

**RECESSED MEETING**

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

**Thursday, December 15, 2022/  
January 5, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m.**

The continued meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fort Lee was held on the above date in the Council Chambers, Memorial Municipal Building, 309 Main Street, Fort Lee, NJ.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Sokolich, Council Members Sohmer, Yoon, Suh, Drumgoole, Kasofsky, Cervieri

**ALSO PRESENT:** Alfred Restaino, Borough Administrator  
Evelyn Rosario, Borough Clerk  
Nadine Drumgoole, Deputy Municipal Clerk  
Brian Chewcaskie, Borough Attorney

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT**

In accordance with Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 adequate notice informing the public of the time and place of this continued meeting was emailed to the Record and Jersey Journal on December 21, 2022. Said notice was also posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board and Borough website.

**MAYOR’S REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Sokolich deferred his report until the Annual Reorganization Meeting which started immediately after this meeting.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**R-1 Authorizing Budget Transfers**

Council	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Sohmer	X		X			
Yoon			X			
Suh		X	X			
Drumgoole			X			
Kasofsky			X			
Cervieri						X

Continued Meeting  
December 15, 2022-January 5, 2023

Resolution # R-1

Carried: X Defeated: \_\_\_ Tabled: \_\_\_

Approved on Consent Agenda: \_\_\_

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF FORT LEE AUTHORIZING BUDGET TRANSFERS**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fort Lee, that the following 2022 budget appropriation transfers are hereby made, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58, not less than two-thirds of the full membership of the Governing Body concurring:

	<b><u>From:</u></b>	<b><u>To:</u></b>
S/W Adjustment Acct	11,500	
Police S/W	518,200	
Roads S/W		11,500
Borough Clerk O/E		2,000
Elections O/E		5,000
Tax Collection O/E		26,000
Board of Adjustment O/E		1,200
EMT O/E		8,000
Fire Prevention O/E		8,000
Ambulance O/E	8,000	
Fire Protection O/E		8,000
Buildings & Grounds O/E		22,000

Auto Repair O/E	55,000
Parks & Playgrounds O/E	11,000
Electric & Gas O/E	14,000
Street Lights O/E	5,000
Water O/E	120,000
Gasoline O/E	120,000
FICA	105,000

**TOTAL:** \$529,700 \$529,700

**R-2 Authorizing Outstanding Credits on the Tax Collector 's Books for 20 21 to be Credited Back to Surplus**

Council	Motion	Second	Ye s	No	Abstain	Absent
Sohmer	X		X			
Yoon			X			
Suh		X	X			
Drumgoole			X			
Kasofsky			X			
Cervieri						X

Continued Meeting December 15, 2022-January 5, 2023
Resolution # R-2
Carried: <u>X</u> Defeated: <u>   </u> Tabled: <u>   </u>
Approved on Consent Agenda: <u>   </u>

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF FORT LEE AUTHORIZING OUTSTANDING CREDITS FOR THE YEAR 2021 TO BE CREDITED BACK TO SURPLUS, \$369,890.31**

**WHEREAS**, there are outstanding credits on the Tax Collector’s books for the period January 1 through December 31, 2021; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** , by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fort Lee, that these credits be, the balance credited back to surplus in the amount of **\$369,608.96** as per listing kept in the office of the Tax Collector-Treasurer.

**R-3 Authorizing Cancellation of Outstanding Debits and Credits on the Tax Collector 's Books for 20 20 in the Amount of \$10.00 and Less**

Council	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Sohmer			X			
Yoon			X			
Suh	X		X			
Drumgoole			X			
Kasofsky		X	X			
Cervieri						X

Continued Meeting December 15, 2022-January 5, 2023
Resolution # R-3
Carried: <u>X</u> Defeated: <u>   </u> Tabled: <u>   </u>
Approved on Consent Agenda: <u>   </u>

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF FORT LEE AUTHORIZING CANCELLATION OF ALL DEBITS AND CREDITS OF TEN DOLLARS (\$10.00) OR LESS FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2021 - DECEMBER 31, 2021**

**WHEREAS**, there are a number of outstanding debits & credits on the Tax Collector’s books for the period January 1 through December 31, 2021, in amounts of ten dollars (\$10.00) or less,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fort Lee, that all debits & credits of ten dollars (\$10.00) or less be and are hereby canceled, as per listing kept in the office of the Tax Collector-Treasurer.

**R-4 Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to Cancel Outstanding Open Checks in Various Accounts for 20 20**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF FORT LEE AUTHORIZING CANCELLATION OF OUTSTANDING CHECKS TOTALING \$106,243.14 FOR THE YEAR 2021**

**WHEREAS**, there remain checks outstanding on the Borough of Fort Lee's banking records for 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, every attempt has been made by the Chief Financial Officer to have the checks cleared;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fort Lee, that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to cancel the following outstanding amounts in the various accounts (see attached schedule of voided checks for details), in the total amount of **\$106,243.14**

<b><u>Account Name</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
Current Account	\$ 103,837.29
Payroll	\$ 2,405.85
<b><u>Grand Total:</u></b>	<b><u>\$106,243.14</u></b>

### **COUNCIL REPORTS**

The Council deferred their report until the Annual Reorganization Meeting which started immediately after this meeting.

At this point in the meeting the following came forward and presented Mr. Michael Sargenti with presentations acknowledging his retirement and 20 years of service as a Councilman in the Borough of Fort Lee:

Mayor and Council  
Police Chief Matthew Hintze, Police Department  
Fort Lee Ambulance Corps Chief Diran Jebejian and Deputy Chief Steven Curry  
Office of Emergency Management Coordinator Christopher Richter, Members Charlene Ortiz and Elizabeth Bennett  
Fire Department Chief Richard Onufrey, Deputy Chief John Klein and Past Chief Patrizio Peluso

Mr. Sargenti thanked everyone for their thoughtfulness and expressed his gratitude to all those who worked with him and wished everyone well.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**On motion by Council man Cervieri , seconded by Councilwoman Kasofsky , and carried unanimously**, the meeting was opened to the public for discussion.

There being no public discussion, the public hearing was closed **on motion by Councilman Suh, seconded by Councilwoman Kasofsky** .

The continued meeting was adjourned **on motion by Councilman Cervieri , seconded by Councilwoman Kasofsky** and carried at 6:17 p.m.

Prepared By:  
Nadine Drumgoole  
Deputy Municipal Clerk

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Evelyn Rosario, RMC, CMC  
Municipal Clerk

