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COUNTY OF BERGEN
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HACKENSACK, NEW JERSEY
WORK SESSION
WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025
COMMENCING AT 4:32 P.M.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

- MARY J. AMOROSO, CHAIRWOMAN
- STEVEN A. TANELLI, VICE CHAIRMAN
- DR. JOAN M. VOSS, CHAIR PRO TEMPORE
- RAFAEL MARTE
- GERMAINE M. ORTIZ (VIA SPEAKERPHONE)
- THOMAS J. SULLIVAN
- TRACY SILNA ZUR

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

NONE

KIM O. FURBACHER, C.C.R., R.D.R.
P.O. BOX 213
ROCHELLE PARK, NEW JERSEY 07662-0213
201-336-6200

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ALSO PRESENT:

JAMES J. TEDESCO III
BERGEN COUNTY EXECUTIVE

THOMAS J. DUCH, ESQUIRE
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR/COUNTY COUNSEL

KENNETH EHRENBERG, ESQUIRE
DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

EDWARD J. FLORIO, ESQUIRE
COUNSEL TO THE BOARD

LARA L. POLLITT
CLERK TO THE BOARD

STEVE SPOTO
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS & POLICY

JARED LAUTZ
DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF

KIM O. FURBACHER, C.C.R., R.D.R.
P.O. BOX 213
ROCHELLE PARK, NEW JERSEY 07662-0213
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I N D E X

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Roll Call 4

Pledge of Allegiance 5

Presentation in recognition of Park and Recreation Month 5

Review of Resolutions 8

Brian Niland, Director
Department of Public Works

Nancy Dargis, P.E., Asst. County Engineer
Department of Planning & Engineering

Review of Ordinances 20

Closed Session 20

Adjournment 22

1 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: The meeting is
2 called to order at 4:32 p.m.

3 Will everyone please silence their
4 phones.

5 Will the clerk please read the Sen.
6 Byron Baer Open Public Meetings Act.

7 And we should add that Commissioner
8 Germaine Ortiz is joining us telephonically.

9 CLERK POLLITT: In accordance with
10 Section 5 of the Sen. Byron Baer Open Public Meetings
11 Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been,
12 provided in the Annual Notice Schedule which
13 contained the time, date, and location of this
14 meeting, copies of which Notices were forwarded to
15 the official County newspapers, to wit: The Herald
16 News and The Record, and a copy of which was posted
17 on the bulletin board in the Bergen County Justice
18 Center and Administration Building, One Bergen County
19 Plaza, Hackensack, New Jersey, and filed with the
20 Office of the Bergen County Clerk.

21 Roll Call

22 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Will the Clerk
23 please call the roll.

24 (At this point in the proceeding, roll
25 call is taken with Commissioners Ortiz [via

1 speakerphone], Sullivan, Voss, Silna Zur, Vice
2 Chairman Tanelli, and Chairwoman Amoroso present,
3 with Commissioner Marte absent.)

4 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Evidence of a
5 quorum is present.

6 Pledge of Allegiance

7 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Will you please
8 rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

9 (At this point in the proceeding, all
10 rise for a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.)

11 Presentation in Recognition of Park and Recreation
12 Month

13 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Today we are
14 celebrating Park and Recreation Month. We are proud
15 to recognize the incredible work being done across
16 our Bergen County Parks system, from innovative
17 capital projects, to expanded programming, and vital
18 environmental initiatives. These accomplishments
19 reflect our ongoing commitment to preserving open
20 space, promoting wellness, and ensuring that all
21 Bergen County residents have access to safe,
22 inclusive, and enjoyable public spaces.

23 There's much that we are proud of and
24 so much to look forward to.

25 To talk a little bit more about the

1 outstanding work being done by our Parks Department,
2 our Parks liaison, Board Vice Chairman Steve
3 Tanelli --

4 VICE CHAIRMAN TANELLI: Thank you,
5 Chairwoman.

6 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: -- will give us an
7 update.

8 VICE CHAIRMAN TANELLI: Thank you,
9 Chairwoman.

10 As we celebrate Park and Recreation
11 Month, I'm proud to share a few recent highlights
12 that showcase the exception work happening across the
13 Bergen County Parks system.

14 Earlier this month, we held our second
15 annual Star Spangled Spectacular, which this year
16 drew an estimated 15,000 attendees to Overpeck County
17 Park. An incredible display of community and
18 celebration.

19 At the same time, we continue to
20 welcome thousands of residents each day to the Lake
21 at Darlington, especially on weekends, where we've
22 averaged over 3,000 visitors and \$50,000 in revenue
23 per day.

24 We're also making significant progress
25 on capital improvements. This includes refurbishing

1 playground and tennis courts across the county, with
2 \$300,000 in upgrades scheduled for approval this week
3 for Van Saun and Glen Rock in two locations, Leonia
4 and Overpeck.

5 In the Golf Division, we recently broke
6 ground on a brand new clubhouse at Overpeck County
7 Golf Course, while also investing in improvements to
8 Darlington clubhouse. Last year, it brought in
9 record-breaking rounds and revenue, and we're nearly
10 matching that pace this year despite challenging
11 weather.

12 On the funding side, we secured
13 millions in state grants, from a \$2.6 million New
14 Jersey EDA grant for the Carlton Hill rails-to-trails
15 project, to \$1 million for ecological restoration at
16 Saddle River County Park. These funds help us move
17 forward on critical projects, while limiting the
18 impact on local taxpayers.

19 Finally, we continue to expand
20 programming, from conservation education at the zoo
21 and McFaul Center, to arts, music and even hosting
22 film productions, including Happy Gilmore 2 last
23 year.

24 These achievements are a testament to
25 the hard work of our Parks Department and our shared

1 commitment to delivering safe, engaging, and
2 sustainable spaces for everyone in Bergen County.

3 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Thank you, Vice
4 Chair.

5 Any thoughts, anybody else?

6 (No response.)

7 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Well, we certainly
8 are all very proud of what's going on with our parks,
9 especially getting as much grant money from other
10 places to supplement our efforts. The educational
11 piece is very important between the zoo and McFaul.
12 That's excellent for our next generation.

13 Okay. Very good. So we will move on
14 now. Thank you, Mr. Tanelli.

15 Resolutions for Review

16 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: We will review
17 tonight's resolutions to be voted on this evening.

18 Will the Clerk please identify the
19 resolutions.

20 CLERK POLLITT: For tonight's meeting
21 you have Resolutions #933-25 through #1006-25.

22 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Thank you.

23 Page 2.

24 We have a number of grants. Body as a
25 Whole sponsorship, #933-25, #934-25, #935-25.

1 And Page 3, similarly, #936-25,
2 #937-25, and #938-25.

3 And on the next page, #939-25, Body as
4 a Whole because they're grants.

5 Page 5.

6 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: Tracy, #940?

7 COMMISSIONER SILNA ZUR: Oh, sorry, I
8 was still on that other page.

9 Yes. Thank you, County Executive.

10 Can I please sponsor #940?

11 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: I'll co-sponsor
12 it.

13 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Okay. Excellent.
14 Next page.

15 COMMISSIONER SILNA ZUR: Chairwoman,
16 may I sponsor #943-25?

17 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: And then second
18 will be Body as a Whole.

19 COMMISSIONER SILNA ZUR: And similarly,
20 #944.

21 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Okay. Second as
22 Body as a Whole, I guess.

23 COMMISSIONER SILNA ZUR: Yes.

24 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Next page.

25 #946 for Borough of Emerson, Body as a

1 Whole, it's a grant.

2 And #949, also grant, Body as a Whole.

3 Page 7.

4 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: I guess I'll
5 sponsor #950-25.

6 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: And second will be
7 Body as a Whole.

8 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: Thank you.

9 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: #951, #952, and
10 #953, Body as a Whole, because they are grants.

11 And Page 8. #954 and #955, Body as a
12 Whole.

13 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: May I sponsor
14 #956, please?

15 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Sure.

16 COMMISSIONER SILNA ZUR: I'll
17 co-sponsor that.

18 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Sure.

19 COMMISSIONER ORTIZ: Chairwoman?

20 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Yes.

21 COMMISSIONER ORTIZ: Could I sponsor
22 the Emerson one, with the Body as a Whole as a
23 second?

24 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Yes, you can. So
25 that's #946-25, will be sponsored by Commissioner

1 Ortiz and seconded Body as a Whole.

2 COMMISSIONER ORTIZ: Thank you.

3 COMMISSIONER SILNA ZUR: Chairwoman,
4 can I sponsor #957? You know I like a good
5 internship.

6 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: You're famous.

7 Okay. Yes, indeed.

8 I'll co-sponsor that with you.

9 COMMISSIONER SILNA ZUR: Thank you,
10 Chairwoman.

11 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Okay. Page 9.

12 VICE CHAIRMAN TANELLI: Chairwoman, I'd
13 like to sponsor #961, please.

14 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: I'll co-sponsor
15 that with you.

16 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: So we have
17 Tanelli/Sullivan #961.

18 And #959, Body as a Whole.

19 Okay. We move on to Page 10. #962.

20 COMMISSIONER SILNA ZUR: I'd like to
21 sponsor that.

22 VICE CHAIRMAN TANELLI: I'll co-sponsor
23 that.

24 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Okay. Excellent.

25 VICE CHAIRMAN TANELLI: I would like to

1 also sponsor #964, please.

2 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Okay.

3 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: I'll co-sponsor
4 that.

5 COMMISSIONER VOSS: I wanted to sponsor
6 #963.

7 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Oh, okay, our
8 exotic animal diets. I'm happy to co-sponsor that
9 with you.

10 Okay. Page 11.

11 VICE CHAIRMAN TANELLI: I'd like to
12 sponsor #965, please.

13 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Okay. Tennis
14 courts.

15 COMMISSIONER SILNA ZUR: I'll
16 co-sponsor that.

17 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Okay. Thank you.
18 We're moving through Page 11.

19 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: May I sponsor
20 #968?

21 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Yes, you can.

22 COMMISSIONER SILNA ZUR: I'll
23 co-sponsor that.

24 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Zur, okay.

25 Page 12.

1 COMMISSIONER SILNA ZUR: I'd like to
2 sponsor #969.

3 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: I'd be delighted
4 to co-sponsor that.

5 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: I'd like to
6 sponsor #971, please.

7 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Okay. And second,
8 Body of the Whole?

9 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: Yes.

10 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Okay. That's
11 good.

12 Page 13. #974, we have a grant, Body
13 as a Whole.

14 Page 14.

15 COMMISSIONER SILNA ZUR: Just out of
16 curiosity, #978, where is that ATM going to be?

17 VICE CHAIRMAN TANELLI: Here.

18 COMMISSIONER SILNA ZUR: Here?

19 VICE CHAIRMAN TANELLI: Yes.

20 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Okay.

21 Page 15.

22 VICE CHAIRMAN TANELLI: I'd like to
23 sponsor #979.

24 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Okay, renovations
25 to Darlington Golf Course. Second, Body as a Whole.

1 Next page.

2 COMMISSIONER SILNA ZUR: I would like
3 to sponsor #983, since that is an electric tire
4 forklift.

5 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Okay. Do we have
6 a second?

7 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: Sure.

8 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Thank you, Tom.

9 COMMISSIONER SILNA ZUR: Thank you.

10 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Next, Page 17.

11 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: May I ask a
12 question?

13 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Sure.

14 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: This Dumpster,
15 is this something we have here permanently or we need
16 to throw out excess trash?

17 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: We have two.
18 We have one that's for solid waste, and then we have
19 another one for paper and cardboard.

20 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: So this is just
21 recurring? Every time it gets filled, we got to get
22 another one?

23 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: Well, I
24 believe, if I'm not mistaken, we're buying our own,
25 Tom.

1 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: Then we're just
2 going to pay the tipping fee, whatever it is?

3 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: Yes.

4 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: Okay.

5 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Page 18. So we
6 have a whole series of drainage repairs over three
7 pages.

8 Tom, you had some thoughts about this?

9 COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DUCH: So we have
10 a separate account to handle drainage issues
11 throughout the county. Our Engineering Department
12 has been meeting with different municipalities who
13 have been complaining about drainage related issues.

14 When our people go out, our hydraulic
15 engineer, etc., we determine whether or not the
16 problem is a county problem or a municipal problem.
17 In most instances, it is a municipal problem.

18 There are a lot of these resolutions
19 on, but it's unusual for us to put them all on at the
20 same time. Now is a good time to accomplish the
21 repair, so I just ask your support of them. Please
22 be certain that we look at these very, very closely,
23 and we only accept responsibility for county-owned
24 problems.

25 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Yes.

1 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: If I can
2 just elaborate a little bit more on that?

3 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Sure.

4 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: So a few
5 years ago, we recognized that while we were
6 resurfacing roadways, in some cases the drainage
7 underneath those resurfaced roadways needed to be
8 repaired or needed to be replaced. So we changed the
9 model that we used to work by, so now we actually
10 inspect the drainage first before we resurface. And
11 then if the drainage needs to be replaced or
12 repaired, we do that prior to the road resurfacing so
13 that we don't have to worry about going back there
14 after the road is resurfaced. So you'll see them out
15 around the county now on the county roads, as Tom
16 said, actually taking pictures of the drainage. They
17 pole camera the whole infrastructure, piping and
18 everything, and then we make a determination if it's
19 metal corrugated pipe and it's got some collapsing,
20 then we actually go in there and replace that before
21 we actually do the resurfacing. So you're seeing all
22 of these, because all of these roads are on the
23 resurfacing list.

24 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Okay. Thank you.

25 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: Jim, a little

1 bit to that point, we're not responsible for the
2 curbs on these roads, right?

3 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: No.

4 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: So do we give
5 the municipalities a heads-up when we are going to do
6 those roads to give them the option to do the curbs
7 at the same time?

8 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: We won't do
9 the resurfacing unless they do the curb resurfacing
10 and the ADA ramps. So Nancy and the engineering
11 team, they have to validate that all of that work is
12 done prior to the road resurfacing taking place.

13 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: Because in
14 Montvale --

15 MR. NILAND: That's why we're waiting
16 on Forest and Spring Valley, we're going to be paving
17 that, but we had to wait for them to redo the
18 curbing.

19 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: In Montvale,
20 they just did Grand Avenue all the way to the
21 railroad tracks. I notice some of the curbing isn't
22 actually up to snuff, that's why I'm asking if they
23 were given the opportunity. So that's on them.

24 MR. NILAND: It's their responsibility
25 to do that.

1 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: Do we tell them
2 beforehand that we're coming in?

3 MR. NILAND: Yes.

4 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: Yes.

5 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: Because if they
6 have to rip it up, they have to patch it, and that's
7 a pain in the neck.

8 MS. DARGIS: If I can add.

9 At least a year in advance, if we're
10 resurfacing the road, because we do a walkthrough
11 with their Borough Engineer to review all of the ADA
12 ramps. So they have plenty of time, if they want to
13 replace the curbing.

14 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: Some of the
15 curbing is not up to snuff. I was like, I don't want
16 to rip this road up, it's beautiful right now. You
17 gave them the opportunity to repair it?

18 MR. NILAND: Unfortunately, you're
19 going to find a lot more. We're doing an MS-4
20 project where we're restoring every storm drain.
21 We're doing the work now, but it's a savings in the
22 long run.

23 VICE CHAIRMAN TANELLI: So what happens
24 if the town gets the option, and a year goes by and
25 they don't fix the curbs, do we skip the project and

1 go to another project?

2 MS. DARGIS: The curbs, they're not
3 obliged to do.

4 VICE CHAIRMAN TANELLI: But the ADA
5 compliant ramps, they are. So if they don't do the
6 ADA compliant ramps, you skip them?

7 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: Yes.

8 MS. DARGIS: Well, they did the design,
9 we include the construction as part of the
10 resurfacing. So we actually construct the ramps, but
11 they have a certain responsibility to do the plans.

12 (Commissioner Marte is present at 4:51
13 p.m.)

14 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: We will point out
15 that Commissioner Rafael Marte has joined the table.

16 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: Thank you for
17 that update. I appreciate it.

18 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Okay. So our
19 drainage projects take us to Page 21.

20 COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN: I'd like to
21 sponsor #999.

22 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Okay. And
23 Commissioner Marte, you'll co-sponsor?

24 COMMISSIONER MARTE: May I co-sponsor,
25 please?

1 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Yes.

2 Page 22.

3 Page 23.

4 COMMISSIONER VOSS: I'd like to sponsor
5 #1006-25.

6 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Okay. National
7 Zookeepers Week.

8 COMMISSIONER VOSS: Yes.

9 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Very good.

10 And we also have a reappointment to the
11 Human Services Advisory Council, which we will do as
12 Body as a Whole.

13 Review of Ordinances

14 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: We have one
15 ordinance on for First Reading, revising the existing
16 speed limit on a portion of Campgaw Road in Mahwah
17 and Franklin Lakes.

18 And that's it.

19 Closed Session

20 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: We will now go
21 into Closed Session for about 30 minutes and we will
22 then return to Public Session.

23 Will the attorney briefly state the
24 matters which we will be discussing in Closed
25 Session.

1 MR. FLORIO: Thank you, Chairwoman.

2 The Board will receive updates on
3 litigation matters, contracts, personnel issues, and
4 matters of public safety and health.

5 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Thank you,
6 counselor.

7 May I have a motion to go into Closed
8 Session?

9 COMMISSIONER MARTE: So moved.

10 COMMISSIONER ORTIZ: Second.

11 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: All in favor?

12 (All present Commissioners respond in
13 the affirmative.)

14 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: We are in Closed
17 4:53 p.m.

18 (Whereupon, Closed Session is held.)

19 (Public Session resumes at 5:51 p.m.)

20 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: May I have a
21 motion to reopen to the public?

22 COMMISSIONER MARTE: So moved.

23 COMMISSIONER VOSS: Second.

24 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: All in favor?

25 (All present Commissioners respond in

1 the affirmative.)

2 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: We are reopened at
5 5:51 p.m.

6 Adjournment

7 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Okay. So we will
8 reconvene for our Public Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

9 There being nothing further to come
10 before this meeting, may I have a motion to adjourn?

11 VICE CHAIRMAN TANELLI: So moved.

12 COMMISSIONER SILNA ZUR: Second.

13 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: All in favor?

14 (All present Commissioners respond in
15 the affirmative.)

16 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: Opposed?

17 (No response.)

18 CHAIRWOMAN AMOROSO: We are adjourned
19 at 5:51 p.m.

20 (Whereupon, the Work Session is
21 adjourned at 5:51 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, KIM O. FURBACHER, License No. XIO1042, a Certified Court Reporter, Registered Diplomate Reporter, Certified Realtime Court Reporter, and Notary Public of the State of New Jersey, hereby certify that the foregoing is a verbatim record of the testimony provided under oath before any court, referee, board, commission or other body created by statute of the State of New Jersey.

I am not related to the parties involved in this action; I have no financial interest, nor am I related to an agent of or employed by anyone with a financial interest in the outcome of this action.

This transcript complies with Regulation 13:43-5.9 of the New Jersey Administrative Code.



KIM O. FURBACHER, CCR, CCR, RDR
License #XIO1042, and Notary Public
of New Jersey

My Commission Expires:
7/11/2029