

The Regular Meeting of The Mayor and The Borough Council of The Borough of Glen Ridge was held on Monday, April 13, 2020 via teleconference due to the Public Health crisis Covid-19 at 7:30 p. m.

Mayor Patrick led The Council and the citizens in attendance in a Salute to the Flag and read a prepared statement that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided to the public as required by statutes.

Present: Councilors Hughes, Lisovicz, Mans, Murphy, Law and Morrow

Absent: None

The following Borough Officers participated in the teleconference: Borough Administrator Michael Zichelli, Chief Sheila Byron-Lagattuta, Deputy Clerk Tara Ventola and Borough Attorney Malyska.

It was moved by Councilor Lisovicz, seconded by Councilor Murphy, that the Minutes of the Meeting of The Mayor and Borough Council of The Borough of Glen Ridge that was held on March 23, 2020 be approved as submitted.

RECORDED VOTE:	Ayes		Nays		Abstained		Absent	
(Insert last name)	Hughes	Murphy	None		Morrow		None	
	Lisovicz	Law						
	Mans							

Mayor Patrick called for the written communications.

Administrator Zichelli reported the receipt of a letter for NJDOT announcing the 2020 Grants.

Mayor Patrick called for comments of the public.

Mary Ellen Liddy, resident of 27 Clinton Road joined the conference call and thanked all the Mayor and Council, Police and Borough Employees for all of the information they are providing the public with and for all the hard work during this pandemic.

RESOLUTION NO. 65-20

Offered by Councilor **HUGHES**
 Seconded by Councilor **MURPHY**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chief Financial Officer / Treasurer be authorized to pay the Claims and Warrants of the Borough; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a listing of Claims and Warrants shall be provided to the Governing Body prior to the release of these payments; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Chief Financial Officer / Treasurer of The Borough of Glen Ridge is hereby authorized to issue the payroll for the Employees of the Borough of Glen Ridge for the Pay Date of April 15th, 2020.

RECORDED VOTE:	Ayes		Nays		Abstained		Absent	
(Insert last name)	Hughes	Murphy	None		None		None	
	Lisovicz	Law						
	Mans	Morrow						

RESOLUTION NO. 66- 20

Offered by Councilor **HUGHES**
 Seconded by Councilor **LAW**

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE UNITED STATES EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION'S

“Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964”

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 as amended by P.L. 2017, c.183 requires the governing body of each municipality and county to certify that their local unit’s hiring practices comply with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission’s “Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964,” *as amended*, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e *et seq.*, (April 25, 2012) before submitting its approved annual budget to the Division of Local Government Services in the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs; and

WHEREAS, the members of the governing body have familiarized themselves with the contents of the above-referenced enforcement guidance and with their local unit’s hiring practices as they pertain to the consideration of an individual’s criminal history, as evidenced by the group affidavit form of the governing body attached hereto.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Glen Ridge, hereby states that it has complied with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5, as amended by P.L. 2017, c.183, by certifying that the Borough’s hiring practices comply with the above-referenced enforcement guidance and hereby directs the Clerk to cause to be maintained and available for inspection a certified copy of this resolution and the required affidavit to show evidence of said compliance.

RECORDED VOTE:	Ayes		Nays		Abstained		Absent	
(Insert last name)	Hughes	Murphy	None		None		None	
	Lisovicz	Law						
	Mans	Morrow						

RESOLUTION NO. 67- 20

Offered by Councilor **HUGHES**
 Seconded by Councilor **MURPHY**

WAIVING FEE FOR Online tax and water/sewer payments made via e-Checks

WHEREAS, the Borough of Glen Ridge recognizes that many citizens visit the tax and water office of the Borough to pay for their utility services; and

WHEREAS, due to the recent COVID-19 pandemic, the Borough has limited in person office hours in order to comply with social distancing requirements; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Glen Ridge, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that in an effort to assist our residents and property owners with the payment of property tax and water payments online, effective April 14, 2020 the Borough wishes to waive the \$1.05 transaction fee for anyone who submits e-Checks on-line through the Borough’s website; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this charge will appear on bank account at the time of the transaction but will be applied as a credit on the next bill from the Borough; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this resolution does not permit the waiving the transaction fees/surcharges for payments submitted online via Credit or Debit Cards.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this policy will remain in effect until the State of Emergency related to COVID-19 is lifted.

RECORDED VOTE:	Ayes		Nays		Abstained		Absent	
(Insert last name)	Hughes	Murphy	None		None		None	
	Lisovicz	Law						
	Mans	Morrow						

Councilor Lisovicz, Chair of the Public Safety Committee thanked Chief Byron – Lagattuta Borough Administrator Michael Zichelli and Deputy Clerk Tara Ventola for their effort during this crisis. He reported on the Public Safety meeting and the combined efforts of the Police Department, Ambulance Squad, Health Officer, Montclair Fire Department and Mountainside Hospital.

RESOLUTION NO. 68 – 20

Motion to Table Offered by Councilor **MANS**
 Motion to Table Seconded by Councilor **LISOVICZ**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Glen Ridge have tabled the “FILM FUND” Grants Resolution to a later meeting.

RECORDED VOTE:	Ayes		Nays		Abstained		Absent	
(Insert last name)	Hughes	Murphy	None		None		None	
	Lisovicz	Law						
	Mans	Morrow						

RESOLUTION NO. 69- 20

Offered by Councilor **MURPHY**
 Seconded by Councilor **LAW**

WHEREAS, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to The Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees; **and**,

WHEREAS, this holiday, called “**ARBOR DAY**”, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska; **and**,

WHEREAS, “**ARBOR DAY**” is now observed throughout the nation and the world; **and**,

WHEREAS, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling cost, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife; **and**,

WHEREAS, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products; **and**,

WHEREAS, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community; **and**,

WHEREAS, trees are a source of joy and spiritual renewal; **and**,

WHEREAS, The Borough of Glen Ridge has been recognized as a Tree City USA by The National Arbor Day Foundation and desires to continue its tree-planting ways.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of The Borough of Glen Ridge do hereby proclaim April 24, 2020 as “**ARBOR DAY**” in The Borough of Glen Ridge, Essex County, New Jersey.

RECORDED VOTE:	Ayes		Nays		Abstained		Absent	
(Insert last name)	Hughes	Murphy	None		None		None	
	Lisovicz	Law						
	Mans	Morrow						

RESOLUTION NO. 70- 20

Offered by Councilor **MURPHY**
 Seconded by Councilor **LAW**

WHEREAS, The Mayor and Council of the Borough of Glen Ridge sought to construct a new Salt Shed for the Public Works Yard; **and**,

WHEREAS, Northeast Construction Services, LLC, 15 Donna Lane, Flanders, NJ 07836, submitted the lowest responsible bid in the amount of **\$164,800**; **and**,

Whereas, through the course of the construction, it was determined an extended interior barrier wall four feet higher was desired; **and**,

Whereas, the proposed change order have been reviewed and verified by the project architect; **and**,

WHEREAS, the Chief Finance Officer has certified the availability of fund for this contract from the Capital Ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that a change order in the amount of **\$8,400.00** is hereby approved bringing the total project cost to **\$173,200.00**.

RECORDED VOTE:	Ayes		Nays		Abstained		Absent	
(Insert last name)	Hughes	Murphy	None		None		None	
	Lisovicz	Law						
	Mans	Morrow						

RESOLUTION NO. 71- 20

Offered by Councilor **LAW**
 Seconded by Councilor **MORROW**

WHEREAS, The Mayor and the Council of the Borough of Glen Ridge seek to prune the Borough street trees; **and**,

WHEREAS, that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11, et. seq., the Borough of Glen Ridge used a fair and competitive process to solicit proposals for the aforesated service; **and**,

WHEREAS, on April 2, 2020, **Birchler Tree Services, LLC**, of 50 Oak Grove Road, Caldwell, New Jersey 07006 submitted the lowest responsible base proposal of \$23,250 and alternate work for \$23,500.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Glen Ridge that **Birchler Tree Services, LLC** be awarded the base proposal of the 2020 Tree Pruning Contract and additional work as approved by the Forester for a total contract not to exceed **\$39,500.00**; **and**,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Administrator is hereby authorized to sign the contract documents necessary to effectuate the award of this contract.

RECORDED VOTE:	Ayes		Nays		Abstained		Absent	
(Insert last name)	Hughes	Murphy	None		None		None	
	Lisovicz	Law						
	Mans	Morrow						

Councilor Morrow, Chair of the Planning and Development Committee reported on the building departments response to Covid-19 restrictions. The April Planning Board was cancelled and if the need arises the May meeting will be held via teleconference.

Borough Administrator, Mike Zichelli thanked Chief Byron-Lagattuta and Tara Ventola for their efforts in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. He reported that the DPW team is still working and garbage and recycling are still being picked up. All drop off programs are postponed until further notice.

Chief Byron-Lagattuta reported that although crim overall has decreased all residents are still reminded to lock their car doors at night. The Chief stated she is coordinating with County OEM, and the State and International Associations. She thanked PBA president Joe Uliano for all his work with the union during this time

Mayor Patrick called for comments of the public.

No public comment was made.

On motion by Councilor Murphy, seconded by Councilor Law the meeting was adjourned.

The Council adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Lyn Ventola

Tara Lyn Ventola

Deputy Clerk