

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 1, 2023, at 6:30 P.M.**

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, Suh, Drumgoole, Kasofsky, Cervieri

ALSO PRESENT: Alfred Restaino, Borough Administrator
Evelyn Rosario, Municipal Clerk
Nadine Drumgoole, Deputy Municipal Clerk
Marina Stinely, Borough Attorney

ABSENT: 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 meeting was duly published in the Record, the Jersey Journal and Star Ledger issues of November 28, 2022. Said notice was also posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board and Borough website.

RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS:

On motion by Councilman Cervieri seconded by Council woman Kasofsky 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. Community Center
 - b. Department of Public Works
 - c. Health Department
 - d. Police Department
 - e. Recreation Department

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 work session will resume upon completion of the closed portion.

The closed portion of the meeting ended at 7:25 P.M. The open portion of the work session began at 7:30 P.M.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Van Fleet & Whitey Lang Park

Administrator Restaino distributed a field photograph and proposal to the council members regarding the turf redesign for the Van Fleet and Whitey Lang Park field. The members discussed the cost, time sensitivity of the project and in house sight work.

It was the consensus of the Governing body to involve the league presidents with ideas and upcoming changes as well as to meet with Athletic Fields of America.

Fort Lee Local #245 PBA 5K Walk/Run, June 11, 2023

A resolution approving the 5K walk/run to travel through Fort Lee on June 11th will be acted upon this evening.

Bergen County Fire Mutual Aid Plan

A resolution of the Borough of Fort Lee supporting the Bergen County Fire Mutual Aid Plan will be placed on the June 15th proposed regular session agenda.

Support for the Click it or Ticket Mobilization May 22 Through June 4

The Governing Body expressed their support for the Click It or Ticket seat belt mobilization program participation commencing May 22 through June 4, 2023.

A supporting resolution will be placed on the June 15th proposed regular session agenda.

Cooperative Agreement Amendments Bergen County Development Program

A resolution authorizing the execution of an agreement with the County of Bergen to supersede the cooperative agreement dated July 1, 2021, and amendments thereto establishing the Bergen County Community Development Program will be placed on the June 15th proposed regular session agenda.

Inclusion in the Bergen County Community Development Program

A resolution authorizing inclusion in the Bergen County Community Development Program will be placed on the June 15th proposed regular session agenda.

Community Development Block Grant Municipal Representative

A resolution authorizing appointment of FY 2023-2024 municipal representatives to the Bergen County Community Development Regional Committee will be placed on the June 15th proposed regular session agenda.

Lead Grant Assistance Program Application Submission

Administrator Restaino stated a grant in the amount of \$38,700.00 from DLGS would be used to assist Fire Prevention with lead inspections.

A resolution authorizing the execution of a lead grant assistance program application will be placed on the June 15th proposed regular session agenda.

Fire Prevention Bureau Registration Fee Ordinance

An ordinance amending and supplementing Chapter 216, to include additional residential cooperative registration fees will be introduced at the June 15th regular meeting.

Authorizing Chapter 159 's:

- a. NJDCA Local Recreational Improvement Grant \$75,000.00
- b. NJDOT Tom Hunter Road Resurfacing Project \$250,000.00
- c. FY 2023 Clean Communities Grant \$80,460.09

Resolutions regarding the above captioned insertion of budget items will be placed on the June 15th proposed regular agenda.

Affirming the Borough 's Civil Rights Policy with Respect to all Officials, Appointees, Employees, Volunteers and Members of the Public that Come into Contact with Municipal Employees, Officials and Volunteers

A resolution authorizing the above captioned will be placed on the June 15th proposed regular agenda.

Hanbok Day at the Jack Alter Fort Lee Community Center, October 14, 2023

Administration received a request from Mr. John Hwang seeking approval to hold a celebration of Hanbok Day.

A resolution approving the above captioned will be placed on the June 15th proposed agenda.

Boswell Engineering Proposal for the Borough 's Combined Sewer Overflow Improvements

A resolution authoring the award of a contract to Boswell Engineering for engineering services associated with the Long-Term Control Plan (LTCP) for the Borough's Combined Sewer Overflow Improvements will be placed on the June 15th proposed regular agenda.

Boswell Engineering Proposal for Project Known as Tom Hunter Road Resurfacing

The Governing Body discussed the possibility of requesting Boswell Engineering conduct a re-estimate as the cost for this project seems high.

A resolution authoring the award of a contract to Boswell Engineering for the preparation of construction plans and specifications as well as providing construction inspections for the above-mentioned project will be placed on the June 15th proposed regular agenda.

2443 First Street Easement Relocation

***Councilman Cervieri recused**

Administrator Restaino stated the divert pipe relocation on the property would be at the owner's expense.

It was the consensus of the Governing Body to authorize the easement relocation.

Renewal of Liquor Licenses July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

A resolution authorizing the renewal of various liquor licenses will be placed on the June 15th proposed regular agenda.

Ascend Cannabis Recreational and Medical Dispensary of Fort Lee Seeking Letter of Support

A resolution supporting the above captioned will be placed on the June 15th proposed regular session agenda.

Towing Fees

An ordinance amending Chapter 406 entitled "Wreckers and Towing Service" will be introduced at the June 15th regular meeting. Public Hearing will be held July 6th.

Constitution Park Community Garden and Dog Run

Mayor Sokolich expressed his interest to remove the shuffle boards that are no longer used and replace them with the 4th community garden. Portions of the new garden will be allocated to residents of the Mediterranean Towers North and South. A dog run will also be placed in the park.

It was the consensus of the Governing Body members to move forward with the in house projects.

Authorization to Bid for Project Known as “Post Office Park ”

It was the consensus of the Governing Body to authorize the Purchasing Agent to advertise and prepare bid specifications for project known as Post Office Park.

A resolution will be placed on the June 15th proposed regular session agenda.

Change Order No. 2, Net Reduction -\$4,337.91 for Project Known as Improvements to Harvard Place

The Governing Body reviewed the change order regarding the above project submitted by DLS Contracting.

An authorizing resolution will be placed on the June 15th proposed regular session agenda.

RESOLUTION S

R-1 APPROVING A REQUEST FROM THE FORT LEE PBA LOCAL #245 TO PERMIT THE FORT LEE PBA 5K WALK/RUN TO TRAVEL THROUGH FORT LEE ON JUNE 11, 2023

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

June 1, 2023 Work Session Meeting Resolution # R-1 Carried: <u>X</u> Defeated: <u> </u> Tabled: <u> </u> Approved on Consent Agenda: <u> </u>
--

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF FORT LEE APPROVING A REQUEST FROM THE FORT LEE PBA LOCAL #245 TO PERMIT THE FORT LEE PBA 5K WALK/RUN TO TRAVEL THROUGH FORT LEE

WHEREAS, the Borough of Fort Lee received a request from the Fort Lee PBA Local #245 to permit participants of the Fort Lee 5K PBA Walk/Run to travel through Fort Lee; and

WHEREAS , the Fort Lee 5K PBA Walk/Run is scheduled for June 11, 2023; and

WHEREAS , funds raised by this event will be used to directly benefit the children of Fort Lee; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fort Lee, grants permission for the Fort Lee PBA 5K Walk/Run.

The Mayor and Council discussed having its first community-wide Pride Event and Flag Raising, June 11th at the Recreation Center.

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

There being no public discussion the meeting was adjourned on motion by Councilman Cervieri, seconded by Councilman Suh, at 8:32 PM.

Evelyn Rosario, RMC, CMC
Municipal Clerk

Prepared By:
Nadine Drumgoole
Deputy Municipal Clerk