### SOUTH PLAINFIELD BOROUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES **DECEMBER 4, 2023 7:09 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 7:09 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. Mayor Anesh stated that pursuant to Article IV, Section 2 of the By-Laws, "the presiding officer shall limit such discussion to not more than a three-minute duration."

The roll call was administered by Clerk Antonides as follows:

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

Flag Salute: was led by Mayor Anesh and Councilwoman Faustini said 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:**

November 20, 2023 – Agenda Meeting November 20, 2023 - Public Meeting

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith		X	X				
Councilman White	X		X				
Councilman Wolak						X	
Council President Bengivenga			X				
			5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

### **RESOLUTION 23-350A** AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF JUSTICE DICKERSON AS A FULL-TIME CLASS H POLICE OFFICER WITH AN ANNUAL SALARY PURSUANT TO THE SALARY ORDINANCE AND/OR LOCAL CONTRACT

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, in the State of New Jersey, at the Police Chief's recommendation that it hereby confirms the hiring of Justice Dickerson as a full-time Class H Police Officer at a salary pursuant to ordinance and/or PBA Contract effective December 4, 2023; 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. Peter Papa, Chief of Police
- 4. Sgt. Magnani, Police Dept.
- 5. Anne Daley, Benefits
- 6. Carmela Miller, Payroll
- 7. John Abbruzzese, IT

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman White	X		X				
Councilman Wolak						X	
Council President Bengivenga		X	X				
			5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

Mayor Anesh swore in Officer Dickerson with his family present. Everyone extended a round of applause and photographs were taken by media and friends present. Each governing body member extended their congratulations and well wishes to Officer Dickerson.

Mayor Anesh called for a brief recess at 7:16 p.m.

Mayor Anesh called the meeting back to order at 7:22 pm.

### **ORDINANCES:**

The following ordinance #2283 was read by Clerk Antonides by title for a second reading. Mayor opened the floor for public hearing and with no comments from the public or the Council, closed the floor.

The following ordinance #2283 was read by Clerk Antonides by title for a first reading. Mayor Anesh set the public hearing for December 4, 2023 at 7 p.m.

### **ORDINANCE 2283**

AN ORDINANCE VACATING THE BOROUGH'S AUTHORITY AND CONTROL OVER A PORTION OF MAIN STREET AND A PORTION OF TEXAS AVENUE IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

WHEREAS, Main Street is a right-of-way depicted on the Borough's current Tax Map; and

WHEREAS, Texas Avenue is a right-of-way depicted on the Borough's current Tax Map; and

WHEREAS, a portion of Texas Avenue was vacated by the Borough pursuant to Ordinance 2186; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council believe there is no public benefit to continuing the remainder of Texas Avenue and Main Street as rights-of-way and that the Borough has no need for such; and

WHEREAS, vacation of said section will allow development of the properties abutting said section which will provide the Borough with tax revenue; and

**WHEREAS,** a request has been made by the ownership of Block 525 Lot 11 for the Borough to vacate its authority and control over the sections of Main Street and Texas Avenue described in the attached Schedule A; and

**WHEREAS,** N.J.S.A. 40:67-19 provides authorization of the Borough to release and extinguish public rights, and the rights of the Borough, arising from the dedication of the street;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey as follows:

- 1. The rights of the public and the Borough of South Plainfield in and to portions of Main Street and Texas Avenue as described more particularly in the attached Schedule A are hereby extinguished and vacated;
- 2. The Borough Clerk shall, within 60 days of the effective date of this Ordinance, file a copy of this Ordinance certified by her under the seal of the Borough to be a true copy thereof, together with proof of publication, in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Middlesex in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40:67-21.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication in accordance with New Jersey law.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini			Х				
Councilwoman Mott			Х				
Councilman Smith	Х		Х				
Councilman White		Х	Х				
Councilman Wolak						Х	
Council President Bengivenga			Х				
			5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

The following ordinance #2284 was read by Clerk Antonides by title for a second reading. Mayor opened the floor for public hearing and with no comments from the public or the Council, closed the floor.

#### **ORDINANCE 2284**

## AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER 52, FIRE DEPARTMENT, OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that Chapter 52, Fire Department, of the Code of the Borough of South Plainfield be amended to add Article IV. Fees and Permits Benefits, as follows:

### **52-30 - PURPOSE.**

The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish an incentive program to increase enrollment in the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department and to reward such volunteers for their tireless efforts and many hours spent to preserve and protect the health, safety, property and welfare of the residents of the Borough of South Plainfield, 24 hours per day, 365 days per year, without compensation.

### **52-31 - DEFINITIONS.**

As used in this Ordinance, the following words and phrases shall have the following meanings:

- A. "Member in Good Standing" means any person who has been certified in writing by the Fire Chief of the Volunteer Fire Department within the Borough of South Plainfield to have served at least one year continuous volunteer service in the Department and to possess the necessary certification(s), license(s) and/or training required by the Department.
- B. "Volunteer" means any individual contributing services to the Volunteer Fire Department without remuneration or without a formal agreement or contract for hire.
- C. "Volunteer Service" means the required percentage of activity or participation to qualify as a bona fide member of the Volunteer Fire Department as established by the Fire Chief.

### **52-32 - QUALIFICATION FOR BENEFITS.**

- A. The provisions of this Ordinance shall be limited solely to the residents of the Borough of South Plainfield who are current and active volunteers of the Volunteer Fire Department within the Borough of South Plainfield and who are certified by the Fire Chief of the Volunteer Fire Department as "members in good standing" of said organization.
- B. Such certification shall be filed annually by the Fire Chief, not later than January 15, with the Borough Clerk. A new certification must be filed each year and the certification from the preceding year shall be null and void.

### **52-33 - BENEFITS.**

Every member in good standing of a Volunteer Fire Department shall be entitled to the following benefits from the Borough:

A. Exemption from payment of any Borough of South Plainfield fees for Borough licenses or permits, to a maximum of \$300.00 per year, provided the fee is for a license or permit for the personal benefit of such member in good standing. Such exemption may not be utilized by any individual, including family members, of such member in good standing. This section shall not, however, be construed to apply to fees associated with the South Plainfield Community Pool or South Plainfield Recreation Department. Where fees include monies payable to the state or county, only the municipal portion of said fees may be exempted.

### 52-34 - PROCEDURE FOR EXEMPTION; COUPON BOOKS.

- A. Coupon Books. Within 20 days after January 15, the Borough Clerk shall provide a book of coupons to the member in good standing which shall be imprinted with a serial number. The coupons may be presented, alone or in combination, by the member in good standing in order to exempt he member from any of the fees specified in this Ordinance in the following manner:
- 1. At the time that the member seeks the exemption from fees, he or she shall present the coupon book to the appropriate authorized Borough official or representative, who shall remove the requested coupon(s);
- 2. The Borough official or representative shall provide a receipt to the member for the amount of the exemption and thereafter forward the used coupon(s) to the Clerk's office for filing with a notation as to the date of use and exemption provided;
- 3. Coupon books are not transferrable and coupons may not be removed from the book by anyone other than an authorized Borough official or representative. Coupons otherwise removed from the book shall be deemed null and void;
- 4. Coupon books shall expire on December 31 of the year of issuance, and any coupons not used as of that date shall be deemed null and void.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication in accordance with New Jersey law.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini		X	Х				
Councilwoman Mott			Х				
Councilman Smith			Х				
Councilman White			Х				
Councilman Wolak						Х	
Council President Bengivenga	Х		Х				
			5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

The following ordinance #2285 was read by Clerk Antonides by title for a second reading. Mayor opened the floor for public hearing and with no comments from the public or the Council, closed the floor.

### **ORDINANCE 2285**

### AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JESEY AMENDING CHAPTER 84, POLICE DEPARTMENT, OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that Chapter 84, Police Department, of the Code of the Borough of South Plainfield be amended as follows:

DELETE Article I, Establishment and Organization, Section 84-2(A), Department Personnel.

ADD: Article I, Establishment and Organization, Section 84-2(A), Department Personnel, as follows:

A. The Police Department of the Borough of South Plainfield shall consist of one Chief of Police; up to three Captains appointed as necessary; up to seven Lieutenants appointed as necessary; up to eight Sergeants appointed as necessary; and up to 46 police officers appointed as necessary; and such other staffing requirements and employees shall from time to time be deemed necessary by the Mayor and Council to properly preserve peace and good order within the Borough of South Plainfield.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication in accordance with New Jersey law.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini			Х				
Councilwoman Mott			Х				
Councilman Smith		Х	Х				
Councilman White			Х				
Councilman Wolak						Х	
Council President Bengivenga	Х		Х				
			5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

The following ordinance #2286 was read by Clerk Antonides by title for a second reading. Mayor opened the floor for public hearing and with no comments from the public or the Council, closed the floor.

### **ORDINANCE 2286**

A CAPITAL ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING "IMPROVEMENTS TO TREE STREET SCAPE, PARKS AND ADA RAMPS"AT A COST OF \$125,000.00, IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY as follows:

Section 1. The aforementioned assets be funded by the following sources:

Tree & Park Improvements Reserve \$50,000.00 Middlesex County CDBG #28122 68,542.00 Capital Improvement Fund 6,458.00

Totals \$125,000.00

Section 2. That the improvements described in Section 1 hereof shall be authorized as Capital Improvements for the Borough of South Plainfield in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey.

- Section 3. It is hereby determined and declared by this Mayor and Borough Council as follows:
  - A. That the maximum estimated amount of money to be raised from all sources for the purposes stated in Section 1, hereof, is \$125,000.00. Improvements shall include, but not be limited to, planting of trees, landscaping, sidewalk and ADA Ramps and other general park and roadway improvements.
  - B. That the cost for the improvements shall be paid from Reserve for Tree & Park Improvements \$50,000, Middlesex County Community Development Block Grant \$68,542.00 and \$6,458.00 from the Capital Improvements Fund.
  - C. The estimated useful life of said improvements is hereby determined to be five (5) years.
- Section 4. That the total amount of the appropriation to be expended for Architectural and inspection costs, legal costs, advertisement of ordinance and other expenses as provided in Section 48:2-20 of the Revised Statutes, is not to exceed \$10,000.00.
- Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect after final passage and publication in accordance with the law.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini		X	X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman White	X		X				
Councilman Wolak						X	
Council President Bengivenga			X				
			5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

The following ordinance #2287 was read by Clerk Antonides by title for a first reading. Mayor Anesh set the public hearing for December 18, 2023 at 7 p.m.

#### **BOND ORDINANCE #2287**

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$1,057,725 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$625,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The several improvements described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are hereby respectively authorized to be undertaken by the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey (the "Borough") as general improvements. For the several improvements or purposes described in Section 3, there are hereby appropriated the respective sums of money therein stated as the appropriation made for each improvement or purpose, such sums amounting in the aggregate to \$1,057,725, including a grant in the amount of \$370,725 from the State of New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness for the purpose described in Section 3(a) below and a grant in the amount of \$10,000 from the State of New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General, for the purpose described in Section 3(b) below (collectively, the "State Grants"), and further including the aggregate sum of \$52,000 as the several down payments for the improvements or purposes required by the Local Bond Law. The down payments have been made available by virtue of provision for down payment or for capital improvement purposes in one or more previously adopted budgets.

Section 2. In order to finance the cost of the several improvements or purposes not covered by application of the several down payments and the State Grants, negotiable bonds are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of \$625,000 pursuant to the Local Bond Law. In anticipation of the issuance of the bonds, negotiable bond anticipation notes are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to and within the limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

Section 3. The several improvements hereby authorized and the several purposes for which the bonds are to be issued, the estimated cost of each improvement and the appropriation therefor, the estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued for each improvement and the period of usefulness of each improvement are as follows:

<u>Purpose</u>	Appropriation & Estimated Cost	Estimated Maximum Amount of Bonds & Notes	Period of <u>Usefulness</u>
a) Renovations to and expansion of the Emergency Operations Center, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.	\$500,725 (includes a grant in the amount of \$370,725 from the State of New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness)	\$120,000	15 years
b) The acquisition of sport utility vehicles for the Police Department and the Office of Emergency Management, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$335,000 (includes a grant in the amount of \$10,000 from the State of New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General)	\$305,000	5 years
c) Preliminary planning and architectural design costs for the fire house and municipal buildings, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$100,000	\$90,000	15 years
d) Preliminary planning and engineering costs for 2024 Road Program, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$95,000	\$85,000	15 years
e) Improvements to jail cell blocks, including all work and	\$ <u>27,000</u>	\$ <u>25,000</u>	15 years

materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.			
Total	\$ <u>1,057,725</u>	\$ <u>625,000</u>	

The excess of the appropriation made for each of the improvements or purposes aforesaid over the estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued therefor, as above stated, is the amount of the down payment for each purpose and/or the State Grants, as applicable.

Section 4. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the chief financial officer; provided that no bond anticipation note shall mature later than one year from its date, unless such bond anticipation notes are permitted to mature at such later date in accordance with applicable law. The bond anticipation notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be determined by the chief financial officer. The chief financial officer shall determine all matters in connection with bond anticipation notes issued pursuant to this bond ordinance, and the chief financial officer's signature upon the bond anticipation notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time subject to the provisions of the Local Bond Law or other applicable law. The chief financial officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the bond anticipation notes from time to time at public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchasers thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price plus accrued interest from their dates to the date of delivery thereof. The chief financial officer is directed to report in writing to the governing body at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the bond anticipation notes pursuant to this bond ordinance is made. Such report must include the amount, the description, the interest rate and the maturity schedule of the bond anticipation notes sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

Section 5. The Borough hereby certifies that it has adopted a capital budget or a temporary capital budget, as applicable. The capital or temporary capital budget of the Borough is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this bond ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. To the extent that the purposes authorized herein are inconsistent with the adopted capital (A1298313.1)

or temporary capital budget, a revised capital or temporary capital budget has been filed with the Division of Local Government Services.

Section 6. The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited and stated:

- (a) The improvements or purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are not current expenses. They are all improvements or purposes that the Borough may lawfully undertake as general improvements, and no part of the cost thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefitted thereby.
- (b) The average period of usefulness, computed on the basis of the respective amounts of obligations authorized for each purpose and the reasonable life thereof within the limitations of the Local Bond Law, is 10.12 years.
- (c) The Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly prepared and filed in the office of the Clerk, and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey. Such statement shows that the gross debt of the Borough as defined in the Local Bond Law is increased by the authorization of the bonds and notes provided in this bond ordinance by \$625,000, and the obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by that Law.
- (d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$302,000 for items of expense listed in and permitted under N.J.S.A. 40A:2-20 is included in the estimated cost indicated herein for the purposes or improvements.

Section 7. The Borough hereby declares the intent of the Borough to issue bonds or bond anticipation notes in the amount authorized in Section 2 of this bond ordinance and to use the proceeds to pay or reimburse expenditures for the costs of the purposes or improvements described in Section

3 of this bond ordinance. This Section 7 is a declaration of intent within the meaning and for purposes of the Treasury Regulations.

Section 8. Any grant moneys received for the purposes or improvements described in Section 3 hereof shall be applied either to direct payment of the cost of the improvements or, if other than the State Grants referred to in Sections 3(a) and 3(b) hereof, to payment of the obligations issued pursuant to this bond ordinance. The amount of obligations authorized but not issued hereunder shall be reduced to the extent that such funds are so used.

Section 9. The chief financial officer of the Borough is hereby authorized to prepare and to update from time to time as necessary a financial disclosure document to be distributed in connection with the sale of obligations of the Borough and to execute such disclosure document on behalf of the Borough. The chief financial officer is further authorized to enter into the appropriate undertaking to provide secondary market disclosure on behalf of the Borough pursuant to Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Rule") for the benefit of holders and beneficial owners of obligations of the Borough and to amend such undertaking from time to time in connection with any change in law, or interpretation thereof, provided such undertaking is and continues to be, in the opinion of a nationally recognized bond counsel, consistent with the requirements of the Rule. In the event that the Borough fails to comply with its undertaking, the Borough shall not be liable for any monetary damages, and the remedy shall be limited to specific performance of the undertaking.

Section 10. The full faith and credit of the Borough are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and the interest on the obligations authorized by this bond ordinance. The obligations shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Borough, and the Borough shall be obligated to levy *ad valorem* taxes upon all the taxable property within the Borough for the payment of the obligations and the interest thereon without limitation of rate or amount.

Section 11. This bond ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini			Х				
Councilwoman Mott			Х				
Councilman Smith			Х				
Councilman White		Х	Х				
Councilman Wolak						Х	
Council President Bengivenga	Х		Х				
			5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

The following ordinance #2288 was read by Clerk Antonides by title for a first reading. Mayor Anesh set the public hearing for December 18, 2023 at 7 p.m.

#### **ORDINANCE 2288**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTERS 5, 17, AND 283 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH REGARDING BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

Ordinance #2288 was read by title upon first reading herewith has been introduced at the meeting of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, held on December 4, 2023. In summary, this ordinance amends Chapters 5, 17, and 283 of the Code of the Borough regarding boards, committees and commissions. The public hearing where further consideration will be made will be held on December 18, 2023, at approximately 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building located at 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ. A full complete copy of this ordinance shall be provided, free of charge prior to adoption, to all those who request said copy at the Borough Clerk's office during normal business hours of 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. or emailed upon request. A copy is also located on the municipal website and may be freely viewed and printed.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini		Х	Х				
Councilwoman Mott			Х				
Councilman Smith			Х				
Councilman White			Х				
Councilman Wolak						Х	
Council President Bengivenga	Х		Х				
			5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

The following ordinance #2289 was read by Clerk Antonides by title for a first reading. Mayor Anesh set the public hearing for December 18, 2023 at 7 p.m.

# ORDINANCE 2289 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 434, "TOWING" OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Ordinance #2289 was read by title upon first reading herewith has been introduced at the meeting of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, held on December 4, 2023. In summary, this ordinance amends Chapter 434 of the Borough Code titled "Towing". The public hearing where further consideration will be made will be held on December 18, 2023, at approximately 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building located at 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ. A full complete copy of this ordinance shall be provided, free of charge prior to adoption, to all those who request said copy at the Borough Clerk's office during normal business hours of 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. or emailed upon request. A copy is also located on the municipal website and may be freely viewed and printed.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini			Х				
Councilwoman Mott			Х				
Councilman Smith			Х				
Councilman White	Х		Х				
Councilman Wolak						Х	
Council President Bengivenga		Χ	Х				
			5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

The following ordinance #2290 was read by Clerk Antonides by title for a first reading. Mayor Anesh set the public hearing for December 18, 2023 at 7 p.m.

ORDINANCE 2290										
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE	2225 THA	T PROVIDES	FOR THE C	OMPENSATION	I OF					
PART-TIME EMPLOYEES FOR THE BOROUGH O	F SOUTH P	LAINFIELD FO	OR THE YE	ARS 2019 THRO	UGH 2023					
	1 66			C . 4: 1 II						
BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Bo	orough of S	South Plainfi	eld, Coun	ty of Middlesex						
State of New Jersey as follows:  SECTION 1: The rates of compensation for each part-time	employee c	of the Borough	of South Pl	ainfield shall he						
on an hourly basis as follows. Such rates of pay shall be			Or South 11	annicia snan be						
unless otherwise noted.										
PART-TIME EMPLOYEES:										
Position	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023					
Clerk Typist	\$13.50	\$13.75	\$14.00	\$14.25	\$14.50					
Finance Clerk	\$13.75	\$14.00	\$14.25	\$14.50	\$14.75					
Groundskeeper Level I	\$13.00	\$13.25	\$13.50	\$13.75	\$14.00					
Groundskeeper Level II	\$14.25	\$14.50	\$14.75	\$15.00	\$15.25					
DPW Summer Help	\$13.50	\$13.75	\$14.00	\$14.25	\$14.50					
DPW Part Time Level I	\$13.75	\$14.00	\$14.25	\$14.50	\$14.75					
DPW Part Time Level II	\$17.50	\$17.75	\$18.00	\$18.25	\$18.50					
PT Building-Electrical Inspector - Sub Code	\$41.00	\$41.75	\$42.50	\$43.25	\$44.00					
PT Plumbing Inspector- Sub Code/Building Inspector	\$37.50	\$38.25	\$39.00	\$40.00-\$60.00	\$41.00-\$61.50					
Police Aide					\$25.00					
Public Safety Telecommunicator Training Phase	\$21.00	\$21.50	\$22.00	\$22.50	\$23.00					
Public Safety Telecommunicator Upon Completion of Training	\$29.50	\$30.00	\$30.50	\$31.00	\$31.50					
PT Interim Recreation Director	\$37.50	\$38.00	\$38.50	\$39.00	\$39.50					
Recreation Attendent I	\$13.50	\$13.75	\$14.00	\$14.25	\$14.50					
Recreation Attendent II**	\$15.25	\$15.50	\$15.75	\$16.00	\$16.25					
Recreation Attendent III ***	\$17.00	\$17.25	\$17.50	\$17.75	\$18.00					
Recreation Attendent IV ****	\$18.25	\$18.50	\$18.75	\$19.00	\$19.25					
Clean Neighborhood Program Aid*	\$17.50	\$17.75	\$18.00	\$18.25	\$18.50					
Recreation Leader	\$20.00-\$30.00	\$20.50-\$30.50	\$21.00-\$31.00	\$2150-\$3150	\$22.00-\$32.00					
*Effective 1/1/19	**after 10 ye	ars of service as	attendent I							
***after 5 years of service as attendent II	****after 5 y	ears of service a	s attendent I	II						
SECTION 2. INCONSISTENCY - all ordinance or parts	in consiste	ent with this	ordinance	are hereby						
repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.										
SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE - This ordinance shall b	ecome eff	ective after p	oublicatio	n in accordance	<u> </u>					
with the laws of New Jersey.										

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini			Х				
Councilwoman Mott			Х				
Councilman Smith		Х	Х				
Councilman White			Х				
Councilman Wolak						Х	
Council President Bengivenga	Х		Х				
			5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

Ordinance 2291 was tabled to the 2024 Reorganization meeting.

### **RESOLUTIONS:**

# RESOLUTION 23-351 AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE BONDS POSTED FOR SEMA LLC FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS TO BLOCK 362, LOT 4 AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE MAINTENANCE BONDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,259.00

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of South Plainfield is in possession of a Performance Bonds for 424 Kenneth Avenue (SEMA LLC) for public improvements located at Block 362, Lot 4; and

WHEREAS, the applicant has submitted the Maintenance Bond in the amount of \$2,259.00; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer has given approval of the form and content of the aforementioned Maintenance Bond.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to accept the aforementioned Maintenance Bonds and release the Performance Bonds held for the Public Improvements located at the aforementioned Block(s) and Lot(s).

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini	X		X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Councilman Wolak						X	
Council President Bengivenga			X				
			5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY					_		

### **RESOLUTION 23-352**

### AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF SAFETY AND STABILIZATION GUARANTEE POSTED FOR ALL SEASONS SPORTS ACADMY FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS TO BLOCK 476, LOT 3

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of South Plainfield is in possession of a Safety and Stabilization Guarantee for 2700 Hamilton Blvd. (All Seasons Sports Academy, LLC) for public improvements located at Block 476, Lot 3; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Engineer has given approval of the form and content of the aforementioned Safety and Stabilization Guarantee release;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to release the Safety and Stabilization Guarantee held for the Public Improvements located at the aforementioned Block(s) and Lot(s).

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini	X		X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Councilman Wolak						X	
Council President Bengivenga			X				
			5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

### RESOLUTION: 23-353 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 Friday, September 29, 2023 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
2001	Honda	Accord	1HGCF86621A096345	Fair	\$350.00
2004	Acura	MDX	2HNYD18244H533094	Fair	\$800.00
2005	Honda	Civic	2HGES16545H614305	Fair	\$800.00
2006	Ford	Expedition	1FMFU18526LA55010	Fair	\$500.00

### **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 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini	X		X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Councilman Wolak						X	
Council President Bengivenga			X				
		5	0				
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

### **RESOLUTION 23-354**

### Authorizing execution of an amendment to the non-exclusive site access agreement with Home Depot USA, Inc.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini	X		X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Councilman Wolak						X	
Council President Bengivenga			X				
		5	0				
Mayor Anesh - TIE ONLY							

## RESOLUTION 23-355 AUTHORIZING 2023 APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$40,00.00 FROM THE CURRENT FUND PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58

**WHEREAS,** in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58 permits appropriation transfers during the last two months of the fiscal year and the first three months of the fiscal year, for the purposes specified and in excess of sums appropriated in the Budget; and

WHEREAS, such transfers must be approved by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the full membership of the governing body.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the below transfers be approved.

<b>CURRENT FUND</b>			
FROM:			AMOUNT
3-01-20-130-000-101	Finance	S&W	4,000.00
3-01-20-130-000-235	Finance	O&E	4,000.00
3-01-23-210-000-661	Other Insurance	O&E	5,000.00
3-01-25-240-001-101	Police	S&W	20,000.00
3-01-28-380-002-322	Human Relations	O&E	1,000.00
3-01-28-370-003-101	Cultural Arts	O&E	1,000.00
3-01-20-155-000-221	Legal	O&E	5,000.00
Total FROM:			40,000.00
TO:			AMOUNT
3-01-22-195-001-101	Code Enforcement	S&W	11,000.00
3-01-25-240-003-241	Crossing Guards	O&E	16,500.00
3-01-25-250-000-102	911	S&W	5,000.00
3-01-28-370-001-104	Recreation	S&W	3,000.00
3-01-28-370-002-204	Senior Center	O&E	1,500.00
3-01-30-420-000-235	Celebrations & Events	O&E	1,000.00
3-01-31-445-001-581	Water	O&E	2,000.00
Total TO:			40,000.00

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini	X		X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Councilman Wolak						X	
Council President Bengivenga			X				
			5	0			
Mayor Anesh - TIE ONLY							

### **RESOLUTION 23-356**

### AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A VER-MAC FULL MATRIX SIGN FROM TRAFFIC SAFETY SERVICE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$20,050.00

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that it hereby authorizes the purchase of a Ver-Mac full matrix sign from Traffic Safety Service in an amount not to exceed \$20,050.00; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this Resolution be provided to the following:

- 1. Glenn Cullen, Administrator/CFO
- 2. Amy Antonides, Municipal Clerk
- 3. Chief Papa, Police Department
- 4. Captain Hoppe, Police Department

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini	X		X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Councilman Wolak						X	
Council President Bengivenga			X				
			5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

### **RESOLUTION 23-357**

AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE DUNELLEN BOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR THE USE OF THE SOUTH PLAINFIELD FIREARMS RANGE

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that it hereby authorizes the Borough of South Plainfield Police Chief to execute a memorandum of understanding with the Dunellen Borough Police Department for the use of the South Plainfield Firearms Range for the term of January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2028 for a fee paid to the South Plainfield Police Department in the amount of \$10,000 per year; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this Resolution be provided to the following:

- 1. Glenn Cullen, Administrator/CFO
- 2. Amy Antonides, Municipal Clerk
- 3. Chief Papa, Police Department
- 4. Sgt. Grasso, Police Department

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini	X		X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Councilman Wolak						X	
Council President Bengivenga			X				
			5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

#### **RESOLUTION 23-358**

### AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT FOR SERVICES BETWEEN THE LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLD WATER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHWAP) WITH THE NJ DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFIARS AND THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that it hereby authorizes a contract for services between the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) with the NJ Department of Community Affairs and the Borough of South Plainfield which is a program designed to aid residents with utility delinquencies; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to execute said contract for services and any other requirements for this program and a copy of this Resolution be provided to the following:

- 1. Glenn Cullen, Administrator/CFO
- 2. Amy Antonides, Municipal Clerk
- 3. Kim Clifford, Tax Collector

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini	X		X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Councilman Wolak						X	
Council President Bengivenga			X				
		5	0				
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

### RESOLUTION 23-359Authorizing the approval to submit a grant application and execute a grant contract with the NJDOT for the improvements to Tyler Place

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini	X		X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Councilman Wolak						X	
Council President Bengivenga			X				
			5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

### **RESOLUTION 23-360**

APPROVING APPLICATION FOR A PERSON-TO-PERSON LIQUOR LICENSE TRANSFER FOR LICENSE NO. 1222-33-012-012, 4701 RESTAURANT LLC.

WHEREAS, an Application was filed by 4701 Restaurant LLC. for a Person-to-Person Liquor License Transfer of plenary retail consumption license 1222-33-012-012 issued to Ember Mexican Cantina LLC trading as El Toro Loco Mexican Restaurant for premises heretofore located at 4701 Stelton Road, South Plainfield NJ 07080; and

WHEREAS, the submitted application form is complete in all respects, the transfer fees have been paid, and the license has been properly renewed for the current license term and there being no objection to the person-to-person transfer having been filed in the Municipal Clerk's Office; and

WHEREAS, the applicant is qualified to be licensed according to all standards established by Title 33 of the New Jersey Statutes, regulations promulgated thereunder, as well as pertinent local ordinance and conditions consistent with Title 33; and

**WHEREAS**, the applicant has disclosed, and the issuing authority reviewed the source of all funds used in the purchase of the license and the licensed business and all additional financing obtained in connection with the license business:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the South Plainfield Borough Governing Body does hereby approve, effective this date of December 4, 2023 the Person-to Person Transfer to 4701 Restaurant LLC., and does hereby direct the Municipal Clerk to provide a copy of this Resolution to the Licensee and to the State of New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control and the State of New Jersey Division of Taxation.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini	X		X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Councilman Wolak						X	
Council President Bengivenga			X				
			5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

# RESOLUTION 23-362 AUTHORIZING SERVICES OF NAJARIAN ASSOCIATES FOR BOUNDARY & TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY WORK AND WETLANDS DELINEATION FOR BLOCK 335, LOT 8.01 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$8,750.00

**BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that it hereby authorizes the services of Najarian Associates for boundary & topographic survey work and wetlands delineation for Block 335, Lot 8.01 in and amount not to exceed \$8,750.00.

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

- Glenn Cullen, CFO
- 2. Amy Antonides, Municipal Clerk
- 3. Len Miller, DPW Superintendent

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini	X		X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Councilman Wolak						X	
Council President Bengivenga			X				
			5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

### **RESOLUTION: 23-363**

### AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF A TAX OVERPAYMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1524.58 PERTAINING TO 53 LEEDS 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 124 Lot 4

JACLYN EANNUCCI

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: JACLYN EANNUCCI 53 LEEDS DR. SOUTH PLAINFIELD, N.J. 07080

**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 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini	X		X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Councilman Wolak						X	
Council President Bengivenga			X				
			5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

#### **RESOLUTION 2023-364**

### RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SETTLEMENT OF 2023 TAX APPEAL FILED BY SOUTH PLAINFIELD NJ REALTY LLC, FOR THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS 1610 PARK AVENUE AND IDENTIFIED AS BLOCK 97, LOT 2 ON THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD TAX ASSESSMENT MAPS

WHEREAS, South Plainfield NJ Realty LLC (hereinafter referred to as "Taxpayer") is the owner of the property known as 1610 Park Avenue and identified as Block 97, Lot 2, on the Borough of South Plainfield's Tax Assessment Maps ("Property"); and

WHEREAS, the assessed value of the Property was set at \$338,900 for Tax Year 2023; and

WHEREAS, Taxpayer filed an appeal of its 2023 tax assessment in the Tax Court of the State of New Jersey under docket number 007653-2023; and

WHEREAS, a proposed settlement of the aforesaid tax appeals was negotiated between Taxpayer and the Borough Tax Assessor and Borough Tax Attorney as set forth in the Stipulation of Settlement annexed hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Appraiser, Russ Sterling, MAI, recommended that the settlement be approved and therefore, this proposed settlement is reasonable and reflects the correct market value for the Property which was over assessed for the year under appeal; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Stipulation of Settlement annexed hereto, the aforesaid tax appeal is to be resolved as follows:

- The 2023 original assessment in the amount of \$338,900 shall be reduced to \$244,500 and the Borough of South Plainfield shall provide Taxpayer with a corresponding tax refund for 2023;
- Taxpayer agrees to waive statutory interest provided the subject refund is paid within sixty (60) days from the date of entry of the Tax Court Judgment;
- The refund shall be paid by check made payable to "South Plainfield NJ Realty LLC and Jennifer R. Jacobus, Esq. of Jacobus and Associates, LLC, attorneys for Plaintiff" and mailed to Jennifer R. Jacobus, Esq., 201 Littleton Road, Suite 100, Morris Plains, NJ 07950 within sixty (60) days of the date of the Tax Court Judgment;
- The Property's tax assessment for Tax Years 2024 and 2025 shall be set at a total tax assessment of \$200,000 "on the books" conditioned upon (a) there being no "change in value" [as that phrase has been defined pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:51-A-8 (Freeze Act)] of the Property prior to the close of the 2024 and 2025 tax assessment books; (b) the Property not being sold at a higher market value prior to the close of the 2024 and 2025 tax assessment books; and (c) there being no district-wide reassessment or revaluation conducted for either of said tax years.
- Taxpayer agrees that no tax appeals will be filed in Tax Years 2024 and 2025 provided the total tax assessments are set at \$200,000 for each of said years.

WHEREAS, the Borough of South Plainfield Tax Assessor agrees that it is in the best interests of the Borough of South Plainfield to resolve the aforesaid tax appeals pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth above and in the Stipulation of Settlement annexed hereto based on market conditions as well as the uncertainty and costs associated with continued litigation; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid settlement is based on the specific and identifiable facts and circumstances pertaining to the Property and has no general application to other properties within the Borough of South Plainfield; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council of South Plainfield having reviewed and considered the pending tax appeals and the proposed settlement thereof agree and confirm it is in the best interests of the Borough of South Plainfield to resolve the tax appeals as set forth herein and in the Stipulation of Settlement attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council make this settlement with the Taxpayer without prejudice to its dealing with any other South Plainfield taxpayer's request for tax assessment reduction; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council leave the allocation between land and improvements of the aforesaid tax assessment reduction to the Borough Tax Assessor's discretion with the direction that same be set so as to be most beneficial to the Borough.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Borough Council of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Borough Tax Assessor is hereby directed to establish the allocation between land and improvements of a \$244,500 total tax assessment for the 2023 tax year for Block 97, Lot 2 which is most beneficial to the Borough and advise the Borough Attorney of that allocation.

- 2. The Borough Attorney is authorized to execute on behalf of the Borough of South Plainfield the attached Stipulation of Settlement pertaining to the tax appeal filed by South Plainfield NJ Realty LLC under Docket No.: 007653-2023 for the property known as 1610 Park Avenue and identified as Block 97, Lot 2 on the Borough of South Plainfield Tax Assessment Maps which reduces the 2023 total tax assessment on the Property from \$338,900 to \$244,500; which provides that Taxpayer agrees to waive statutory interest on any refund or overpayment due provided the refund is paid within sixty (60) days of entry of the Tax Court Judgment; which provides that the refund shall be paid by check made payable to "South Plainfield NJ Realty LLC and Jennifer R. Jacobus, Esq. of Jacobus and Associates, LLC, attorneys for Plaintiff" and mailed to Jennifer R. Jacobus, Esq., 201 Littleton Road, Suite 100, Morris Plains, NJ 07950 within sixty (60) days of the date of the Tax Court Judgment; which provides that the Property's tax assessment for Tax Years 2024 and 2025 shall be set at a total tax assessment of \$200,000 "on the books" conditioned upon (a) there being no "change in value" [as that phrase has been defined pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:51-A-8 (Freeze Act)] of the Property prior to the close of the 2024 and 2025 tax assessment books; (b) the Property not being sold at a higher market value prior to the close of the 2024 and 2025 tax assessment books; and (c) there being no district-wide reassessment or revaluation conducted for either of said tax years; and which provides that no tax appeals will be filed in Tax Years 2024 and 2025 provided the total tax assessments are set at \$200,000 for each of said years.
- 3. This settlement shall be without prejudice to the Borough's dealings with any other taxpayer's request or appeal for a tax assessment reduction.

COUNCIL	MOTION	$2^{ND}$	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini	X		X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Councilman Wolak						X	
Council President Bengivenga			X				
			5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

### RESOLUTION 23-365 AUTHORIZING 2023 APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100,00.00 FROM THE CURRENT FUND PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58

**WHEREAS,** in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58 permits appropriation transfers during the last two months of the fiscal year and the first three months of the fiscal year, for the purposes specified and in excess of sums appropriated in the Budget; and

WHEREAS, such transfers must be approved by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the full membership of the governing body.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the below transfers be approved.

<b>CURRENT FUND</b>			
FROM:			AMOUNT
3-01-31-420-001-555	Electric	O&E	15,000.00
3-01-36-471-000-681	PERS	STATUTORY	80,000.00
3-01-31-465-001-565	Gas	O&E	5,000.00
Total FROM:			100,000.00
TO:			AMOUNT
3-01-23-220-000-601	Health Benefits	O&E	100,000.00
Total TO:			100,000.00

COUNCIL	MOTION	$2^{ND}$	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini	X		X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Councilman Wolak						X	

Council President Bengivenga	X			
	5	0		
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY				

### RESOLUTION 23-366 AUTHORIZING THE SERVICES OF NEW IMAGE LANDSCAPING IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$32,500.00 FOR STREET TREE PLANTING ON NORWOOD AVENUE

**BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that it hereby authorizes the services of New Image Landscaping in an amount not to exceed \$32,500.00 for street tree planting on Norwood Avenue.

**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. Len Miller, DPW Superintendent

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini	X		X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Councilman Wolak						X	
Council President Bengivenga			X				
			5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

# RESOLUTION 23-367 AUTHORIZING THE RENTAL SERVICES OF JESCO FOR A FRONT-END LOADER FOR THE DPW IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$13,500.00 FOR THREE MONTHS

**BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that it hereby authorizes the rental services of Jesco for a front-end loader for the DPW to assist with snow removal during the winter months in an amount not to exceed \$13,500.00 (\$4,500/month) for three months; 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. Len Miller, DPW Superintendent

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini	X		X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Councilman Wolak						X	
Council President Bengivenga			X				
			5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY	•					•	•

# RESOLUTION 23-368 AUTHORIZING THE TEMPORARY LIFTING OF PARKING RESTRICTIONS FOR VEHICLES UNDER 12,500 LBS. FOR THE DEAD-END OF SYLVANIA PLACE FOR ONE MONTH

**BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that it hereby authorizes the temporary lifting of parking restrictions for vehicles under 12,500 lbs. for the dead-end of Sylvania Place, particularly in the general vicinity of 124 Sylvania Place for one month beginning December 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023; 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. Peter Papa, Chief of Police
- 4. Sgt. Grasso, Traffic Safety

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini	X		X				
Councilwoman Mott			X				
Councilman Smith			X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Councilman Wolak						X	
Council President Bengivenga			X				
			5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

• There were no matters of correspondence this evening.

### **PAYMENT OF BILLS**

G . F 1	2.01	500 055 05
Current Fund	3-01	502,275.07
Current Fund	2-01	0.00
Pool Utility	3-26	0.00
Pool Utility	2-26	0.00
Sewer Utility	3-07	3,292.79
Sewer Utility	2-07	0.00
Sewer Utility Capital	C-08	0.00
General Capital	C-04	19,692.00
Pool Capital	C-27	1,620.00
Election Account	E-18	20,895.00
Grant Fund	G-02	0.00
Land for Rec & Consv.	T-10	49,801.72
Legends Camp Trust	T-11	11,395.19
Dog Trust	T-12	0.00
Treasurers Trust	T-13	2,596.74
Recreation Trust	T-14	9,036.81
Senior Citizen Trust	T-16	0.00
Wires		0.00
Total All Funds:		\$620,605.32

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 <sup>ND</sup>	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilwoman Faustini			X				
Councilwoman Mott			X			X	
Councilman Smith	X		X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Councilman Wolak						X	
Council President Bengivenga			X				
		VOTE:	5	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

### **COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Borough Attorney Paul Rizzo – reported progress.

<u>Administrator Cullen</u> – advised that the additional \$29,629.88 that was added to the bill list this evening is for Wolf Owens which pertains to our first open space trust purchase located at Block 345, Lot 15.

<u>Engineer Miller</u> – said the last road project for 2023 is taking place. Two cul-de-sacs on Rahway and Rahway Avenue will soon be completed.

<u>Clerk Antonides</u> – reported progress.

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<u>Chief Papa</u> – thanked Mr. Rizzo Esq. for all his support and work that went into the revised towing ordinance and then proceeded to report progress.

<u>Councilwoman Mott</u> – reported progress.

Councilman Smith - reported progress.

<u>Councilman Wolak</u> – was absent this evening.

<u>Councilwoman Faustini</u> – announced the rescheduling of the annual Holiday Light Parade and Tree Lighting will be December 12th at 5:00 pm. The parade will begin on Lane Avenue at the SPHS and end at Borough Hall and went on to wish Councilman Smith and his grandson a happy birthday.

<u>Councilman White</u> – wished Councilman Smith a happy birthday.

<u>Council President Bengivenga</u> – explained that the adopted ordinance 2284 is to help provide incentive for volunteer fire members. It will provide coupons up to \$300 in value annually for Borough permits and licenses. Council President Bengivenga further explained that tonight's bond ordinance will help to expand our emergency operation center. The money for the project is partially funded by a state grant. Council President Bengivenga thanked all those who worked on the grant for it to come to fruition.

Mayor Anesh - reported progress.

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

Mayor Anesh opened the floor for public comment reiterating the aforementioned remote directions for making remote public comment and reiterated the three-minute time allotment for public comments pursuant to our By-Laws.

Debbie Boyle of Van Fleet reminded everyone of the forthcoming Gingerbread House Decorating to be held at the PAL for South Plainfield residents only, which is sponsored by the Cultural Arts Commission. To conclude, Ms. Boyle wished Councilman Smith a happy birthday and congratulated Officer Dickerson on his hiring tonight.

Kimberly from Audubon Avenue and a nurse from Robert Wood Hospital, said she wants to bring awareness to South Plainfield that some 1700 nurses are still on strike fighting for safer patient-nurse ratios. The fight is to place a cap on nurse-to-patient ratios. Kimberly said she feels we are in a real crisis and is seeking the governing body to pass a resolution in support of legislation A4536-S304. Nurse Kimberly provided copies of templates and literature about their cause.

With no further comments from the public, Mayor Anesh closed the floor.

### **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 7:45 p.m., seconded by Councilman White and unanimously carried. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted By:	
Amy Antonides, RMC/CMC/CMR	
Municipal Clerk	