

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES  
August 12, 2021, at 4:00 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room, Memorial Municipal Building, 309 Main Street, Fort Lee, New Jersey.

**PRESENT:** Council Members Sohmer, Yoon, Suh,  
Sargenti, Kasofsky, Cervieri

**ABSENT:** Mayor Sokolich

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

Council President Cervieri presided over the meeting.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT**

Please take notice that 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 and Borough website.

Please take further notice that a meeting time change notice for this meeting informing the public that the start time has changed from 5:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. was duly published in the Record issue of August 5, 2021 and the Star Ledger issue of August 9, 2021. Said notice was also posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board and Borough website.

**RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS:**

**On motion by Councilman Sargenti , seconded by Councilwoman 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:

1. 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. Barrymore Film Center
  - b. Community Center
  - c. Department of Public Works
  - d. Health Department
  - e. Municipal Court
  - f. Police Department
  - g. Recreation
  - h. Stage Crew
  - i. Tax Assessor's Office
  
2. **Legal:**
  - a. Fort Lee Redevelopment Associates (The Modern)

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 4:43 P.M. The open portion of the work session began at 4:43 P.M.

## **GENERAL DISCUSSION:**

### **Board of Education PILOT Agreement Corrected Resolution**

A resolution outlining the shared services agreement and correcting the term of the agreement from five years to three years will be placed on the amended August 12<sup>th</sup> consent agenda.

### **Shared Services with the Borough of Dumont for the use of Fire Vehicles and Equipment**

Administrator Restaino reviewed the proposed shared service with the Borough of Dumont for the use of Fort Lee's fire vehicles and equipment.

An authorizing resolution will be placed on the amended August 12<sup>th</sup> consent agenda.

### **Safe Routes to School Grant Program**

No discussion held. Defer to the next meeting.

### **Authorize the Purchasing Agent to Obtain Bid Specifications and Advertise for Project Known as Reconstruction of the Area Known as The Junction**

A resolution authorizing the purchasing agent to advertise accordingly regarding the captioned project will be placed on the amended August 12<sup>th</sup> consent agenda.

### **Volunteer Handbook**

Administrator Restaino reviewed the proposed volunteer handbook and recommended the Borough adopt as presented.

An authorizing resolution will be placed on a future consent agenda.

### **Recognition of Knightsbridge Fire Good Samaritans (HS)**

Councilman Sohmer suggested that those who assisted in the Knightsbridge Fire be recognized for their efforts.

Councilman Sohmer will work with Administrator Restaino to prepare proclamations for presentation by the Governing Body and a future meeting.

### **2020 Corrective Action Plan**

The Governing Body reviewed the corrective action plan as prepared by the Chief Financial Officer and has accepted same.

A resolution approving the plan will be placed on the amended August 12<sup>th</sup> agenda.

### **Award of Contract to Boswell Engineering for the Provision of Pre-Demolition Services at the Fort Lee US Post Office**

It was the consensus of the Governing Body to award a contract to Boswell Engineering for engineering services related to the pre-demolition of Fort Lee United States Post Office.

An authorizing resolution will be placed on the amended August 12<sup>th</sup> consent agenda.

### **Ordinance Implementing the Installation of Sewer Check Valves**

Administrator Restaino has indicated that the Director of the Department of Public Works he has suggested the Borough consider introducing an ordinance requiring the installation of sewer check valves and also eliminating approvals for building projects that have a downward sloping driveway. Both of these measures will help address potential flooding issues.

This request was received favorably by the Governing Body and further discussion will be held regarding its implementation.

**Fort Lee Public Library Requesting Permission to Hold 2 Events at the Fort Lee Barrymore Film Center Fall 2021**

The Governing Body reviewed and authorized a request from the Library Director requesting permission to hold two events at the Barrymore Film Center on November 10, 2021 and December 12, 2021.

An authorizing resolution will be placed on the amended August 12<sup>th</sup> consent agenda.

**Authorize the Transfer a Person-to-Person Liquor License No. 0219-44-009-004 From: 2450 Lemoine Avenue, LLC T/A Quench Wines & Spirits To: TS Liquors, LLC**

Clerk Rosario stated that the applicant has met all the requirements for the transfer of the above captioned liquor license and recommended the transfer.

An authorizing resolution will be placed on the amended August 12<sup>th</sup> consent agenda.

**Handicapped Parking Spaces, Delete : 410 Fairview Avenue and 1626 Maple Street, Add: 1023 Ponsi Street**

An ordinance amending the Borough's handicap ordinance to delete a street and add two new streets as indicated above will be placed on the amended August 12<sup>th</sup> agenda.

**Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Developer 's Agreement Between the Borough and Redco Construction Corporation, 216-218 Columbia Avenue**

No Discussion held. Deferred to a future meeting.

**Authorizing an Emergency Purchase for the Purchase of Fire Hoses**

Administrator Restaino stated that a recent inspection by Fire Flow revealed that the fire hoses were not in compliance as required by law and must be replaced immediately.

A resolution authorizing an emergency purchase of new fire hoses will be placed on the August 12<sup>th</sup> amended consent agenda.

An authorizing resolution will be placed on the amended August 12<sup>th</sup> consent agenda.

**ADD-ON**

**Authorizing the Award of a Contract to D.L.S. Contracting, Inc. for Project Known as Improvements to 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Not to Exceed \$43,769.95**

It was the consensus of the Governing Body to award a contract to D.L.S. Contracting Inc. for the construction of improvements to 11<sup>th</sup> Street as part of the 2021 CDBG road resurfacing program in an amount not to exceed \$43,769.95

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

On motion by Councilman Yoon, seconded by Councilwoman Kasofsky 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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No public comments.

There being no further discussions the meeting was adjourned on motion by Councilman Sargenti, seconded by Councilman Sohmer, at 5:09 P.M.

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Evelyn Rosario, RMC, CMC  
Municipal Clerk