

Minutes of the Special Meeting of September 1, 2022

CALLED TO ORDER:

Council President Cassidy called the Borough of Wood-Ridge Council meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: was led by Councilman Romero

ROLL CALL:

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| Mayor: | Paul Sarlo – excused |
| Council: | Catherine Cassidy – present |
| | Ezio Altamura – present |
| | Dominick Azzolini – present by telephone |
| | Edward Marino – present by telephone |
| | Joseph DiMarco – present by telephone |
| | Philip Romero – present |
| Borough Attorney: | Paul Barbire – present by telephone |
| 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.

FIRST HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Council President Cassidy declared the First Hearing of Citizens to be open. With no citizens wishing to be heard, the First Hearing of Citizens was closed.

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.

RESOLUTIONS: Adoption of the following

RESOLUTION NO.: 092-2022

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE
NJ DEP STORMWATER COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Arnot Place neighborhood and the storm sewer lines under it are the terminus for approximately 20% of the Borough's stormwater and the Arnot Place neighborhood has experienced repeated flooding during severe rain events; and

WHEREAS, Bowman Park 1) is located in the Arnot Place neighborhood, 2) is the location of the chamber into which the Arnot Place storm sewer lines discharge before traveling to outfall in the Saddle River, and 3) is the location of a paved tennis court and a paved basketball court; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer has determined that reducing Bowman Park's impervious area and installing an underground storm water retention system in Bowman Park will provide a level of mitigation for the flooding on Arnot Place.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge that the Borough shall apply to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Stormwater Competitive Grant Program for a Demonstration Project and Planning Grant for the purpose of implementing a Green Infrastructure Project in Bowman Park; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said project will 1) reduce impervious cover and provide additional stormwater filtration by vegetation and soil by eliminating the paved Basketball Court and transforming its area into a natural vegetation area and 2) improve the existing stormwater infrastructure by installing an underground stormwater retention system that will reduce stormwater runoff by increasing stormwater infiltration into subsoil; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, Clerk, Administrator, Engineer and Attorney are hereby authorized to undertake any actions and perform any work necessary to apply for and be awarded said grant.

RESOLUTION NO.: 093-2022

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT WITH NEGLIA ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES TO
DESIGN AND PREPARE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR STORM AND FLOOD
RESILIENCY INFRASTRUCTURE IN BOWMAN PARK AT JOCELYN AVENUE AND PREPARE
NJDEP STORMWATER COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION**

WHEREAS, there exists a need for the services of an Engineer to provide plans and specifications to design and prepare plans and specifications for storm and flood resiliency infrastructure in Bowman Park at Jocelyn Avenue and prepare NJDEP Stormwater Competitive Grant Program Application 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 on an overall basis will exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, the maximum amount of the Contract is \$104,750.00 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 exceeds 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.

RESOLUTION NO.: 094-2022

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH THE LAND CONSERVANCY OF NEW JERSEY TO PERFORM A FLOOD STUDY IN THE BOROUGH OF WOOD-RIDGE

WHEREAS, a need exists to retain the services of an open space preservation consultant whose staff members have technical expertise and experience in the field of floodplain protection planning and open space preservation and stewardship

WHEREAS, The Land Conservancy of New Jersey is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to preserve and protect open space for natural, historic, agricultural and recreational purposes and to assist municipalities in the stewardship of open space and land; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Wood-Ridge desires to develop a Floodplain Protection Plan so it may qualify for funding through the Bergen County Flood Protection Program; and

WHEREAS, The Land Conservancy of New Jersey is qualified to prepare a Floodplain Protection Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor & Council of 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 Agreement. Said agreement shall not exceed \$4,000.00.
2. This contract is awarded pursuant to appropriate Law of the State of New Jersey specifically but not by way of limitation, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq. as well as any other pertinent statutes appertaining thereto.
3. If applicable a Certificate of Availability of Funds pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-57 has been certified to by the Chief Finance Officer and is attached hereto and made a part hereof.
4. If applicable funds are subject to an appropriation by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge and will be provided by the local finance office when appropriated.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council hereby ratify and confirm any and all actions taken by the appropriate officials, in the past with respect to the subject agreement.

RESOLUTION NO.: 095-2022

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
BOROUGH OF WOOD-RIDGE AND COUNTY OF BERGEN FOR FLOODPLAIN PROTECTION
PLANNING SERVICES**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq., the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act authorizes contracts between municipalities and other local units for the joint provision of services within their respective jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, the Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Floodplain Protection, Farmland & Historic Preservation Trust Fund ("County Trust Fund"), provides grants to municipal governments for Technical Assistance involving Floodplain Protection planning; and

WHEREAS, these grants are made available to develop a floodplain plan for a municipality to document and map past flooding events, flooding impact, and identify areas of greatest need of assistance and develop conceptual design plans to establish, restore and/or conserve the natural functions of floodplains; and

WHEREAS, services are made available through The Land Conservancy of New Jersey and The Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program on a shared service contact basis at no cost to the municipality; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of Wood-Ridge, Bergen County, New Jersey, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq. that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute, and the Borough Clerk to attest, a Shared Services Agreement between the Borough of Wood-Ridge and County of Bergen, for the development of floodplain protection plans, a copy of which Agreement is annexed hereto and is on file in the office of the Borough Clerk, and available for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of the aforesaid Agreement shall be filed with the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs.

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

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

SECOND HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Council President Cassidy declared the Second Hearing of Citizens to be open.

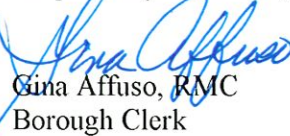
Faith Ammoniates of TapInTo asked for a timeline of the flood study and if the findings would be relayed to the residents. Administrator Eilert explained this would be about a three-month project and after completion, the findings would be presented to the residents.

With no other 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 Romero moved for adjournment. By unanimous vote of the members of the Council present, the Special Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge held on September 1, 2022 was duly adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Gina Affuso, RMC
Borough Clerk