

Borough Council Minutes  
New Providence, New Jersey  
April 13, 2021

The conference meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of New Providence, County of Union and State of New Jersey was held on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 6:30 pm prior to the regularly scheduled meeting, via Zoom meeting web conference software. Mayor Morgan called the meeting to order.

Present on Roll Call: Mayor Morgan, Councilman DeSarno, Councilwoman Geoffroy, Councilwoman Matsikoudis, Councilwoman McKnight, Council President Muñoz

Entered After Roll Call: Councilman Cumiskey

Absent: None

Also Present: Borough Administrator Cuccaro, Borough Clerk Barry, Deputy Borough Clerk Brinkofski, and Borough Attorney Rizzo

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

Mayor Morgan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **PUBLIC NOTICE:**

Mayor Morgan stated this is a public meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of New Providence, County of Union and State of New Jersey. Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, in that an annual notice or revision was made in conformance with Section 13 of the Act.

### **COUNCIL DISCUSSION:**

#### **1. Senate Bill 3522 - Creates Local Part of PERS**

Mayor Morgan discussed Senate Bill 3522 relating to the pension system for municipal, county, and state employees. He explained the municipalities and counties have been fulfilling their obligations and paying into the system for years, whereas the state has not been paying their share and this has resulted in a deficit. He stated this bill will separate the funds of state employees from that of the county and municipal.

Councilman DeSarno discussed the Bill with Attorney Rizzo and wanted to confirm the PERS being different than the police and fire pension systems.

Councilwoman McKnight discussed items with Attorney Rizzo with regard to the board that would be overseeing the funds.

Paul Rizzo stated municipalities have been paying double than the state.

Council members were all in favor of supporting Senate Bill 3522. Will put Resolution on next council agenda for April 27, 2021.

2. Senate Bill 21 - New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory, Enforcement Assistance, and Marketplace Modernization Act.

Mayor Morgan stated they have 180 days to act on this bill. Administrator Cuccaro stated she has distributed information to Council regarding what other municipalities have done.

Attorney Rizzo explained that Council would need to adopt an ordinance by August 22nd to act on the bill if the Borough desires to regulate or prohibit the operation of any class of cannabis business and if they fail to take action that for the next five years it would be a permitted use. Mr. Rizzo further explained after introduction the ordinance would be sent to the Planning Board which has 35 days to make a recommendation to Council. If introduced in May it wouldn't be adopted until most likely end of June.

Council discussed agreeing to introduce an ordinance prohibiting the operation of any class of cannabis business within the Borough and requested the Borough Attorney to prepare the ordinance.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

This is an opportunity for any member of the public to be heard about issues that are not separate topics, scheduled for public hearings tonight. To help facilitate an orderly meeting, and to permit all to be heard, speakers are asked to limit their comments to three (3) minutes, and may only speak once on any one topic.

Mayor Morgan opened the meeting for public comment.

There being no one wishing to speak the public comment portion of the meeting was closed.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further action, on motion by Councilman Cumiskey, seconded by Councilwoman Matsikoudis the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendi B. Barry  
Borough Clerk

These minutes have not yet been officially approved.

*Minutes approved at the May 11, 2021 meeting of the Borough Council, as submitted.*