

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 14 , 2021 at 6:30 P.M.

Due to the current situation involving the COVID-19 pandemic, the work session meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held remotely. This meeting can be accessed by telephone, by dialing one of the numbers listed below and entering the meeting ID number 9 19 1012 1907.

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SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The Work Session of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fort Lee was held on the above date in the Memorial Municipal Building, 309 Main Street, Fort Lee, New Jersey.

PRESENT : Mayor Sokolich, Council Members Sohmer, Yoon(Via Telephone Conference), Suh, Sargenti, Kasofsky, Cervieri

ALSO PRESENT : Alfred Restaino, Borough Administrator
Evelyn Rosario, Borough Clerk
J. Sheldon Cohen, 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 meeting was duly published in the Record issue of December 22, 2020 and the Jersey Journal and Star Ledger issues of December 24, 2020. Said notice was also posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board, on the outside door of Borough Hall and Borough website.

RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS:

On motion by Councilman Cervieri , seconded by Council man Suh and approved **unanimously** , the meeting moved into closed session.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fort Lee that:

This body shall hereafter discuss in closed session, pursuant to Section 7B of the Open Public Meetings Act, certain items which may generally be described as follows:

1. **Personnel:**
 - a. Administration
 - b. Ambulance Corps
 - c. Fire Department
 - d. Fire Prevention
 - e. General Services
 - f. Health Department

- g. Information Technology
- h. Police Department

- 2. **Litigation:**
 - a. COAH Declaratory Judgment

The minutes of the discussion in closed session may be disclosed to the public when the Mayor and Council has determined that the need for confidentiality has been satisfied.

The open portion of the executive session will resume upon completion of the closed portion.

The closed portion of the meeting ended at 8:40 P.M. The open portion of the work session began at 8:40 P.M.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Extension of Contract TaxServ Capital Services Municipal Court Debt Collection

Administrator Restaino recommended the extension of a one-year contract to TaxServ Capital Services NJ, LLC.

A resolution authorizing the extension will be placed on the January 21st proposed consent agenda.

Disabled Veteran Exemption Block 1751, Lot 1, Qual C1523

The Borough's Tax Collector Frank Berardo has reviewed and granted an application for a disabled veteran property tax exemption regarding property known as 1315 Anderson Avenue, #23.

A resolution authorizing a tax refund will be placed on the January 21st proposed consent agenda.

Shared Services BCUA Certified Recycling Professional

It was the consensus of the Governing Body to enter into an agreement with County of Bergen for a Certified Recycling Professional for the preparation of the annual recycling tonnage report.

A resolution will be placed on the January 21st proposed consent agenda.

Honoring New Jersey School Boards Recognition Month

A resolution honoring School Boards will be placed on the January 21st proposed consent agenda.

Fort Lee Housing Authority Community Development Block Grant Supporting Resolutions

Resolutions of endorsement for the following will be placed on the January 21st proposed consent agenda.

1. Community Development application on behalf of the Fort Lee Housing Authority for improvements to the Harry J. Holtje House.
2. Community Development application on behalf of the Fort Lee Assistance and Support Housing (F.L.A.S.H.) Corporation for improvements to the 8th Street Gardens Complex.

Gran Fondo 2021 - May 16, 2021

Ms. Lidia Fluhme, Founder and Race Organizer Gran Fondo New York was present via teleconference and spoke briefly regarding her request for a race in Fort Lee on May 16, 2021.

The Governing Body expressed their concerns regarding the large amount of people attending during the current pandemic.

Mr. Restaino will review with the Health and Police Departments and report back to the Governing Body.

Business District Alliance 2021 Budget

Mr. Stuart Koperweis, Executive Director, Fort Lee Business District Alliance was present via telephone conference. He thanked the Governing Body for all their continued support.

The Business District Alliance budget will be introduced as presented this evening at the January 21st regular session meeting.

Senior Citizen Council Appointment

Borough Clerk Rosario explained that an additional member was inadvertently appointed to the Senior Citizen Council and stated that the ordinance allows for 5 members.

The Governing Body affirmed the following on motion by Councilman Cervieri, seconded by Councilman Sohmer:

Be it resolved by the Fort Lee Governing Body that Ms. Barbara Sakin and Brenda Mester be reappointed to the Senior Citizen Council for a 2-year term each expiring December 31, 2022.

Municipal Alliance Grant Year 2021

No Discussion held.

Amendment to Developers Agreement Phil Art Studios SCI TOEF, Inc.

A resolution amending the agreement to indicate that the payment contribution to the Parking Trust Fund can be made in two installments will be placed on the January 21st proposed consent agenda.

RESOLUTION

R-1 AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF TEMPORARY VULNERABLE POPULATION OUTREACH COORDINATOR 'S IN THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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

Date: January 14, 2021 Work Session
Resolution #: R-1
Carried <u>X</u> Defeated _____ Tabled _____
Approved on Consent Agenda _____

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF FORT LEE AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF TEMPORARY VULNERABLE POPULATION OUTREACH COORDINATOR 'S IN THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Health Department has requested the Mayor and Council appoint part-time temporary employees under the Strengthening Local Public Health Capacity 2021 Grant; and,

WHEREAS, this grant, which expires June 30, 2021, will enable the Health Department to expand its COVID-19 services; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the below listed individuals will be hired as temporary Vulnerable Population Outreach Coordinator's in the Health Department; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said individuals be paid at an hourly rate as stipulated below, effective January 18, 2021.

Name	Hourly Wage
Elizabeth Falconer	\$44.00
David Samuel	\$44.00
Robert Greenfield	\$40.00

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

On motion by Councilman Cervieri, seconded by Councilman and carried unanimously, the meeting was opened to the public for discussion

<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Response</u>
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None.

There being no further discussions the meeting was adjourned on motion by Councilman Cervieri, seconded by Councilman Sargenti, at 9:10 PM.

Evelyn Rosario, RMC
Municipal Clerk