

DRAFT MINUTES

*These are the Draft Minutes of the Agenda Conference
of the North Plainfield Borough Council held on Monday, 22 October 2018.*

*Every attempt has been made to make these as comprehensive
and conclusive as possible. However, as it is a draft document, it is
not to be construed as a formal depiction of the official conduct of business and is subject
to revision up to and following the Governing Body's actual approval of same. If changes
are necessary, revised minutes will be posted to the website.*

MINUTES of the Agenda Conference of the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield held on Monday, **October 22, 2018** at 7:35 p.m. at the North Plainfield Council Chambers, 263 Somerset Street, North Plainfield, New Jersey.

PRESENT:

Council Members: Aimee Corzo
Everett Merrill
Keiona R. Miller
Wendy Schaefer
Douglas M. Singleterry
Frank "Skip" Stabile
Lawrence La Ronde, Council President

Also Present: Michael Giordano, Jr., Mayor (7:45 p.m.)
David E. Hollod, Business Administrator
Dominic DiYanni, Esq., Associate Borough Attorney
Richard K. Phoenix, RMC, Borough Clerk
Stephanie Sherwood, RMC, CMR, Deputy Borough Clerk

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Mr. Merrill.

Council President La Ronde requested a moment of silence for the men and women serving in our Armed Forces.

The Council President read the following Notice of Compliance:

"This is an Agenda Meeting of the Council of the Borough of North Plainfield, scheduled by resolution of the Council adopted on November 27, 2017. Adequate notice of this meeting was given pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.* by transmitting said notice to the *Courier News*, *The Star-Ledger*, *The Alternative Press* and *WKMB* Radio on November 28, 2017 by publication of the announcement in the *Courier News* of December 1, 2017 and by posting a copy of this notice on the bulletin boards in the Municipal Building and Memorial Library reserved for such purpose."

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Frank D'Amore, 40 Willow Avenue, North Plainfield, commenting on the Smart Street Campaign, called for stricter enforcement of jaywalking, especially within school zones.

Wayne Burrini, Randolph, NJ, commented on Ordinance No. 18-15 which had been tabled at the previous meeting. Explaining that he is one of approximately 50,000 medical marijuana patients statewide, he urged the Council to consider allowing for a medical marijuana dispensary as there are only five dispensaries in New Jersey at this time.

Jane Sancho, Woodbridge, NJ, spoke of some of the benefits of medical marijuana. Stating that both alcohol and opioids remain a greater threat than marijuana, the speaker noted that a medical cannabis dispensary would not be a detriment to the Borough.

Lefty Grimes, East Hanover, NJ, explained that medical marijuana helped him to stop using opioids and stressed that marijuana is not a gateway drug. Urging the Council to consider allowing for a dispensary, the speaker noted that it would add jobs and offset some of the tax burden on residents.

Mr. Stabile offered clarification regarding Ordinance No. 18-15, explaining that the Council had not yet voted on the matter. The Council President added that while he does not support recreational marijuana use, the Mayor had voiced his support of medical marijuana.

Jeffery Oakes, Oceanport, NJ, spoke of his own battle with cancer, stressing that medical marijuana had helped him to cope during his numerous treatments and surgeries.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **NJ Best Practices Inventory** – D.E.H. Mr. Hollod explained that the Borough scored 92% on the survey and would receive full funding from the State.
2. **Grotto Engineering Associates Proposal for Emergency On-Call Repair Contract Documents for 2019-2020** – D.E.H. Mr. Hollod reported that this resolution allows for proposal contract documents for emergencies which may come up throughout the year.

REPORTS OF BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS:

Mr. Merrill reported that there will be a formal opening ceremony of the new playground by the Community Center during the Santa Comes to Town. The Halloween parade will be held on Sunday, October 28.

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Miller, seconded by Mr. Stabile and carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Borough Clerk

Council President