

**FAIR HAVEN BOROUGH COUNCIL  
MAY 23, 2022 – ZOOM ONLY PLATFORM**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Halpern at 7:21 p.m. The Flag Salute was followed by a Moment of Silent Reflection. The following Sunshine Law Statement was read:

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, PUBLIC MEETINGS MAY BE HELD IN PERSON OR BY MEANS OF COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT TO INCLUDE STREAMING SERVICES AND OTHER ONLINE MEETING PLATFORMS (NJSA 10:4-8(b)).

THIS MEETING IS BEING HELD THROUGH THE ZOOM MEETING PLATFORM ONLY, BROADCAST FROM BOROUGH HALL, 748 RIVER ROAD, FAIR HAVEN, NJ. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR THIS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF MAY 23, 2022 IS AVAILABLE BY CALL IN PHONE NUMBER OR THROUGH WEB CONFERENCE (ZOOM). MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL BE ON MUTE UNTIL IT IS TIME FOR QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS, WHICH WILL BE ANNOUNCED. AT THAT TIME, THE PUBLIC HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO QUESTION/COMMENT BY PHONE OR THROUGH ZOOM BY THE “RAISE HAND” BUTTON AND WILL BE CALLED ON AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME.

NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS INCLUDED IN A SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS WHICH WAS ADOPTED BY RESOLUTION NO. 2022-13 AND SENT TO THE ASBURY PARK PRESS, THE TWO RIVER TIMES, THE HUB AND THE STAR LEDGER ON JANUARY 6, 2022 POSTED ON THE BOROUGH WEBSITE, THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND HAS REMAINED CONTINUOUSLY POSTED AS REQUIRED UNDER THE STATUTE.

WITH ADEQUATE NOTICE HAVING BEEN GIVEN, THE BOROUGH CLERK IS DIRECTED TO INCLUDE THIS STATEMENT IN THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING.

**ROLL CALL**

On Roll Call the following were present: Councilmembers Chrisner-Keefe, Cole, Koch, McCue, Neff and Rodriguez. Others present: Administrator Casagrande, Chief McGovern and Attorney Cannon.

Mayor Halpern apologized for the delay in starting this Regular Meeting. Discussion from the Special Meeting was carried to this meeting and will be continued after Workshop with public participation.

**WORKSHOP SESSION**

Mayor Halpern advised that Zoe Arhanic submitted an Eagle Scout Project for Council consideration and approval. Councilwoman Chrisner-Keefe gave an introduction that the project Ms. Arhanic would like to undertake will assist in the needs of our green spaces by addressing the invasives in the area of Fair Haven Fields near Third Street and providing a tree canopy through the planting of 16 trees. Administrator Casagrande reviewed the submitted project, and it is a solid plan; some Borough departments will need to be involved. Zoe advised that she is excited to help the fields and community. Mayor Halpern said the Borough is thankful that she is willing to do this project; 16 canopy trees at the Third Street entrance to the fields will slow the growth of the invasive species and rejuvenate the area. The area has been cleared to dig the holes for the trees. Councilman Rodriguez said he is an Eagle Scout and Zoe is doing great things, and she will be rewarded for the rest of her life. He advised that the scouts are willing to come out and help with her project. Councilwoman Neff commended Zoe for the project and all of her work, so far. Councilwoman Koch also commended Zoe for this great project and for fulfilling her dream to be an Eagle Scout; it's AWESOME. Zoe advised the project will begin this Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. and all were invited to come out. Councilman McCue said her presentation was well done and asked if there were specific locations as to where the trees will be planted; the spots are for where the trees will go are marked. Privitera Nursery will deliver the trees. Councilwoman Cole congratulated Zoe for this great step and for how it will help the area. She made a request for a tree map when the project is completed so it could be shared with Shade Tree, the Fair Haven Natural Area Advisory Committee, Environmental Commission, etc. Motion to approve the request moved by Councilman Rodriguez, second by Councilwoman Koch with Ayes by all present.

Mayor Halpern advised a request from the Columbus Club of Red Bank (Knights of Columbus) was received to post three lawn signs the day of their June 21<sup>st</sup> blood drive; they will be displayed the morning of the event and taken down when the event is over. Motion to approve the request moved by Councilman Rodriguez, second by Councilwoman Chrisner-Keefe with Ayes by all present.

**CONTINUATION OF SPECIAL MEETING DISCUSSION  
BOND ORDINANCE CONSIDERATIONS**

With regard to Recreation Committee requests, Councilwoman Koch advised that a committee was formed to look at areas in need of rehabilitation or additional items for the parks. A survey was sent to the committee members for prioritization. There are eight (8) items on the list. There is a request for \$65,000 for new recreation equipment at Community Center Fields. DJ sent a list of items numbered 1-8. McCarter Park Playground is the most important. There is a plan for a bike playground at McCarter Park that we received a \$35,000 grant for; there is a lot of work associated with this project and Engineer Gardella cannot engineer it at this time. CME Associates would charge us \$10,000 to engineer and review site plans. There will also be other associated costs.

The McCarter Park Basketball Court needs to be addressed and comes with an approximate cost of \$50,000 and park structures and surfacing would cost a total of \$300,000. The Community Center Green Basketball Court would cost \$50,000. The Fair Haven Fields multi-purpose wall from proposed by the students of Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School in 2019 has a significant cost increase (\$25,000-50,000). It was noted that the Community Center Tennis Courts would need to be fully replaced after the new police department is built which could cost approximately \$150,000. Bathrooms for McCarter Park are needed; the cost depends on the number of stalls. The Community Center Basketball Court (Blue) would cost \$100,000. Councilwoman Cole said that some of these projects/ideas should be part of a Recreation Committee Budget request. Councilwoman Koch said the projects are a 1–2-year wish list for pay as you go capital. Councilwoman Cole thanked Councilwomen Koch and Chrisner-Keefe for the presentation. She was not sure why the information was not part of the Special Meeting packet but should have been. She felt it is important to support the Recreation Committee's goals and felt that maintenance issues should be given priority; they need a landscape architect for a better project. Administrator Casagrande advised that the five (5) tennis courts at Fair Haven Fields would retire the Community Center Fields tennis courts (which will be a staging area for construction).

Councilman McCue thanked the Recreation Committee for the project chart with costs, which are significant. He wanted to know what the ask is. Councilwoman Chrisner-Keefe said there are different priorities; this was guidance as to the recreation needs around town to give context for the \$100,000 funding requests. This gives the BIG picture for what is coming down the pike. He asked about Board of Education cost sharing for the bike park since the school will benefit from it; Recreation has reached out, but they said no because the total costs are unknown at this time. Councilman McCue said he is not in favor of the bike park, and it seems that half of the projects are at McCarter Park. Councilwoman Koch asked if the amount requested can be reduced and can Council change the project ranking. Administrator Casagrande provided the process for whatever is allocated and setting up the bond authorization.

Councilwoman Koch recommended allocating \$50,000 for parks and recreation projects. She explained the multi-purpose wall name change from LAX and cost increases; there were other sports who requested use of the wall which would require a different surface to meet all the needs for the groups. Councilman Rodriguez agreed with \$50,000 being put into the bond ordinance (to be used for recreational purposes).

Councilwoman Neff felt that recreation is important to invest in but agreed to no bike park within McCarter Park; leave nature the way it is.

Councilwoman Chrisner-Keefe agreed with Councilman Rodriguez to have a consistent flow of funding for recreation purposes. We do need some new equipment but should maintain what we have and be sure it is safe. She suggested including \$100,000 in the bond ordinance this year but would support a reduced amount if that is what the majority wanted.

Councilwoman Cole said she has realized nothing is maintained in town until a capital improvement expense is passed. An annual maintenance bond should be done to fix and manage the areas each year because recreation is essential to Borough life. She supported money in the bond ordinance for recreation facilities to be spent on maintenance. Administrator Casagrande said there is money in Recreation's budget for trails and other projects in the budget.

Mayor Halpern noted that there were three (3) yeses for \$50,000 vs. \$100,000 and four (4) votes are needed to support these projects so this matter will be tabled. Councilman McCue said the sticker shock is there and felt that the Borough should wait on anything for the Community Center. There should be money provided for recreation which is a big part of our community and there is support for annual funds for maintenance. He agreed with funding the multi-purpose wall. Administrator Casagrande advised that Council is authorizing an amount to be used for adding to improvements of the parks, not the exact project. The value has to be over \$5,000 and have a 5-year life span. Councilman McCue agreed to \$50,000 for a multi-purpose wall and nothing for the Community Center Fields, at this time. Administrator Casagrande clarified that the multi-purpose wall is for Fair Haven Fields not Community Center. There was further Council discussion.

Mayor Halpern felt that recreational facilities should be supported especially providing equipment and/or repairs for the parks and recreational facilities. He was surprised that the amount was being reduced from \$100,000K to \$50,000. He was concerned about earmarking the funds for one specific item. Based on the discussions, there was a fourth yes if the recreation funds are specifically earmarked for the multi-purpose wall.

Councilwoman Chrisner-Keefe confirmed that the amounts can be further refined when the ordinance is created; there are other opportunities to further discuss, and it can be more granular.

With regard to McCarter Pond hydro raking, the Mayor said he has heard about this project for years and felt acting on it is overdue. The estimate we have is close to accurate; we need dredging costs. The Borough needs to address the pond with something that works; not chemicals.

Councilwoman Chrisner-Keefe said it has been a long time coming for different action to be taken. There is concern for the wildlife in the pond and its preservation. It is time to take this on correctly because it is treasured; she hopes it will bring the pond longevity.

Councilman Rodriguez agreed with moving forward on this project.

Councilwoman Koch asked if it was guaranteed that this is going to work. Administrator Casagrande sent a link to the governing body regarding hydro raking done in another town (their governing body and residents were very pleased). We are not dredging, just hydro raking; how long it will work is unknown but will improve it. Councilwoman Koch was 100% in favor of this project and the need to protect the wildlife. She asked if the Borough could use ARPA funds vs. bonding; yes, we could. Councilman Rodriguez reminded Council that we will only spend what we want in the Bond Ordinance; we don't have to spend it all.

Councilman McCue had questions regarding the price; it would be \$175,000. He agreed that it is time to do something for the pond. He had questions regarding where the spoils will be stored and the cost to bid. Administrator Casagrande advised the governing body that we would use the Fair Haven Fields Natural Area as a staging area. There is no bid; this project needs an engineering design and then we would go to bid. The estimate used is from years ago. Councilwoman Chrisner-Keefe said the Fair Haven Fields Natural Area Advisory Committee was supportive the last time this was discussed (near the removed nursery); we can circle back, if needed. Councilman McCue was in favor and supported this expenditure. It has been well past time and we need to take care of what we have.

Councilwoman Cole was also in favor of this project. This is an aged recommendation from the Environmental Commission, and she was glad there was support by other Councilmembers. This is a priority for the Borough to address.

Councilwoman Neff was glad Council supported the project; the request has been made for the last 10 years. She also recommended the need to use ARPA funds for this. Councilwoman Koch asked if there would need to be periodic chemical applications, what happens to the aerators and if they will still be needed if we hydro rake? Mayor Halpern said the chemicals stop immediately.

As far as Large Area Restoration in the Natural Area, Councilwoman Cole said that this is similar to McCarter Pond and in need of attention and an intervention. She was in favor of addressing the invasives and looking into an ordinance to do so. This is important for the future of our tree canopy and tree preservation.

Councilman McCue agreed with Councilwoman Cole's statements. The Natural Area has been neglected for a long time however the governing body has to pick and choose its projects; he was a no for this year.

Councilwoman Koch was in favor of some funds for this. She suggested reducing the fund in half and authorizing \$50,000 just like what is being done for recreation. The Borough should see what Zoe Arhanic's Eagle Scout project does for the area.

Councilman Rodriguez agreed with Councilwoman Koch and felt that it is worth investing in the Natural Area and giving resources to fight the invasives. He suggested bonding a smaller amount for this like \$25,000-50,000 to help accelerate the addressing of the invasives.

Councilwoman Neff said this is another deferred maintenance like everything else. McCarter Pond is in desperate need of being addressed. It's been reported that our volunteers are containing the invasives. For this year, we have a lot on the projects list and \$100,000 is significant so she would like to defer this to next year. If it is decided to move forward, she would support \$25,000.

Councilwoman Chrisner-Keefe asked what the amount was to address the invasives at the perimeter of Fair Haven Fields; \$60,000 (we received a Monmouth County Open Space grant, and we paid the other half). The invasives are not going anywhere and are getting worse. She did not want to hold off on this because it will cost more, or our Natural Area will be taken over and the trees will be gone. The Eagle Scout Project location is perfect, but time is of the essence. She was in favor of putting something in the bond for this project.

The Mayor said there are two (2) yeses for \$100,000, one at \$50,000 with a few others at \$25,000 or to not address at all.

The Mayor gave a synopsis of what was discussed from the Special meeting and this Regular meeting starting with the Police Department being scaled down or adding the Community Center piece. This needs to be discussed with the Facilities Committee and the Architect to see what the options would be and the costs. With regard to the purchase of 21 Fair Haven Road, the decision would be cost dependent. The road projects are supported as is. It was decided that \$50,000 would be allocated to Parks and Recreation, the McCarter Pond Hydro raking is OK and so are addressing the invasives in the Natural Area. Council were not in favor of purchasing a loader or moving forward with the DPW facility as presented. There was support for Bicentennial Hall at a lower amount; Administrator Casagrande advised there is \$350,000 in a bond already. There are grants pending for Bicentennial Hall and 21 Fair Haven Road; a decision needs to be made as to whether we move forward or forfeit the grant money. McCarter Pond hydro raking would come from ARPA not the bond ordinance. Councilwoman Koch would like to initiate the project with the Federal Fund, and we need it engineered and out to bid. She would like it addressed sooner than later. Councilwoman Neff agreed with Councilwoman Cole to use ARPA funds for the invasives too. Councilmembers agreed the pond and invasives need to be handled with ARPA Funds.

Any alterations for the Police Department should be e-mailed to the Administrator and she will give them to the Facilities Committee and Architect for consideration. Councilwoman Cole asked that the Facilities Committee members join Council for a workshop session to discuss the thought process. It was felt this was a reasonable ask. Councilman McCue said the process proposed is not unreasonable; he asked if there was a number to cut the project and felt that \$250,000 is not going to make an impact on the budget. Councilwoman Neff said it is important to keep the DPW building where it is and allow the sale of the lots to offset or mitigate the costs for the projects. The purchase of 21 Fair Haven Road can be put into the bond ordinance and not spent/purchased like what was done with 623 River Road. We include it in the bond ordinance and then later cancelled because that portion was not used. Administrator Casagrande needed direction to get the bond ordinance created by Bond Counsel. Councilman McCue was in favor of 21 Fair Haven because it is a generational move and the best for Fair Haven moving forward. Administrator Casagrande and Mayor Halpern will compare notes and create a synopsis of the discussions this evening and send it to the full governing body to direct the CFO and Bond Counsel on how to proceed. Administrator Casagrande advised the Council that there are Section 20 costs that go with a bond ordinance to pay the various issuance of debt (they are standard numbers).

Mayor Halpern thanked everyone for their time, thoughts and working together for a compromise.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

The meeting was opened to the public for comments or questions at 8:45 p.m. Brian Rice, Maple Avenue, thanked everyone for getting the bond appropriation for McCarter Pond; it was a monumental task. He said the 21 Fair Haven Road figure of \$1.7 million is the “tip of the iceberg”. There is a large list of areas in disrepair and the Borough should not take on the property because it is going to cost \$3-5 million +. The Borough needs to consider the long-term costs of this project because the burden would be on the residents and the Police Department. The governing body admitted that there are a lot of maintenance issues. He thanked the governing body for moving McCarter Pond forward and said he would donate an additional fountain for the pond (the second phase of the project). Councilman McCue thanked Mr. Rice for all of the work he did in getting the bids for the pond. He asked if the spoil transportation cost was included in the bid. Mr. Rice said there are no spoils because there is no dredging. The idea is to store the organic material at the Fair Haven Natural Area (after it dries out) which will be transported in DPW trucks (front end loader) to the old nursery area.

Andrew LaBarbera, Church Street, said that it has been a refreshing four-hours of discussion and glad Council worked through as a team. He asked for a starting point from a cost perspective, based on finance, what can be afforded and how much would be passed on to the homeowner? Administrator Casagrande said the financial analysis was done for all so Council picks a number and have the bond backed into those numbers. Mr. LaBarbera asked what the acceptable dollar amount would be to pass on to the residents and there was a discussion among Council, at a meeting, on what the priority project list would be? Councilwoman Chrisner-Keefe said the meeting tonight

came out of interest of Council to have a pre-bond ordinance discussion to think of what is needed, prioritization and revitalization. The Mayor has worked really hard for the past week to find where there is common interest for where the bond ordinance will go and won't go; he has been facilitating the thoughts that are being heard. The top priorities are mostly the facilities in town. The Borough has an intense need to maintain what we have because it has not been done in some time. Once Council sees the final numbers on some of the projects, there may be reconsideration. To do everything, we have a number of what it would cost the residents (municipal portion only). Mr. LaBarbera agreed that other items will come up as discussed in the special meeting. He was glad for discussion about the maintenance and other items that may need to be addressed.

Denis Laloy, Hance Road, asked for details on what would be happening on Hance Road since the scope was reduced. Mayor Halpern said there was an original plan for the Hance and Cooney roadwork at a cost of \$650,000, but Council ended up approving a plan for less (\$350,000); we have a grant for the project. There have not been any other changes to Hance via tonight's discussion. There will not be sidewalks on Hance Road which is why the project will cost less. He was directed to view the Borough's website which shows milling/paving, drainage, straightening the road. Mr. Laloy said there is a lot of water around his property when there is rain or storms; he wanted to be sure there would be curbs to help with the water flow and drainage.

Ruth Blaser, River Road, suggested doing what was proposed at Schwenker Pond and install a stone dust trail. Administrator Casagrande advised the DEP regulations specify natural trails (grass) not stone dust near waterways.

Kristen Hoey, Dartmouth Avenue, was encouraged by the dialogue of the projects and bonds; it was evident that there has been a lot of planning and prioritization done through conversations. The Recreation Committee gave their priorities, and this should be done by all commissions and committees for a better financial view. There should be some remedies and solutions provided to avoid going back to the drawing board.

Stephanie Adams, Oxford Avenue, thanked everyone for their time and she appreciated all of the work done. She also appreciated the direction the pond is moving in. She advocated for Bicentennial Hall's exterior (it is at a tipping point and needs to be restored). She noted carpenter bees are destroying the structure.

Claudia Brady, Fair Haven Road, complimented Mayor and Council for a great meeting to learn how tax dollars will be spent. She asked if the Hance and Cooney Project was on the website; yes. She asked if a design was posted i.e. trees coming down; no tree report as of yet. The costs for the pocket parks at Hance and Cooney were requested. The Bond Ordinance for the pocket parks are already authorized; the Borough needs bids to know the final cost. Mrs. Brady said there are old projects that need continuity.

Michal DiMiceli, River Road, said tonight has been a great meeting. As far as road maintenance, there is flooding near her property, and she was concerned about new curbs and sidewalks making the flooding worse or new sewer systems being needed. Mayor Halpern sent her concern to Engineer Gardella who sent it to the County Engineer with video for their review. Mrs. DiMiceli asked the governing body if they thought about purchasing the Boynton and Boynton building? Yes, it was discussed, in the past, and the problem is the police department has certain requirements to meet in order to be acceptable (earthquake proof) and retrofitting the building would not be practical.

Ralph Wyndrum, Cooney Terrace, thanked all for the thought put into McCarter Pond; it has been 10 years, but it is worthwhile. The Environmental Commission will be delighted. Regarding the police department costs or any building costs, the Architect can look into benchmarking police departments that have been built in the northeast (cost per square foot).

There being no further comments or questions, the meeting was closed to the public at 9:11 p.m.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of May 9, 2022, second by Councilwoman Koch.

Affirmative: Councilmembers Chrisner-Keefe, Cole, Koch, McCue and Rodriguez

Negative: None

Abstain: Councilwoman Neff

Absent: None

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve the Executive Session minutes of May 9,

2022, second by Councilwoman Koch

Affirmative: Councilmembers Chrisner-Keefe, Cole, Koch, McCue and Rodriguez

Negative: None

Abstain: Councilwoman Neff

Absent: None

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **HEARING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES**

1. Ordinance No. 2022-04, Supplement Borough Code Chapter 7-39.4 to include 626 River Road as part of accessible parking

#### **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SUBSECTION 7-39.4 OF CHAPTER 7: “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC” OF THE BOROUGH’S REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES TO INCLUDE NEW ACCESSIBLE PUBLIC PARKING SPACES TO BE LOCATED AT THE APPROVED DEVELOPMENT AT 626 RIVER ROAD (BLOCK 31, LOT 1)**

On motion of Councilman Rodriguez, second by Councilwoman Koch with Ayes by all present, Mayor Halpern opened the meeting for comments or questions at 9:12 p.m.

There being none, the Hearing was closed to the public at 9:12 p.m. on motion of Councilman Rodriguez, second by Councilwoman Koch with Ayes by all present.

Offered for adoption by Councilman Rodriguez, second by Councilwoman Koch

Affirmative: Councilmembers Chrisner-Keefe, Cole, Koch, McCue, Neff and Rodriguez

Negative: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Council Committee Reports**

**Finance** - Councilwoman Neff did not have a report. Finance was discussed during the special meeting tonight. Councilwoman Cole asked Councilwoman Neff if the Finance Committee has or would be looking into the NJ Infrastructure Grant; no, but she is willing to speak with Councilwoman Cole about it and they can also speak with CFO Lapp and Administrator Casagrande.

**Personnel** - Councilwoman Chrisner-Keefe reported that the Borough is hiring a Seasonal DPW employee tonight. There are other open positions and resumes are being accepted.

**Planning & Zoning** - Councilwoman Koch reported the Fishing Derby is being held on June 4<sup>th</sup>; participants can register on the League Apps page. The Memorial Day Parade will be held on May 30<sup>th</sup> at 9 am beginning and Knollwood School with a ceremony at 9:30 am at Memorial Park. She invited Council to march in the parade. The last day to register for Rec and Crew Camp is June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Parks and Recreation** - Councilwoman Koch reported that the Zoning Board’s next meeting is June 2<sup>nd</sup>, and the next Planning Board meeting is June 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Police, Fire & OEM** - Councilman McCue thanked the police department as Police Week was May 9<sup>th</sup> through May 15<sup>th</sup>. He congratulated Cpl. Waltz who completed his 7<sup>th</sup> Police Unity Tour Bike Ride to Washington, D.C. An information session was held by Chief McGovern and Detective Reevey regarding car theft incidents (we had one in April). He thanked the residents for changing their habits by locking doors and taking key fobs out of their cars. There were 43 suspicious person calls in April. The residents were encouraged to call in immediately if they see something.

**Engineering and DPW** - Councilman McCue reported a lot of projects are going on with roads and sidewalks. He thanked DPW for their assistance to the Green Team for the “Love Where You Live Day” event. Bicentennial Hall was a great venue to hold this event, both inside and outside. The Shade Tree Commission, Historic Preservation Commission, Fair Haven Fields Natural Area Advisory Committee and Environmental Commission participated with information tables with information and things to do. There was a lot of participation, and it was a great day.

**Borough Facilities** - Councilman Rodriguez thanked all committee members for the years and hours of work. All volunteers are professionals in finance, construction and engineering. There is still a lot of work to do. He thanked the Mayor, Council and staff for getting everyone through a pretty tough prioritization and financial information process. There was great focus, civility, stability and compromise between everyone.

**Borough Communications and Community Outreach** - Councilwoman Cole reported the

Environmental Commission attended “Love Where You Live Day” and they are currently looking at the living shoreline at DeNormandie Avenue. She acknowledged and thanked the Green Team for “Love Where You Live Day” and for also submitting an application for Sustainable Jersey points and all that they have done; it was a tremendous amount of work. Shade Tree is working on the tree preservation ordinance amendment with Attorney Cannon; she will follow up on the status. The Fair Haven Business Association is waiting on her regarding the Restaurant/Land Use Committee Ordinance and the business district partnership with the Borough and the critical role they have for the viability within the Borough. We are fortunate to have all of the volunteers we have; they are a treasure. The County visited the Borough to look at crosswalks along River Road; some crosswalks could be added at Church Street, Battin Road, Tyson Drive and Grange Avenue. This is great for our residents and the Borough. This is great for our kids and pedestrians in town to have a safe place to work and live.

Councilwoman Chrisner-Keefe said with regard to Communications/Outreach; the Committee met and discussed the outcome of the trial run at Bicentennial Hall and how to address issues such as the acoustics, room set up, etc. for future meetings to be held there. The Borough is looking into audio/visual equipment and waiting on an additional quote. The Municipal Calendar was looked at and list serves that are more targeted for specific zones or a targeted age group, etc. could be created. An art contest was held, and entries were received; they are being evaluated. She thanked Bonnie Torcivia as the Natural Area Committee will be hosting an area walk on June 4<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. with Ryan Schmidt, Rutgers, who will speak about invasives.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

1. Ordinance No. 2022-05, Generic Bond Ordinance (\$215,000)

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF FAIR HAVEN, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS EQUIPMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE, IMPROVEMENTS TO PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS AND APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$215,000.00 THEREFOR, AUTHORIZED IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF FAIR HAVEN, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Fair Haven, in the County of Monmouth, New Jersey (the “Borough”), has determined to acquire various equipment and make improvements to infrastructure and public buildings and grounds; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has \$215,000.00 in the Capital Improvement Fund.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** and enacted by the Borough Council (the “Governing Body”) of the Borough, AS FOLLOWS:

**SECTION 1.** The sum of \$215,000.00 is hereby appropriated from the Borough’s Capital Improvement Fund for the acquisitions or improvements described in Section 2 of this ordinance and such acquisitions and improvements are hereby authorized as a General Capital authorization to be undertaken in and by the Borough.

**SECTION 2.** The acquisitions and improvements hereby authorized to be undertaken consist of:

- a. Any capital equipment, so determined as to be necessary by the Governing Body;
- b. Roadway and Infrastructure Improvements, so determined to be necessary by the Governing Body;
- c. Buildings and Grounds Improvements, so determined to be necessary by the Governing Body;
- d. Information technology hardware and software, so determined to be necessary by the Governing Body;

together with all items necessary, incidental or appurtenant thereto.

**SECTION 3.** The capital budget or temporary capital budget, as applicable, of the Borough is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. In the event of any such inconsistency and amendment, the resolution in the form promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended capital budget or temporary capital budget, as applicable, and capital program as approved by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services is on file with the Borough Clerk and is available there for public inspection.

**SECTION 4.** All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with the terms of

this ordinance be and the same hereby are repealed to the extent of their inconsistency.

**SECTION 5.** This ordinance shall take effect as provided by law.

Offered for introduction by Councilwoman Koch, second by Councilwoman Cole

Councilwoman Chrisner-Keefe asked about the \$215,000 capital and asked if it is being done differently with an ordinance? No, it is done this same way every year. The ordinance is set up to charge any capital improvement against the bond ordinance.

Affirmative: Councilmembers Chrisner-Keefe, Cole, Koch, McCue, Neff and Rodriguez  
Negative: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

**CONSENT AGENDA**  
**RESOLUTIONS**

1. Resolution No. 2022-130, Executive Session: Contract Negotiations

**WHEREAS**, the Open Public Meetings, P. L. 1975, Chapter 231 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Body may wish to discuss the following matters:

**Contract Negotiations**

- 1. Borough Architect Proposal - Bicentennial Hall
- 2. Teamster Negotiations
- 3. PBA Negotiations

**WHEREAS**, minutes will be kept and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentiality, then the minutes can be made public.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the public be excluded from this meeting.

Offered for adoption by Councilwoman Cole, second by Councilwoman Koch

Affirmative: Councilmembers Chrisner-Keefe, Cole, Koch, McCue, Neff and Rodriguez  
Negative: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

2. Resolution No. 2022-131, Authorize 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2022 Tax Payment Overpayment Refund for 100 Parker Avenue

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Collector, has provided a request for a tax overpayment refund for 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2022 due to duplicate payment and advises that the following property owner qualifies for a refund as follows:

<u>Owner</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Refund</u>
Estate of Herbert Reed, Jr.	100 Parker Avenue	37	9	\$1,685.84

Payment to: Lereta  
Attn: Refunds  
901 Corporate Center Drive  
Pamona, California 91768

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fair Haven that the Tax Collector and Chief Financial Officer are hereby authorized to pay said refund in the amount listed above.

Offered for adoption by Councilwoman Cole, second by Councilwoman Koch

Affirmative: Councilmembers Chrisner-Keefe, Cole, Koch, McCue, Neff and Rodriguez  
Negative: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None



- 3. Resolution No. 2022-132, Authorize Mayor to execute Garden State Fireworks Contract for June 11<sup>th</sup> fireworks event

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Fair Haven solicited quotes for a fireworks display to be held on June 11, 2022 (rain date June 12, 2022); and

**WHEREAS**, the following quote was received:

Garden State Fireworks submitted a quote in the amount of \$15,000.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fair Haven that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized to execute a contract with Garden State Fireworks, Inc. in the amount of \$15,000 for Fair Haven Day which will take place on June 11, 2022 (rain date of June 12, 2022).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that fire prevention code fees for this Borough event be waived by the Fire Marshal.

Offered for adoption by Councilwoman Cole, second by Councilwoman Koch

Affirmative: Councilmembers Chrisner-Keefe, Cole, Koch, McCue, Neff and Rodriguez

Negative: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

- 4. Resolution No. 2022-133, Payment of Vouchers

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Governing Body of the Borough of Fair Haven that the vouchers listed for payment on the May 23, 2022 Bill List are hereby approved and the Finance Department is hereby authorized to release payment to the various vendors.

2021 CURRENT ACCOUNT	\$ 1,515.11
2022 CURRENT ACCOUNT	\$ 203,612.44
GENERAL CAPITAL	\$ 131,529.27
OTHER TRUST	\$ 17,737.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 354,393.82</b>

Offered for adoption by Councilwoman Cole, second by Councilwoman Koch

Affirmative: Councilmembers Chrisner-Keefe, Cole, Koch, McCue, Neff and Rodriguez

Negative: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

- 5. Resolution No. 2022-134, Appoint Part-Time Seasonal Public Works Laborer - Jack Costello

**WHEREAS**, there is a need for a part-time Seasonal Public Works Laborer; and

**WHEREAS**, Richard Gardella, Director of Engineering and Public Works reviewed the applications submitted and provided his recommendation for Jack Costello, 30 Parker Avenue, to be appointed as a part-time Seasonal Laborer with hours not to exceed the number of hours required to be considered full time; and

**WHEREAS**, the rate of pay for this position is \$17.00 per hour.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the appointment of Jack Costello as part-time Seasonal Laborer is hereby confirmed.

Offered for adoption by Councilwoman Cole, second by Councilwoman Koch

Affirmative: Councilmembers Chrisner-Keefe, Cole, Koch, McCue, Neff and Rodriguez

Negative: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

**Reports of Departments**

**April 2022**

- Police Department
- Municipal Court
- Planning Board and Zoning Board
- Budget Status

Motion to accept the reports, as submitted, moved by Councilman Rodriguez, second by Councilman McCue with Ayes by all present.

### **GOOD OF THE BOROUGH**

Mayor Halpern opened the meeting to the public for comments or questions at 9:31 p.m. Ruth Blaser, River Road, was concerned with curbs and sidewalk on River Road. She has been watching the progress with digging of old curbs and sidewalks and the contractor is leaving properties with just plywood and cones at the driveway entrances and then leave; not easy for the residents. Mrs. Blaser said they are approaching her home and she is concerned with being able to get in and out of the driveway. Mayor Halpern will speak with Engineer Gardella tomorrow regarding the policy for proper notification. Mrs. Blaser asked, “who schedules the workers”? Engineer Gardella and the contractor coordinate the schedule and work has been taking place four days a week (10 hour days).

Bonnie Torcivia, Battin Road, asked about Community Appeal money and how it is directed. She asked if it can be given to a project vs an organization? With regard to the Police Department and DPW, she had asked the Architect about Green Technology for the new buildings besides windows (it should be at the forefront to make a statement on what should be done); we should be a leader. She asked that Bicentennial Hall be addressed because it is a Borough treasure. Ms. Torcivia thanked everyone for the work that has been done. Mayor Halpern said the Borough is considering green for the buildings, but also the costs. Councilman McCue said he and the Green Team members are seriously diving into energy efficiency. There are a lot of energy efficient programs that are important and will save the Borough money. Ms. Torcivia agreed there are a lot of grants out there. The Green Team and Borough are going to zero in on what we need and what grants are out there.

There being no further comments or questions, the meeting was closed to the public at 9:40 p.m.

Council went into executive session (via Google Meets) at 9:47 p.m. and this meeting was reconvened at 9:52 p.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn moved by Councilman Rodriguez, second by Councilman McCue with Ayes by all present.

Time of Adjournment: 9:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Allyson M. Cinquegrana, RMC/CMR  
Borough Clerk