

**BERGENFIELD PLANNING BOARD
REORGANIZATION & REGULAR
MEETING MINUTES
January 27, 2025**

Chairman Robert Rivas called the meeting to order at 8:00 P.M.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

In compliances with the Open Public Meetings Act, the notice requirements have been satisfied. Meeting dates are confirmed at the Annual Meeting. Notice of this meeting was provided to the Record, Star Ledger, and Cablevision, posted on a municipal public notice bulletin boards and published on the borough website.

Any board member having a conflict of interest involving any matter to come before the board this evening is reminded they must recuse himself/herself from participating in any discussion on this matter.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led By Mayor Amatorio.

OATH OF OFFICE TO APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS

Edgar Dimaren

Oath of offices were administered by Mayor Amatorio.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Amatorio, Councilman Lodato, Robert Rivas, Romeo Abenoja, Ernesto Acosta, Jason Bergman, Edgar Dimaren, and Praveen Joseph

Absent: Phil Neville, Councilman Thomas Lodato, and Joel Nunez

Also Present: Gloria Oh, Planning Board Attorney, Antonios Panagopoulos, Planning Board Engineer and Hilda Tavitian, Planning Board Clerk

Nomination of Chairman:

Robert Rivas

Motion by: Mayor Amatorio

Second by: Mr. Abenoja

All present, voting in favor. None opposed.

Nomination of Vice-Chairman:

Jason Bergman

Motion by: Mayor Amatorio

Second by: Mr. Acosta

All present, voting in favor. None opposed.

Nomination of Secretary:

Ernesto Acosta

Motion by: Mr. Bergman

Second by: Mayor Amatorio

All present, voting in favor. None opposed.

Nomination of Board Attorney:

Gloria Oh

Motion by: Mayor Amatorio

Second by: Mr. Bergman

All present, voting in favor. None opposed.

Nomination of Board Engineer:

T&M Associates

Motion By: Mayor Amatorio

Second By: Mr. Bergman

All present, voting in favor. None opposed.

Nomination of Board Clerk:

Hilda Tavitian

Motion by: Mr. Bergman

Second by: Mayor Amatorio

All present, voting in favor. None opposed.

Accept By-Laws:

Motion By: Mayor Amatorio

Second By: Mr. Bergman

All present, voting in favor. None opposed.

Accept 2025 Meeting Dates:

Motion By: Mr. Bergman

Second By: Mayor Amatorio

All present, voting in favor. None opposed.

APPOINTMENTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Liaison to Board of Adjustment - Mr. Bergman

Site Plan – Chairman Rivas and Mr. Bergman

Master Plan- Mayor Amatorio, Mr. Bergman

Parking/Legal – Mayor Amatorio and Councilman Lodato

APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – October 28, 2024

Motion By: Mr. Bergman

Second By: Mr. Abenoja

All present, voting in favor. None opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chairman Rivas stated he received a letter from T&M Associates regarding the application the Borough of Bergenfield submitted to NJDEP seeking permits for Freshwater Wetlands General permit and Flood Hazard General Area Individual. The permit application was submitted to receive authorization for the cleaning, de-snagging, and stabilization of four sections of Metzler Brook in Bergenfield.

Mayor Amatorio stated the borough is undertaking the cleaning of Metzler Brook and other brooks around Bergenfield. They applied for a permit from DEP. One of the requirements for the permit is for them to obtain a waiver from the residents whose property is by the brook to go onto their property. T&M Associates submitted the application to DEP and will be doing the clean up, once the permits are obtained. He reached out to the Governor’s office and the representative from Legislative District 38 for

assistance in getting the permits. He stated the letter is just advisory. This will help alleviate the flooding problem and have reached out to different towns in the area to make sure their brooks are cleaned, also.

Board member Acosta stated three letters were received from the Bergen County Soil Conservation District for three homes in Bergenfield.

VERBAL COMMUNICATION

Comments by members of audience on matters not on evening's agenda

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Site Plan – No report
2. Parking Legal – No report
3. Capital Improvements – Mayor Amatorio stated while the space in front of the borough hall building is going to be a parking lot/park, it is also a mitigation project. They are digging to put in a retention basin to prevent flooding. There will be a flagpole. The monuments will be placed to the side of the building where the programs will be held. There will a fountain in front of the flagpole. It will be completed by Memorial Day. The entire footprint of borough hall will be repaved by mid-2025. There will be a walkway with pavers, some greenery, and benches by the fountain to make it aesthetically pleasing. Mayor Amatorio stated he can share the plan with the Board at the next meeting.
4. Master Plan – No report
5. Liaison to Board of Adjustment – No report

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING

Motion By: Mr. Bergman

Second By: Mayor Amatorio

All present, voting in favor. None opposed.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:33 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Hilda Tavitian, Clerk
Planning Board

DPW MONTHLY REPORT

May 2025

GARBAGE & RECYCLING:

Collected & disposed of 771.29 tons of garbage curbside, 69 loads

Collected & recycled 217.94 tons of single stream cardboard, paper, cartons, bottles, cans, plastics (#1, #2, #5 ONLY) curbside, 53 loads

Collected & recycled 0.00 commingled plastics (#1, #2, #5 ONLY), bottles, cans, glass & cartons at Recycling Center, 0 loads

Collected & recycled 0.00 tons mixed paper (including shredded paper) at Recycling Center, 0 loads

Collected & recycled 15.61 tons of corrugated cardboard curbside & at Recycling Center, 4 loads

Collected & recycled 1500 cubic yds of vegetative waste curbside, 15 loads

Collected & disposed of 34.46 tons of street sweepings, 5 loads

Disposed of 0 tons of garbage (Borough-generated), 0 loads

Collected & disposed of 0.00 tons of Bulk garbage, 0 loads

Collected & recycled 2.4255 tons e-waste at DPW office, 1 load (TV's, computer monitors & CPU's/towers, laptops/tablets, desktop printers & desktop fax machines ONLY)

Inspected garbage, recycling & vegetative waste curbside & notified residents of any collection issues or illegal material

Addressed cart requests - deliveries (purchased & initial), repaired/replaced cart bodies/lids due to damage

TREES:

Inspected Borough tree requests per Shade Tree Committee list & per resident calls/emails/letters/visits to DPW

Removed 6 trees and trimmed 8 trees

Produced 15 yds wood chips & 3 yds logs

Loaded vegetative waste/leaves/grass onto vendor trailers to be recycled as mulch- 700 yds

PARKS:

Maintained Borough parks, lots & fields, serviced & maintained DPW Parks equipment

Prep Memorial and Coopers Pond for Memorial Day celebration

Mulch Memorial

PAL renovations started

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS:

Stocked Borough Hall & DPW building daily with necessary products

Clean Borough Hall

Train new Cleaning Lady

SEWERS & STORM DRAINS:

3 sewer blocks

Flushed & cleaned 10 sewer syphons: Armour Pl; N Prospect; Fox Pl; W Church; W Main; Windsor Rd; Woodbine; Roosevelt Ave; Anderson Ave & Spring St

Flushed 10,233 ft of sewer lines, videotaped 1,888 ft of sewer lines

Flushed 1,450 ft of storm drain lines, videotaped 174 ft of storm drain lines

Vacuumed & cleaned 20 storm basins, inspected 33 storm drains, repaired 0

Received 74 utility (sanitary sewer & storm drain) markout requests

Replace manhole frame and cover at Hallberg Ave/Alice Pl.

ROADS:

Inspected street openings for proper compaction & replacement "in kind" of street material
Contacted PSE&G, Suez & contractors regarding follow-up road repair work & outstanding street opening permits
Filled 0 small, 0 medium, 5 large potholes, and 0 patches
Face formed curbline on James St.
Veolia notified (continuously) about water cap at New Bridge Rd/Windsor Rd needing repair; Marcotte Ln- new water line installed, informed Veolia (doing the work) that entire road will need to be paved.

OTHER:

Clean Communities sponsored Shred Event at Library
Memorial Day Parade
Interview and hire Summer Help
Boro yard sanitary line repair, new sweep installed

AUTOMOTIVE & EQUIPMENT REPAIRS:

6 DPW vehicles/equipment serviced/repaired, 2 Fire Dept vehicles serviced/repaired, 2 Borough vehicles serviced/repaired
7 Police Dept vehicles serviced

| FUEL USAGE: | Department | Gas (gallons) | Diesel (gallons) |
|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| | Police | 2006.694 | N/A |
| | Fire | 179.388 | 223.836 |
| | Health | 14.316 | N/A |
| | Building | 48.696 | N/A |
| | DPW | 683.496 | 4982.686 |
| | Board of Ed. | 5114.108 | 102.466 |
| | Board of Ed. Maint. | 160.108 | 77.070 |
| | Ambulance | 226.720 | 153.456 |
| | OEM | 41.734 | N/A |
| | Code Enforcement | N/A | N/A |
| | Fire Official | 41.924 | N/A |

COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION:

Service is Monday to Friday: 9am to 1pm.
Bus is going to Shoprite/Aldi's and doctor visits.

OVERTIME:

Mid-week standby call-ins: 42.75 hrs, Weekend standby call-ins: 52.25 hrs
Weekend standby regular duties: 106.00 hrs
Weekend Recycling Center: 38.25 hrs
Cleaned litter & debris on Washington Ave bi-weekly: 35.00 hrs, Miscellaneous: 10.00 hrs
Cut & weed whip Park n' Ride: 13.00 hrs; Mayor's Wellness: 55.00 hrs
Curbside recycling cart inspections: 4.00 hrs, Sunday Sweeper: 8.50 hrs
Memorial Day Parade: 64.00 hrs

TOTAL: 428.75 overtime hrs