

Minutes of the 1870th Regular Meeting of August 18, 2021

CALLED TO ORDER:

Mayor Sarlo called the Borough of Wood-Ridge Council meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: was led by Councilman Azzolini

A moment of silence was taken for the men and women overseas who lost their lives in the Afghanistan conflict.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor:	Paul Sarlo – present
Council:	Edward Marino – present
	Catherine Cassidy – present
	Ezio Altamura – present
	Dominick Azzolini – present
	Joseph DiMarco – present
	Philip Romero – present
Borough Attorney:	Paul Barbire – present
Borough Engineer:	Brian Intindola – excused
Borough Clerk:	Gina Affuso – present
Borough Administrator:	Chris Eilert – present

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT:

This meeting is being held in accordance with Public Law 1975 Chapter 231, the Open Public Meetings Act, also known as the “Sunshine Law”. The public meeting notice stating the date, time and place of this meeting was posted on the municipal bulletin board and the municipal website and was forwarded to The Record and the Star Ledger.

CEREMONIAL PRESENTATION:

Mayor Sarlo introduced Frank Calandrillo, Past State Commander of the NJ American Legion and Chairperson of the State American Legion Baseball Tournament, here to make a presentation to thank the Borough for hosting the Tournament Championship Round at the Wood-Ridge Athletic Complex this past July.

Mr. Calandrillo complimented Mayor on the beauty of the complex and efficiency of the staff. He stated it made this tournament the best he has ever had. This is the first time they have ever presented an award to anyone for this, but it is well deserved. He commended the young men who helped, the public works department, recreation department and the police department, who’s dedication and assistance were invaluable to run the tournament to be a joyous occasion for players and spectators alike.

Mr. Calandrillo also thanked Jack Bartek, Ryan Connolly, Liam Wislow, Andrew Marino, Drew Packen, Anthony Sarlo, Jack Colon and the athletic trainer Baily Wyrosa .

Mayor Sarlo stated when we were asked to host this tournament, he was honored. He expressed how much he enjoyed being there and even had the pleasure of announcing the game.

Minutes of the 1870th Regular Meeting of August 18, 2021

Administrator Eilert thanked Frank and his wife, Brenda, for everything. He stated that while we may have been good hosts, they were outstanding guests.

Mayor Sarlo asked Paul Dahl to the dais to present him with a certificate for his mother, Eleanor Dahl, who turned 100 years old in June. The following was read and presented:

**PROCLAMATION
for the 100th Birthday of
Eleanor Dahl**

WHEREAS, we celebrate the Birthday of Eleanor Dahl who turned 100 years old on June 7, 2021.

WHEREAS, Eleanor attended school for 13 years in Switzerland from the age of 3 to 16; and

WHEREAS, Eleanor worked for General Electric until she retired in 1951. She has been a proud member of the VFW Women's Auxiliary for over 70 years and was present for the opening and naming of Veterans Park in Wood-Ridge; and

WHEREAS, Eleanor was married to her husband Andrew on February 1, 1951. Together they built their home on Helm Avenue and raised 4 children, loved 6 grandchildren and greatly loved 9 great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, this exceptional centenarian's zest for life, enhanced the lives of her family and friends; and

WHEREAS, this celebrated woman, who has experienced the incredible joys and sorrows characteristic of and reserved for those with the stamina and courage to savor a full life, has inspired the lives of her many friends and family; and

WHEREAS, this beloved person has enriched the lives of those around her through her joyous and sincere love for others and through the quiescent charm and wisdom which comes only from a fullness of years; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge to publicly recognize those members of our community who have reached such a remarkable age and who have witnessed and celebrated the innovations, cultural developments and awesome achievements of this country during the last century, while themselves contributing to the growth and excellence of our great community;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge congratulates Eleanor Dahl upon the occasion of her 100th Birthday; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge, Bergen County, New Jersey, do hereby present Eleanor's son, Paul, this proclamation in her honor.

ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING: None

Minutes of the 1870th Regular Meeting of August 18, 2021

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE:

BOND ORDINANCE 2021-12 (Various Park Improvements Wesmont Station)

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$1,250,000 FOR VARIOUS PARK IMPROVEMENTS IN FURTHERANCE OF THE 2019 WESMONT STATION REDEVELOPMENT PLAN, IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF WOOD-RIDGE, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,250,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE THE COST THEREOF

Advertisement of the above Ordinance has been made according to law and a copy of the Ordinance was posted on the bulletin board.

Mayor Sarlo called for a Hearing of Citizens on Ordinance #2021-12

Rich Martinelli of 216 Tenth Street asked if this work has already been completed.

Administrator Eilert explained the ordinance 2021-13 below are for fields and the complex. The fields are complete and we are finishing the buildings. This ordinance 2021-12 is for a playground and the dog run that are still to be built at the complex. There is another playground up the street from where the new one will be and this ordinance will help finance the completion of that as well. So, ordinance 2021-12 will fund both playgrounds and a dog run and we will be partially reimbursed by the county for open space funds.

Mayor Sarlo closed Hearing of Citizens on Ordinance #2021-12

Motion: Councilperson Altamura, seconded by Azzolini moved to the adoption of Ordinance #2021-12

Roll Call: Marino yes, Cassidy yes, Altamura yes, Azzolini yes, DiMarco yes, Romero yes

BOND ORDINANCE 2021-13 (Supplemental Appropriation for Wood Ridge Athletic Complex)

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$1,500,000 FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE ATHLETIC COMPLEX IN FURTHERANCE OF THE 2019 WESMONT STATION REDEVELOPMENT PLAN, IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF WOOD-RIDGE, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,500,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE THE COST THEREOF

Advertisement of the above Ordinance has been made according to law and a copy of the Ordinance was posted on the bulletin board.

Mayor Sarlo called for a Hearing of Citizens on Ordinance #2021-13

Mayor Sarlo closed Hearing of Citizens on Ordinance #2021-13

Motion: Councilperson Cassidy, seconded by Marino moved to the adoption of Ordinance #2021-13

Roll Call: Marino yes, Cassidy yes, Altamura yes, Azzolini yes, DiMarco yes, Romero yes

Minutes of the 1870th Regular Meeting of August 18, 2021

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING: None

PETITIONS: None

BIDS: None

COMMUNICATIONS:

Communications and correspondence received are identified on this evening's agenda has been distributed to all Council for appropriate action.

REPORTS OF GOVERNING BODY:

Council President Marino:

No report

Councilperson Cassidy:

Library Board-please visit the library website www.woodridgememoriallibrary.org and check out all the upcoming programs or databases we offer or take out a book or any of our digital material.

Historical Society-

On Sunday, September 26th the Buckshot Bank will be back at the Bianchi House for our first program in over a year. The event will be held outdoors and begin at 1:00 pm.

Councilperson Altamura:

Police- On July 8th , Off Duty Wood-Ridge Police Officer Joseph Manfredonia was travelling on Route 495 in North Bergen, when he observed a motor vehicle accident with a vehicle that was overturned. Officer Manfredonia assisted all motorists involved, contacted local police and awaited the arrival of further emergency personnel to further assist the injured and on July 18th, Off Duty Wood-Ridge Police Officer Mark Torsiello was travelling on the New Jersey Turnpike in the area of Newark Airport, when he observed a vehicle go from the fast lane to the slow, and down into an embankment. Officer Torsiello along with a volunteer EMT from Rutherford and 2 New Jersey State Corrections Officers, one from the Wood-Ridge Volunteer Fire Dept, Vincent O'Byrne, immediately pulled over and rendered first aid to the occupants of the vehicle who were trapped inside. Several police agencies arrived as well as EMS and took over the scene, transporting all parties to area hospitals. On July 21st, Wood-Ridge Police Officers, Sgt. Jeff Geisler, Sgt. Joseph Rutigliano Jr., Det/Sgt. Matthew Mueller, Patrol Officer Michael Mueller, Patrol Officer Michael Donato, and Retired Dispatcher Robert Cribben received Statewide recognition from the Knights of Columbus for the "Shield Award" "Policemen of the Year" for a call of service involving an emotionally disturbed person back on November 19th 2020. These Officers were given the honors out of over 300 other incidents in the State of New Jersey. During the week of July 23rd-July 28th, The Wood-Ridge Recreation Facility "The WRAC" hosted the New Jersey American Legion Baseball tournament "Elite 8". Over 1,000 people were in attendance as Wood-Ridge Police officers were on scene each day to assist with the crowd and reported no incidents. The Wood-Ridge Police Department is pleased to announce the hiring of part time Police Dispatcher, Nicholas Fallon who has completed all in house training and is now proficient enough to continue without immediate supervision.

Minutes of the 1870th Regular Meeting of August 18, 2021

Recreation- The meeting of the Recreation Commission was held on Wednesday, July 14, 2021. The Recreation Commission approved the Adult 30 & Over Basketball program as well as the Wood-Ridge High School Alumni Game which was held at the WRAC on August 4th. Chairman Brubaker and Councilman Altamura attended the Seniors Ice Cream Social which had a nice attendance. Coaches Certification for Fall Sports continues with Fingerprints, Background Checks, Concussion online class and issuing Coaches Photo Id Cards. It was reported that Recreation football begins practices on Monday August 9th with Cheering beginning on Tuesday August 10th. On Thursday September 9th they will hold their Pep Rally at 6 p.m. Opening Day will be September 11th. Recreation Soccer reported that currently there are approximately 35 teams and will be hosting a coaches' clinic. Councilman Altamura personally thanked Commissioner Iacovino from Holy Name Hospital for the 2nd day of Covid-19 Vaccinations and for once again for bringing the Vaccinations to W-R. Recreation Commission meetings are held monthly.

Public Information / Events / Website Development – The Borough of Wood-Ridge will hold a 20-year anniversary Memorial Service to honor the heroes and victims of September 11, 2001. The service will be held at Veterans Memorial Park, located on Valley Boulevard and Highland Avenue on Saturday, September 11th at 9:00 am. All attendees will be asked to adhere to social distancing guidelines and are subject to change. The Knights of Columbus Saint Anthony's Council 11585 will sponsor a Blood Drive. A Community Bloodmobile will be stationed on Valley Boulevard between Marlboro Road and Highland Avenue from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm for anyone interested in donating blood. During the month of July, the Borough of Wood-Ridge website had a total of 9,711 page views. For more information regarding the borough please visit www.njwoodridge.org.

Councilperson Azzolini:

During the month July 2021, the WRFD responded to forty-two alarms of fire in the Borough of Wood Ridge and one mutual aid alarms for a total of 462 hours of service. The WRFD also expended an additional 135 hours of service including Department Training, Equipment Maintenance and Special Duties for a total of 599 work hours. An incident list by alarm type is on file with the borough clerk. There were eight fire incident response to Wesmont Station.

During the month of July 2021, the Wood Ridge Emergency Squad was dispatched to 22 calls of Emergency, 0 Fire, and 0 Mutual Aid, for a total of 42 hours of service. The squad was unable to respond to 4 calls during the month of June.

Councilperson DiMarco: No report

Councilperson Romero: No report

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

Administrator Eilert reiterated from last week, the tax bills were mailed on August 17th and will be due on September 14th. These bills are technically estimated bills only for the 3rd quarter since the county budget is delayed. The good news is that we have no tax increase so essentially whatever you

Minutes of the 1870th Regular Meeting of August 18, 2021

paid for your 2nd quarter is what you will pay for the 3rd quarter. Sometime in September we will be mailing out the 4th quarter bill which will be exactly the same as the prior quarters. Please note the school board also did not have any increase.

Borough Clerk Affuso: no report

Attorney Barbire: no report

Engineer Neglia: on file

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS: On file in clerk's office

Administration	Fire Department
CFO/Finance	Department of Public Works
Construction Code Official	Police Department
Municipal Court	Tax Collector
Emergency Management	Welfare Director

REPORTS OF BOARDS OR COMMISSIONS: On file in clerk's office

Planning Board	Shade Tree Commission
Board of Education	Senior Citizens
Recreation Commission	Veterans
Library Board	Local Assistance Board
Board of Health	Other

FIRST HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Mayor Sarlo declared the Hearing of Citizens to be open.

Rich Marintelli of 216 Tenth Street asked how we know what to bill for taxes if the county is not completed. Administrator Eilert explained they give us very strong estimates.

With no other citizens wishing to be heard, the first hearing of citizens was closed.

Minutes of the 1870th Regular Meeting of August 18, 2021

RESOLUTIONS VOTED SEPARATELY:

**RESOLUTION NO.: 108-2021
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS**

WHEREAS, there has been presented to the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge, the attached list of invoices requesting payment of the work, labor, services and materials supplied to the Borough; and

WHEREAS, said list and certification specify the exact line item in the Budget or Ordinance to be charged therewith; and

WHEREAS, said list and certification has been reviewed and approved by the Members of the Borough Council Finance Committee as certified by their signatures on this resolution; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that payment of said invoices is hereby approved and authorized and the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized and directed to draw warrants in payment thereof, same to be signed by the proper officials of the Borough, who are hereby authorized to sign same; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that certification of the Chief Financial Officer of the availability of funds therefore shall be attached to the original copy of the Resolution and both are kept in the files of the Municipal Clerk.

Councilman Altamura requested a separate roll call for Check No. 79866 Payment of Bills.

Motion: Councilperson Marino, seconded by Cassidy moved to the adoption of Payment of Bills with abstentions.

Roll Call: Marino yes, Cassidy yes, Altamura abstain, Azzolini yes, DiMarco yes, Romero yes

CONSENT AGENDA:

All matters listed below are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If any discussion is desired by Council, that particular item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the July 27, 2021 Regular Meeting.

Minutes of the 1870th Regular Meeting of August 18, 2021

RESOLUTIONS: Adoption of the following

**RESOLUTION NO. 109-2021
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING VEHICLES & EQUIPMENT FOR PUBLIC AUCTION**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Wood-Ridge has determined that certain personal property as described on the attached schedule is no longer needed for public purpose; and

WHEREAS, the County and various municipalities conduct auctions for such purpose from time to time; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-36 requires that all such personal property be sold at public sale to the highest bidder.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge, County of Bergen, and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The attached schedule of Borough property is hereby declared to be surplus and no longer needed for public purposes; and
2. The Borough will auction said surplus at the first available auction conducted by either the County of Bergen or any local municipality; and
3. The Borough reserves the right to reject any and all bids if it determines such rejection to be in the public interest;
4. Successful bidders shall be responsible for removing any vehicles and/or equipment within 48 hours of the public auction. All items are sold “as is” and all sales are final.

Vehicles & Equipment Authorized to be auctioned:

1. 2002 Johnston Gannon Street Sweeper VIN#1FVAB3BV02DK21705
2. 2005 Ford F250 Pick-Up Extended Cab VIN#1FTSX21Y1SEA33975
3. 2008 Dodge Charger VIN#2B3KA43HX8H320174
4. 2001 Freightliner Ambulance VIN#1FVABPBW41HH57454
5. 2005 Freightliner Ambulance VIN#1FVACWCT95HU42101
6. 2005 Bluebird School Bus VIN#1BAKFCKH45F228836

**RESOLUTION NO.: 110-2021
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND FOR OVERPAYMENT OF TAXES FOR BLOCK 310,
LOT 28**

WHEREAS, THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL of the Borough of Wood-Ridge have been informed by the Tax Collector of the Borough of Wood-Ridge that an overpayment of taxes was made by Safe Land Title Agency LLC on Block 310 Lot 28 for property located at 241 Marlboro Road in the amount of \$2,521.03 for 2021 1st quarter and;

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector is requesting the refund be returned to Safe Land Title Agency LLC at 550 Kinderkamack Road, Oradell, NJ 07649 and;

Minutes of the 1870th Regular Meeting of August 18, 2021

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to refund the total of \$2,521.03 for overpayment of taxes and be further authorized to adjust the books and records of the Tax Office as required by law.

RESOLUTION NO.: 111-2021

RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICE FOR RECREATION COMPLEX (PLAYGROUND, GAZEBO AND DOG PARK) IN THE BOROUGH OF WOOD-RIDGE WITHOUT COMPETITIVE BIDDING

WHEREAS, there exists a need for Construction Management Service for the Recreation Complex (playground, gazebo and dog park) in the Borough of Wood-Ridge; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of said contract shall be in accordance with the dictates of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of total services will exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, the maximum amount of the Contract is \$53,080.00 and funds are subject to an appropriation by the Borough of Wood-Ridge; and

WHEREAS, Neglia Engineering Associates has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Neglia Engineering Associates has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough of Wood-Ridge in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit Neglia Engineering Associates from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:111 et seq.) requires that the Resolution authorizing the award of contracts for "Professional Services" without competitive bids and the Contract itself must be available for public inspection;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough of Wood-Ridge as follows:

1. The Mayor and Borough Clerk of the Borough of Wood-Ridge are hereby authorized and directed to execute the attached Contract with NEGLIA ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES.
2. This Contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a "Professional Service" in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a) of the Local Public Contracts Law because the services are to be performed by a person authorized by law to practice a recognized profession.
3. The Contract amount does exceed the statutory bid threshold.
4. The Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution
5. A Notice of this action shall be printed once in the official newspaper of the Borough.

Minutes of the 1870th Regular Meeting of August 18, 2021

APPLICATIONS:

- a. Application from Wood-Ridge Junior Football & Cheer for an Off-Premise 50/50 on October 16, 2021 at the Wood-Ridge High School.

SEMINAR APPROVALS: None

APPOINTMENTS: None

HIRINGS: None

Motion: Councilperson Azzolini, seconded by Marino moved to the adoption of all matters on the above **CONSENT AGENDA.**

Roll Call: Marino yes, Cassidy yes, Altamura yes, Azzolini yes, DiMarco yes, Romero yes

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mayor Sarlo thanked everyone for all they have done during this very difficult year.

NEW BUSINESS:

SECOND HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Mayor Sarlo declares the Hearing of Citizens to be open. With no citizens wishing to be heard, the second hearing of citizens was closed.

ADJOURNMENT:

Since there was no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Altamura, seconded by Councilperson Marino, moved for adjournment. By unanimous vote of the members of the Council present, the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge held on August 18, 2021 was duly adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gina Affuso, Borough Clerk