

BOROUGH OF MIDLAND PARK
280 Godwin Avenue
Midland Park NJ 07432
October 14, 2021

8:00 PM Open Public Meeting Minutes

On October 14, 2021 at 8:00 p.m., the Mayor and Council of Midland Park conducted an in person meeting, the location has changed to 280 Godwin Avenue, there was also an option for the public to access the meeting electronically by dialing this Toll-Free Dial in number 1 866 899 4679 Access Code: 766-030-917.

Agenda items for the meeting were listed on the Borough website. The foregoing electronic option was recommended due to the current situation involving the COVID-19 Virus and directives of State and County governments.

The Mayor called upon Councilwoman DeLuca to give this evening's Invocation, and then the Mayor led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Shortway called the meeting to order, noting the date as October 14, 2021, and that there will be a 3-minute limit to each individual addressing the Governing Body during the Open Public portions of the meeting.

SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT: This meeting is being held in accordance with the Sunshine Law, notice having been published according to law with a copy on file in the Borough Clerk's Office and a copy posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building.

Roll Call:	Mayor Shortway	Present
	Councilman Damiano	Present
	Councilman Kruis	Present
	Councilman Sansone	Present
	Councilwoman DeLuca	Present
	Councilwoman Peet	Present
	Council President Iannone	Present

ALSO PRESENT: Borough Attorney Regan and Borough Administrator/Borough Clerk Martin

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A Motion to approve the May 27, 2021 Work Session, Closed Session and Open Public Meeting, June 10, 2021 Work Session, Closed Session, Open Public Meeting and 2nd Closed Session, June 24, 2021 Work Session, Closed Session, Open Public Meeting, July 8, 2021 Work Session, Open Public Meeting and Closed Session, July 22, 2021 Work Session, Closed Session and Open Public Meeting as all Governing Body members have previously received copies of the Minutes and copies are available to the Public at the Borough Clerk's Office.

Introduced by: COUNCILWOMAN DELUCA

Seconded by: COUNCILWOMAN PEET

Roll Call: Councilman Damiano Aye Abstain July 8, 2021

Councilman Kruis	Aye	
Councilman Sansone	Aye	
Councilwoman DeLuca	Aye	
Councilwoman Peet	Aye	
Council President Iannone	Aye	Abstain June 10, 2021

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

The **Mayor** opened the meeting to the public for general questions, concerns, and comments.

Mayor Shortway and **Councilwoman Peet** presented Midland Park resident, Tara Kuipers, with a Proclamation recognizing October 13th as Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day. **Councilwoman Peet** read the Proclamation and Ms. Kuipers gave some of her history of being involved with the group, Metavivor, and thanked the Governing Body for their recognition of Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day.

Administrator/Clerk Martin asked members of the public present and on the phone to speak at this time.

No one from the Public came forward.

LIAISON REPORTS:

Mayor Shortway

Mayor Shortway reported on October 2nd, he attended Community Day: there was a good turn-out and it was a great day.

Councilman Damiano

Finance/Recreation/Information Technology

Councilman Damiano reported **Finance** received a AAA/Aa3 credit rating from Moody's, the first rating Moody has given to the Borough. The **Councilman** explained this is a great rating for bonding, paving the way for additional bonding and possibly an historic event for Midland Park.

The **Councilman** reported the **Recreation** Director stated Community Day went well, although the food truck that was scheduled canceled that day. Some ideas for improvement for next year are being formulated, especially with regards to the location, securing food trucks and a beer garden. The Recreation Director expressed appreciation to all who helped, especially the Board of Recreation members. The **Councilman** noted Zumba classes will be resuming at the recreation center; yoga and pre-school dance music are ongoing. **Councilwoman DeLuca** and the Recreation Director have been discussing the Veterans' Day ceremony, scheduled for November 11th at 11 A.M. The **Councilman** announced six homes have been registered for the annual Halloween house decorating contest and the Trunk or Treat has been scheduled for October 29th between 4-5:30 P.M. at Dairy Street.

Councilman Damiano reported progress with **Information Technology**.

Council President Iannone

Public Safety – Police/ Personnel/Ridgewood Water

Council President Iannone reported the **Police** Department has been busy: there have been arrests for various reasons, they were able to recover a family pet using microchip technology, they were involved with an involuntary committal to New Bridge Medical Center following a mental health screening, a resident reported a burglary, and the detective bureau is working in conjunction with the Sheriff's

Department and another town to solve the matter. The **Council President** stated for the first half of October, the Department has performed 34 property area checks, 25 school safety checks and drills, 19 medical assistance calls, 16 disorderly conduct investigations, 9 traffic stops and 5 parking violations. **Council President Iannone** noted the Chief attended a County Communications Zoom meeting; an officer was at the Fire Prevention safety night; there was a meeting with the School Superintendent to review the State uniform memorandum for the 2021-2022 school year; the Department has applied for a certificate of authorization with the FAA to operate a drone in this area and one of the officers has applied to the Bergen County Prosecutor's Office to become a member of the County Fatal Accident Investigation Unit which is responsible for investigating fatal and serious bodily injury motor vehicle accidents and complex collisions. The unit is comprised of the most highly trained officers in Bergen County who meet the stringent accident and reconstruction standards.

The **Council President** reported **Ridgewood Water** presented two virtual events regarding the PFAS in the water and outlined the actions they are taking to limit the PFAS in the water supply: the Carr Treatment plant has been shut down to eliminate the greatest potential source of PFAS in the system; they will continue to inform all stakeholders regarding the PFAS levels and actions being taken by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection; quarterly, they will monitor the system and reassess plans and treatments to adjust as needed; determine sources of contamination and seek funding from responsible parties and seek legislative partners to push for strategies for dealing with responsible parties.

Council President Iannone reported progress with **Personnel**.

Councilman Kruis

**Planning Board/Building Dept/Fire
Prevention/OEM/Property Maintenance**

Councilman Kruis reported the **Planning Board** will meet on October 18th and he will have a report at the next Council meeting.

The **Councilman** reported progress for the **Building** Department.

Councilman Kruis reported he received a report from the **Fire Prevention** Official and the **Office of Emergency Management** Coordinator: on September 29th, a State Fire Marshall visited three businesses in the Borough; on September 23rd, two residents needing relief contacted the Borough inquiring about FEMA; on September 24th, the FEMA Disaster Recovery Relief team met jointly with Midland Park, Wyckoff and Franklin Lakes residents: 44 residents registered and there were 30 inquiries giving a total of 74 attendees; as of October 6th, the number of Midland Park residents that registered with FEMA from IDA totaled 44 valid registrations, 36 individual household programs referred; 31 inspections were issued, 17 inspections were returned and 15 individual housing programs were eligible. The total amount given for eligible housing programs is \$32,800 and the amount given for housing assistance is \$29,772. The amount for other eligible needs was \$3,028 and two received rental assistance as well. The Personal Protection Equipment inventory continues to be stable.

The **Councilman** reported he received a report from the **Property Maintenance** Official: there were three acts of graffiti, one was removed and two violations are outstanding; a disabled motorhome was removed; five garbage complaints were resolved; he has checked eleven streets for dead trees; four tree issues have been taken care of since the last meeting; two residents have plans to remove dangerous trees in the near future and nine tree issues are still outstanding.

Councilman Sansone

**Public Works/Chamber of Commerce/Economic
Development Committee**

Councilman Sansone reported progress for the **Chamber of Commerce**.

The **Councilman** reported the **Economic Development Committee** will be meeting on October 28th. **Councilman Sansone** reported the **Department of Public Works** has been very busy: the PSE&G project on Witte Drive has been completed; all the Police vehicles have serviced; all DPW equipment and personnel are ready for the leaf pick-up season to begin, and all Borough buildings and vehicles are continuing to be disinfected.

The **Councilman** explained the accident on Greenwood Avenue involved the Borough's new garbage truck which is out for repair. **Councilman Sansone** reported the DPW was able to fix the fence and everything the vehicle went through before colliding with the garbage truck.

Councilwoman Peet

Board of Health/ Board of Education/Municipal Alliance

Councilwoman Peet reported progress for the **Municipal Alliance**.

The **Councilwoman** reported the **Board of Health** will be meeting shortly and will be discussing the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The Health Commission will be keeping the Borough informed regarding contract renewals with the other towns.

Councilwoman Peet reported she attended the **Board of Education** meeting: it was a good meeting with the Board providing the annual "Back to School District Update", an update on all the accomplishments of the past year showing the monies given to them were put to good use. The presentation is on the Board of Education's website. The **Councilwoman** noted the Superintendent outlined the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention guidelines they are following for the COVID Delta variant, especially with regards to travel; the **Councilwoman** described an issue the school is having with the social media platform, TikTok, and the copycat challenges that the students are doing and posting. For more meeting details, please see the Board of Education's website.

Councilwoman DeLuca

Public Safety – Fire/Ambulance/Library

Councilwoman DeLuca reported the **Ambulance Corps** met on October 4th: there were 71 calls for the month of September, including 10 mutual aid calls out of Midland Park and they will be holding a 50/50 raffle.

The **Councilwoman** reported the **Fire Department** held a meeting on October 13th: for the month of September, they answered 12 calls for service, including three mutual aid calls out of town; members of the truck committee went to Wisconsin to view and inspect the new truck and delivery is expected in mid-November; the Fire Chief has a lead on selling the old engine, provided the Council gives their approval. After some discussion, the Council approved the sale of the old engine. The **Councilwoman** reported the results of the elections: Matt Tauber will be the Chief; Peter Hook, Assistant Chief; Chad Miller is the Captain and Steve Rau and Griffin Kutcha are the Lieutenants. She said the annual Open House was held on October 6th and was well attended and the Police Department, Ambulance Corps and CERT team were also in attendance. The **Councilwoman** noted the upcoming events includes Breakfast with Santa on December 11th and Project Santa with details to follow.

Councilwoman DeLuca reported the **Library Board** will be meeting October 26th and she will have a report at the next Council meeting and there is progress. For details of activities and events at the Library, please visit their website.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Borough Administrator/Clerk Martin reported that the Certified Finance Officer has provided the Council with a report regarding the sale and award of the general improvement bond. She noted the Tax Assessor has stated that the 2022 rate is 80.35, down from 83.38 caused by the COVID-driven sale of homes, increasing the price of homes versus the assessed value. Administrator/Clerk Martin reported there are

three pre-construction meetings scheduled: one for the 2021 Road Resurfacing, one for the Paterson Avenue resurfacing sections 1 & 2 and one for the Greenwood Avenue bridge reconstruction. She stated the quarterly JIF safety meeting was held on October 13th and the report will be submitted on October 15th; she will be attending the E-Poll Pad class regarding changes for the upcoming general election.

ORDINANCES ON FINAL:

1. ORDINANCE # 18-21

“AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE OF \$410,390: \$200,000.00 FROM THE 2021 NJ DOT MUNICIPAL AID PROGRAM GRANT AND AN ADDITIONAL \$155,390.00 FROM THE 2021 NJ DOT MUNICIPAL AID PROGRAM GRANT FOR ROADWAY RESURFACING FOR PATERSON AVENUE, AS WELL AS APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$55,000.00 FROM THE 2021 CAPITAL ROAD IMPROVEMENT BUDGET”

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Midland Park, in the County of Bergen, New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1.

The Borough of Midland Park has received 2021 NJ DOT Municipal Aid Program Grants for Road Resurfacing of Paterson Avenue Section 1 and Section 2.

Section 2.

The sum of \$355,390.00 is appropriated to the payment of the cost of such improvements authorized and described in Section 1 hereof. Said sum so appropriated shall be met from the 2021 Capital Road Improvement Budget in the amount of \$55,000.00.

Section 3.

Said improvements are lawful capital improvements of the Borough having a period of usefulness of at least five (5) years. Said improvements shall be made as a general improvement, and no part of the cost has been nor shall be assessed against property specially benefited.

Section 4.

The capital budget is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this capital ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency therewith and the resolutions promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended capital budget and capital program as approved by the Director, Division of Local Government Services, is on file with the Borough Clerk and is available for public inspection.

Section 5.

This ordinance hereby incorporates the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:2-20.

Section 6.

This ordinance shall take effect at the time and in the manner provided by law.

Introduced by: Councilwoman Peet

Seconded by: Council President Iannone

At this time, **Mayor Shortway** opened the meeting to the public for any questions, comments, or concerns regarding Ordinance #18-21. There being no response, the **Mayor** closed the meeting to the public and called for a Roll Call Vote of Council.

Roll Call:	Councilman Damiano	Aye
	Councilman Kruis	Aye
	Councilman Sansone	Aye

Councilwoman DeLuca	Aye
Councilwoman Peet	Aye
Council President Iannone	Aye

CONSENT AGENDA:

All matters listed below are considered by the Borough Council to be routine in nature. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If any discussion is desired by the Borough Council, that item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately:

Resolution #167-21 2022 Council Meeting Dates & Times

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Midland Park that the schedule of meetings for 2022 shall be as follows:

January 6, 2022	Sine Die Meeting – 7:00 P.M.
January 6, 2022	Reorganization Meeting at 7:30 P.M.
January 27, 2022	6:00 P.M. Budget Meeting Work/Closed/Open Public
February 10, 2022	Work Session/Closed Session/Open Public Meeting
February 24, 2022	Work Session/Closed Session/Open Public Meeting
March 10, 2022	Work Session/Closed Session/Open Public Meeting
March 24, 2022	Work Session/Closed Session/Open Public Meeting
April 7, 2022	Work Session/Closed Session/Open Public Meeting
April 21, 2022	Work Session/Closed Session/Open Public Meeting
May 12, 2022	Work Session/Closed Session/Open Public Meeting
May 26, 2022	Work Session/Closed Session/Open Public Meeting
June 9, 2022	Work Session/Closed Session/Open Public Meeting
June 23, 2022	Work Session/Closed Session/Open Public Meeting
July 7, 2022	Work Session/Closed Session/Open Public Meeting
July 21, 2022	Work Session/Closed Session/Open Public Meeting
August 11, 2022	Work Session/Closed Session/Open Public Meeting
September 8, 2022	Work Session/Closed Session/Open Public Meeting
September 22, 2022	Work Session/Closed Session/Open Public Meeting
October 13, 2022	Work Session/Closed Session/Open Public Meeting
October 27, 2022	Work Session/Closed Session/Open Public Meeting
November 10, 2022	Work Session/Closed Session/Open Public Meeting
December 8, 2022	6:00 P.M. Budget Session /Work/Closed/Open Public Meeting
December 15, 2022	6:00 P.M. Budget Session /Work/Closed/Open Public Meeting

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Budget Meetings will convene either at 6:00 P.M. or 7:00 P.M. as designated: Work Session - 7:00 P. M., Closed Session 7:30 P.M. (Prevailing time) and 8:00 P.M. for the Open Public Session meetings. All Open Public Meetings may be action meetings. All Open Public Meetings will be held in the Midland Park Borough Hall, Council Chambers, 280 Godwin Avenue, Midland Park, New Jersey, or The Mayor and Council of Midland Park may conduct Electronic Public Meeting in lieu of its in-person Public Meetings as recommended due to situations involving the COVID-19 Virus and directives of State and County Governments, unless otherwise advertised according to law.

Resolution #168-21 Authorize Mayor to Sign Memorandum Agreement – DPW Superintendent

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Midland Park, that the Mayor is hereby

authorized to execute a Memorandum of Agreement with Matt Tauber, Department of Public Works Superintendent, pertaining to compensation outside of regular work hours during storms and other events as well as the use of compensatory time.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Borough Administrator/Borough Clerk be and are hereby authorized to execute the Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Public Works Superintendent on behalf of the Borough.

Resolution #169-21 Release Performance Bond – Englewood Warehousing 3, LLC – 268 Greenwood Ave.

WHEREAS, at the Planning Board meeting of September 20, 2021, the Board voted to approve the release of the performance bond for Englewood Warehousing 3 LLC, 268 Greenwood Avenue, Midland Park, N. J. 07432, subject to the submission of the required maintenance bond, which has been fulfilled.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Midland Park that the Borough Administrator release said Performance Bond to Englewood Warehousing 3 LLC at the above address.

Resolution #170-21 Award Contract to Sterling Carting Inc. for Residential Solid Waste and Recycling Collection Services

WHEREAS, the Borough of Midland Park has advertised for bids for residential solid waste and recycling collection services, and bids were received, opened and reviewed on September 21, 2021, at 9:00 A.M.; and

WHEREAS the lowest responsible bidder was Sterling Carting Inc., 99 Sterling Mine Road Sloatsburg, N.Y. 10974, for Solid Waste and Recycling Collection in accordance with the terms and conditions included in the Bid 21-01 specifications; and

WHEREAS the bids were reviewed by Qualified Purchasing Agent, and same were found to be reflective of the lowest responsible bidder demand in accord with the New Jersey Law and Administrative Code; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough of Midland Park has recommended that a contract be awarded to Sterling Carting Inc., 99 Sterling Mine Road Sloatsburg, N.Y. 10974, Options 1 through 4 in the amount of \$2,159,900.00 cumulative over five (5) years, as contained within the Bid 21-01 specifications and their proposal as set forth in the annexed Schedule; and

WHEREAS the bid specifications indicated that the Borough of Midland Park would award a contract for a five-year term; and

WHEREAS the contract is to run from January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2026;
and

WHEREAS the availability of funds is contingent upon adoption of the temporary and permanent budgets for the years 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026; and

WHEREAS certification of availability of funds will be provided by the Borough Chief Financial Officer, following adoption of said budgets.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Midland Park, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, that:

1. A contract for a five-year term with Sterling Carting Inc., 99 Sterling Mine Road Sloatsburg, N.Y. 10974, commencing January 1, 2022, be and is hereby authorized for collection of solid waste and recycling in accordance with the terms as set forth above and in the contract documents under option #1-4 in the amount of \$2,159,900.00;

2. This expenditure, subject to the adoption of temporary and permanent budgets for each contract year, shall be charged to the appropriate accounts at the time services are needed and prior to liability being incurred; and

3. The Borough Administrator/ Clerk and Mayor are hereby authorized to execute the contract.

Introduced by: Councilman Sansone

Seconded by: Councilwoman DeLuca

Roll Call:	Councilman Damiano	Aye
	Councilman Kruis	Aye
	Councilman Sansone	Aye
	Councilwoman DeLuca	Aye
	Councilwoman Peet	Aye
	Council President Iannone	Aye

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution #166-21 – Bills List

WHEREAS, claims have been submitted to the Borough of Midland Park in the following amounts:

Current Fund ('20)	\$ 1,161.89
Current Fund	\$ 214,623.97
Dog Fund	\$ 19.20
Capital Fund	\$ 366,999.81
Trust Fund	\$ 1,246.22
TOTAL:	\$ 584,051.09

WHEREAS, such claims have been listed according to Department and account number with corresponding vouchers to be reviewed and approved by the Finance Committee; and,

WHEREAS, the CFO has determined that the funds have been properly appropriated for such purposes and are available, in the Borough of Midland Park and that the claims specified on the schedule attached hereto, following examination and approval by the Finance Committee, be paid and checks issued accordingly; and,

WHEREAS, claims have already been paid in the following accounts:

Current	September 30 th Payroll	\$ 251,403.32
Current	October 15 th Payroll	\$ 231,359.34
Current	Maple Direct-mnl check	\$ 1,279.42
Current	October Health Payment	\$ 81,734.68
Current	October School Taxes	\$1,684.197.68

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council President and Council of the Borough of Midland Park that the claims totaling **\$2,834,025.53** approved and ratified respectively.

Introduced by: Councilman Damiano

Seconded by: Councilwoman Peet

Roll Call:	Councilman Damiano	Aye
	Councilman Kruis	Aye
	Councilman Sansone	Aye
	Councilwoman DeLuca	Aye
	Councilwoman Peet	Aye

Council President Iannone Aye

2. Resolution #171-21 Appoint D. Iorio - Sub Crossing Guard

WHEREAS, the need for Substitute Crossing Guards exists in the Borough of Midland Park; and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police feels this candidate is suitable for the appointment to the duties.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Midland Park, that Dominic Iorio, to be appointed as a Substitute Crossing Guard at a rate of \$20.00 per hour, effective May 13, 2021.

Introduced by: Council President Iannone

Seconded by: Councilman Sansone

Roll Call:	Councilman Damiano	Aye
	Councilman Kruis	Aye
	Councilman Sansone	Aye
	Councilwoman DeLuca	Aye
	Councilwoman Peet	Aye
	Council President Iannone	Aye

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Sansone reported he received a letter from Senator Corrado regarding the mobile units the Borough requested. Borough Administrator/Clerk Martin explained she had a meeting at Borough Hall with a representative of the New Jersey Department of Motor Vehicles in which they inspected the site and they gave her approval, Administrator/Clerk Martin provided the dates that the Borough parking lot would be available to host the mobile unit. The DMV notified her they cannot accommodate a Saturday, therefore unless the school is off, it cannot be held at the Borough lot. She further explained that they need 30 parking spots, 15 for each truck and parking for their staff. **Councilwoman DeLuca** suggested contacting the Faith Reformed Church to see if their parking lot could be used.

At this time, Administrator/Clerk Martin introduced the new Deputy Clerk to the Council.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Once again, **Mayor Shortway** opened the meeting to the public for any questions, comments or concerns.

There being no response and no further business to address, at 8:50 P.M., on a Motion by **Councilwoman DeLuca**, Seconded by **Councilwoman Peet** and carried, **Mayor Shortway** adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Martin, R.M.C.
Borough Clerk