Approved October 27, 2026

53 Park Ave
Park Ridge, NJ

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
WORK SESSION
October 13, 2026
7:00 P.M.

Present: Councilmember Mintz, Councilmember Goldsmith, Councilmember Hoffman, Councilmember Metzdorf, Councilmember Fenwick, Council President Cozzi and Mayor Misciagna
Absent:

Also Present: Magdalena Giandomenico, Borough Admin/ Clerk
Brian Giblin, Borough Attorney
Connie Capenter, CFO

Mayor Misciagna read the compliance statement earlier as required by the Open Public Meeting Act, P.L. 1975, and Chapter 231.

1. **Administrator Report:**
    a. **Memorial/Davies Field** The Administrator discussed that PRAA soccer has raised concerns regarding large groups using Memorial/Davies Field without permits, often arriving as scheduled practices and games are ending. PRAA has requested a more proactive approach to managing unscheduled group use rather than relying on repeated police calls. The administrator advised them how the field was funded through Green Acres and Open Space monies and we have to consider public access requirements.
        - Borough Attorney stated you can't restrict public use.
        - Councilman Fenwick asked for the Administrator to share with them what happened in Mahwah, any restriction must be equal to all.

    b. **Sulak Bridge:** The Administrator reported that repairs to the Sulak Field Bridge will include removing damaged components, installing and welding new structural steel runners, replacing the decking with ADA-compliant fiberglass grating capable of supporting a motorized wheelchair, and preparing and painting the entire bridge. The vendor hopes to begin work next week, with materials expected to arrive next week or within two weeks.

asked the Borough Attorney to review Union City's ordinance and provide information on whether a similar arrangement could be considered. The matter will be reviewed further.

c. **Res. No. 026-330 – Authorizing Auction of Surplus Property – PR Road, Electric, PD & FD:** The Administrator discussed the Borough's surplus property auction and reported that the Elks requested that the Borough consider donating the plow truck to the organization, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. The Administrator stated that such a donation is generally not permitted under the New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law, and the Borough Attorney agreed. It was noted that an exception may apply for bona fide veterans' organizations.

2. **Underground Electrical Service:** Councilman Fenwick discussed the possibility of requiring underground electrical service for new residential construction in response to resident concerns regarding storm-related power outages and the appearance of overhead wires. It was noted that underground service may reduce certain storm-related issues but can also present safety and maintenance challenges. The matter will be referred to the Utility Board for further discussion and input from electrical professionals.

3. **Vegetation at Fremont Avenue and Third Street:** Concerns were raised regarding vegetation near the intersection of Fremont Avenue and Third Street that may obstruct motorists' visibility when entering the roadway. The possibility of addressing the issue through existing property maintenance requirements was discussed. It was noted that any potential ordinance changes would need to be considered more broadly rather than for a single property. The matter may be referred to the Police Department and Property Maintenance for review, as appropriate.

4. **New Street GAC Tank Screening**: It was reported that the previously discussed screening for the New Street granular activated carbon (GAC) tank is no longer a separate outstanding item by Councilman Fenwick, as screening will be incorporated into the permanent filtration system project at Well 18.

5. **Brea Boulevard Corridor and School Safety Initiatives**: The potential for improving pedestrian and bicycle safety along the Brea Boulevard corridor, particularly in connection with access to the newly developed Sony property and routes to local schools, was discussed by Councilman Goldsmith. A nonprofit organization that provides traffic studies and grant assistance has offered to make a presentation to the Borough at no cost, EZ Ride. Potential improvements could include evaluating roadway configurations and bicycle access.

   Councilman Hoffman stated that the Green Team is also exploring the Easy Ride and Safe Streets programs, including potential improvements to hazardous intersections and pedestrian safety near Park Avenue and Kinderkamack. It was reported that discussions with representatives regarding the Safe Streets program indicated that the

proposed smaller-scale improvements may not align with the program's funding priorities, which tend to favor larger projects.

It was suggested that the Borough coordinate the proposed presentations and ongoing Green Team discussions to identify potential opportunities, combine related safety initiatives, and pursue available grant funding.

Open Work Session adjourned at 6:45 pm
Councilman Fenwick made a motion to adjourn work session into closed and seconded by Councilman Mintz to confirm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Magdalena Giandomenico, Borough Clerk