

A Regular Meeting of The Mayor And Borough Council of The Borough Of Glen Ridge was held on Monday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010 in the Council Chamber of The Municipal Building, Glen Ridge, New Jersey at 7:30 p m.

Mayor Hughes led The Council and the citizens in attendance in a Salute to the Flag.

Mayor Hughes read a prepared statement that adequate notice of this meeting had been provided to the public as required by statutes.

Present: Mayor Hughes, Councilpersons Seyffarth, Patrick, Provost, Dawson, Lisovicz and Baker.

Absent: None.

The following Borough Officers were in attendance: Borough Attorney Malyska and Acting Police Chief Byron - Lagattuta.

The Minutes Of The Regular Meeting that was held on May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010 were approved as submitted.

Deputy Administrator Zichelli presented the following written communications:

A letter to Municipal Clerk Rohal from the US Army Corps Of Engineers advising of public information meetings for the Hudson-Raritan Estuary. Mayor Hughes ordered that the correspondence be filed.

A Film Fund Grant Application to Municipal Clerk Rohal from Megan Giulianelli, Director, requesting a grant to produce a public service announcement geared specifically towards Glen Ridge residents explaining in detail how they can effectively participate in the Single Stream Recycling Program. Mayor Hughes referred the correspondence to the Community Affairs And Public Relations Committee.

A Film Fund Grant Application to Municipal Clerk Rohal from H. Bartlett Brown, Secretary, Glen Ridge Congregational Church, grant to produce Glen Ridge Community Projects. Mayor Hughes referred the correspondence to the Community Affairs And Public Relations Committee.

A Film Fund Grant Application to Municipal Clerk Rohal from Diane Vecchiarello of The Glen Ridge Music Parents Association, requesting a grant in the amount of \$ 2,000. to offset the cost of launching the indoor color guard program. Mayor Hughes referred the correspondence to the Community Affairs And Public Relations Committee.

A letter to Mayor Hughes and the Borough Council from Kit Schackner of 92 Carteret Street, Glen Ridge, requesting that any and all meetings between members of the Borough Council and the Glen Ridge Athletic Association, be held in full public view and keep the business of Glen Ridge fully transparent and accountable. Mayor Hughes ordered that the correspondence be filed.

A letter to Municipal Clerk Rohal from Michael Krawiec of 20 Astor Place, Glen Ridge requesting permission to conduct a

neighborhood block party on May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Mayor Hughes referred the correspondence to the Public Safety Committee.

Ms. Nancy Everitt, aid to Congressman Pascrell, announced that everyone is invited to his 2010 Congressional Health Fair co-sponsored by the Congressman and Mountainside Hospital at he Hospital on June 14th that will include many free screenings including cardiac health, diabetes, respiratory health, glaucoma and more.

Mayor Hughes asked Ms. Everitt to convey the appreciation of the Council for his assistance with recent flood damage in the Borough.

Mr. Patrick Pignatello of 277 Baldwin Street, Glen Ridge reported on a dangerous sidewalk in front of the community center on Ridgewood Avenue.

Ms. Kit Schackner of 92 Carteret Street, Glen Ridge, clarified a few points in her letter that was read to the Council earlier regarding field usage and full transparency of the issues before the Council.

Mayor Hughes reported that the Parks And Recreation Committee met earlier this evening with several field user groups and that he has no objection to open meetings.

Councilman Lisovicz reported that he has reached out to Ms. Schackner and every constituency regarding field meetings and that he personally will not get involved in hearsay.

Mr. Eric Goldman of 25 Lorraine Street, Glen Ridge, congratulated and thanked the Mayor And Council about discussing the Hurrell Field issues in public and stated that dialogue is the key for everyone.

Mr. Goldman urged the Council to follow the recommendations in the Hurrell Field report and that he is personally not opposed to turf fields in Glen Ridge.

Mr. Goldman also report on a recent jitney bus incident and he stated that there is ongoing overcrowding on the bus.

Mayor Hughes stated that the jitney incident is being investigated and that the Council cannot discriminate against children riding on the bus. Mayor Hughes reported that in the 9 years that the jitney bus has been operating in Glen Ridge that this is the first incident.

Mr. Henry Passapera of 16 Lorraine Street, Glen Ridge, reported that he had a very good telephone call from Administrator Rohal and that the Borough is moving forward with the Watsessing Project and that at the present time there are no plans for turf in Glen Ridge. Mr. Passapera reported that he has issues with the letter he recently received from the Glen Ridge Athletic Association.

Mayor Hughes stated that Glen Ridge is planning to maintain 3 grass fields and that there has never been any discussion for synthetic fields in Glen Ridge.

Councilman Lisovicz told Mr. Passapera that he has met with all field user groups and stated that there are no plans for artificial fields in Glen Ridge and that the present field conditions are unsatisfactory.

Mr. Passapera reported that the condition of the Freeman Tennis Courts is fantastic.

Mr. Harry Rush of 53 High Street, Glen Ridge, reported that the County permit system for Brookdale Park on Sunday's is status quo and he thinks that the fact that Glen Ridge soccer program cannot use the County Park is unfair.

Mayor Hughes stated that this issue was recently addressed at a meeting with the County Executive and that he has made a commitment to help Glen Ridge.

Mayor Hughes proclaimed Monday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, as Christina Sliwak Day in The Borough in recognition of her achieving the Gold Award which is the highest honor a Girl Scout can earn.

Mayor Hughes proclaimed Friday, June 4<sup>th</sup> as Eagle Scout Day in Glen Ridge in recognition of Benjamin Gates, Matt McMahon, Christopher Shade, Adam Weckenmann and Cole Younger attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

Mayor Hughes suspended the Regular Order Of Business in order to accommodate a Public Hearing on the 2010 Municipal Budget.

Councilwoman Seyffarth presented the 2010 Municipal Budget using a PowerPoint presentation which is attached and made part of the minutes. Presentation is available at

<http://www.glenridgenj.org/pdfs/2010BudgetCompatibilityMode.pdf>

Upon completion of Councilwoman Seyffarth's comments Mayor Hughes opened the meeting for questions from those in attendance.

Ms. Kit Schackner of 92 Carteret Street, Glen Ridge questioned the possibility of Green Acres Funding for our fields.

Mayor Hughes stated that this Council will not circumvent the bond cap law.

Councilman Dawson reported that the Glen Ridge bond debt is less than our surrounding towns.

Councilwoman Provost

Councilwoman Seyffarth reported that this Budget can be amended before its final adoption.

Mayor Hughes resumed the Regular Order Of Business. ( 8:40 p.m. )  
Ordinance No. **1528** entitled:

**AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL  
BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO  
ESTABLISH A CAP BANK ( N.J.S.A. 40a:4-45.14 )**

was presented for final reading. The Ordinance title was read by Councilperson Seyffarth. Deputy Administrator Zichelli reported that

the Ordinance had been published and posted as required by statutes. Mayor Hughes declared the meeting open for a public hearing on the Ordinance. No one wished to be heard on the Ordinance. Mayor Hughes declared the public hearing closed. It was moved by Councilperson Seyffarth, seconded by Councilperson Patrick that Ordinance No. **1528** be finally adopted. The Motion was adopted by an aye and no vote; Councilpersons Seyffarth, Patrick, Provost, Dawson, Lisovicz and Baker voting aye and noes none. Mayor Hughes declared that this Ordinance is finally adopted.

The following was introduced by Councilperson Seyffarth, seconded by Councilperson Provost and adopted by an aye and no vote; Councilpersons Seyffarth, Patrick, Provost, Dawson, Lisovicz and Baker voting aye and noes none: ( Resolution No. **81 - 10** )

**CLAIMS - APPROVAL OF**

( See Resolution Book No. 17 - Page No. 17 - 1 )

Mayor Hughes thanked Councilwoman Seyffarth for her very detailed Budget presentation.

Councilman Patrick reported on a rash of burglaries that have hit the Borough during the past week and he asked Chief Byron for a brief report.

Chief Byron reported that Glen Ridge has experienced a significant increase in home burglaries, particularly during the past week. Chief Byron asked all residents to be alert and that if you should see or hear something unusual or suspicious, i.e., dogs barking, glass breaking or house alarms going off to call the police and have the situation investigated. Chief Byron strongly suggested that all doors be locked, especially at night, and house alarms be set.

Councilman Patrick reported that the police are enforcing pedestrian crosswalk violators. Councilman Patrick urged drivers to be sure that they stop for pedestrians in the crosswalk.

Chief Byron cautioned all pedestrians to not cross the street until they are sure that the approaching vehicle is stopping.

The following was introduced by Councilperson Patrick, seconded by Councilperson Seyffarth and adopted by an aye and no vote; Councilpersons Seyffarth, Patrick, Provost, Dawson, Lisovicz and Baker voting aye and noes none: ( Resolution No. **82 - 10** )

**FOREST AVENUE - RAFFLE LICENSE - APPROVAL OF**

( See Resolution Book No. 17 - Page No. 17 - 1 )

The following was introduced by Councilperson Patrick, seconded by Councilperson Provost and adopted by an aye and no vote; Councilpersons Seyffarth, Patrick, Provost, Dawson, Lisovicz and Baker voting aye and noes none: ( Resolution No. **83 - 10** )

**ANNUAL LAGER RUN - CHARITY RUN**

( See Resolution Book No. 17 - Page No. 17 - 1 )

Councilwoman Provost, Chairwoman of The Community Affairs and Public Relations Committee, reviewed the criteria and the selection

process that was used for determining the recipients for this years Film Fund Grant Awards.

The following was introduced by Councilperson Provost, seconded by Councilperson Baker and adopted by an aye and no vote; Councilpersons Seyffarth, Patrick, Provost, Dawson, Lisovicz and Baker voting aye and noes none: ( Resolution No. **84** - 10 )

**2010 - FILM FUND GRANT AWARDS**

( See Resolution Book No. 17 - Page No. 17 - 1 )

Councilman Dawson congratulated Councilwoman Seyffarth on her outstanding budget presentation.

Councilman Dawson reported that Glen Ridge is in receipt of a New Jersey Department Of Transportation grant for our annual road projects.

Councilman Dawson also announced that the Municipal Building parking project on Bloomfield Avenue has been approved by Essex County.

Councilman Lisovicz, Chairman of The Parks And Recreation Committee, reported that Watsessing Park will be on-line by September 1<sup>st</sup> and that the use of County parks for our soccer programs will still be very competitive. This is a big concern for the Recreation Committee.

Councilman Lisovicz also announced that Hurrell Field is open for selected activities such as field day for the middle school this week.

Councilman Lisovicz reported that the high school girls lacrosse team won their New Jersey Sectional title today to go with the Essex County title they won a few weeks ago.

Deputy Administrator Zichelli reported that he met with the Essex County Engineer today to discuss the paving of Bloomfield Avenue this summer from Newark to West Caldwell. The paving will be done from 8:00 p. m. to 6:00 a. m. Mr. Zichelli also report that the work has begun on Bloomfield Avenue with preparation of the storm drains and the drop curbs to meet today's standards.

Deputy Administrator Zichelli thanked Chief Byron, the police department and the Ambulance Volunteers for their cooperation during the municipal building restoration project.

Deputy Administrator Zichelli also announced that the annual post Memorial Day Parade activities will be held at the Community Center instead of on Hurrell Field.

Chief Byron reported that the investigation of the Borough jitney bus accident is on-going. The investigation is being done by the Glen Ridge Police Department, the Essex County Prosecutors Office and the Borough mechanics as to the cause and to see if the accident was due to mechanical failure.

It was moved by Councilperson Patrick, seconded by Councilperson Seyffarth, that permission be granted to the residents of Astor Place to conduct their annual block parties on May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The Motion was adopted by an aye and no vote; Councilpersons Seyffarth, Patrick, Provost, Dawson, Lisovicz and Baker voting aye and noes none.

Mr. Harry Rush of 53 High Street, Glen Ridge, also reported on the dangerous sidewalk conditions around the community center / train station. Mr. Rush stated that New Jersey Transit and Essex County officials should be made aware of the existing condition.

Mayor Hughes asked Deputy Administrator Zichelli to make contact with the aforementioned officials.

Mr. Peko Rasic of 90 Carteret Street, Glen Ridge thanked whomever is responsible for the placement of signage at the intersection of Carteret Street and Midland Avenue and he thanked the Glen Ridge Police for the increase in a police presence at that intersection. He stated that the problems at the intersection have been somewhat mitigated.

The following was introduced by Councilperson Dawson, seconded by Councilperson Baker and adopted by an aye and no vote; Councilpersons Seyffarth, Provost, Lisovicz and Baker voting aye and noes none:

( Resolution No. **80** - 10 )

**ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION - OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT**

( See Resolution Book No. 17 - Page No. 17 - 150 )

Mayor Hughes declared that this meeting is hereby adjourned.

The Council adjourned at 9:22 p. m.

*Michael J. Rohal*

Michael J. Rohal,  
Municipal Clerk