

Borough of Ho-Ho-Kus
County of Bergen
Mayor and Council Work Session Meeting Minutes
February 16, 2021 7:30 p.m.

The Work Session Meeting of the Municipal Council of the Borough of Ho-Ho-Kus was held Via ZOOM Meeting on February 16, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Randall asked the Municipal Clerk to read the open public meeting statement:

The Work Session Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ho-Ho-Kus is now in session in accordance with the provisions of Section 5 of the “Open Public Meetings Act”. Notice of this meeting has been posted in the front lobby entrance to the Borough Hall and Council Chambers, a copy has been filed with the Borough Clerk, and copies of the Annual Notice of Meetings, of which this is a part, have been heretofore sent to the Record and the Ridgewood News.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor.....	Thomas W. Randall
Council President.....	Douglas Troast
Councilman.....	Steven Shell
Councilman.....	Edward Iannelli
Councilman.....	Kevin Crossley
Councilman.....	Dane Policastro
Councilwoman.....	Kathleen Moran

Also, in attendance: Tim Wiss Borough Attorney; William Jones, Borough Administrator; Joan Herve, Borough Clerk.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

January 26, 2021 – Public Meeting of the Mayor and Council

DEPARTMENT REPORTS - Reports are on file in the Municipal Clerk’s office:

Police Report – January 2021

Court Report – January 2021

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Mayor Randall opened the meeting to the public. He stated if anyone desired to be heard, please raise your hand and to be recognized, and state your name and address for the record.

Lefty Grimes, Jamie Van Sciver and Patrick Duffy from Stevia Cannabis 501C3 Organization

Discussed the importance of the Borough of Ho-Ho-Kus to re-evaluate their Ordinance from banning Cannabis shops.

Mayor closed the meeting to the public

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Administrator reported on the following;

Old Business

DOT Train Station Project – He had a meeting with the NJDOT, they are ready to commence this project with the one-way into the borough sometime in the Spring. The road will be closed for approximately 30 days. To facilitate this, we must give them permission to come to the town by resolution and also amend our ordinance to reflect that road as now a one-way.

BC United Way/Madeline Partnership Affordable Housing Project - Mr. Jones reported we have a Bond Ordinance that will be introduced next week regarding bonding for our Affordable Housing Project at the train station Parking lot. We bonded for 3 million, however he explained that number might change before next week’s meeting as the cost of lumber has increased substantially during COVID.

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HHK Crossing Project – nothing new to report, we are just waiting on the developer's changes.

New Business

612 Maple Avenue Apartments – Administrator Jones reported this property is the first affordable housing being marketed in the Borough of Ho-Ho-Kus. Piazza & Associates will be reviewing applications and making the determinations as they are our Affordable Housing Administrators.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Letter from the family of Mary-Elizabeth Collins who passed away on 1.24.2021

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES and PUBLIC HEARING -None

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE to be placed on February 23, 2021 agenda

- **2021-42** – BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF A GRANT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF HO-HO-KUS, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$3,000,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.

RESOLUTIONS REVIEW to be placed on February 23, 2021 agenda

- Payment of bills – February
- Forgiveness of Solid Waste 1st Qtr. 2021 Bill

LIAISON REPORTS

Recreation – Councilman Iannelli reported recreation baseball and softball registration is now opened. Travel Basketball is underway. Wrestling season has been postponed. All teams are adhering to State guidelines for COVID.

Library – Councilman Policastro deferred his report until next meeting, February 23, 2021

Board of Education - Councilman Policastro deferred his report until next meeting, February 23, 2021

Ambulance Corp. – Councilman Crossley stated he has no report as the Ambulance Corp has not met since COVID started.

Fire Department – Councilman Shell deferred his report until next meeting, February 23, 2021

Chamber of Commerce – Councilman Shell deferred his report until next meeting, February 23, 2021

MAYOR'S REMARKS

BUDGET PRESENTATION – Joe Citro, CFO discussed and presented the Mayor and Council with a preliminary numbers for the 2021 Budget. Mr. Citro is looking to introduce at the Public Meeting on March 23, 2021.

CLOSED SESSION - On a motion by Councilman Crossley, seconded by Councilwoman Moran, the Mayor and Council approved entering into Executive Session closed to the public. Motion Carried by voice vote – all present voting “Aye”.

A Resolution - providing for a meeting not open to the public in accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act. NJSA 10:4-12

Whereas, the Borough Council of the Borough of Ho-Ho-Kus is subject to certain requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, NJSA 10:4-6; and

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Whereas, the Open Public Meetings Act, NJSA 10:4-12 provides that an Executive Session not open to the public may be held for certain specified purposes when authorized by resolution; and

Whereas, it is necessary for the Borough Council of the Borough of Ho-Ho-Kus to discuss in a session not open to the public certain matters relating to the item or items authorized by NJSA 10:4-12 (b) as follows:

4-Matters relating to collective bargaining agreements

HHK Crossing

8-Matters involving Employment

Police

5-Matters involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real property with public funds

Bank of America

Now therefore, be it resolved by the Borough Council of the Borough of Ho-Ho-Kus assembled in public session on February 16, 2021 that an Executive Session closed to the public be and the same is hereby authorized for discussion of matters relating to the specified items designated above.

Closed Session began at 8:39 p.m. and ended at 9:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilman Crossley, seconded by Councilman Iannelli, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. Motion Carried by voice vote – all present voting “Aye”.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Herve RMC/CMR
Borough Clerk