

**WORKSHOP MEETING  
OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE FALLS WAS  
HELD THIS EVENING IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**Monday, January 11, 2021**

Council President Sgobba called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Christine Hablitz, Albert Kahwaty, Tanya Seber, and Christopher Vancheri. Also present were Mayor James Damiano, Township Attorney Joseph Wenzel, Township Engineer Tom Lemanowicz, Township Administrator Charles Cuccia, Deputy Clerk Melissa DePiro and Township Clerk Cynthia Kraus.

Absent: None.

Township Employees present: Police Chief Steve Post, Recreation Director John Pace, and DPW Superintendent Ron Campbell.

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

**STATEMENT OF PUBLIC NOTICE:** Take notice that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-10 as follows: A notice of the meeting was prominently posted on the bulletin board at the Municipal Building, located at 225 Main Street, Little Falls, N.J. on January 6, 2021. A copy of the notice was faxed to the North Jersey Herald and News and The Record on the same date. Additionally, a copy of the notice was filed in the office of the Township Clerk on said date. **This meeting is being conducted under the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 health situation. No public will be allowed to attend the meeting in person. A link and a telephone number to join the meeting can be accessed on the Township website at [www.lfnj.com](http://www.lfnj.com). Electronic provisions have been established for the public to participate during the public comment portion of the meeting.**

**APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE** for a Three-Year Term – MAYOR appoints with ADVICE and CONSENT of COUNCIL – JUDGE ERNEST P. FRONZUTO

MAYOR’S APPOINTMENT OF JULIANN MELETTA TO THE LITTLE FALLS LIBRARY BOARD FOR AN UNEXPIRED TERM EXPIRING 5/31/22 WITH ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE COUNCIL

MAYOR’S APPOINTMENT OF CHRISTINE HABLITZ TO THE SHADE TREE COMMISSION FOR AN UNEXPIRED TERM EXPIRING 12/31/21 WITH ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE COUNCIL

It was moved by Councilmember Kahwaty, seconded by Councilmember Vancheri to approve the appointments of Judge Ernest P. Fronzuto to Municipal Court Judge, Julianna Meletta to the Library Board, and Christine Hablitz to the Shade Tree Commission.

Poll:           Ayes:   Hablitz, Kahwaty, Seber, Vancheri, and Council President Sgobba  
                  Nays:   None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT – GENERAL MATTERS**

It was moved by Councilmember Vancheri, seconded by Councilmember Kahwaty, that the meeting be and it was opened to the public.

Poll:           Ayes:   Hablitz, Kahwaty, Seber, Vancheri, and Council President Sgobba  
                  Nays:   None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

Luis Fernandez, 54 Harrison Street, requested an update on an individual who attended a previous Meeting and alleged an incident of police brutality. Mr. Wenzel responded that the matter may involve a personnel issue and potential ongoing investigation, both which are confidential. As instructed by Council President SGOBBA, Mr. Wenzel will converse with the Police Chief to see what information can be made available to the public for the next Council Meeting.

No one further having come forward to be heard, it was moved by Councilmember Vancheri seconded by Councilmember Hablitz, that the meeting be and it was closed to the public.

Poll:           Ayes:   Hablitz, Kahwaty, Seber, Vancheri, and Council President Sgobba  
                  Nays:   None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

**ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:**

**MAYOR/ADMINISTRATOR:**

1. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 1392 (STOP INTERSECTIONS) – Mayor Damiano provided background on Ordinance No. 1392. Two additional stop signs will be added at the intersection of Jacobus Avenue and Morningside Circle and the intersection of Van Pelt Place and Weaver Street which would create two four way intersections to encourage the reduction of speed on those streets.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**Meeting of January 11, 2021**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Ordinance No. 1392 - -It was moved by Councilmember Vancheri, seconded by Councilmember Hablitz, that there be introduced and the meeting of February 8, 2021 set as the date for the public hearing of the following:

**TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE FALLS  
ORDINANCE NO. 1392  
AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP  
OF LITTLE FALLS, IN THE COUNTY OF PASSAIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY,  
TO AMEND CHAPTER 7 (ON-STREET REGULATIONS)  
OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE FALLS**

**WHEREAS**, under N.J.S.A. 39:4-140, a municipal may enact ordinances to designate the placement of Stop Signs at intersections of roadways under municipal control,

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to update and amend the Municipal Code to include additional Stop Signs in order to ensure the consistent flow of traffic, reduction of speeding and other motor vehicle offenses, and prevention of automotive and pedestrian accidents; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Council has found it proper to amend the language of the Code accordance therewith;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Little Falls, that Chapter 7, On-Street Regulations, of the Code of the Township of Little Falls, is hereby amended and supplemented as follows:

**§7-20 Stop Intersection.**

Pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 39:4-140, the intersections described are hereby designated as stop intersections. Stop signs shall be installed as provided therein.

Alida Street and Van Ness Avenue: STOP signs shall be installed on Alida Street.

Beattie Court and Yolanda Drive: STOP signs shall be installed on Beattie Court.

Bergen Drive and Donato Drive: STOP signs shall be installed on Bergen Drive.

Bergen Drive and Loretta Drive: STOP signs on Loretta Drive.

Bogart Street and Louis Street: STOP signs shall be installed on Bogart Street.

Bogart Street and William Street: STOP signs shall be installed on Bogart Street.

Bradford Avenue and Strickland Avenue: STOP signs shall be installed on Bradford Avenue.

Canterbury Lane and Turnberry Road: STOP signs shall be installed on Canterbury Lane.

Coney Road and Veranda Avenue: STOP signs shall be installed on Veranda Avenue.

Crane Street and Lincoln Avenue: STOP signs shall be installed on Lincoln Avenue.

Crane Street and Ridge Avenue: STOP signs shall be installed on Ridge Avenue.

Dairy Street and Louis Street: STOP signs shall be installed on Dairy Street.

Dairy Street and William Street: STOP signs shall be installed on Dairy Street.

Donato Drive and Bergen Drive: STOP signs shall be installed on Bergen Drive.

Donato Drive and Donato Drive: STOP signs shall be installed on Donato Drive (northeast corner).

Donato Drive and Paul Place: STOP signs shall be installed on Paul Place.

Donato Drive and Loretta Drive: STOP signs shall be installed on Loretta Drive.

East Woodcliffe Avenue and Zoliff Avenue: STOP signs shall be installed on Zeliff Avenue.

East Woodcliffe Avenue and Louis Street: STOP signs shall be installed on East Woodcliffe Avenue.

Elm Street at Second Avenue: STOP sign shall be installed on Elm Street.

First Avenue and Crane Street: STOP sign shall be installed on Crane Street.

First Avenue and Elm Street: STOP sign shall be installed on Elm Street.

Garden Street and Louis Street: STOP sign shall be installed on Garden Street.

Grove Street and Woodhull Avenue: STOP signs shall be installed on Woodhull Avenue.

Grove Street and Wood Street: STOP signs shall be installed on Wood Street.

Haines Place and Amity Street: STOP signs shall be installed on Haines Place.

Harrison Street and Ryle Avenue: STOP signs shall be installed on Ryle Avenue.

Hudson Street and Randolph Place: STOP signs shall be installed on Randolph place.

Hughes Place and Park Place: STOP signs shall be installed on Hughes Place.

Island Avenue and Grey Rock Avenue: STOP signs shall be installed on Gray Rock Avenue.

Island Avenue and Orchard Avenue: STOP signs shall be installed on Orchard Avenue.

Island Avenue and West End Avenue: STOP signs shall be installed on West End Avenue.

Island Avenue and Parkway: STOP signs on Parkway.

Jackson Street and Harrison Street: STOP signs shall be installed on Harrison Street.

Jackson Street and Oak Place: STOP signs shall be installed on Oak Place.

Jackson Street and Cedar Street: STOP signs shall be installed on Jackson Street.

Jacobus Avenue and Morningside Circle (east) - Morningside Circle (west): STOP signs shall be installed on the southbound side of Morningside Circle (east) and on the northbound side of Jacobus Avenue shall be installed on all four approaches of this intersection.

Jacobus Avenue and Oak Tree Street: STOP signs shall be installed on Oak Tree Lane.

Lincoln Avenue and Stanley Street: STOP signs shall be installed on Stanley Street.

Lincoln Avenue and Walnut Street: STOP signs shall be installed on Walnut Street.

Lower Notch Road and Overlook Avenue: STOP signs shall be installed on Overlook Avenue.

Marietta Street and Van Ness Avenue: STOP signs shall be installed on Marietta Street.

Muller Place and Arlington Place: STOP signs shall be installed on Arlington Place (northwest corner).

Overlook Avenue and Crestmont Road: STOP signs shall be installed on Crestmont Road.

Overlook Avenue and Notchcroft Drive: STOP signs shall be installed on Notchcroft Drive.

Overlook Avenue and Birch Road: STOP signs shall be installed on Birch Road.

Parkway and Island Avenue: STOP signs shall be installed on Island Avenue.

Parkway and Riverview Circle (south end): STOP signs shall be installed on Riverview Circle.

Paterson Avenue and Main Street: STOP signs shall be installed on Paterson Avenue.

Riker Road and Muzzy Road: STOP signs shall be installed on Muzzy Road.

River Boulevard and Mozart Avenue: STOP signs shall be installed on Mozart Avenue.

Riverview Circle and Parkway (north end): STOP signs shall be installed on Parkway.

Second Avenue and Francis Street: STOP signs shall be installed on Francis Street.

Sindle Avenue and Peckman Road: STOP signs shall be installed on Peckman Road.

Sindle Avenue and Van Ness Avenue: STOP signs shall be installed on all four approaches of this intersection.

Stanley Road and Riker Road: STOP signs shall be installed on Riker Road.

Stanley Road and Veranda Avenue: STOP signs shall be installed on Veranda Avenue.

Stanley Street and First Avenue: STOP signs shall be installed on Stanley Street.

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Stanley Street and Lincoln Avenue: STOP signs shall be installed on Stanley Street.

Stewart Avenue and Connors Road: STOP signs shall be installed on Connors Road.

Stewart Avenue and Lynn Place: STOP signs shall be installed on Lynn Place.

Third Avenue and Francis Street: STOP signs shall be installed on Francis Street.

Thomas Street and Martin Place: STOP signs shall be installed on Thomas Street.

Turnberry Road and Main Street: STOP signs shall be installed on Turnberry Road.

Union Avenue and Railroad Avenue: STOP sign to be installed on Railroad Avenue.

Union Avenue and Walnut Street: STOP signs shall be installed on Walnut Street.

Van Pelt Place and Grey Street: STOP signs shall be installed on Grey Street.

Van Pelt Place and Haines Place: STOP signs shall be installed on Haines Place.

Veranda Street and Amity Street: STOP signs shall be installed on Veranda Street.

Walnut Street and Center Avenue: STOP signs shall be installed on all four approaches.

Walnut Street and Ridge Avenue: STOP signs shall be installed on Ridge Avenue.

Weaver Avenue and Van Pelt Place: STOP signs shall be installed on ~~Van Pelt Place~~ on all four approaches of this intersection.

William Street and Barber Street: STOP signs shall be installed on Barber Street.

Willow Avenue and Cedar Street: STOP signs shall be installed on Willow Avenue.

Willow Avenue and Harrison Street: STOP signs shall be installed on Willow Avenue.

Woodcliff Avenue and Taylor Avenue: STOP signs shall be installed on Taylor Avenue.

Wood Street and Dewey Avenue: STOP signs shall be installed on Dewey Avenue.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that:

1. Ordinances, resolutions and regulations or parts of ordinances, resolutions and regulations inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency; and
2. If any section, subsection, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such a decision shall not affect the remaining portion of the Ordinance; and
3. Except as hereby amended, the Code of the Township of Little Falls shall remain in full force and effect.
4. This Ordinance shall take effect twenty days after final passage and publication in accordance with law.

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## COUNCIL TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

Councilmember KAHWATY congratulated Judge Fronzuto, Mrs. Meletta, and Christine Hablitz on their appointments. The Domestic Violence Prevention Committee convened on January 5, 2021 and continues to review ways to raise awareness.

Councilmember HABLITZ congratulated Mrs. Meletta and Judge Fronzuto, Councilmember HABLITZ reminded residents the Library continues to provide curbside pickup. At 7:00 pm tomorrow, the Library in conjunction with the Historical Society, will offer a virtual program on the history of Little Falls.

Councilmember VANCHERI congratulated the appointees. The Transportation Committee will hold their first meeting next week. Councilmember VANCHERI and Chief Post will meet to discuss more options for stop signs throughout the Township.

Councilmember SEBER thanked Councilmember VANCHERI for the work towards installing the stop signs. Councilmember SEBER looked forward to chairing the Open Space Committee and will provide updates as they become available.

Council President SGOBBA requested the Mayor address communication of COVID-19 information and how to communicate to those residents without computers. Council President SGOBBA also requested the Mayor discuss new businesses which recently opened, how to rectify newspapers such as the Passaic Valley Today accumulating in driveways, and a procedure for dedication of trees.

Mayor Damiano discussed development of a Town wide policy for the planting of trees in our parks for memorial purposes. The Mayor addressed the concern of the content of the newspapers and newspapers not being picked up by residents and suggested the consideration of a requirement for the Passaic Valley Today to be mailed. Mayor Damiano highlighted the two new businesses that recently opened. Mayor Damiano discussed the possibility of working with the library to help those individuals who do not have a computer who want to register for a COVID-19 test or a vaccine. The Mayor emphasized that with regard to vaccines, emergency responders have been added to the group that can receive the vaccine. The Mayor added that information is provided to the public as soon as it is available. He also encouraged all residents to sign up for email blasts and if residents know someone who does not have a computer to help them or give them the phone number 973-881-2790 for the vaccine hotline for Passaic County. Mayor Damiano then provided a brief COVID-19 update. Lastly, he thanked Judge Fronzuto and Juliann Meletta on their appointments. In response to Councilmember VANCHERI, Mayor Damiano responded he felt dissemination of the COVID-19 County phone number and working with the library to provide a loaner electronic device would provide a safer method of serving the residents. Lastly, Councilmember VANCHERI suggested the Clifton Board of Health conduct a Town Hall to review the vaccine process.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was moved by Councilmember Vancheri, seconded by Councilmember Seber, that the meeting be and it was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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Cynthia Kraus  
Municipal Clerk