

MINUTES OF:  
DATE OF MEETING:  
TIME OF MEETING:  
PAGE NO.

WORKSHOP MEETING  
APRIL 5, 2022  
7:00 P.M.  
1

The Workshop Meeting of the Borough of Butler Mayor and Council was opened by Mayor Martinez who indicated that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act having been duly advertised and posted in Borough Hall and on the Borough Website.

**ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Mayor Martinez, Councilman Calvi, Councilman Fox, Councilman Meier, Councilman Regis and Council President Verdonik

ABSENT: Councilman Piccirillo

Motion to Excuse Councilman Piccirillo:

Moved: Fox

Second: Meier

All in favor

ALSO PRESENT: James Lampmann, Borough Administrator; Robert Oostdyk, Borough Attorney and Brandi Greco, Acting Borough Clerk.

**RESOLUTION(S)**

**R 2022-42 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY OWNED BY THE BOROUGH OF BUTLER NOT NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE**

Moved: Verdonik

Second: Fox

Voted Aye: Calvi, Fox, Meier, Regis, Verdonik

Voted Nay: None

Absent: Piccirillo

**R 2022-43 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ENTRY INTO AND EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE SOMERSET COUNTY COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM #2SOCCP**

Moved: Fox

Second: Verdonik

Voted Aye: Calvi, Fox, Meier, Regis, Verdonik

Voted Nay: None

Absent: Piccirillo

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

March 1, 2022

Moved: Verdonik

Second: Fox

All in favor

March 15, 2022

Moved: Fox

Second: Verdonik

All in favor

**Discussion – Alternate Route Police hiring**

Mr. Lampmann explained that a recent change in legislation helps civil service towns like Butler hire police officers through the Alternate Route. This program has always existed but previously only for non-civil service towns. It allows the hiring of an officer who has already successfully completed the academy. This will benefit the town financially as the cost of the academy is approximately \$6,000-\$7,000 plus their salary. Additionally, it will allow us to have an officer on the job immediately rather than starting the academy in January and on the job next summer. The need for this is due to the retirement announcement of Chief Ciro Chimento. He will be retiring at the end of this year.

**OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

Mayor Martinez opened the meeting to the public at this time.

John Ahmuty, Vice President of Tri-Boro Little League came forward requesting a donation from the Borough for a permanent shed at Walter T. Bergen Softball Field to house all equipment at the field. He has already approached Bloomingdale for new bleachers, a sunshade, windscreen and netting. He pointed out that half of their roster is comprised of Butler residents. The Council advised Mr. Ahmuty to proceed through the Butler Recreation Department as they have money allocated in their budget to assist these programs. The Borough itself cannot give the money directly because every activity would then request money and we could not pick and choose who to give it to. Mr. Lampmann explained that another avenue to explore would be obtaining a mini-grant through our Clean Communities Program by holding a clean-up project. They could raise \$250-\$500 with all of the supplies being provided by the Borough.

Mayor Martinez told the Council that the VFW requested exemption from paying their water, sewer and electric utility bills like they do in Boonton. Council agreed that they cannot grant this because then all non-profits, Knights of Columbus, Churches, etc. would then have to be granted the same exemption.

Mayor Martinez wants to re-address the creation of a co-op in town. He would like us to explore the option of being a “secondary agency” for a co-op, from which we would receive benefits. Mr. Lampmann asked for clarification if we would be a “Secondary Agent” or a “Member” and what our liability would be. Mr. Lampmann and Council all agreed that a lot more information is needed as it seems odd that a borough would be eligible to receive money for doing nothing. Mayor Martinez is going to research this and report at a later time.

Seeing no one else come forward to speak a motion was made to close the public portion of the meeting.

Moved: Fox

Second: Regis

All in favor

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Moved: Fox

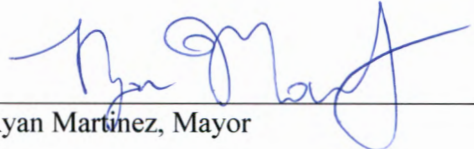
Second: Regis

All in favor

ADJOURNMENT: 7:24 p.m.

Adopted: May 3, 2022

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brandi L. Smith-Greco  
Acting Municipal Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ryan Martinez, Mayor

WORKSHOP AGENDA  
BUTLER MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
April 5, 2022 – 7:00 PM  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – ONE ACE ROAD – BUTLER

OPEN

ROLL CALL

1. **RESOLUTION NO. 2022-42** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY OWNED BY THE BOROUGH OF BUTLER NOT NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE  
  
**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-43** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ENTRY INTO AND EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE SOMERSET COUNTY COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM #2SOCCP
- 2.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 1, 2022  
March 15, 2022
4. DISCUSSION – Alternate Route Police Hiring

OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION

SUCH OTHER ITEMS AS MAY COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL  
PORTIONS OF THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

CLOSE

**BOROUGH OF BUTLER**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-42**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY OWNED BY  
THE BOROUGH OF BUTLER NOT NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Butler owns surplus equipment not needed for public use; and

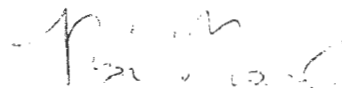
**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Riverdale has offered to purchase this equipment for a sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred dollars (\$2,500); and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-36 the Borough of Butler may, by Resolution, authorize the sale of its personal property not needed for public use by private sale to another public body; and


**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Riverdale has a need for such item;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Butler, in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey, that a 2004 Ford Aerial lift Bucket Truck VIN 3FRXF75T24V694330 shall be sold to the Borough of Riverdale in "as is" condition for a cost of Two Thousand Five Hundred dollars (\$2,500).

Adopted: April 5, 2022

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ryan Martinez, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brandi L. Smith-Greco, Acting Borough Clerk

**BOROUGH OF BUTLER**

**RESOLUTION 2022-43**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BUTLER AUTHORIZING ENTRY INTO AND EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE SOMERSET COUNTY COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM #2SOCCP**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11 (5) authorizes contracting units to establish a Cooperative Pricing System and to enter into Cooperative Pricing Agreements for its administration; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Somerset, hereinafter referred to as the “Lead Agency” has offered voluntary participation in a Cooperative Pricing System for the purchase of goods and services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Butler desires to become a member of the Somerset County Cooperative Pricing System #2SOCCP, effective April 5, 2022, and that such membership shall be for the period ending December 31, 2023 and each five year renewal thereafter of the system, unless the Borough of Butler elects to formally withdraw from the system; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 5, 2022, the Governing Body of the Borough of Butler duly considered participation in a Cooperative Pricing System for the purchase of goods and services.


**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough of Butler as follows:

1. The Borough Council of the Borough of Butler hereby authorize the Borough Administrator and Borough Clerk to execute an Agreement with the Somerset County Cooperative Pricing System by the County of Somerset as Lead Agency pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5).
2. The Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Butler is hereby directed to submit a copy of this adopted Resolution, along with an executed Agreement, to Somerset County as Lead Agency of the #2SOCCP.
3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon final passage according to law.

Adopted: April 5, 2022

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ryan Martinez, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brandi L. Smith-Greco, Acting Borough Clerk

The Workshop Meeting of the Borough of Butler Mayor and Council was opened by Mayor Martinez who indicated that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act having been duly advertised and posted in Borough Hall and on the Borough Website.

**ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Mayor Martinez, Councilman Fox, Councilman Meier, Councilman Piccirillo, Councilman Regis and Council President Verdonik

Absent: Councilman Calvi

Motion to Excuse Councilman Calvi:

Moved: Fox

Second: Meier

All in favor

ALSO PRESENT: J. Lampmann, Borough Administrator; J. Kozimor, CFO; C. Woods, Office of the Borough Attorney and Brandi Greco, Acting Borough Clerk.

**RESOLUTION(S)**

**R 2022-31 RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE ELIMINATION OF ANY AND ALL FACE MASK REQUIREMENTS**

Moved: Regis

Second: Piccirillo

Voted Aye: Meier, Piccirillo, Regis

Voted Nay: Fox, Verdonik

Absent: Calvi

**R 2022-32 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LOCAL SUPPORT FOR EVERGREEN NATURE'S REMEDY, LLC FOR IT'S CLASS 5 CANNABIS RETAIL LICENSE APPLICATION TO THE NEW JERSEY CANNABIS REGULATORY COMMISSION**

Moved: Fox

Second: Regis

Voted Aye: Fox, Meier, Piccirillo, Regis, Verdonik

Voted Nay: None

Absent: Calvi

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

February 15, 2022

Moved: Piccirillo

Second: Verdonik

All in favor

**Discussion – Budget**

Jim Kozimor provided a summary of budget requests and reported that all committees and department heads have met. He noted it is a challenging year with large increases across the board from pension benefits to health insurance to trash collection. We are still funding the water utility waiting for Bloomingdale Water to come on line and we are still feeling the effects of last years' water main break, current inflation and trying to meet capital requests. Currently they are estimating a steeper than normal increase of \$103.00 per average house. Council President Verdonik reiterated the large increases we are facing: fuel, natural gas and pensions but also noted he does not want to cut any services or programs from the community. Jim Kozimor explained the effects of the recent reassessment on the calculation. It was reported that we



increased capital and increased the reserve for uncollected taxes due to an unexpected expense for an error in last years' added assessment. Fox and Regis stressed the importance and asked for review to get the increase under \$100.00 and shuffle capital/surplus funds before Budget Introduction. Jim Lampmann noted 250K is included for Roads and another 50k is allotted for the playground.

Mayor Martinez announced that in speaking with Councilman Calvi, they intend to borrow money for the playground to add to the money set aside by the town and the grant acquired by Mr. Lampmann last year. Councilman Regis reminded the council that there have been no discussions or votes regarding the playground and there is still a lot to talk about before proceeding. He is requesting additional quotes and information. Councilman Meier inquired about Borough employees doing the work, but it was noted that we will do what we can, but the majority of the hardscape and state regulations associated with the installation are things we are not qualified to handle. Councilman Regis expressed concern over the zip line portion, both expense and liability. All agreed to consider different design options. Britni Morley, who is on the playground committee, stated she too is looking for ways to save money, and of course intends to use all space accordingly. All agreed the ground surface of the park is as expensive as the structures themselves, so much deliberation is needed. Regis reminded them that the parking lot needs to be paved as well.

Jim Kozimor continued that Water and Electric operating budgets are relatively flat with minor increases. Supervisors are doing everything they can to keep their water budgets lean. He noted that in capital budget, they are looking to fund cameras in the PD vehicles and software for the body worn cameras. Cameras themselves are part of the grant, everything else we pay for and he anticipates appx 38k-39k for that. Roads will require appx 250K for road paving and we have a DOT Grant to cover the Pearl/Mabey/Hasbrouck project. Fire Department receives 35K, and if not spent, it builds up. They have enough in prior years to cover their current needs such as a roof and retaining wall. Money is already set aside for Stony Brook improvements and the total set aside for the new playground so far is 175K. In Electric, Jeff Ricker is requesting the purchase of a budget truck because delivery times are exceeding 2 years. Partial will be capital improvement funds and partial will be borrowed. Part of the South Gifford Water Main is covered by a CDBG Grant, the rest is coming from prior ordinances. Turbidity meters are needed for the Water Dept as well the continuation of upgrading AMI meters and hydrant/valve replacements.

Mr. Lampmann reminded council to be prepared for the additional expense of purchasing radios that are needed to support the change in radio frequencies. Our options are to obtain a new frequency but it wouldn't include the Fire Dept. or the alternate option is moving to a State system where we get our own dedicated section from that.

### **OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

Mayor Martinez opened the meeting to the public at this time.

Ray Bossard came forward requesting permission to hang banners honoring Butler Veterans Killed In Action. Logistics were discussed on exactly where to place them, the time frame, their size and the mounting hardware required. There is no cost to Butler, he is financing the first 20 of those who were Killed In Action, then if anyone would like to purchase one in honor of a

friend or family member, they may do so. He presented a mock-up and said current displays can be seen in 120 towns including neighboring Bloomingdale, Wanaque, and West Milford. It was determined that size 24x48 would be the best fit for our poles and they would be displayed Memorial Day through Veterans Day. Additionally, he wanted to follow up on the design of the street signs displaying Butler Veterans names. Jim Lampmann asked for clarification on the spelling of the names and presented an improved sample. It was decided not to include the rank on the sign so that the name stood out more. He also thanked the Borough for their support of the wreath program for the Veterans which has been very successful and continues to grow each year.

Alan Bird from the Butler Museum Committee came forward requesting assistance from the Borough to maintain the property of the Brown-Sanders Cemetery. He stated that there are no owners and no association connected to the cemetery. A resident, Don Tintle, formerly donated money towards the cost for lawn maintenance but he has since passed away. Alan stated he has been trying to do this himself with a weedwacker, as well as the maintenance of the Manning Ave Cemetery, but said he can no longer do it all.

Seeing no one else come forward to speak a motion was made to close the public portion of the meeting.

Moved: Fox  
All in favor.

Second: Verdonik


**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Moved: Fox  
All in favor.

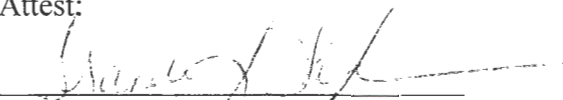
Second: Regis

ADJOURNMENT: 8:16 p.m.

Adopted: April 5, 2022

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ryan Martinez, Mayor

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brandi L. Smith-Greco  
Acting Municipal Clerk  
Dated April 5, 2022



MINUTES OF:  
DATE OF MEETING:  
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COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 15, 2022  
7:00 PM  
1

The Council Meeting of the Butler Mayor and Council was opened by Mayor Martinez who indicated that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act having been duly advertised and posted in Borough Hall and on the Borough website. This was followed by the Pledge to the Flag and a moment of reflection.

### **ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Mayor Ryan Martinez, Councilman Fox, Councilman Meier, Councilman Piccirillo, Councilman Regis and Council President Verdonik.

Absent: Calvi

Motion to excuse the absence of Councilman Calvi

Moved: Fox

Second: Verdonik

All in favor

ALSO PRESENT: James Lampmann, Borough Administrator; Christopher Woods, Office of the Borough Attorney; James Kozimor, CFO and Brandi Smith-Greco, Acting Borough Clerk.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

NONE

### **MEETING OF PUBLIC AND INVITATION FOR DISCUSSION**

Mayor Martinez opened this portion of the meeting to the public for discussion.

A child who is a resident of the Borough came forward and stated her name and address. She told the council she would really like to get a new playground in town because the one she plays on now is very old and she's afraid it will break when she plays on it.

Seeing no one else come forward to speak, a motion was made to close this public portion of the meeting.

Moved: Fox

Second: Verdonik

All in favor

### **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENT HEADS**

**Council President Verdonik** reported that the Finance Committee met to go over the budget which is being introduced tonight. A Resolution is also being introduced to exceed Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits should the need arise. He noted that this is done every year in the event of an emergency.

**Councilman Fox** reported that in the Roads Dept., street sweeping is moving forward as the weather continues to improve and pothole repairs are in process. Winter equipment and salt supply remain adequate in the event of a late season event. DPW and Council Roads Committee will be driving the roads in the coming weeks to recommend which roads will receive priority for paving this year.

**Councilman Regis** took a moment to acknowledge the passing of long-time resident and "Conscience of the Town", Bob Norman. Mr. Regis reported that in the Fire Department they continue on-going training and practice proper sanitizing of the high use kitchen area at the fire house. In the Police Department, he reported there were 17 motor vehicle accidents, 2 DUI's, 65 various summons and 3 arrests for a variety of offenses.

**Councilman Meier** reported that in the Electric Dept., all material lead-times and costs continue to increase including vehicles which are on a 3 year lead-time. All employees attended their CPR and AED training by Gayle Dunlap from TBFAS. Tree trimming continues on Cutlass Road and in the Lake Reality and Smoke Rise communities. In Kinnelon, crews responded to extensive damage from a wind event on Cove Lane removing a tree and replacing downed poles. Additionally, a downed tree damaged a primary feeder on Pepperidge Tree. In Butler, the new pole barn structure is in the process of being completed. In Bloomingdale, crews completed a

service repair at the Kampfe Lake Gazebo. In Riverdale, JCP&L is moving transmission poles for a road improvement project on Rt.23. All was quiet in West Milford. All meters were read and reported for the month. All delinquencies, outage calls and customer complaints were handled. As for the museum, Councilman Meier is happy to report an increase in membership- there are currently 11 active members and 10 associate members.

**Councilman Piccirillo** reported that to date, the total COVID positive cases for the Borough is 1,638 and negative results total 1,120. There have been 11 total deaths in Butler. He announced that as of March 7, Governor Murphy relaxed the state mask mandate and this included schools. Routine health inspections were completed

Acting Borough Clerk, Brandi Smith-Greco, reported on the following:

- Tax Collectors Report – February 2022 – \$4,930,336.49
- Power & Light/Water & Sewer Dept. – February 2022 – \$1,872,879.06

**APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS AND PAYROLLS**

**R 2022-33 Authorization for Payment of Bills and Vouchers**

Moved: Verdonik

Second: Fox

Voted Aye: Fox, Meier, Piccirillo, Regis, Verdonik

Voted Nay: None

Absent: Calvi

**PRESENTATION OF CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS**

Butler Borough received an artifact from Charles Russell, a former Amerace Corp. employee. It is a large framed insurance policy for the Mill from 1903. It has been brought to the museum to display. A thank you letter has been sent to Mr. Russell.

**ORDINANCE(S) FOR ADOPTION – PUBLIC HEARING**

**2022-01 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 21, “FIRE DEPARTMENT”, OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF BUTLER**

**Introduced: February 15, 2022**

**Advertised: February 23, 2022**

Acting Clerk, Brandi Smith-Greco opened this ordinance for public comment.

Seeing no one come forward, Councilman Fox made a motion to close this public portion and move 2022-01.

Motion by: Fox

Second: Regis

Voted Aye: Fox, Meier, Piccirillo, Regis, Verdonik

Voted Nay: None

Absent: Calvi

**2022-02 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND REVISING CHAPTER 225, “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC”, OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES AND PROVIDING FOR AN ADDITIONAL HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACE ON ARCH STREET**

**Introduced: February 15, 2022**

**Advertised: February 23, 2022**

Acting Clerk, Brandi Smith-Greco opened this ordinance for public comment.

Seeing no one come forward, Councilman Fox made a motion to close this public portion and move 2022-02.

Motion by: Fox

Second: Meier

Voted Aye: Fox, Meier, Piccirillo, Regis, Verdonik

Voted Nay: None

Absent: Calvi

**2022-03 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND REVISING CHAPTER 225, "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC", OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES AND AMENDING THE SPEED LIMIT ON VON BLITZ AND MARION AVENUES**

**Introduced: February 15, 2022**

**Advertised: February 23, 2022**

Acting Clerk, Brandi Smith-Greco opened this ordinance for public comment.

Seeing no one come forward, Councilman Fox made a motion to close this public portion and move 2022-02.

Motion by: Fox

Second: Regis

Voted Aye: Fox, Meier, Piccirillo, Regis, Verdonik

Voted Nay: None

Absent: Calvi

**ORDINANCE(S) FOR INTRODUCTION**

**2022-04 AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)**

**Public Hearing: April 19, 2022**

Motion by: Verdonik

Second: Fox

Voted Aye: Fox, Meier, Piccirillo, Regis, Verdonik

Voted Nay:

Absent: Calvi

**RESOLUTION(S)**

**A. 2022-34 Introduction of the 2022 Municipal Budget**

Public Hearing: April 19, 2022

Council President Verdonik noted that the average increase would be \$58.00 based on the average home value assessment of 350,571.00. Both Councilman Fox and Council President Verdonik committed to keeping things as tight as they can.

Moved: Verdonik

Second: Fox

Voted Aye: Fox, Meier, Piccirillo, Regis, Verdonik

Voted Nay: None

Absent: Calvi

**B. 2022-35 Resolution Authorizing Self Examination of Budget Resolution**

Moved: Fox

Second: Verdonik

Voted Aye: Fox, Meier, Piccirillo, Regis, Verdonik

Voted Nay: None

Absent: Calvi

**The Acting Clerk noted that all resolutions marked with an \* are included in Consent Agenda Resolution No. 2022-36. These may be passed by one motion.**

**C. 2022-36 Resolution Authorizing Passage of a Special Consent Agenda**

Moved: Fox

Second: Verdonik

All in favor

**D. \*2022-37 Resolution Authorizing Refunds, Overpayments or Cancellations in the Tax Office**

**E. \*2022-38 Resolution Authorizing Refunds, Overpayments or Cancellations in the Electric Dept.**

**F. \*2022-39 Resolution Authorizing Refunds, Overpayments or Cancellations in the Sewer Dept.**

**G. \*2022-40 Bid Award to John Garcia Construction for South Gifford St Water Main Replacement**

**H. \*2022-41 Transfer Resolution**

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COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 15, 2022  
7:00 PM  
4

**NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Applications were submitted and permission was granted for the use of Butler Park by Butler United Methodist Church for an Easter Sunrise Service on April 17, 2022 at 6 a.m. AND permission was granted for the use of the Manning Ave Cemetery by the Butler Museum for a walking tour on October 15, 2022 from 2:30-9:30 pm.

**INVITATION FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE PUBLIC**

Mayor Martinez opened the meeting to the Public:

Seeing no one come forward to speak, a motion was made to close this public portion.

Moved: Fox

Second: Verdonik

All in favor

**CLOSED SESSION**

None

**MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING**

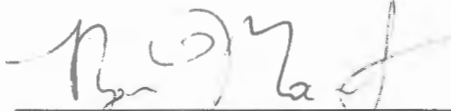
Moved: Fox

Second: Regis

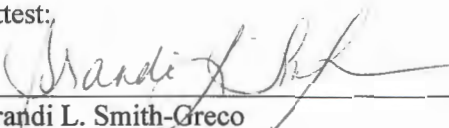
All in favor

Adjournment: 7:18 p.m.

Adopted: April 5, 2022.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ryan Martinez, Mayor

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brandi L. Smith-Greco  
Acting Borough Clerk  
Dated: April 5, 2022