

BOROUGH OF FLEMINGTON REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 9, 2023

Mayor Karrow called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. announcing that all laws governing Open Public Meetings Act have been met and that this meeting has been duly advertised.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Mayor Karrow stated a notice was provided as required. The annual meeting notice is on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk for public inspection.

ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL:

Councilman Malik Johnston	Present (arrived 7:14pm)
Councilman Tony Parker	Present
Councilwoman Elizabeth Rosetti	Present
Councilwoman Susan Engelhardt	Present
Council Vice President Kim Tilly	Present
Council President Jeremy Long	Present
Mayor Marcia Karrow	Present

Also Present:

Carla Conner, Borough Clerk Chris Corsini, Borough Attorney

PRESENTATION: Kean Burenga from Black River Railroad System discussed a road and rail realignment grant

Kean Burenga from Black River Railroad System discussed a grant for road and rail realignment. Mr. Burenga stated this idea started when he spoke to the Developer of Liberty Village, George Vallone. Mr. Burenga also stated the project will improve the safety and efficiency of trains moving through Flemington, improve drainage, clean up the appearance of the railroad right-of-way and consolidate the Church Street and Central Avenue public grade crossing and a multi-purpose path and access in the railroad right-of-way.

A *MOTION* was made by Council Vice Present Tilly to support the grant with a letter from Mayor Karrow, seconded by Councilwoman Engelhardt, with a vote of all ayes.

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MAYOR'S REPORT: Discussion on William Street Improvements

Mayor Karrow made a formal appointment for the Alternate #3 seat on the Planning Board to Rose DeMario.

Mayor Karrow reported the Borough had applied and was awarded a grant in the amount of \$162,360.00 for Williams Street from Broad to Elwood. This road did not make the list of DPW prioritization and if the Borough does not take the money we will get penalized in the future. The Borough Engineers has requested a six-month extension. Mike Campion, the DPW Director went over the work that needs to be done. Bill Hance, the CFO stated he can put the money for William Street in the temporary budget in 2024.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

COUNCIL PRESIDENT LONG:

Council President Long discussed Civic Pride in Flemington.

COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT TILLY:

Council Vice President Tilly thanked everyone for attending the Fire Department's rescheduled fall festival at Lone Eagle and the Fire Company are still selling raffle tickets. Council President Tilly also reported the Flemington-Raritan Rescue Squad will have their annual rescue truck pull at Healthquest on November 11, 2023. Council Vice President Tilly also reported the Halloween candy program is in full swing, check the Borough's website for information. Trick and Treat will take place on October 31, 2023 from 4:00pm-8:00pm.

COUNCILWOMAN ROSETTI:

No report given.

COUNCILMAN PARKER:

Councilman Parker reported he is working with a business who is having trouble with their landlord and he is working on creating a committee to help businesses with the FCP. Councilman Parker also reported he attended Salsa night to make contact with the Latino committee and he is working on the DPW contract.

COUNCILMAN JOHNSTON:

No report given.

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COUNCILWOMAN ENGELHARDT:

Councilwoman Englehardt reported there is a 5K run in Warren County on October 21, 2023 and proceeds will benefit Possibilities Thrift Store. Councilwoman Engelhardt also reported that Love Flemington will host a house decorating contest for Halloween and the deadline is October 29, 2023 and October 14, 2023 is the annual pumpkin decorating event at the Samuel Fleming House. Councilwoman Engelhardt reported FRIS Board of Education meeting will be held October 16, 2023 and Central District BOE meeting is October 16, 2023.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - SESSION I:

Robin Lapidus, from FCP stated the fall plants look nice and helps to cheer up Main Street while construction is going on and wanted everyone to support the FCP events during the raining weekends and hopefully the events will not get cancelled including the Sip and Stroll on October 19, 2023 and the Halloween Parade on October 26, 2023. Ms. Lapidus also discussed putting up the snowflake decorations on Main Street during the holidays.

Maureen Keleen from Flemington asked for Councilman Malik Johnston to step down.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

July 10, 2023

Regular Session

A *MOTION* was made by Council President Long to approve the minutes, seconded by Council Vice President Tilly, with a vote of ayes with Councilwoman Engelhardt abstaining.

July 10, 2023

Executive Session

A *MOTION* was made by Council President Longy to approve the minutes, seconded by Council Vice President Tilly, with a vote of all ayes.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. RESOLUTION 2023-176 — RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 975 AND SENATE BILL NO. 2643 SPONSORED BY ASSEMBLY MINORITY LEADER JOHN DIMAO AND SENATOR DOUG STEINHARDT REQUIRING COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES TO BE EQUIPPED WITH CERTAIN GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEMS

WHEREAS, bipartisan Assembly Bill No. 975 and Senate Bill No. 2643 would require a commercial motor vehicle operating upon the public highways of this State, to be equipped with a global positioning system navigation program that provides information about upcoming highway infrastructure with low vertical clearance and weight restrictions and dynamic route directions that account for commercial motor vehicle restorations; and

WHEREAS, the legislation defines a "commercial motor vehicle" as a select group of vehicles with a gross weight of 26,001 or more pounds, or that display of gross vehicle weight rating of 26,001 or more pounds; and

WHEREAS, commercial motor vehicles have restricted routes of travel that are not readily displayed on civilian navigation systems that are sometimes used by operators of commercial motor vehicles; and

WHEREAS, because of limited information on civilian navigation systems, commercial motor vehicle operators often unintentionally end up on restricted weight roadways or are stopped along their route by a restricted weight bridge; and

WHEREAS, Hunterdon County is home to numerous small and historic bridges, culverts—and historic downtowns that currently cannot handle existing heavy trucks that are on roadways and cause considerable disruption to local traffic; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of Flemington Borough, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey hereby supports Assembly Bill No. 975 and Senate Bill No. 2643; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to members of the 15th, 16th and 23rd Legislative Districts.

2. RESOLUTION 2023-177 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE \$250.00 ROAD OPENING BOND TO BLUEWATER ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATES, LLC

WHEREAS, a road opening bond was collected from Bluewater Environmental Associates and Mr. Michael Montorio for work done at 29 Route 12; and

WHEREAS, the work has been completed and approved by the Public Works Manager.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Flemington that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized and directed to return the \$250.00 road opening bond to Bluewater Environmental Associates, LLC 327 Blue Trail Road, Howell NJ 07731.

3. RESOLUTION APPROVING MAIN STREET ROAD CLOSURE FOR CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN PARADE

WHEREAS, the Flemington Community Partnership has requested that Main Street be closed from Mine Street to Fulper Street on Thursday, October 26, 2023, from 4:00 PM to 9:00 PM for the Children's Halloween Parade; and

WHEREAS, the Flemington Borough Police Department has reviewed this request and has approved the road closure as requested;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Common Council of the Borough of Flemington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the requested road closure as outlined above is approved for the Children's Halloween Costume Parade being held on October 26, 2023.

4. RESOLUTION 2023-179 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TURKEY TROT STREET CLOSURES FOR NOVEMBER 23, 2023

WHEREAS, the Center for Educational Advancement's annual Turkey Trot will be held on Thanksgiving Day, November 23, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the need to close the following streets in stages between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 11 a.m. is essential to the event:

Main Street from Church Street to North Main Street

North Main Street to Hopewell Avenue

Hopewell Avenue to East Main Street

East Main Street to New Jersey Avenue

New Jersey Avenue to Elwood Avenue

Elwood Avenue to Pennsylvania Avenue

Pennsylvania Avenue to Broad Street

Broad Street to New York Avenue

New York Avenue to Elwood Avenue

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Elwood Avenue to Emery Avenue

Emery Avenue to Broad Street

Broad Street to Church Street

Church Street to Central Avenue

Central Avenue to Mine Street

Mine Street to Shields Avenue

Shields Avenue to Bonnell Street

Bonnell Street to Park Avenue

Park Avenue to Mine Street

Mine Street to Main Street

and

WHEREAS, the need to ban parked cars from 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in the following locations is necessary to conduct the race safely:

South side of Bonnell Street;

South side of New York Avenue between Broad Street and Elwood Avenue;

East side of Elwood Avenue between New York Avenue and Emery Avenue;

South side of Emery Avenue between Elwood Avenue and Broad Street; and

WHEREAS, the Flemington Borough Police Department has reviewed and approved this request;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Common Council of the Borough of Flemington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the above streets are closed between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 11 a.m., and that parking is banned on the south side of Bonnell Street from 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on November 23, 2023, for the annual Turkey Trot.

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5. RESOLUTION 2023-180 - RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A POLICE VEHICLE FROM NIELSON FORD THROUGH CRANFORD POLICE COOP, CONTRACT #47-CPCPC, NTE \$42,458

WHEREAS, the Borough of Flemington has received quotes from Nielsen Ford under the Cranford Police Cooperative Pricing System # 47-CPCPC for the purchase of a 2023 Ford Police Interceptor Utility AWD, and

WHEREAS, it has been determined by the Police Department that the quote meets the needs of the Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Flemington authorize the Chief Financial Officer to process a purchase order in the amount of \$42,458.00 to Nielsen Ford for the purchase of the SUV.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer certifies that funds are available in 3-01-630-218.

A *MOTION* was made by Council Present Long to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Councilman Parker and on Roll Call the following was recorded:

Councilman Parker	Yes
Councilwoman Elizabeth Rosetti	Yes
Councilwoman Susan Engelhardt	Yes
Council Vice President Kim Tilly	Yes
Council President Jeremy Long	Yes

Motion carried.

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REGULAR AGENDA:

6. RESOLUTION 2023-181 – A RESOLUTION BY THE BOROUGH OF FLEMINGTON AUTHORIZING APPROVAL TO SUBMIT AN AWARD EXTENSION REQUEST FOR LA-2022 MA FLEMINGTON BOROUGH WILLIAMS STREET ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT 10 TO THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), through the fiscal year 2022 Municipal Aid fund, has allotted a construction grant to the Borough in the Amount of \$162,360.00 for the Improvement of Williams Street; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Flemington previously entered into an agreement with the Department stipulating the terms and conditions pertaining to the availability of funds; and

WHEREAS, the NJDOT Municipal Aid agreement stipulated that a construction contract must be awarded by October 21, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Flemington has been informed of utility relocation work within the bounds of the project that may exceed the time allotted to award the project by October 21, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Flemington wishes to request a six (6) month extension of time from October 21, 2023 to April 21, 2024 for the award of a construction contract for the Improvement of Williams Street project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Council of Flemington Borough formally approves the request for a(n) Six (6) month award extension for the above stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Marcia A. Karrow and Clerk, or those authorized on their behalf, are to submit a formal request for a(n) Six (6) month award extension for the above referenced project to the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Marcia A. Karrow and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the Six (6) month award extension request on behalf of Flemington Borough and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement.

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A *MOTION* was made by Councilwoman Engelhardt to approve the resolution. This Motion was seconded by Council man Parker and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Councilman Parker	Yes
Councilwoman Elizabeth Rosetti	Yes
Councilwoman Susan Engelhardt	Yes
Council Vice President Kim Tilly	Yes
Council President Jeremy Long	Yes

Motion carried.

7. ORDINANCE 2023-27 – AMENDING CHAPTER VII TRAFFIC, SCHEDULE I NO PARKING, AND SCHEDULE XV, PARKING PERMITS BY ADDING A RESIDENT PARKING PERMITTED AREA DURING CERTAIN HOURS ON THE NORTH SIDE OF CAPNER STREET

WHEREAS, the Borough of Flemington currently prohibits parking on the north side of Capner Street from Main Street to Park Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Flemington desires to allow residents of Capner Street to utilize the parking spots on the north side of Capner Street from Main Street to Park Avenue during weekends and from 5 PM to 8 AM on weekdays.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Flemington in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. Section 7A-1, Schedule I of the Code of the Borough of Flemington entitled, "No Parking," is amended as follows (deletions noted in strikethrough thusly and additions noted in bold underlined thusly):

Name of Street	Sides	Location
Capner Street	North	From the westerly curb line
		of Main Street to the easterly
		curb line of Park Avenue. a
		point 222 feet east thereof.

2. Section 7A-15, Schedule XV of the Code of the Borough of Flemington entitled, "Permit Parking," is amended as follows (deletions noted in strikethrough thusly and additions noted in bold underlined thusly):

Name of Street	Sides	Hours	Location
Capner Street	North	Weekends and	From a point 222
		Monday through	feet east of the
		Friday, 5 PM to 8	easterly curbline of
		<u>AM</u>	Park Avenue to a
			point 222 feet west
			of the westerly
			curbline of Main
			Street.

- 3. The Borough Police Department is authorized to install the appropriate signage consistent with this ordinance.
- 4. In the event any section, part or provision of this Ordinance shall be held unconstitutional or invalid by any Court, such holding shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance or any remaining part of this Ordinance other than the part held unconstitutional or invalid.
- 5. All ordinances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of their inconsistencies.
- 6. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its final passage and publication as required by law.

A *MOTION* was made by Council Vice President Tilly to discuss the resolution. This Motion was seconded by Council President Long.

Council Vice President Tilly questioned if the Borough can limit the size of the vehicles parking on the North side of the road due to the tightness it will cause. Council Vice President Tilly would like the DPW Director, Mike Campion to look at the road and also have the Borough Attorney add compact cars and holiday's to the Ordinance.

The Ordinance was tabled for October 22, 2023.

ORDINANCE 28 – AMENDING CHAPTER VII TRAFFIC, SCHEDULE I NO PARKING, BY MODIFYING THE NO PARKING LOCATIONS ON MINE STREET

WHEREAS, the Borough of Flemington desires to modify the parking on the north side of Mine Street.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Flemington in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. Section 7A-1, Schedule I of the Code of the Borough of Flemington entitled, "No Parking," is amended as follows (deletions noted in strikethrough thusly and additions noted in bold underlined thusly):

Name of Street	Sides	Location
Mine Street	<u>North</u>	From a point 235 feet west of the northernly curbline
		of Park Ave to a point 274 feet west thereof.

- 2. The Borough Police Department is authorized to install the appropriate signage consistent with this ordinance.
- 3. In the event any section, part or provision of this Ordinance shall be held unconstitutional or invalid by any Court, such holding shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance or any remaining part of this Ordinance other than the part held unconstitutional or invalid.
- 4. All ordinances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of their inconsistencies.
- 5. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its final passage and publication as required by law.

A *MOTION* was made by Council Vice President Tilly to discuss the Ordinance. This Motion was seconded by Council President Long.

Councilwoman Engelhardt asked if this parking was for the redevelopment site at Burkett's. Mayor Karrow answered no.

Council Vice President Tilly stated she thought the parking was from Park Ave. to Central Station. Mayor Karrow stated Chief Rotella sent in the list of roads.

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Councilman ParkerYesCouncilwoman Elizabeth RosettiYesCouncilwoman Susan EngelhardtAbstainCouncil Vice President Kim TillyAbstainCouncil President Jeremy LongYes

Motion carried.

The Public Hearing will be held October 22, 2023

PULIC COMMENTS – SESSION II:

Robin Lapidus, from FCP is working on a marketing summit with Marc Saluk's from the Economic Development & Tourism office to work with the real estate that is available in the Borough. The Council asked Robin what was going on with some of the empty properties around the Borough. Robin went through all the empty properties in the Borough.

APPROVAL TO PAY THE BILLS:

AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF THE BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$412,259.88

A *MOTION* was made by Council Vice President Tilly to pay the bills. This Motion was seconded by Council President Long and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Councilman ParkerYesCouncilwoman Elizabeth RosettiYesCouncilwoman Susan EngelhardtYesCouncil Vice President Kim TillyYesCouncil President Jeremy LongYes

Motion carried.

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ADJOURNMENT

A *MOTION* was made by Council Vice President Tilly to adjourn the meeting. and was seconded by Councilman Parker with a vote of all ayes.

ATTEST:

Carla Conner, Borough Clerk

Adopted: January 22, 2024

Marcia Karrow/ Mayor