

**SOUTH PLAINFIELD BOROUGH
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 18, 2021 7:02 P.M.
PUBLIC MEETING**

***Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, this meeting was also transmitted virtually via the Webex platform**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Anesh called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Mayor Anesh read the sunshine statement and announced that same is being held pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act of 1974 and all provisions of that Act have been met with adequate notice of this remote hybrid meeting having been provided to the Borough's two official newspapers and also published on the Borough's website. Instructions for accessing the remote public meeting are found on the Borough's website next to the agendas. Documentation pertaining to the remote meeting can be found electronically on the Borough's website.

The roll call was administered by Clerk Antonides as follows:

COUNCIL	Present	Absent	Late
Councilman Bengivenga	X		
Councilwoman Faustini	X		
Councilwoman Mott	X		
Councilman Smith	X		
Councilman Wolak	X		
Council President White	X		
Mayor Anesh	X		
ALSO PRESENT			
Administrator Cullen	X		
Clerk Antonides	X		
Attorney Paul Rizzo	X		
Engineer Miller	X		

Flag Salute: was led by Mayor Anesh and Councilwoman Faustini led the invocation.

Mayor Anesh again reviewed some basic rules for conducting the hybrid virtual meeting this evening. All lines will be muted until such time that the floor is open for public comment. Each phone call or virtual hand raise will be taken one at a time. To unmute the microphone, just click on the red microphone picture that has a line through it. It will then turn green indicating you have been unmuted and may begin to speak. Callers may dial 1-646-922-2010 followed by the access code of 126 663 1990 #. Using the pound button will mute and unmute the voice feature for any phone callers.

Public Comment: Mayor Anesh opened the floor for public comment on agenda items only. Mayor Anesh also awaited virtual hand raises; he then unmuted all microphones. With no comments from the public in-person and virtual, Mayor Anesh closed the floor.

Authorizing the Approval of Council Minutes:

October 4, 2021 – Agenda Meeting

October 4, 2021 - Public Meeting

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga	X		X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith		X	X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White			X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

Proclamation – Mischief Night & Halloween 2021 was read by Mayor Anesh in full who advised that a survey was taken as to the trick or treating hours for Halloween which falls on a Sunday this year, and it was decided that 12 Noon to 7 pm would be the hours this year.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION: 21-297

AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT FOR SEWER SERVICE BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD AND THE TOWNSHIP OF PISCATAWAY

WHEREAS, the Borough of South Plainfield currently is party to a Contract with the Township of Piscataway for the provision to certain portions of the Borough of sewer service by the Township, which Agreement expires as of January 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Township has provided a proposed Agreement to provide ethe same service under the same rate and billing provisions; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Attorney and Borough Administrator have reviewed the Agreement and approved of same in the form attached hereto;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of new jersey that they do hereby approve an Agreement between the Borough and the Township of Piscataway for the provision by the Township of sewer service to certain portions of the Borough, in the form attached hereto, and authorize the Mayor and Borough Clerk to execute same on behalf of the Borough of South Plainfield.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga		x	X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White	x		X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION: 21-298

AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC AUCTION BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR ABANDONED UNCLAIMED VEHICLE(S)

WHEREAS, the South Plainfield Police Department in accordance with R.S. 39:10A-1, are in possession of abandoned vehicles due to the failure of the owners claiming such and are now desirous of conducting a public auction on October 29, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. at 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey for the following abandoned vehicles:

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	VIN#	STATUS	MIN. BID
2004	Honda	Accord	1HGCM82674 A010219	Fair	\$1,000.00

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield that the South Plainfield Police Department are hereby authorized to publicly advertise and auction the aforementioned vehicles deemed to be abandoned by their owner(s).

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga		x	X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White	x		X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION 2021-299

AUTHORIZING THE MUNICIPAL CLERK TO CERTIFY TO THE STATE THAT THE GOVERNING BODY HAS REVIEWED AND DISCUSSED THE COMPLETED 2021 BEST PRACTICES INVENTORY AS PREPARED BY THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER AT THE OCTOBER 18, 2021 PUBLIC MEETING

WHEREAS, the State’s Fiscal Year 2022 Appropriations Act (P.L. 2011, c.85) requires the Division of Local Government Services to determine how much of each municipality’s final 5% allocation of its CMPTRA and ETR aid will be disbursed based upon the results of the CY 2021 Best Practices Inventory; and

WHEREAS, the Inventory is meant to encourage municipalities to consider and embrace a range of best practices that will help improve financial accountability and transparency; and

WHEREAS, the completed CY2021 inventory form must be made an agenda item for discussion at a municipal governing body meeting;

WHEREAS, all the requirements of the CY2021 Best Practices Inventory process have been met by the Borough of South Plainfield;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield hereby authorizes the Municipal Clerk to certify to the State Division of Local Government Services that the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield have reviewed and discussed the completed CY2021 Best Practices Inventory as prepared by the Chief Financial Officer at the October 18, 2021 public meeting of the Mayor and Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the following:

1. Glenn Cullen, Borough Administrator
2. Amy Antonides, Municipal Clerk

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga		x	X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White	x		X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION: 21-300

AUTHORIZING A CONSTRUCTION PERMIT REFUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$264.00 TO VIVINT SOLAR INC. DUE TO A CANCELLATION OF PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Construction Official confirms that a permit was for a construction related project at 554 Harrison Ave. and as such, the applicant cancelled and has requested a refund of the \$264.00 permit fee for solar installation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to issue a refund check(s) in the amount(s) of \$264.00 to the following:

Vivint Solar Inc.
Attn: AR Department
1800 W Ashton Blvd.
Lehi, UT 84043

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to issue a check(s) in the amount(s) as mentioned above.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga		x	X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White	x		X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION 21-301
AUTHORIZING THE NJ STATE CONTRACT PURCHASE OF BODY WORN CAMERAS
FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FROM AXON ENTERPRISES INC.
IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$323,709.00

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that it hereby authorizes the NJ State Contract purchase of body worn cameras for the Police Department from Axon Enterprises Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$323,709.00 pursuant to state contract number #T0106; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the following:

1. Glenn Cullen, CFO
2. Amy Antonides, Municipal Clerk
3. Captain Papa, Police Captain
4. James Parker, Police Chief

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga		x	X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White	x		X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION: 21-302
AUTHORIZING A CONSTRUCTION PERMIT REFUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$223.00 TO VIVINT SOLAR INC. DUE
TO A CANCELLATION OF PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Construction Official confirms that a permit was for a construction related project at 1101 Maple Ave. and as such, the applicant cancelled and has requested a refund of the \$223.00 permit fee for solar installation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to issue a refund check(s) in the amount(s) of \$223.00 to the following:

Vivint Solar Inc.
Attn: AR Department
1800 W Ashton Blvd.
Lehi, UT 84043

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to issue a check(s) in the amount(s) as mentioned above.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga		x	X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White	x		X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

**RESOLUTION 21-303
AUTHORIZING THE FULL-TIME HIRING OF NARCISO ROLON TO THE POSITION OF
GROUNDSKEEPER AT THE ANNUAL SALARY BASED ON \$18.63 PER HOUR**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

It hereby authorizes the hiring of Narciso Rolon to the position of full-time Groundskeeper at the annual salary based on \$18.63 per hour effective November 1, 2021, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the following:

1. Amy Antonides, Municipal Clerk
2. Carmela Miller, Payroll
3. Anne Daley, Benefits
4. Alice Tempel, Environmentalist
5. Len Miller, DPW Superintendent
6. John Abbruzzese, IT

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga		x	X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White	x		X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION: 21-304

**AUTHORIZING A CONSTRUCTION PERMIT REFUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$216.00 TO VIVINT SOLAR INC. DUE
TO A CANCELLATION OF PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Construction Official confirms that a permit was for a construction related project at 133 Sprague Ave. and as such, the applicant cancelled and has requested a refund of the \$216.00 permit fee for solar installation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to issue a refund check(s) in the amount(s) of \$216.00 to the following:

**Vivint Solar Inc.
Attn: AR Department
1800 W Ashton Blvd.
Lehi, UT 84043**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to issue a check(s) in the amount(s) as mentioned above.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga		x	X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White	x		X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION: 21-305

AUTHORIZING A CONSTRUCTION PERMIT REFUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$243.00 TO VIVINT SOLAR INC. DUE TO A CANCELLATION OF PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Construction Official confirms that a permit was for a construction related project at 15 Babes Drive and as such, the applicant cancelled and has requested a refund of the \$243.00 permit fee for solar installation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to issue a refund check(s) in the amount(s) of \$243.00 to the following:

Vivint Solar Inc.
Attn: AR Department
1800 W Ashton Blvd.
Lehi, UT 84043

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to issue a check(s) in the amount(s) as mentioned above.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga		x	X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White	x		X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION 21-306

A RESOLUTION APPROVING PARTICIPATION IN THE FEDERAL GRANT PROGRAM FOR 2022 SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY

WHEREAS the Police Department of the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey wishes to apply for a 2022 Safe and Secure Communities Grant Program (Grant 22-1222); and

WHEREAS the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield has reviewed the application and has approved said request for a total grant of \$32,400.00 under subaward number 22-1222, for the subaward period of 7/1/2021 to 6/30/2022 to provide for additional law enforcement personnel to address crime in a focused community oriented manner; and

WHEREAS the total project cost of \$32,400.00 includes the federal amount of \$32,400.00 and the in-kind match of fringe benefits.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield that

1. The Borough of South Plainfield Police Department is approved to participate in the 2022 Safe and Secure Communities Grant Program.
2. The Borough of South Plainfield accepts the grant funding in the amount of \$32,400.00 for the Police Department's additional law enforcement project under the Safe and Secure Communities Program administered by N.J. Department of Law & Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General
3. The Mayor and Administrator of the Borough of South Plainfield are hereby authorized and directed to execute such grant documents required for the aforementioned participation.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga		x	X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White	x		X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

**RESOLUTION 21-307
AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A DOOR
FOR THE PAL WRESTLING ROOM FROM GROVE LOCK
IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$5,239.50**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that it hereby authorizes the purchase and installation of a door for the PAL wrestling room from Grove Lock in an amount not to exceed \$5,239.50: and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the following:

1. Glenn Cullen, CFO
2. Amy Antonides, Municipal Clerk
3. Elizabeth Yarus, Recreation Director

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga		x	X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White	x		X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

**RESOLUTION 21-308
AUTHORIZING THE PART-TIME HIRE JESSICA ROMERO TO THE POSITION OF CLERK TYPIST FOR THE PAL
AT THE HOURLY RATE OF \$14.00**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

It hereby authorizes the part-time hire of Jessica Romero to the position of Clerk Typist for the PAL at the hourly rate of \$14.00 pursuant to Borough Ordinance 2157, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the following:

1. Amy Antonides, Municipal Clerk
2. Carmela Miller, Payroll
3. Anne Daley, Benefits
4. Elizabeth Yarus, Recreation Director
5. John Abbruzzese, IT

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga		x	X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White	x		X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION: 21-309

AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF A TAX OVERPAYMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3173.00 PERTAINING TO 154 MARTIN DR. IN SOUTH PLAINFIELD

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector advises that the following taxpayers and/or their agents have overpaid their tax and have requested refunds:

OWNER/ADDRESS

Block 282 Lot 14
Robert Allen
154 Martin Dr.
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:

Robert Allen
1366 E. 3rd St. Unit A4
Brooklyn, NY 11230

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to issue a check(s) in the amount(s) as mentioned above.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga		x	X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White	x		X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION 21-310

AUTHORIZING GLENN CULLEN TO EXECUTE A CASH MANAGEMENT MASTER AGREEMENT WITH TD BANK FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THEIR E TREASURY PRODUCT FOR THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

It hereby authorizes Glenn Cullen to execute a Cash Management Master Agreement with TD Bank for the implementation of their E Treasury product for the Borough of South Plainfield; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the following:

1. Glenn Cullen, Borough Administrator/CFO
2. Amy Antonides, Municipal Clerk

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga		x	X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White	x		X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION 21-311

AUTHORIZING THE SERVICES AND PURCHASE OF SECURITY CAMERAS FOR THE RECYCLING CENTER FROM CENTRAL JERSEY SECURITY CAMERAS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$7,000.00 PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE 2206

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

It hereby authorizes the services and purchase of security cameras for the Recycling Center from Central Jersey Cameras in an amount not to exceed \$7,000.00 pursuant to Ordinance 2206; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the following:

1. Glenn Cullen, Borough Administrator/CFO
2. Amy Antonides, Municipal Clerk
3. Alice Tempel, Recycling Coordinator
4. John Abbruzzese, IT

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga		x	X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White	x		X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION 21-312

AUTHORIZING THE EMERGENT SERVICES OF SANZARI INC. FOR THE EMERGENCY STORM SEWER REPAIR ON SOUTH CENTRAL AVENUE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$15,100.11

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

It hereby authorizes the emergent services of Sanzari Inc. for the emergency storm sewer repair on South Central Avenue in an amount not to exceed \$15,100.11; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the following:

1. Glenn Cullen, Borough Administrator/CFO
2. Amy Antonides, Municipal Clerk
3. Len Miller, DPW Superintendent

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga		x	X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White	x		X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

CORRESPONDENCE

- Board of Health Monthly Report – September 2021
- Environmental Commission Minutes – August 11, 2021
- Recycling Monthly Report – August & September 2021

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga			X				
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith	X		X				
Councilman Wolak		X	X				
Council President White			X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Current Fund	0-01	44,917.85
Current Fund	1-01	88,929.76
Pool Utility	0-26	0.00
Pool Utility	1-26	93,312.39
Sewer Utility	0-07	27,500.00
Sewer Utility	1-07	0.00
Sewer Utility Capital	C-08	0.00
General Capital	C-04	2,048.32
Pool Capital	C-27	0.00
Election Account	E-18	0.00
Grant Fund	G-02	9,975.80
Dog Trust	T-12	51.60
Treasurers Trust	T-13	18,604.00
Recreation Trust	T-14	2,070.00
Senior Citizen Trust	T-16	0.00
Total All Funds:		\$198,479.96

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Bengivenga			X				
Councilwoman Faustini		X	X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman Wolak			X				
Council President White	X		X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Borough Attorney Paul Rizzo – reported progress.

Administrator Cullen – explained the purpose of resolution 21-312 regarding the storm sewer emergency on South Central Avenue that was added to the agenda this evening, saying that it was from a PSE&G job in which they came across some crumbling pipe. Mr. Cullen pointed out that the Best Practices is also on tonight's meeting in which our total score is an 18. We are compliant in most everything, though certain areas are not applicable to us. These Best Practice scores can have an impact on some state aid funding, however, there will be no impact with our score. Mr. Cullen concluded by advising that we will be going out to market soon with our general improvement bonds.

Engineer Miller – advised that the Metuchen Avenue road improvements will begin the concrete work this week and the milling and paving will begin next week. Mr. Miller concluded by advising that leaf collection is beginning to take place now.

Clerk Antonides – reported progress.

Councilman Smith – thanked the Library Board for all their work with the recent pumpkin patch event and said he hopes the media will also acknowledge it because it was very nice what they did.

Councilwoman Mott – reported progress.

{A1298313.1 }

Councilman Wolak – Concurred with what Councilman Smith said about the recent Library Fall Festival this past weekend. The weather was great for it and they did a great job. Councilman Wolak went on to report progress.

Councilman Bengivenga – wished Councilwoman Mott a very happy birthday and then went on to report progress.

Councilwoman Faustini – advised that basketball and wrestling sign-ups are still taking place. The trunk or treat event will be held on Halloween this year in Veteran’s Park and you can sign-up on Community Pass in advance if you wish to attend. The hours are from 12:30 to 4:00 p.m. with 12:30 to 1:00 pm geared for those with special needs. They are still seeking volunteers and candy donations. Councilwoman Faustini concluded by thanking both the schools and Board of Education for their recent contribution to Social Services for Storm Ida victims.

Council President White – advised that LA Finesse has begun work and then went on to report progress.

Mayor Anesh – advised that the County has a total of 270 more Covid cases reported with a grand total to date of 104,378. South Plainfield had 5 more cases reported with a total to date of 3,283. Mayor Anesh reminded everyone that vaccinations are still available and encouraged everyone to continue to protect themselves.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Mayor Anesh opened the floor for public comment reiterating the aforementioned remote directions for making remote public comment.

Carol Christatos of 2305 Selene Avenue voiced reaffirmed her complaints regarding 2301 Selene Avenue from the last Council meeting saying she is disappointed that no one has reached out to her yet. Ms. Christatos advised of an article she found disappointing and distressing pertaining to a reduction of property values when you have a vacant or abandoned home near you and is very concerned about her and her neighbor’s property values. Mr. Cullen advised he spoke to the Zoning Officer, Property Maintenance Officer and Construction Official about this and when he went to look at it, the house looks fairly new with new windows and siding. Ms. Christatos said there are several holes in the roof and side of house and said that animals are getting in. Mr. Cullen advised that the Construction Official has been in contact with the owner and that he and the Code Enforcer inspected this property. All the permits are currently expired and will require new ones to continue the work on this house. Ms. Christatos repeated that the holes are still there, and something needs to be done. Mayor Anesh said they will send our officials back out tomorrow to reinvestigate. Mr. Rizzo Esq. said from a legal standpoint there is nothing that can be done at this point. It is all up to the officials. Mr. Cullen said he will go back out again and look at it himself and will absolutely contact Ms. Christatos as to the status of the officials investigations.

Leon Gwiazdowski of 2309 Selene Avenue also readdressed his concerns from the last meeting saying he walks around the property all the time and that the power is turned off, and there is water in the basement and an odor around the property with holes in the roof. Mayor Anesh and some Council members expressed that they would speak to our Construction Official and Zoning Officer again about it. None of them said that there were any issues with water or odor around the property after their last inspection a week or two ago.

Gary and Susan Romeri of 2300 Selene Avenue asked what the definition of abandoned is.

Terry Alexa of 2800 Maple Avenue complained about seeing an “infinity” vehicle “from the area” with a gentleman that opens the front door with a key. Mrs. Alexa complained that her husband, Donald, had to kill a rat that was found in their garage, indicating this vacant house was responsible for that and then went on to say she feels this issue is being brushed under the rug and is very concerned for their property values.

Mr. Rizzo Esq. responded by saying that by Mrs. Romeri’s own admission, the house is not abandoned if she is seeing someone enter the front door with a key.

Mr. Donald Alexa asked how they will be notified of the outcome of the officials’ inspections. Mr. Cullen said he will contact Carol Christatos with an update, as she appears to be the spokeswoman of your group.

Debbie Boyle of Van Fleet thanked Tree Olano for accepting on behalf of Heather Barry all the storm Ida donations and Ms. Boyle went on to advise how to enter the scarecrow contest.

Miriam Rizvi advised that her assignment from school requires her to ask question(s) pertaining to a governing body agenda. Ms. Rizvi asked if all police officers are required to wear them and how many of there are there. Chief Parker who was in the audience advised that there are 62 officers and yes, they are all required to wear them.

Without further comment from the public, Mayor Anesh closed the floor from the public.

ADJOURNMENT

Without further comment and no more action necessary for this evening Mayor Anesh called for a motion to adjourn. Councilman Smith made a motion to adjourn at 7:50 p.m., seconded by Council President White and unanimously carried. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted By:

Amy Antonides, RMC/CMC/CMR
Municipal Clerk