and property.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public will be informed either later this evening after reconvening the public meeting or at a future public meeting said date is not predictable at the present time.

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AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the matters discussed in and minutes of the closed session shall be disclosed to the public when the reason for confidentiality no longer exists.

Mayor Zimmermann entertained a motion to go into closed session at 7:32 P.M. On motion by Emerson, seconded by Lenoy, unanimous on call of roll.

On motion by Emerson, seconded by DeBiase, unanimous on call of roll, the meeting went back into open session at 8:36 P.M.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Zimmermann entertained a motion to appoint Special Counsel, Ben Choi, Esq. as a hearing officer for employment matters as needed.

On motion by Roseman, seconded by Lenoy, unanimous on call of roll

Mayor Zimmermann entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 P.M.

On motion by Stoltz, seconded by Emerson, unanimous on call of roll.

APPROVED: _____
ROBERT J. ZIMMERMANN, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
CLAIRE FOY, BOROUGH CLERK