

BOROUGH OF MIDLAND PARK
280 Godwin Avenue
Midland Park NJ 07432
November 11, 2021
8:00 PM Open Public Meeting Minutes

On November 11, 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 November 11, 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 Work Sessions, Closed Sessions and Open Public Meetings, from the dates of: August 12, 2021, September 9, 2021, and September 23, 2021; 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:	Councilman Sansone	Seconded by:	Councilwoman Peet
Roll Call:	Councilman Damiano	Aye	
	Councilman Kruis	Aye	
	Councilman Sansone	Aye	Abstain August 12, 2021 and September 9, 2021
	Councilwoman DeLuca	Aye	
	Councilwoman Peet	Aye	
	Council President Iannone	Aye	Abstain September 9, 2021

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

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

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.

Borough Administrator/Clerk Wendy Martin announced the State's mandated requirements to complete the Best Practices inventory has been accomplished by the Certified Financial Officer. Last year in 2020, there were 60 questions as opposed to 48 questions this year. According to the point system, the Borough will receive the full amount of State Aid and there were no deductions taken.

LIAISON REPORTS:

Mayor Shortway

Mayor Shortway recalled the Veterans Day service today at Veterans Plaza. The **Mayor** thanked **Councilwoman DeLuca**, the Judge, and all that made the day a success.

Councilman Damiano

Finance/Recreation/Information Technology

Councilman Damiano expressed for **Finance**, the importance of the AA3 credit rating of Standard & Poor's. The **Councilman** stated the importance of how timely the Borough pays its taxes and the conservative fashion it handles payments of bills. This outstanding credit score will benefit Midland Park in a future bond sale. For **Recreation** and **Information Technology**, **Councilman Damiano** reported progress.

Council President Iannone

Public Safety – Police/Personnel/Ridgewood Water

Council President Iannone relayed progress for **Ridgewood Water**.

The **Council President** reported the **Police Department** stated for the month of October there were 64 service miles within the community. There were 220 dispatches categorized as public services. Motor vehicle stops were counted at 21, with 14 moving violations and 7 parking violations and in addition, there were 7 arrests including 4 DWI. Chief Powderley attended events and meetings concerning **Public Safety**. Officer Gaeta went to preconstruction meetings for the resurfacing of Paterson Avenue and the Greenwood Avenue bridge. Midland Park Police officers assisted in marking the 100' electioneering limits on Election Day. Sixteen members of the Police Department qualified during a mandated 8-hour class for active shootings. Detective Bodoie and Officer Schreck instructed the class and received rave reviews. There is progress to report in the Drone Program and an updated policy will be given shortly. There is also progress with the replacement of body worn cameras. Lieutenant Gibbons and Chief Powderley met with a few manufacturers and a purchase decision will be completed in the near future. Due to the low inventory of vehicles in the year 2021, the much-needed Police SUV will be delayed and possibly delivered in 2022 from Ford.

Personnel reported there is progress.

Councilman Kruis

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

The **Councilman** conveyed that the **Planning Board** will meet on Monday, November 15, 2021. The **Councilman** reported progress for the **Building** Department.

Councilman Kruis stated he received a report from the **Fire Prevention** Official and the **Office of Emergency Management** Coordinator: Michael Rau attended the Fire Prevention Conference in Fort Lee. Mr. Rau stated the Life Hazard Use inspections were completed and he is collecting the State fees for them. Tropical Storm Isaias FEMA paperwork has been completed and sent to the proper officials. Mr. Rau was asked to attend the Library's meeting on November 10, 2021, due to a discussion concerning the guidelines for a future use as a shelter. Also, on November 10, 2021 the Bergen County Communication Advisory Board met. The Borough's PPE inventory is at a satisfactory level.

Councilman Kruis received a report from John Torry, **Property Maintenance** Official: two tree issues have been resolved and 6 are still outstanding, four new property maintenance issues have arisen since the previous meeting, there is an ongoing problem with bulk garbage pickup and Mr. Torry will reach out to Sterling Carting to resolve this matter. The issue concerning the commercial dumpster on Greenwood Avenue was resolved.

Councilman Sansone

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

Councilman Sansone reported the **Economic Development Committee** had their meeting on October 28, 2021. Their minutes will follow at the next Mayor and Council Meeting.

The **Councilman** stated **Wendy Martin, Borough Administrator/Clerk** received a call from the **Chamber of Commerce**. They requested some assistance from the Borough to supplement the costs associated with the wreath maintenance. Council Members agreed to pay half the costs associated with the wreaths.

Councilman Sansone reported the **Department of Public Works'** 2021 leaf season pickup has received several positive feedbacks from the Borough's residents. The salt trucks have been serviced and are ready for the winter season. In the Police Department, the lockers have been installed. Progress has been made on the garbage truck that was in a collision.

Councilwoman Peet

Board of Health/ Board of Education/Municipal Alliance

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

The **Councilwoman** reported the **Board of Education** will conduct their meeting on November 16, 2021 while the Council will be at the New Jersey League of Municipalities Convention.

Councilwoman Peet reported the **Board of Health's** meeting was held on November 8, 2021. At the meeting, a discussion ensued regarding the third dose clinic being held at The Kentshire Apartments. The schools positive COVID-19 cases remain steady with no increases.

Councilwoman Peet briefly discussed the up-to-date percentage of vaccinated residents in Midland Park. An increase in animal incidents have occurred within the past few months. Rodents have become more visible possibly due to colder weather and a wet season.

Councilwoman DeLuca

Public Safety – Fire/Ambulance/Library

Councilwoman DeLuca reported the **Ambulance Corps** held their monthly meeting on Monday, November 1, 2021. The Captain reported for the month of October the following: total calls were 84 with 646 miles. Rig # 588 incurred 64 calls with 528 miles and Rig #19 acquired 19 calls with 118 miles. The breakdown of total calls is as following: refusals – 13, cancellations – 8, standbys – 7, mutual aid into Midland Park – 4, mutual aid out of Midland Park – 26, Kentshire – 2 (28 year-to-date), and Mill Gardens – 1. The **Councilwoman** reported the **Fire Department’s** monthly meeting was on Wednesday, November 10, 2021. **Councilwoman DeLuca** gave the Fire Department’s monthly report. In addition, the Department voted in two new members, Matthew Genao and Ray Atemus. On December 11, 2021, the Fire Department will have Breakfast with Santa and December 18, and 19, 2021, Project Santa is taking place. There will be more details to follow. **Councilwoman DeLuca** reported the **Library** Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 16, 2021. Catherine Dileo, Director, stated all is positive at the Library. For more information about the Library’s events and activities, please site their website. The Friends of the Library will meet on Thursday, November 18, 2021.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

Borough Administrator/Clerk Martin stated Robert Regan, Borough Attorney has prepared the Agreement of Sale for the fire truck being sold to the Borough of Rutherford. Ms. Martin sent the agreement to Rutherford for their approval.

ORDINANCES ON FINAL:

1. ORDINANCE # 20-21

“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ESTABLISHED SALARIES AND WAGES FOR CERTAIN BOROUGH OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF MIDLAND PARK FOR THE YEAR 2021”

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

1. The following schedule setting forth the salaries and wages to be paid to certain Borough Officers, Employees and Officials during the year 2021.

POSITION		2021 RATE
Mayor	Up to	\$ 5,000.00
Council Members	Up to	\$ 4,000.00
Borough Administrator/Clerk	\$100,000.00 to	\$150,000.00
Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer	\$ 2,500.00 to	\$ 90,000.00
Deputy Borough Clerk	Up to	\$ 55,000.00
Records Clerk	\$ 15.00/hr to	\$ 20.00/hr
Administrative Assistant	Up to	\$ 50,000.00
Administrative/Planning/Zoning Secretary	Up to	\$ 47,000.00
Tax Collector	Up to	\$ 80,000.00

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Deputy Tax Collector/Tax Clerk	\$35,000.00 to	\$ 65,000.00
Tax Assessor	\$11,000.00 to	\$ 45,000.00
Plumbing Inspector – M.P.	Up to	\$ 15,000.00
Plumbing Inspector – Ho-Ho-Kus	Up to	\$ 12,000.00
Plumbing Subcode Official- Ho-Ho-Kus	Up to	\$ 2,000.00
Fire Subcode Official – Ho-Ho-Kus	Up to	\$ 2,500.00
Fire Inspector – M.P.	Up to	\$ 4,000.00
Fire Inspector (substitute)	Up to	\$ 30.00/hr
Elevator Inspector – M.P.	\$ 1,500.00 to	\$ 3,000.00
Electrical Inspector- M.P.	\$ 2,000.00 to	\$ 22,000.00
Electrical Sub Code – Ho-Ho-Kus	Up to	\$ 15,000.00
Property Maintenance Official	Up to	\$ 20.00/hr
Construction Code Official/Zoning Official – M.P.	\$60,000.00 to	\$ 87,000.00
Construction Code Official – Ho-Ho-Kus	Up to	\$ 40,000.00
Construction Code Assistant	\$ 6,000.00 to	\$ 40,000.00
Building Inspector – Ho-Ho-Kus	Up to	\$ 16,000.00
D.P.W. Superintendent	Up to	\$116,000.00
D.P.W. Foreman	Up to	\$ 90,000.00
D.P.W. Utility Laborers	\$43,000.00 to	\$ 75,000.00
D.P.W. personnel “on-call” stipend		\$ 250.00/wk
D.P.W. personnel “boot allowance”		\$ 150.00/yr
Recycling Center Attendant	\$ 14.00/hr to	\$ 20.00/hr
Building/Grounds Maintenance Worker	Up to	\$ 57,000.00
Municipal Court Judge	\$ 10,000.00 to	\$ 25,000.00
Municipal Court Administrator	\$ 20,000.00 to	\$ 86,000.00
Deputy Municipal Court Clerk	\$ 65.00	per Session
Special Help-Court Clerk’s Office/Deputy	\$ 7.00/hr to	\$ 75.00/hr
Information Technology	up to	\$ 75.00/hr
Fire Prevention Officer	\$ 8,000.00 to	\$ 20,000.00
Fire Prevention Sub Inspector	Up to	\$ 2,500.00
Officer of Emergency Management	\$ 5,000.00 to	\$ 31,000.00
Police Chief	\$ 60,000.00 to	\$210,000.00
Secretary-Police Department	Up to	\$ 52,000.00
Special Police/Matron/Desk Clerks	Up to	\$ 25.00/hr
Crossing Guard	Up to	\$ 25.00/hr
Extra Help - Any department	Up to	\$ 21.50/hr
Recreation Coordinator	\$ 500.00 to	\$ 60,000.00
Recreation Building Attendant	\$ 12.00 to	\$ 16.00/hr
Summer Camp Coordinator	\$ 20.00 to	\$ 30.00/hr
Asst. Summer Camp Coordinator	\$ 13.00 to	\$ 25.00/hr
Counselor: Year #1		\$ 7.00/hr
Counselor: Year #2		\$ 8.00/hr

Counselor: Year #3	\$ 9.00/hr
Counselor: Year #4	\$ 10.00/hr
Counselor: Year #5	\$ 11.00/hr
Counselor: Year #6	\$ 12.00/hr
Counselor: Year #7	\$ 13.00/hr
Senior Counselor	\$ 14.50/hr

2. Individual salaries shall be set by Resolution of the Council within the salary range. In the absence of a minimum, any employee may be hired at any sum less than the maximum set forth above.

3. All civilian employees' fringe benefits will be in accordance with the Borough of Midland Park's Personnel Policy Manual.

4. All salaries and wages provided for herein shall be effective in accordance to the Resolution adopted pursuant to paragraph 2 of the Ordinance.

5. This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passages and publication according to law.

Introduced by: Councilman Damiano

Seconded by: Councilwoman Peet

At this time, **Mayor Shortway** opened the meeting to the public for any questions, comment, or concerns regarding Ordinance #20-21. 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

2. ORDINANCE #21-21

“AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE OF \$130,990.00: \$110,990.00 FROM THE 2021-2022 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT, AS WELL AS APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$20,000.00 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 funding from the Bergen County Division of Community Development in the form of a 2021-2022 Community Development Block Grant for Road Improvements of West Street and Birch Street.

Section 2.

The sum of \$110,990.00 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 \$20,000.00.

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: Councilman Kruis

Seconded by: Councilman Sansone

At this time, **Mayor Shortway** opened the meeting to the public for any questions, comment, or concerns regarding Ordinance #21-21. 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 #183-21 Budget Transfers 2021

WHEREAS, transfers are permitted between budget appropriations during the last two months of the fiscal year; except for out-of-cap expenses;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Midland Park, in the County of Bergen, New Jersey, that transfers between 2021 Budget Appropriations be made as follows:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Account #</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>From</u>
Library	Lib – Health Active	1-01--205-401		\$2,800.00
Library	Lib – Salary	1-01--205-101		\$4,000.00
Library	Lib – Contribution	1-01--205-261	\$ 6,800.00	

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Animal Control Administration	Animal – Emergency Admin - Salary	1-01--055-237 1-01--001-101	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Municipal Clerk Administration	Code Maint Clerk - Salary Admin – Salary	1-01--052-214 1-01--052-101 1-01--001-101	\$ 5,500.00 \$ 7,500.00	\$ 13,000.00
Property Maint DPW	Prop Maint - Salary DPW - Seasonal Sal	1-01--028-101 1-01--019-109	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00
Utilities Recycling	Natural Gas Water Recycle - Paper Mkt	1-01--031-205 1-01--031-208 1-01--021-282	\$ 1,000.00 \$ 2,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Statutory Exp	Statutory – DCRP	1-01--041-445	\$ 1,500.00	
Statutory Exp	Statutory – Soc Sec	1-01--041-442		\$ 1,500.00

Resolution #184-21 Fire Apparatus Vehicle Purchased by Borough of Rutherford

Introduced by: Councilwoman DeLuca Seconded by: Council President Iannone

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(b)(1)* and *N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13.1* permit a municipality to sell personal property by private sale to a political subdivision of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Midland Park (“the Borough”) is the owner of a fire apparatus vehicle, Identification No. 1S91G 71D7S 10200 79 (“the Vehicle”); and

WHEREAS, the Borough and the Borough of Rutherford have determined to enter into an agreement whereby the Borough will sell the Vehicle to the Borough of Rutherford for the sum of \$9,000.00, in “as in condition”, with no warranties neither expressed nor implied, as to the condition of the Vehicle.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Borough Clerk/Administrator be and are hereby authorized to execute any documents to effectuate the sale and transfer of title of the vehicle.

Roll Call:

Councilman Damiano	Aye
Councilman Kruis	Aye
Councilman Sansone	Aye
Councilwoman DeLuca	Aye
Councilwoman Peet	Aye
Council President Iannone	Aye

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution #182-21 – Bills List

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

Councilman Sansone	Aye
Councilwoman DeLuca	Aye
Councilwoman Peet	Aye
Council President Iannone	Aye

ORDINANCE ON INTRODUCTION:

1. ORDINANCE # 21-21

“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TO CHAPTER XC OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF MIDLAND PARK ENTITLED, “FEES AND CHARGES”.

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Midland Park, in the County of Bergen, State New Jersey that Chapter XC of the Code of the Borough of Midland Park entitled Fees and Charges be amended to read as follows:

Section 1.

§90-2, “FEES FOR CHAPTER II, ADMINISTRATION”, Section 2-33.1 is hereby amended to add the following:

Police:

Traffic control reimbursements from contractors\$115.00 per hour

Section 2.

§90-3, “FEES FOR CHAPTER 111,” POLICE REGULATIONS”, Section 3 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Digital Photo CD (copies) \$10.00

Color photo prints per page \$ 1.00

Flat rate fee per day (up to 12 hours) for private duty use of a patrol car \$180.00

Private duty use of a patrol car use after 12 hours is an additional per hour

rate of\$ 25.00

Section 3. Severability.

If any section, sentence, or any other part of this Ordinance is adjudged unconstitutional or **Ordinance #22-21** invalid, such judgment shall not effect, impair, or invalidate the remainder of this Ordinance but shall be confined in its effect to the section, sentence or other part of this Ordinance directly involved in the controversy which such judgment shall be rendered.

Section 4. Inconsistent Ordinances Repealed.

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed, but only to the extent of such inconsistencies.

Section 5. Effective Date.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication as provided by law.

Introduced by: Council President Iannone

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**

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Shortway, Jr. received a telephone call regarding the parking at the soccer fields. Borough Administrator/Clerk Martin has already addressed the situation.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilwoman DeLuca made a motion to accept two new members, Matthew Genao and Ray Atemus, to the Borough of Midland Park Fire Department.

Introduced by: Councilwoman DeLuca **Seconded by: Councilman Kruis**

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

Councilwoman DeLuca opened the discussion with the topic of the Veterans Field sign. Kathy LaMonte, Recreation Coordinator, reported this sign disappeared during Hurricane Sandy and was never replaced. Ms. LaMonte and **Councilwoman DeLuca** conversed about erecting a new sign. The Councilwoman also asked the Council for their input about new plaques being made to honor the Veterans names of Midland Park. For this project, the **Councilwoman** is hoping the Boy Scouts and the Veterans Association can assist in the cost. The Council’s general censuses was supportive for these two subject matters.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no response and no further business to address, at 8:33 P.M., on a Motion by **Councilwoman Peet**, Seconded by **Councilman Sansone** and carried, **Mayor Shortway** adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by,

Wendy Martin, R.M.C.
Borough Clerk