

A SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF ORADELL WAS HELD, ON February 23, 2023.

1. CALL TO ORDER- OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT – ROLL CALL

Council President Schoenberg called to order at 7:30 and the Statement of Compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act was read.

Roll Call

Mayor Didio- via zoom
Council President Schoenberg- via zoom
Councilman Tashjian- absent
Councilman Carnevale- via zoom
Councilman Jannicelli- present
Councilman Kern- present
Councilman Staff- present

Kevin Harris, Borough Administrator provided a summary and overview of the application to NJ DEP Green Acres Program Grant for Lotus Wood Nature Walk in the matching amount of \$80,212.50.

Dave Atkinson, Borough Engineer provided additional technical comments relating to the project.

On a motion made by Council President Schoenberg, seconded by Councilman Jannicelli and carried on voice vote the public hearing on the Green Acres application was opened.

PUBLIC HEARING

Paul Latsounas, 50 Beverly road had the following inquiries: Who will the trail be available to; How will adjacent residents be affected; If the state withdraws the funding will the Borough be responsible for the balance of the project; How is the project included in the budget, is it over one or two years; will the borough being conducting additional work such as berms in connection with the project.

The Borough attorney indicated the general public will have access to the trails. Mayor Didio stated that the trail is an existing trail, the application will provide funding for improvement. Council President stated there are no residences near the entrance to the trails so there is no impact to the properties. Mayor Didio stated that if funding is withdrawn, the Borough would discuss the matter at that time. The Municipal Clerk explained the match funding would have to be included in the 2023 capital budget. She further explained the process for inclusion of the match within the capital budget process as it relates to grants. Councilman Carnevale stated that the Borough would only utilize the grant funding for the stated uses in the application. He suggested that the Borough could examine the area to determine if a feasibility study was warranted to establish additional flooding relief.

On a motion made by Councilman Jannicelli, seconded by Councilman Staff and carried on a voice vote, the public hearing was closed.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 23-75 Approval of grant application to Green Acres for matching grant of \$80,212.50 for Lotus Woods Nature Walk

On a motion to approve Resolution 23-75 made by Council President Schoenberg, seconded by Councilman Jannicelli and carried on voice vote.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Schoenberg, Carnevale, Jannicelli, Kern

Nays: Staff

Absent: Tashjian

Abstain: None

Public Comment:

Paul Latsounas, 50 Beverly Road, inquired as to the subject matter of closed session. The Borough Attorney stated the appointment of Borough Planner was discussed.

Mr. Latsounas informed the council the gazebo in the Elizabeth Street Park and the Clock needs to be repaired. He stated that Gazebo in Schirra Park would also need repairs in anticipation of moving the holiday tree lighting ceremony to that location.

On a motion made by Councilman Staff, seconded by Councilman Jannicelli and unanimously carried on voice vote the public comment was closed.

On a motion made by Councilman Staff, seconded by Councilwoman Schoenberg and carried on voice vote the meeting was adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:47 pm, the special public meeting adjourned.

Laura J. Lyons, CPM, RMC, RPPO
Municipal Clerk