

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
July 26, 2023 @ 7:30 PM
Borough Hall – 100 Church Street – Alpine, NJ
(This meeting was recorded in its entirety)**

CALL TO ORDER/ PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Mayor and Council, Borough of Alpine, convened for this Regular Meeting on July 26, 2023 at 7:30 P.M. in the Alpine Borough Hall. The Public Announcement was read: *In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law, the notice of this Regular meeting has met the requirements of the law by being e-mailed to The Record, posted on the bulletin board of the lobby in the Borough Hall and a copy filed in the office of the Borough Clerk.*

ROLL CALL

Paul H. Tomasko, Mayor	Present	Gayle Gerstein, Council President	Present
Steven Cohen, Councilman	Present	Vicki Frankel, Councilwoman	Present
Arthur Frankel, Councilman	Absent*	Scott Bosworth, Councilman	Present
David Kupferschmid, Councilman	Present		

*Noted Councilman Frankel had offered to attend by phone if needed for a quorum.

Staff Present on Dais: Borough Attorney Levi Kool, Borough Engineer Perry Frenzel, Borough Clerk Stephanie Wehmann,

PUBLIC COMMENTS Robert Policano questioned the delay in release of third quarter tax bills. Mayor Tomasko advised municipal and school portions are ready but they are waiting for the County to compile the tax rate. They have been late the past few years. Some municipalities incur added expense and time sending out estimated tax bills that have to be redone but Alpine chooses to wait. He asked if a notice to that effect could be posted and Mayor Tomasko will speak to the CFO.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE Councilman Cohen reported.

ConnectOne Bank (fka Bank of New Jersey) Current Operating Account \$2,419,992.21

No Return of Bonds and Escrow

Resolution #140:07'2023: Approval of Bills and Claims

OFFERED BY: Councilman Cohen **SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Gerstein

At a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine held on July 26, 2023 to approve the bills and claims as outlined in the Finance Report.

VOTE: **Ayes:** Bosworth, Cohen, V. Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid, **Absent:** A. Frankel **MOTION APPROVED**

TAX ASSESSOR'S REPORT Report on file.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- The Mayor shared Bergen Record Article published July 20, 2023: "Trio charged in string of burglaries that spanned 11 houses in 6 Bergen towns" regarding three Elizabeth [NJ] men charged in a litany of Burglaries across Bergen County, including residences in Alpine. The Mayor noted that an Alpine officer was involved in the arrest of these suspects.
- Acting Police Chief Kent updated regarding one of the Alpine Police Department's officers who was injured after participating in an earlier near apprehension but has since returned to work and participated in the subsequent investigation that led to the arrest.
- Environmental Commission has posted information on the Spotted Lantern Fly. Brochure available in the lobby detailing steps the general public can take to help to eradicate this invasive pest and the EC will explore additional measures at their next meeting.

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

- **Administration Department** Councilman Bosworth - no report
- **Building Department** Councilman Kupferschmid reported: 78 scheduled inspections, 1 fence permit, 8 tree permits, 2 soil moving applications, and 5 zoning review applications. Report is on file in the Clerk's office.
- **Department of Public Works** Mayor Tomasko highlighted the DPW responded to a sewer backup on Stone Tower Drive (part of the Rio Vista subdivision serviced by Cresskill Sewer) over the July 4th

These minutes have been approved by the Mayor & Council.

weekend. They worked with Cresskill DPW to pinpoint the problem who then effected the appropriate corrective repairs and follow-up maintenance. Rest of report on file.

- **Fire Department** Councilwoman Gerstein reported statistics on file.
- **Police Department** Councilwoman Frankel reported 47 *summons issued, 5 MVA with 3 injuries*. An injured police officer returned to work. Rest of report on file.

Resolution #141:07'2023: Accepting the Reports of the Standing Committees

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Frankel **SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Gerstein

At the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Wednesday, July 26, 2023 to accept the reports of the Standing Committees.

VOTE: **Ayes:** Bosworth, Cohen, V. Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid, **Absent:** A. Frankel **MOTION APPROVED**

BOARD OF EDUCATION LIAISON'S REPORT Councilman Kupferschmid advised status quo.

BOROUGH ATTORNEY'S REPORT Attorney Kool noted the Borough retains immunity regarding affordable housing through September and he will provide a status report at the next meeting.

BOROUGH ENGINEER'S REPORT Mr. Frenzel reported status of items similar to last month's report with exception of Item 6 where a meeting is scheduled with the County to finalize plans to extend the Closter Dock Road EB turn lane at the Route 9W intersection. Report is on file.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS #142:7'2023 - #148:7'2023 Council abstentions as noted in vote.

Resolution #142:07'2023: Approval of Minutes Regular Meeting June 28, 2023

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Frankel **SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Gerstein

At the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on July 26, 2023 to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of June 28, 2023.

VOTE: **Ayes:** Bosworth, V. Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid **Absent:** A. Frankel **Abstain:** Cohen

MOTION APPROVED

Resolution #143:07'2023: Approval of Minutes Executive Session Meeting June 28, 2023

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Frankel **SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Gerstein

At the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on July 26, 2023 to approve the Executive Meeting Session Minutes of June 28, 2023.

VOTE: **Ayes:** Bosworth, V. Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid **Absent:** A. Frankel **Abstain:** Cohen

MOTION APPROVED

Resolution #144:07'2023: Re-appoint Fire Protection Subcode Official (Confers Tenure)

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Frankel **SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Gerstein

at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, held on Wednesday, July 26, 2023.

WHEREAS, Keith Dalton, pursuant to Section 52:27D-126 of the Uniform Construction Code Act, was appointed to the position of Fire Protection Subcode Official for a four-year term, effective August 1, 2019, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine as per a resolution adopted at the regular meeting held on June 26, 2019, the term of which expires July 31, 2023.

WHEREAS, Keith Dalton has consistently maintained the requirements for licensure and demonstrated professional behavior and efficiency carrying out the duties of his office; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that pursuant to Section 52:27D-126 of the Uniform Construction Code Act re-appointment to the position of Fire Protection Subcode Official for another four-year term will confer tenure;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine that **Keith Dalton** is and has upon this upon this reappointment, effective August 1, 2023, attained tenure pursuant to Section 52:27D-126 of the Uniform Construction Code Act;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this appointment is subject to approval by the Department of Community Affairs and that a copy of this resolution is to be forwarded to the Alpine Construction Code Official and the NJ Department of Community Affairs, Division of Codes and Standards, Office of Regulatory Affairs PO Box 818, Trenton, NJ 08625-0818 for that purpose.

VOTE: Ayes: Bosworth, Cohen, V. Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid, **Absent:** A. Frankel **MOTION APPROVED**

Resolution #145:07'2023: Re-appoint Plumbing Subcode Official (Confers Tenure)

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Frankel **SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Gerstein

And approved by all those eligible to vote at a regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held Wednesday, July 26, 2023.

WHEREAS, David Nizborski, pursuant to Section 52:27D-126 of the Uniform Construction Code Act, was appointed to the position of Plumbing Subcode Official for a four-year term, effective August 1, 2019, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine as per a resolution adopted at the regular meeting held on June 26, 2019, the term of which expires July 31, 2023.

WHEREAS, David Nizborski has consistently maintained the requirements for licensure and demonstrated professional behavior and efficiency carrying out the duties of his office; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that pursuant to Section 52:27D-126 of the Uniform Construction Code Act re-appointment to the position of Plumbing Subcode Official for another four-year term will confer tenure;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine that **David Nizborski** is and has upon this reappointment, effective August 1, 2023, attained tenure pursuant to Section 52:27D-126 of the Uniform Construction Code Act;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this appointment is subject to approval by the Department of Community Affairs and that a copy of this resolution is to be forwarded to the Alpine Construction Code Official and the NJ Department of Community Affairs, Division of Codes and Standards, Office of Regulatory Affairs PO Box 818, Trenton, NJ 08625-0818 for that purpose.

VOTE: Ayes: Bosworth, Cohen, V. Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid, **Absent:** A. Frankel **MOTION APPROVED**

Resolution #146:07'2023: Approval of Municipal Clerk Stipend

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Frankel **SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Gerstein

at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine held on Wednesday, July 26, 2023

WHEREAS, the positions of Deputy Borough Clerk, Deputy Local Registrar and Zoning Board Secretary were vacated effective May 3, 2023;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine that the Municipal Clerk be provided a stipend to compensate for her additional workload as already provided for by the salary ordinance for each of these three positions, on a prorated basis retroactive to May 3, 2023 and until such time as the positions are filled.

VOTE: Ayes: Bosworth, Cohen, V. Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid, **Absent:** A. Frankel **MOTION APPROVED**

Resolution #147:07'2023: Approval to Submit an Award Extension Request for LA-2021 MA ALPINE BOROUGH MARIE MAJOR DRIVE 02 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Frankel **SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Gerstein

at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine held on Wednesday, July 26, 2023

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) Local Aid Office has agreed to grant the Borough of Alpine an award time extension for the FY2021 Marie Major Drive project.

WHEREAS, the anticipated rebid timeline was reviewed by the NDJOT and the project was subsequently awarded by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, at the regular meeting Wednesday, June 28, 2023, subject to review and concurrence of the award by NJDOT;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Borough of Alpine formally and retroactively approves the request for an award extension through June 30, 2023 for the LA-2021 MA ALPINE BOROUGH MARIE MAJOR DRIVE 02 project, to include the award date;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and/or Clerk, or those authorized on their behalf, are to submit a formal request for an award extension through June 30, 2023 for the above-referenced project to the NJDOT by way of submitting a copy of this resolution

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the award extension request on behalf of the Borough of Alpine and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement.

VOTE: Ayes: Bosworth, Cohen, V. Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid, **Absent:** A. Frankel **MOTION APPROVED**

Resolution #148:07'2023: Authorizing Montammy Golf Club Request for Fireworks Display- Rain Date

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Frankel **SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Gerstein

at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine held on Wednesday, July 26, 2023

WHEREAS, Montammy Golf Club had previously requested and received permission from the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine by authorizing resolution dated June 28, 2023 to stage a fireworks display on July 2, 2023 at approximately 9:30 PM;

WHEREAS, the July 2, 2023 fireworks display was cancelled due to rain and Montammy Golf Club is seeking to reschedule with a rain date of September 3, 2023.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine grants permission for Montammy Golf Club to stage a rescheduled fireworks display on the evening of **Sunday, September 3, 2023 at approximately 9:30 PM** upon condition that Montammy Golf Club comply with requirements of the Fire Department and Borough Officials to ensure safe operation of the display.

VOTE: Ayes: Bosworth, Cohen, V. Frankel, Kupferschmid **Abstain:** Gerstein **Absent:** A. Frankel

MOTION APPROVED

End of Consent Agenda

COMMUNICATIONS: WRITTEN AND ORAL

Mayor Tomasko thanked the Council for approving the consent agenda and commended Municipal Clerk Wehmann for her marvelous job covering additional positions.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Councilwoman Frankel, seconded by Councilwoman Gerstein and approved by all this regular meeting of the Mayor and Council adjourned at 7:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Wehmann
Municipal Clerk