



**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
BOROUGH OF CLOSTER**

WORK SESSION MINUTES: WEDNESDAY – OCTOBER 9, 2024

THIS REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL WILL BE HELD IN-PERSON, TELEPHONICALLY, and VIA ZOOM VIDEO. You may join Zoom meeting including video by accessing the information posted in the Borough Calendar on the Borough website by visiting www.closterboro.com and clicking the link on the left sidebar for Calendars and Notice of Meetings and click on the corresponding date. To join via Telephone Audio Only: TOLL FREE: +1 646-558-8656; MEETING ID: 864 2063 3673; PASSWORD: 8675309

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT

Mayor Glidden opened the meeting at 7:00 P.M. with the open public meetings announcement: This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey, was included in the Notice of 2024 Mayor and Council Meetings which was published in The Record and The Star Ledger on December 29, 2023, was posted on the Municipal Clerk's bulletin board and on the Borough website, and has remained posted as the required notices under the Statute. In addition, a copy of the notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

3. ROLL CALL

Governing Body	Present	Absent
Mayor Glidden	✓	
Councilwoman Amitai		✓
Councilman Cho	✓	
Council President Chung	✓	
Councilwoman Latner	✓	
Councilwoman Maroules	✓	
Councilman Yammarino	✓	

4. PRESENTATION

- a. PAVA World – Donation to Closter Police Department. This presentation will take place on October 23, 2024.
- b. Proclamation – Barbara Guile honored the Former President of the Closter Board of Health. This presentation will take on October 23, 2024.

5. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF COMMUNICATION ITEMS

- a. MAIL LIST OF September 27, 2024: Councilwoman Amitai commented on Item #1 about bears and suggested it go into the newsletter. Councilwoman Latner spoke about Item #2 (the resolutions passed by

the County) and asked if these could be passed in Closter as well.

- b. MAIL LIST OF October 4, 2024: Councilwoman Amitai spoke about Item #2. She said that a resident on Maple Street asked for more lighting. The Councilwoman asked the Police Department to take a look at putting an additional light there.

6. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS FOR REGULAR MEETING

- *24-229 RESOLUTION TO ESCHEAT FUNDS
- *24-230 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND ESCROW
- *24-231 RESOLUTION TO CLEAR OUTSTANDING CHECK FOR THE MUNICIPAL COURT
- *24-232 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BIDS FOR LEASE OF A PORTION OF WELLINGTON AVENUE
- *24-233 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RE-BIDS FOR CLOSTER DPW POLE BARN PROJECT
- *24-234 RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH WATERS & BUGBEE
- *24-235 RESOLUTION TO PURSUE A “FAIR AND OPEN” PROCESS IN AWARDED A CONTRACT FOR MUNICIPAL MEDICAL PHYSICIAN/MEDICAL PROVIDER IN THE BOROUGH OF CLOSTER
- *24-236 RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF ITEM OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION UNDER N.J.S.A 40A: 4-87 FOR “ANJEC OPEN SPACE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION”
- *24-237 RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF ITEM OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION UNDER N.J.S.A 40A: 4-87 FOR “U-DRIVE, U-TEXT, U-PAY”
- *24-238 RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING HICKORY LANE AS A HISTORIC ROADWAY
- *24-239 RESOLUTION BILLS LIST
- *24-240 RESOLUTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION AND EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC – CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS: VILLAGE SCHOOL

Councilwoman Amitai asked who would be renting Wellington Avenue (24-232) and if the Borough would be willing to do that. Councilwoman Chung asked to take 24-233 off the agenda for further discussion. Councilman Yammarino asked about 24-237 and who gets the ticket money. Borough Administrator James Winters said the ticket money is the same as all the other ticket monies.

7. PROFESSIONAL REPORTS

- a. BOROUGH ENGINEER: The easement required for the sidewalk area will require a resolution. The 2024 Road program is on hold because of the PSE&G work. The 2025 program has not been bid but includes the walking path at Ruckman Park.
- b. BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR: An open space ordinance is planned for November and will address the walking path at Ruckman Park. Funds are being sought. An email was sent to the committees and commissions asking for requests. A proposal has been received for the 2025 Road Program. A bond

ordinance will be sought to pay for the engineering portion. The Federal government responded concerning the bridge grant. Borough Administrator James Winters took a 2-hour course on how to apply for the project. Eight more hours of coursework are required. A budget has to be created. The insurance broker has communicated with Mr. Winters, who will be looking for better prices. The dental rates are being raised by Horizon. The agent found less-expensive coverage for dental. Only one currently used dentist would be out of network. Insurance decisions will be made soon. The Best Practices Questionnaire is in the works. Councilwoman Amitai asked how old the Ruckman Park walking path is.

- c. CHIEF OF POLICE: There has been significant progress on the road striping process. At the end of next month there will be election training. At the next meeting there will be a resolution addressing the Halloween curfew. Netflix will be in the Borough soon to film. The Jewish holidays have been well attended. The gas line insulation is underway. There is a program underway for senior citizens and their children about fraud. It will be at the senior center on October 28, 2024 at 6:30 PM. The meeting yesterday with Edens' went well. The cameras and lighting will stay until something more permanent is in place. A temporary security guard has been added.
- d. MAYOR: There was a dog show last weekend that was very successful. A lot of money was raised for the local shelters and rescues. The event will be repeated. There was also a vintage car show at the plaza. There were 250 cars, and the winner was a TR-6. The festival at the Vaswani Center was also delightful. The MacBain Farm festival is October 26, 2024 from 2:00 – 4:00 PM.

8. OLD BUSINESS

None

9. NEW BUSINESS

Councilwoman Latner shared that a resident is presenting a program on media literacy at the Library. The used book sale will be on October 26, 2024. Councilwoman Chung announced that she is sharing her annual trick or treat list.

10. OPEN MEETING FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS (5-MINUTE LIMIT)

Steve Isaacson thanked the Department of Public Works for picking up his items. He then asked for progress on MacBain Farm. He shared information showing that trucks just need to be covered (in relation to the pole barn). Councilwoman Amitai shared that the farm looks fabulous.

Shelagh McCaffrey (70 Anderson Avenue) agreed that MacBain Farm looks great. She said that drone footage has been taken and shared on social media, and thanked all of the volunteers and workers. She asked how the land will be protected. She said that it is currently zoned residential (i.e., not protected). She said that in the 2009 Master Plan there is a note about protecting all of the public land intended for conservation by designating it conservation land. She said that a deed of conservation easement could also be done on that property. Farmland Preservation is not an option for MacBain Farm. Borough Attorney William J. Bailey thanked Ms. McCaffrey and spoke about pros and cons of different approaches, including seeking historic preservation at the state level. Ms. McCaffrey would like to see this happen and that she will continue to ask about it.

Steve Isaacson asked for clarification and if the conservation zone was really an overlay.

Councilwoman Maroules read an email from a resident residing at 388 Closter Dock Road about the deterioration of the sidewalk on Closter Dock Road and suggested using pavers instead of cement. The Council gave their consensus that the consistency of cement was best.

Councilman Yammarino read a letter requesting permission for a combined Halloween Festival on October 27,

2024 from 10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. No one objected.

11. ADJOURNMENT

COUNCILMEMBER	MOTION	SECOND	YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Councilwoman Amitai			✓			
Councilman Cho	✓		✓			
Council President Chung			✓			
Councilwoman Latner			✓			
Councilwoman Maroules		✓	✓			
Councilman Yammarino			✓			

The Work Session adjourned at **8:22 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,



Mari J. Margiotta, RMC, CMR
Borough Clerk

Date of Minutes approval: April 9, 2025