

Special May 26 Borough Council Edition



New Providence Borough Council Meeting May 26, 2020

7:30 PM. Agenda

This Tuesday's Borough Council meeting is packed with information which should be of interest to all citizens in town.

First is the introduction of a Bond Ordinance "Providing For Various Capital Improvements," in the Borough. The total project amount being \$2,484,000, \$2,360,000 of which would be raised through bonds.

Second is the presentation of the 2020 Municipal Budget. The 12-page document summarizes the budget and breaks down the areas tax dollars are being distributed. Summaries of highlights of this document appear in additional posts on the Community Forum. The presentation is followed by a "Budget Hearing."

A resolution in support of NJ State Senate Bill S-2475 "Authorizing the Issuance of 'Coronavirus Relief Bonds' By Municipalities And Counties." This bill would permit the issuance of bonds to cover operating expense deficits incurred as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic. The legislation, already passed by the Assembly, met opposition from Republican law makers in the state Assembly, including local Assembly members Bramnick and Munoz.

Introduction of Ordinance 2020-06, a zoning ordinance which includes the following: "New Construction of multifamily buildings with five or more units shall have electric vehicle charging stations equal to 10% of the approved parking spaces, in addition to any other required spaces."

Also slated is a "Discussion item: Outdoor dining – Easing restrictions to promote social distancing."

Members of the public may participate in the virtual meeting by following the instructions on the newprov.org webpage. Look under the "Agendas and Minutes" menu item. Link and phone number are also included on page two of this publication.

Meeting Highlights

2 Million Plus Bond Ordinance

2020 Budget presentation

Business Community Report

Electric Vehicle Chargers

State Senate Bill Initiative

New Providence Business Community updates the Borough Council on status.

Michelle Brugger, President, New Providence Business Community, sent a letter updating the Council on the business situation in New Providence. Ms. Brugger described the impact of the pandemic as "devastating" for the businesses in town.

Additional information regarding the Business Community sponsorship of events included the following:

"Regretfully, it is not possible for us to sponsor and execute the upcoming July 3 Celebration or Summer Concerts this year. The financial burden on the businesses that sponsor the events would be too onerous, and there simply isn't manpower available to plan and run these events..."

We will evaluate the remaining community events as they get closer. At this time, we cannot make a determination of whether we can sponsor the Street Fair, Trick or Treat, Scarecrow Contest, or Holiday Festival. We will see whether the NP/NJ Sharing Network 5K will still take place in September, and will keep you apprised as those decisions are made."

Whenever we start to make our comeback from this nightmare, one thing is certain, we need to support our businesses and all the employees who are suffering right now.