

**BOROUGH OF MIDLAND PARK
280 GODWIN AVENUE
MIDLAND PARK, NJ 07432
APRIL 13, 2023**

7:00 P.M. WORK SESSION MINUTES

On April 13, 2023 at 7:00 P.M., the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Midland Park conducted a meeting at Borough Hall located at 280 Godwin Avenue as previously advertised. Agenda items for the meeting were listed on the Borough website.

Mayor Shortway called the Meeting to Order at 7:00 P.M.

The Mayor read the Sunshine Law Statement: The meeting was held in accordance with the Sunshine Law, notice has 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 Braunius	Present
	Councilman DeBlasio	Present
	Councilman Damiano	Present
	Councilman Kruis	Present
	Councilwoman Peet	Present
	Council President DeLuca	Present

Also Present: Borough Attorney Robert Regan, Borough Administrator/Clerk Wendy Martin, and Deputy Clerk Mari J. Margiotta

Borough Administrator/Clerk Martin took a roll call of the public.
No one from the Public was present.

DISCUSSION ITEM:

1. Sample Resolution – National Gun Violence Awareness Day

Borough Administrator/Clerk Wendy Martin inquired if the **Mayor** and **Council** would like to pass a resolution supporting "National Gun Violence Awareness Day". The **Mayor** and majority of the **Council** wished not to pass any resolution.

2. Draft Ordinance – Zoning Certificate

Borough Administrator/Clerk Wendy Martin updated the Governing Body on the history of this proposed ordinance. This ordinance gives authority to the Zoning Official to revoke a Zoning Certificate should the business violate any portion of the Borough code.

3. 90 Midland Avenue

Borough Attorney Robert Regan gave testimony on the events involving 90 Midland Avenue. A redevelopment study was completed at the request of the Planning Board by the Planner. A hearing was held in the past week where it was approved and directed to prepare a resolution for a vote. The study is available for public record and review. Also, the Fire Prevention Official did an inspection of the property and declared the area safe.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Members of the Public were asked to speak individually.
No one from the Public was present.

ATTORNEY REGAN READ THE RESOLUTION

Resolution #076-2023 Closed Session 4-13-2023

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a Public Body to go into closed session during a Public Meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of Midland Park has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the Public; and

WHEREAS, the regular meeting of this Governing Body will reconvene;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough Council of Midland Park will go into closed session for the following reason (s) as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12:

Any matter which, by express provision of Federal Law, State Statute or Rule of Court shall rendered confidential or excluded from discussion in public (Provision relied upon):

_____Any matter in which the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the federal government;

_____Any matter the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy;

_____Any collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions of which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of terms and conditions with employees or representatives of employees of the public body (Specify contract): _____.

_____Any matter involving the purpose, lease, or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of bank rates or investment of public funds where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matters were disclosed;

_____Any tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public provided that their disclosure could impair such protection;

_____Any investigations of violations or possible violations of the law;

X Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may become a party. Any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer (If pending or anticipated litigation, the matter is: Tax Appeals, AMP Communications contract negotiations the nature of the contract and interested party is _____ in circumstances, if public disclosure of the matter would have a potentially negative impact on the Borough's position in the litigation or negotiation, this information may be withheld until such time that the matter is concluded, or the circumstances no longer present a potential impact);

_____Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting (Subject to the balancing of the public's interest and the employee's privacy rights under South Jersey Publishing, 124 N. J. 478, the employee(s) and nature of discussion is _____

_____Any deliberation of a public body occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty upon the responding party or the suspension or loss of a license or permit belonging to the responding party as a result of an act of omission for which the responding party bears responsibility;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough Council hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subject(s) may be made public at a time when the Borough Attorney advises the Borough Council that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the Borough, or any other entity, with respect to said discussion. That time is currently estimated as the time of said matter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough Council, for the aforementioned reasons, hereby

declares that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place, and hereby directs the Borough Clerk to take the appropriate action to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

Introduced by:	Councilman Braunius	Seconded by:	Council President DeLuca
Roll Call:	Councilman Braunius		Aye
	Councilman De Blasio		Aye
	Councilman Damiano		Aye
	Councilman Kruis		Aye
	Councilwoman Peet		Aye
	Council President DeLuca		Aye

At this time the public was notified that the Mayor and Council will be going into Closed Session. They were invited to attend the 8:00 P.M. Open Public Meeting in person.

There being no further business to discuss on a Motion made by **Councilman Kruis**, Seconded by **Councilman DeBlasio**, and carried, the **Mayor** recessed the Work Session meeting and **Council** convened into the Closed Session at 7:13 P.M. The Work Session will reconvene after the adjournment of the Closed Session.

7:30 P.M. Mayor Shortway reconvened the Work Session.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Veterans Field

Mayor Shortway asked if a back stop fence could be placed by the girls' softball field to avoid any fly balls issues. **Councilman DeBlasio** added his thoughts and suggestions for the safety of the area.

2. Ramadan Lighting

Councilman Damiano discussed the Ramadan Lighting event.

Borough Administrator/Clerk Wendy Martin stated any religious organization may come before the Governing Body and ask the Mayor and Council to place ceremonial representations at the Borough Hall.

Respectfully submitted,



**Wendy Martin, RMC
Borough Administrator/Clerk**

