

Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale
Work Session Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2021

PRESENT: Mayor Ari Bernstein

PRESENT: Councilmembers Liz Homan (*via teleconference*), Councilman Ed O'Connell, Matthew O'Toole, Steve Sasso, and Amy Wilczynski (*via teleconference*)

ABSENT: Councilman Jim Strauch

ALSO PRESENT: Borough Attorney Raymond Wiss
Acting Municipal Clerk Michelle Ryan

A Work Session Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale was held in the Municipal Building at 500 West Crescent Avenue, Allendale, NJ October 14, 2021 and livestreamed via Zoom Webinar. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Mayor Bernstein who reminded the public to mute their devices so as not to distract from the business of the meeting. Mayor Bernstein advised the public that they would have an opportunity at an appropriate time during the meeting to be heard.

Mayor Bernstein asked that the Acting Municipal Clerk read the open public meetings statement: "In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the notice requirements have been satisfied. The meeting dates for the year are confirmed at the Annual Meeting, are posted on the public bulletin board in the Municipal Building, published in The Record within the first 10 days of the New Year, and copies are sent to The Ridgewood News and Star-Ledger."

Public Comment:

None.

Closed Session:

21-231/Authorize Closed Session under:

1. Discuss acquisition of real property with public funds.

Motion by Councilman O'Toole, second by Councilman O'Connell that Resolution 21-231 be and is hereby approved.

On a roll call, the vote was recorded as follows:

Councilwoman Homan:	aye	Councilman Sasso:	aye
Councilman O'Connell:	aye	Councilman Strauch:	absent
Councilman O'Toole:	aye	Councilwoman Wilczynski:	aye

The Mayor and Council went into Closed Executive Session at 7:32p.m. and exited at 7:44pm. Minutes of this meeting were taken and will be released to the public at the time the matter is resolved. The Work Session meeting resumed at 7:44p.m.

Administration:

Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale
Work Session Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2021

A. Agenda Review

Mayor Bernstein conducted a thorough overview of the agenda consisting of the second reading and public hearing for Ordinance 21-11 and 7 resolutions on the Consent Agenda. The mayor asked if any member had questions, no one replied.

B. Council Reports

Councilman Sasso – Land Use and Construction Code

Councilman Sasso reported that there has not been an official Land Use Committee meeting since the last Mayor & Council meeting, however he attended an adjunct post-storm meeting. A Committee meeting will be scheduled soon.

Councilman O'Connell – Public Safety Committee

Councilman O'Connell stated that there was a public safety meeting on October 5th where they discussed parking issues on West Allendale Ave and replacing police car 206 due to flooding from the storm. He then reported that there have been 12,373 calls to dispatch, 1401 "911", 169 fire, and 379 ambulance calls to date.

Councilwoman Wilczynski - Facilities, Parks and Recreation

Councilwoman Wilczynski gave an update on the 220 West Crescent project stating that it is still in the hands of the proposed contractor and that we are in a holding pattern right now. She and Ms. Ryan met with Capture Point and that the Borough is looking to streamline the process for Crestwood Lake registration and ID cards, noting that it has a few years since the cards have been used. Capture Point has some upgrades that are not costly that will make the process much easier for the residents. She concluded by stating that she has been working with Councilwoman Homan on getting the word out on the upcoming vote on the sale of the water system.

Councilman O'Toole – Administration, Finance and Human Resources

Councilman O'Toole thanked everyone who worked on the Capital Budget that appears on tonight's agenda. It was a lot of work, and compromises were made to keep it down. He happily reported that there were no recommendations identified by the auditors in our 2020 audit.

Councilwoman Wilczynski added that at the Financial Advisory Committee meeting they discussed the economics of the water sale and that the overwhelming response was that it was a "no brainer".

Councilwoman Homan – Water, Sewer and Public Utilities

Councilwoman Homan stated that most of her time has been spent educating the public on the details of the water sale proposal. She then stated that the recent meeting with the Financial Advisory Committee was a positive one as have many of the meetings that she has held with various groups over the past several weeks. She has also been responding personally to many questions from residents. She thanked the Water Committee for providing information and support in trying to answer the various questions. She stated that from the questions that have come in, a Q&A document has been created, which is available on the borough's website. She encouraged

Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale
Work Session Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2021

Governing Body members to refer residents to that document. Next, she reported on a meeting SUEZ hosted at the Red Barn and informed residents that there will be another meeting Wednesday the 20th at 7pm. Residents with questions are encouraged to come. She then reviewed why she supports this sale. Regarding an update on Well No. 11 that had been shut down due to recent storm damage, it will be kept offline as the 4th quarter begins due to PFOA results trending that it would likely go into violation. She invited Mr. Vreeland to be at this meeting to answer any questions that the Governing Body or public may have, and to talk about the PFAS treatment that the team has been working on to install at the New Street treatment plant, which treats three of Allendale's wells.

C. Mayor's Report:

Mayor Bernstein gave the following address to the public:

November 2nd is the General Election. This year, voting will be in-person at the polls on Election Day, however Early Voting has also now come to New Jersey. I encourage everyone to check out the flyer in our October newsletter that was recently emailed with information on all the ways registered voters can vote this year. If you have questions, please feel free to reach out to the Bergen County Clerk's Office or our Allendale Clerk's Office. Property Taxes are due November 1st with a grace period to pay until November 10th without interest. Applications for the State of New Jersey's 2020 Senior Freeze Property Tax Reimbursement Program are also due on November 1st. 2018 Homestead Rebate applications are due by November 30th. More information on the State's Property Tax Relief Programs for Seniors can be found on the Division of Taxation's website. We have put information in our October newsletter as well. 2021 Curbside Leaf Collection has begun. Look for the schedule on our website or in our October newsletter. Free brown leaf bags are available to residents while supplies last at the recycling center during weekend operating hours. Collection is through the week of December 6th. If you need and have not gotten a 2021 Compost Permit, applications can be found on our website www.allendalenj.gov. Regarding Upcoming Events - This Sunday, October 17th, the BCUA will be holding its Household Hazardous Waste Collection at Bergen Community College from 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. rain or shine. Household Hazardous Waste Events offer Bergen County residents a location for the safe and proper disposal of household-generated hazardous waste such as old paint cans and rechargeable batteries. Visit www.bcua.org for more details and a full list of accepted items. Next Thursday, our Red Barn will be hosting the Bergen County League of Municipalities meeting. Mayors and elected officials from all 70 towns in Bergen County as well as County Officials will be in attendance. Thank you to Ron Kistner for organizing with Mayor Minichetti of Upper Saddle River.

Mayor Bernstein congratulated Eagle Scouts who were recently honored, Brad Carey, Brendan Stock, and Michael Richardson. He praised their hard work and maturity and gave an overview of their projects.

He concluded by giving a report on the Northwest Bergen Mayor's meeting that is held once a month. He thanked Glen Rock Mayor Christine Morieko for hosting.

Adjournment:

Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale
Work Session Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2021

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, on a motion by Councilman Sasso, second by Councilwoman Wilczynski, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle Ryan
Acting Municipal Clerk

**RESOLUTION
BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**

DATE: 10/14/2021

RESOLUTION# 21-231

Council	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Homan			✓			
O'Connell		✓	✓			
O'Toole	✓		✓			
Sasso			✓			
Strauch						✓
Wilczynski			✓			
Mayor Bernstein	---	---				

Carried ☒ Defeated ☐ Tabled ☐

Approved on Consent Agenda ☐

AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

BE IT RESOLVED that in compliance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale entered into Closed Executive Session to discuss the following matters:

- A. Acquisition of Real Property using Public Funds

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Minutes will be taken of the meeting and released to the public at the time that the matter is resolved.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Governing Body of the Borough of Allendale on October 14, 2021.



Michelle Ryan
Acting Municipal Clerk