

January 1, 2022

Minutes of the public meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Dunellen held on January 1, 2022.

Mayor Jason F. Cilento called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon and he led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Municipal Clerk William Robins read the Sunshine Statement and called the Roll for the 2021 Council.

Present: Mayor Jason F. Cilento, Jessica Dunne, Trina Rios, Daniel Sigmon and Harold VanDermark

Absent: April Burke and Richard Pinder

On the motion of Mrs. Rios and seconded by Mr. VanDermark, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #1

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

The 2021 Dunellen Borough Council is hereby adjourned.

Yes: Dunne, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

The Oath of Office for Councilwoman Teresa Albertson was administered by Municipal Clerk William M. Robins

The Oath of Office for Councilman Joseph Paltjon was administered by Municipal Clerk William M. Robins

Mayor Jason F. Cilento called to order the 2022 Borough Council. The Roll Call was taken by Municipal Clerk William M. Robins:

Present: Mayor Jason F. Cilento, Teresa Albertson, Jessica Dunne, Joseph Paltjon, Trina Rios, Daniel Sigmon and Harold VanDermark

On the motion of Dr. Dunne and seconded by Mr. Sigmon, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #2

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT FOR LEGAL SERVICES

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

WHEREAS, the Borough of Dunellen has a need to acquire legal services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44A- 20.5*; and,

WHEREAS, the Dunellen Municipal Clerk has determined and certified in writing that the value of the service will exceed \$17,500; and,

WHEREAS, the anticipated term of this contract is *one* year; and

WHEREAS, the Law Offices of John E. Bruder, Esq., has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide the services for the amount set forth in the 2021 Municipal Salary Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Law Offices of John E. Bruder has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that John E. Bruder has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough of Dunellen in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit John E. Bruder from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract, and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Dunellen has certified as to the availability of funds.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Dunellen authorizes the Mayor and Borough Administrator to enter into a contract with the Law Offices of John E. Bruder as described herein; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution.

A copy of this resolution shall be published in The Courier or other paper of record as required by law within ten days of its passage.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

The Oath of Office for John E. Bruder was administered by Municipal Clerk William M. Robins.

At this point, nominations for Dunellen Borough Council President were made. Trina Rios was nominated.

On the motion of Mr. VanDermark and seconded by Mr. Sigmon, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #3

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Trina Rios is hereby appointed Dunellen Borough Council President for Year 2022.

Mr. Bruder noted that traditionally you have a nominating motion and second and a vote. If that motion does not pass, you have a second or subsequent motion and second.

Yes: Albertson, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

No: Dunne

At this point, the following appointments were made:

1. Mayor's appointments to Standing and Special Committees
2. Mayor's appointments to the Planning Board: Erik Walker and Christopher Brillante
3. Mayor's appointments to the Dunellen Downtown Management Organization: Theresa Ratner, Jeremy Rettig, Lauren Meyers, Corrinne Wallace, Christopher Cotty, Margaret Lockwood, and Heidi Heleniak
4. Mayor's appointments to the Dunellen Parking Authority: Edward Webber
5. Mayor's appointments to the Dunellen Shade Tree Commission: James Devine and Enrique Lainez
6. Mayor's appointments to the Mayor's Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Task Force: Diana Starace, Christina Haftmann and Sgt. Jeff Delbuno
7. Mayor's appointments to the Dunellen Recreation Commission: Grace Cordero and Laura Ruskuski
8. Mayor's appointments to the Maurer House Restoration Committee: Karen Seader, Linda Petracca and Edward Webber
9. Mayor's appointments to the Dunellen Arts and Culture Commission: Heidi Heleniak, Elizabeth Lopez and Robin Walker
10. Mayor's appointments to the Diversity and Inclusion Committee: Martha Morse, Quentin Jordan, Dámaris Enid Ortega and Sonya Dezan
11. Mayor's appointments to the Dunellen Public Library Board of Trustees: Hana Baudendistel, Candy Harshaney, Nathan Hewette-Guyton and Richard Pinder

12. Mayor's appointments to the Mayor's Cannabis Task Force: Roger Dornberier, Det. Nicholas Goldman, Isaias Noel Gendrano III, Ph.D., MPH, Melanie Tirpak, Tara Duggan, Steve Fucito and Mara Carlin

13. Dunellen Municipal Alliance: Nancy Heredia-Villanueva

Municipal Clerk William M. Robins will make arrangements to administer the Oaths of Office.

On the motion of Mr. Sigmon and seconded by Mrs. Rios, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #4

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

William M. Robins is hereby appointed Public Agency Compliance Officer for the Borough of Dunellen.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Dr. Dunne and seconded by Mr. Sigmon, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #5

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

The following is the list of the Official Borough Council Meeting dates for the year 2022:

- Saturday, January 1, 2022 -- Reorganization Meeting -- Noon
- Monday, January 10, 2022
- Monday, February 7, 2022
- Tuesday, February 22, 2022
- Monday, March 7, 2022
- Monday, March 21, 2022
- Monday, April 4, 2022
- Monday, April 18, 2022
- Monday, May 2, 2022
- Monday, May 16, 2022
- Monday, June 6, 2022
- Monday, June 20, 2022
- Tuesday, July 5, 2022
- Monday, August 1, 2022
- Tuesday, September 6, 2022
- Monday, September 19, 2022

Monday, October 3, 2022
Monday, October 17, 2022
Monday, November 7, 2022
Monday, November 21, 2022
Monday, December 5, 2022
Monday, December 19, 2022
Sunday, January 1, 2023 -- Reorganization Meeting – Noon

All meetings are in the Municipal Council Chambers, 355 North Avenue, Dunellen, and begin at 7:00 PM, unless otherwise noted.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mr. Sigmon and seconded by Mrs. Rios, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #6

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

The following newspapers be and are hereby officially declared to be the official newspapers for the purpose of publishing official advertisements for the Borough of Dunellen:

Courier News, Home News Tribune, Star-Ledger

provided, however, that the listing of said newspaper herein shall not preclude additional advertising in other newspapers not eligible as official newspapers.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Dr. Dunne and seconded by Mrs. Rios, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #7

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Whereas, the Borough of Dunellen is required to appoint banks in good standing as depositories for Borough funds; and

Whereas, The Provident Bank, Investors Savings Bank, Bank of America, TD Bank, Valley National Bank, Crown Bank, Unity Bank and PNC Bank are located within or near the Borough of Dunellen; and

Whereas, all of the above mentioned are in good standing.

Now therefore be it resolved that The Provident Bank, Investors Savings Bank, Bank of America, TD Bank, Valley National Bank, Crown Bank, Unity Bank and PNC Bank are hereby designated as the official depositories of the Borough of Dunellen for the year 2022.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mr. VanDermark and seconded by Mrs. Albertson, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #8

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Robert Spengler is hereby appointed Public Defender for the year 2022 at a salary set forth in the Borough Salary Ordinance.

Be it further resolved that health benefits are not provided as part of the position.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Dr. Dunne and seconded by Mr. Sigmon, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #9

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

In the absence of the designated Public Defender, or during times when a second Public Defender is needed, Daniel Frascella is hereby appointed Alternate Public Defender for the year 2022 at a salary set forth in the Borough Salary Ordinance.

Be it further resolved that health benefits are not provided as part of the position.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mr. Sigmon and seconded by Mr. VanDermark, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #10

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

In conformance with public laws of the State of New Jersey, 1996, c.95, sect. 14, Rebecca Robles, attorney at law of the State of New Jersey, is hereby a Municipal Prosecutor under the supervision of the Attorney General or County Prosecutor who may represent the State, County

or Municipality in any matter within the jurisdiction of the Central Municipal Court or any other Municipal Court.

Further be it resolved that health benefit coverage will not be made available as part of the compensation package for the position of Municipal Prosecutor, and

Further be it resolved that the term of this appointment is from January 1, 2022 until December 31, 2022, and

Further be it resolved that the 2022 salary will be \$10,000.00.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Dr. Dunne and seconded by Mr. VanDermark, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #11

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

In conformance with public laws of the State of New Jersey, 1996, c.95, sect. 14, Thomas Lanza, Jr., attorney at law of the State of New Jersey, is hereby a Municipal Prosecutor under the supervision of the Attorney General or County Prosecutor who may represent the State, County or Municipality in any matter within the jurisdiction of the Central Municipal Court or any other Municipal Court.

Further be it resolved that health benefit coverage will not be made available as part of the compensation package for the position of Municipal Prosecutor, and

Further be it resolved that the term of this appointment is from January 1, 2022 until December 31, 2022, and

Further be it resolved that the 2022 salary will be \$10,000.00.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mrs. Rios and seconded by Mrs. Albertson, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #12

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

The following calendar of employee holidays for the year 2022 be adopted:

January 1 New Year's Day (Saturday)

January 17	Martin Luther King Day (Monday)
February 12 11 th)	Lincoln's Birthday (Saturday) (Borough observes on Friday, February
February 21	Presidents' Day (Monday)
April 15	Good Friday (Friday)
May 30	Memorial Day (Monday)
July 4	Independence Day (Monday)
September 5	Labor Day (Monday)
October 10	Columbus Day (Monday)
November 8	Election Day (Tuesday)
November 11	Veteran's Day (Friday)
November 24	Thanksgiving (Thursday)
November 25	Day after Thanksgiving
December 25	Christmas Day (Sunday) (Borough observes on Monday, December 26th)
January 1, 2023	New Year's Day, 2023. To be included in the Employees' Holidays for 2023. (Sunday) (Borough observes on Monday, January 2, 2023)

Be it further resolved that any day designated by the Governor of the State of New Jersey or the President of the United States be also designated a holiday. Those holidays falling on Saturday will be observed on Friday and those holidays falling on Sunday will be observed on Monday, except where noted otherwise.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mrs. Rios and seconded by Dr. Dunne, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #13

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN
CONTRACT FOR AUDITING SERVICES**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF
DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Dunellen has a need to acquire the services of a Registered Municipal Accountant to conduct an audit of the Borough of Dunellen, the Dunellen Sewer Utility, and the Dunellen Public Library for CY 2021 ending December 31, 2021, as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44A- 20.5*; and,

WHEREAS, the anticipated term of this contract is one year; and

WHEREAS, the firm of PFK O'Connor Davies has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide the services; and

WHEREAS, the amount of the services is not to exceed 43,700.00; and

WHEREAS, the firm of PFK O'Connor Davies has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that PFK O'Connor Davies has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough of Dunellen in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit Hodulik and Morrison from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract, and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Dunellen has certified as to the availability of funds.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Dunellen authorizes the Mayor and Borough Administrator to enter into a contract with the firm of PFK O'Connor Davies as described herein; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution.

A copy of this resolution shall be published in the Courier News or other paper of record as required by law within ten days of its passage.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mr. Sigmon and seconded by Dr. Dunne, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #14

**AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT
FOR BOND COUNSEL**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF
DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Dunellen has a need to acquire Bond Counsel as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44A- 20.5*; and,

WHEREAS, the Dunellen Municipal Clerk has determined and certified in writing that the value of the service will exceed \$17,500; and,

WHEREAS, the anticipated term of this contract is *one* year; and

WHEREAS, the Law Office of McManimon, Scotland, Baumann has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide the services; and

WHEREAS, the Law Office of McManimon, Scotland, Baumann has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that the Law Office of McManimon, Scotland, Baumann has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough of Dunellen in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit the Law Office of McManimon, Scotland, Baumann from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract, and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Dunellen has certified as to the availability of funds.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Dunellen authorizes the Mayor and Borough Administrator to enter into a contract with the Law Office of McManimon, Scotland, Baumann as described herein, at an amount per the Agreement with the Borough, but not to exceed \$18,000.00; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution.

A copy of this resolution shall be published in the Courier News or other paper of record as required by law within ten days of its passage.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mrs. Albertson and seconded by Mrs. Rios, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #15

AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT FOR MUNICIPAL ENGINEER

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

WHEREAS, the Borough of Dunellen has a need to acquire municipal engineering services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44A- 20.5*; and,

WHEREAS, the Dunellen Municipal Clerk has determined and certified in writing that the value of the service will exceed \$17,500; and,

WHEREAS, the anticipated term of this contract is *one* year; and

WHEREAS, the firm of CME Associates has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide the services; and

WHEREAS, the firm of CME Associates has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that the firm of CME Associates has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough of Dunellen in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit the firm of CME Associates from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract, and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Dunellen has certified as to the availability of funds.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Dunellen authorizes the Mayor and Borough Administrator to enter into a contract with the firm of CME Associates as described herein, at an amount per the Agreement with the Borough and the attached Schedule of Rates, but not to exceed \$25,000.00; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution.

A copy of this resolution shall be published in the Courier News or other paper of record as required by law within ten days of its passage.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mrs. Rios and seconded by Mr. VanDermark, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #16

AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT FOR MUNICIPAL ENGINEER

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

WHEREAS, the Borough of Dunellen has a desire to acquire alternate municipal engineering services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44A- 20.5*; and,

WHEREAS, the Dunellen Municipal Clerk has determined and certified in writing that the value of the service will exceed \$17,500; and,

WHEREAS, the anticipated term of this contract is *one* year; and

WHEREAS, the firm of Remington & Vernick Engineers has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide the services; and

WHEREAS, the firm of Remington & Vernick Engineers has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that the firm of Remington & Vernick Engineers has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough of Dunellen in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit the firm of Remington & Vernick Engineers from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract, and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Dunellen has certified as to the availability of funds.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Dunellen authorizes the Mayor and Borough Administrator to enter into a contract with the firm of Remington & Vernick Engineers as described herein, at an amount per the Agreement with the Borough and the attached Schedule of Rates, but not to exceed \$25,000.00; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution.

A copy of this resolution shall be published in the Courier News or other paper of record as required by law within ten days of its passage.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mr. Sigmon and seconded by Mrs. Rios, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #17

AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT FOR SEWER UTILITY LEGAL COUNSEL

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

WHEREAS, the Borough of Dunellen has a need to acquire Sewer Utility Special Council as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44A- 20.5*; and,

WHEREAS, the Dunellen Municipal Clerk has determined and certified in writing that the value of the service will exceed \$17,500; and,

WHEREAS, the anticipated term of this contract is *one* year; and

WHEREAS, the Law Firm of Murphy McKeon, P.C., has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide the services; and

WHEREAS, the Law Firm of Murphy McKeon, P.C., has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that the Law Firm of Murphy McKeon, P.C., has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough of Dunellen in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit the Law Firm of Murphy McKeon, P.C., from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract, and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Dunellen has certified as to the availability of funds.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Dunellen authorizes the Mayor and Borough Administrator to enter into a contract with the Law Firm of Murphy McKeon, P.C., as described herein, at an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution.

A copy of this resolution shall be published in the Courier News or other paper of record as required by law within ten days of its passage.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Dr. Dunne and seconded by Mr. Sigmon, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #18

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT FOR SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR REDEVELOPMENT

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

WHEREAS, the Borough of Dunellen has a need to acquire Special Counsel on behalf of the Borough for matters concerning Redevelopment for 2022 as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44A- 20.5*; and,

WHEREAS, the Dunellen Municipal Clerk has determined and certified in writing that the value of the service will exceed \$17,500; and,

WHEREAS, the anticipated term of this contract is *one* year; and

WHEREAS, the firm of Windels Marx Lane & Mittendorf has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide the services. This appointment is in reference to the original appointing Resolution 08-05-2013: #29, and all terms and conditions of that resolution apply.

WHEREAS, the Law firm of Windels Marx Lane & Mittendorf has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that the law firm of Windels Marx Lane & Mittendorf has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough of Dunellen in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit the law firm of Windels Marx Lane & Mittendorf from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract, and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Dunellen has certified as to the availability of funds.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Dunellen authorizes the Mayor and Borough Administrator to enter into a contract with the law firm of Windels Marx Lane & Mittendorf as described herein, at an amount not to exceed \$18,000, other than costs to be paid from the Redevelopment Interim Cost Trust Fund; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution.

A copy of this resolution shall be published in The Courier or other paper of record as required by law within ten days of its passage.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mrs. Rios and seconded by Dr. Dunne, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #19

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT FOR SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR REDEVELOPMENT

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

WHEREAS, the Borough of Dunellen has a need to acquire alternate Special Counsel on behalf of the Borough for matters concerning Redevelopment for 2022 as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44A- 20.5*; and,

WHEREAS, the Dunellen Municipal Clerk has determined and certified in writing that the value of the service will exceed \$17,500; and,

WHEREAS, the anticipated term of this contract is *one* year; and

WHEREAS, the firm of McManimon, Scotland and Baumann has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide the services. This appointment is in reference to the original appointing Resolution 10-19-2020: #4, and all terms and conditions of that resolution apply.

WHEREAS, the Law firm of McManimon, Scotland and Baumann has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that the law firm of McManimon, Scotland and Baumann has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough of Dunellen in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit the law firm of McManimon, Scotland and Baumann from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract, and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Dunellen has certified as to the availability of funds.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Dunellen authorizes the Mayor and Borough Administrator to enter into a contract with the law firm of McManimon, Scotland and Baumann as described herein, at an amount not to exceed \$18,000, other than costs to be paid from any Redevelopment Interim Cost Trust Fund; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution.

A copy of this resolution shall be published in The Courier or other paper of record as required by law within ten days of its passage.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mr. Sigmon and seconded by Mrs. Rios, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #20

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

NW Financial Group, LLC, Hoboken, NJ, is hired as financial experts regarding Redevelopment for the Borough of Dunellen for the year 2022 at the following rates:

Principal:	\$225.00 (hourly)
Managing Director:	\$205.00 (hourly)
Senior Vice President:	\$195.00 (hourly)
Vice President:	\$190.00 (hourly)
Analyst:	\$185.00 (hourly)

Payment for these services will be from the Redevelopment Escrow Account established by the Redevelopers, Brudner Redevelopment Partners Urban Renewal, LLC., or from the

Redevelopment Escrow Account established by “528 North Avenue, LLC.”, or from any other redevelopment escrow account that may be established during 2022.

The total amount of this certification of funds is not to exceed \$10,000.00.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mr. Sigmon and seconded by Mrs. Rios, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #21

**AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT
FOR LABOR LAW LEGAL COUNSEL**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF
DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Dunellen has a need to acquire Labor Counsel as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44A- 20.5*; and,

WHEREAS, the Dunellen Municipal Clerk has determined and certified in writing that the value of the service will exceed \$17,500; and,

WHEREAS, the anticipated term of this contract is *one* year; and

WHEREAS, the Law Firm of Apruzzese, McDermott, Mastro & Murphy has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide the services; and

WHEREAS, the Law Firm of Apruzzese, McDermott, Mastro & Murphy has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that the Law Firm of Apruzzese, McDermott, Mastro & Murphy has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough of Dunellen in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit the Law Firm of Apruzzese, McDermott, Mastro & Murphy, from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract, and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Dunellen has certified as to the availability of funds.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Dunellen authorizes the Mayor and Borough Administrator to enter into a contract with the Law Firm of Apruzzese, McDermott, Mastro & Murphy, as described herein, at an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution.

A copy of this resolution shall be published in the Courier News or other paper of record as required by law within ten days of its passage.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mrs. Albertson and seconded by Mrs. Rios, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #22

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT FOR LEGAL SERVICES

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

WHEREAS, the Borough of Dunellen has a need to acquire the services of a municipal planner as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44A- 20.5*; and,

WHEREAS, the Dunellen Municipal Clerk has determined and certified in writing that the value of the service will exceed \$17,500; and,

WHEREAS, the anticipated term of this contract is *one* year; and

WHEREAS, the firm of DMR Architects, PC, has submitted a proposal; and

WHEREAS, the firm of DMR Architects, PC, has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that the firm of DMR Architects, PC, has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough of Dunellen in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit the firm of DMR Architects, PC, from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract, and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Dunellen has certified as to the availability of funds.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Dunellen authorizes the Mayor and Borough Administrator to enter into a contract with the firm of DMR Architects, PC, as described herein, for an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution.

A copy of this resolution shall be published in The Courier or other paper of record as required by law within ten days of its passage.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mrs. Rios and seconded by Mr. Sigmon, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #23

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

The Mayor, Municipal Clerk, Chief Financial Officer, and Tax Collector are authorized to be signatories on Borough financial documents and instruments.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Dr. Dunne and seconded by Mr. VanDermark, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #24

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

1. That pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-67 the interest rate to be charged on delinquent tax payments for the year 2022 is hereby fixed at 8% up to \$1,500 and 18% over \$1,500 per annum.
2. That an additional 6% penalty be charged for a delinquency in excess of \$10,000.00 when same is not paid by the end of the year mentioned above.
3. That the Collector of Taxes and be and is authorized and directed to provide that no interest shall be charged if payment of any installment is made within the tenth calendar day following the date upon which the same became due. The interest is to be calculated from the date the tax was due until the date of the actual payment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Clerk provide a certified copy of this resolution to the Tax Collector.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Dr. Dunne and seconded by Mr. Sigmon, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #25

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council of the Borough of Dunellen finds and declares that N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17-1 empowers authorized municipal employees to process the cancellation of tax refunds and/or delinquencies of less than Ten Dollars (\$10.00), and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council of the Borough of Dunellen further finds and declares that the Municipal Tax Collector is qualified to process the cancellation of tax refunds and/or delinquencies of less than Ten Dollars (\$10.00), and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council of the Borough of Dunellen further finds and declares that it is in the best interest of the citizens of the Borough of Dunellen for the Municipal Tax Collector to be authorized to process the cancellation of tax refunds and/or delinquencies of less than Ten Dollars (\$10.00) in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17-1.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN:

That the Municipal Tax Collector of the Borough of Dunellen is hereby authorized to process the cancellation of tax refunds or delinquencies of less than Ten Dollars (\$10.00) during the calendar year 2021, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17-1.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mrs. Rios and seconded by Mr. Sigmon, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #26

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Whereas, NJSA 40A:4-19 provides that where any contract, commitment or payments are to be made prior to the final adoption of the CY 2022 Dunellen Municipal Budget, temporary appropriations should be made for the purpose and amounts required in the manner and time therein provided, and

Whereas, the date of this resolution is within the first thirty days of January, 2022.

Now therefore be it resolved that the attached CY 2022 Temporary Dunellen Municipal Budget is hereby adopted.

TEMPORARY BUDGET – 2022

Title	Salaries and Wages	Other Expenses
Administration	15,500	4,000
Legal Advertising		2,000
Telephone		9,000
Financial Administration	24,100	15,000

Assessment of Taxes	5,200	7,000
Collection of Taxes	11,600	7,000
Legal Services	15,300	7,000
Borough Clerk	15,500	3,000
Engineering Services		7,000
Municipal Planner		10,000
Public Buildings & Grounds	4,400	14,000
Electric & Gas		44,000
Planning Board	900	2,000
Group Insurance		200,000
Other Insurance		130,000
Mayor & Council	5,600	3,000
Gasoline		9,000
Water		2,000
Postage		5,000
Information Technology		13,000
Fire		12,000
Fire Hydrant Service		19,000
Rescue Squad Contribution		9,000
Police (including OT)	592,500	24,000
School Crossing Guards	20,000	
Dispatcher Services		35,000
Emergency Management	1,200	1,000
Emergency Vehicle Lease		20,000
Road Repairs	125,000	20,000
Tree Maintenance		15,000
Shade Tree		1,000
Garbage & Trash		20,000
Green Brook Flood Control Commission		500
Board of Health	13,000	5,000
Recreation Commission	18,800	3,000
Senior Citizen Activities		1,000
Construction Code Official	29,500	2,000
Social Security		50,000
Defined Contribution Retirement Plan		1,000
Municipal Court	40,100	5,000
Free Public Library	60,500	10,000
Municipal Prosecutor	5,200	
*Capital Improvement Fund		20,000
*Payment on MCIA Bonds		321,566
*Interest on MCIA Bonds		39,949
*Payment of Bond Anticipation Notes		122,513
*Payment of Interest on Notes		184,400
*Infrastructure Trust Fund		122,601
Intergovernmental/Middlesex County Recycling		84,000
Intergovernmental/Middlesex County Health Services		10,000
<hr/> Subtotal	1,003,900	1,651,529
Total Appropriations, including Debt Service		2,655,429
Less: *Debt Service		<u>(811,029)</u>

TOTAL TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS 1,844,400

Total Appropriations, CY 2021, less
Capital Improvement Fund and Debt Service 7,098,163

26.25% of Appropriations, less Capital
Improvement Fund and Debt Service 1,863,268

TOTAL TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS are
less than 26.25% prior year appropriations? TRUE

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Dr. Dunne and seconded by Mrs. Rios, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #27

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF
DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:**

Whereas, NJS A 40A:4-19 provides that where any contract, commitment or payments are to be made prior to the final adoption of the CY 2022 Dunellen Sewer Utility budget, temporary appropriations should be made for the purpose and amounts required in the manner and time therein provided, and

Whereas, the date of this resolution is within the first thirty days of January, 2022.

Now therefore be it resolved that the attached CY 2022 Temporary Dunellen Sewer Utility Budget is hereby adopted.

2022 Temporary Sewer Budget

<u>Account Title</u>	<u>Salaries</u>	<u>Other Expenses</u>
Regular – Public Works Department	21,800	
Overtime	3,800	
Telephone		200
Equipment Repairs		14,000
Stationery		300
Supplies		300
Miscellaneous		300
Equipment		300
Postage		400
Water		400

Credit Card Fees		800
WIPP (online Credit Card)		2,600
Professional Services		1,000
Engineering Services		3,000
Legal Fees		500
Rentals		600
Plainfield Area Regional Sewerage Authority (PARSA)		150,000
Service Contracts (PARSA Maintenance Fee)		3,400
PARSA Management Fee		3,100
Permit Fees		1,000
Electricity		5,000
Social Security		1,500
Subtotal	25,600	188,700

Grand Total 214,300

Total Appropriations, 2021 Budget		983,620
Less: Capital Improvement Fund		-25,000
Capital Outlay		-75,000
Debt Service		<u>-27,010</u>

Adjusted Total Appropriations, 2021 856,610

26.25% of appropriations, less Capital Improvement Fund, Capital Outlay and Debt Service: 224,860

Total Temporary Appropriations are less than 26.25% prior year appropriations? TRUE

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mr. VanDermark and seconded by Mr. Sigmon, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #28

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

The following companies are hereby awarded a Tow Operator's License and placed on the Borough's towing rotation for 2022.

West 7th Corporation, T/A as Piscataway Auto and Truck Repair, Piscataway
Majestic Towing and Transport, Inc., South Plainfield
J&L Auto Center, South Plainfield

JVD Towing Service, LLC, South Plainfield
M&W Towing Service, LLC., Plainfield
Mike's Towing & Recovery, Bridgewater
SHT Corp, T/A as Somerset Hills Towing, Bridgewater

The term of this award is from January 1, 2022 until December 31, 2022.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mrs. Albertson and seconded by Mr. Sigmon, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #29

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Kelly Cupit is hired as a Qualified Purchasing Agent for the Borough of Dunellen, effective January 1, 2022, for a one-year term, at an annual salary of \$7,000.00. This part-time position is without benefits.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mrs. Rios and seconded by Dr. Dunne, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #30

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

The officially elected 2022 Line Officers and Executive Officers for the Dunellen Fire Department are as follows:

LINE OFFICERS

Chief Jonathan Scott
Deputy Chief Jeremy Lowder
Captain Mark Crawford
Captain William Scott
Lieutenant Benjamin Garnecki
Lieutenant Dan Forte

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President Ben Garnecki
Vice President William Scott
Treasurer Mark Crawford
Corresponding Secretary Sue Connelly
Statistical Secretary Mike Shiminsky
Sergeant-at-Arms George Hodulik
Historian Jack Green

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Dr. Dunne and seconded by Mr. VanDermark, it was moved to Table resolution 01-01-2022: #32 regarding appointing Maestro Technologies as the Borough's Information Technology professionals:

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

**Reorganization Day Speech
Mayor Jason F. Cilento
January 1, 2022**

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen, members of the Dunellen Borough Council, and Borough staff. I would like to begin my third State of the Borough Address by wishing you and yours a happy and healthy New Year! We are all privileged to serve this great Borough and the people who call it home. I look forward to working with the members of Borough Council to accomplish the great tasks ahead and I thank them for their service to our community: Teresa Albertson, Jessica Dunne, Joseph Paltjon, Trina Rios, Daniel Cole Sigmon and Harold VanDermark. We welcome and congratulate Teresa Albertson and Joseph Paltjon on their swearing in today and we wish them both success in their new roles on the Borough Council. May we never lose focus of what is most important and that is our sworn duty above self to serve the residents of this community and to provide the best quality of life for them. I would also like to thank former Council Members April Burke and Richard Pinder for service as Council Members and wish them the best in their future endeavors. Additionally, congratulations to the newly appointed Council President, Trina Rios. I would like to highlight the importance of this moment, as Trina has now made history as becoming Dunellen's first Hispanic Council President. We know you will serve the position with honor and integrity.

It is my honor to stand before you as your mayor this afternoon to inform you that the state of the Borough of Dunellen is strong. It is truly a blessing to live and do business in Dunellen – New Jersey's Miracle Mile. You may have heard that phrase used a lot over the past two years, that's because it speaks volumes about who we are as a community. Despite the past two years of the pandemic, the disaster left behind by Hurricane Ida, and the great loss of our Fire House, I am encouraged by the people of our Borough and their strength, optimism, and generosity towards one another. How we come together not in only good times, but also in times of need, speaks to the soul of who we are as a people in this community and provides proof to that phrase

“The Miracle Mile!” So, with that, it gives me pleasure to speak with you today about our accomplishments in 2021 and present to you our agenda for 2022.

The past twelve months presented another year of working through the challenges of COVID-19. But as we did in 2020, we faced it head on and worked to provide the best policy possible for the public welfare and health of our employees and residents. We are blessed to have top-notch emergency services in Dunellen who continue to directly face the risk of COVID-19 on a daily basis. We applaud them for their service. The Borough, in coordination with the Dunellen Office of Emergency Management, Dunellen Parks and Recreation Department, and the Middlesex County Department of Health, hosted multiple mobile COVID-19 vaccine and testing sites throughout the year to help prevent further spread and the Borough extended its efforts to promote businesses in our downtown district to expand their business beyond their four walls and out into their parking lots and onto the sidewalks. These efforts allowed for businesses to continue operations in a safer manner and helped the Borough increase its vaccination percentages. We must still take precautions around this virus, but the Borough has continued to make municipal government accessible to its constituency by having Borough Hall open to the public with certain guidelines and continuing to allow the public to join Council meetings virtually. We will get through this pandemic.

Closing the chapter on 2021, we recognize the challenges we faced, but also wish to celebrate our accomplishments. In my State of the Borough Address last year, I noted several tasks that lay before us: infrastructure improvements, park improvements, and the continued revitalization of our downtown. We were able to accomplish these and more. In addition, our departments undertook much last year that enhanced the quality of life for the residents of Dunellen, and it is important that we highlight their contributions to the Borough.

It has been a major goal of this administration to find creative, efficient, and cost-effective ways to improve our roads. Some major infrastructure improvement projects in 2021 included the completion of the South Madison Avenue Road Improvement Project through the NJDOT grant program, working with Middlesex County on the rebuilding of the South Madison Avenue culvert and partnering with Middlesex County on the milling and paving of South Avenue, Grove Street, Madison Avenue, High Street, Lehigh Street, and the remainder of South Madison Avenue. In addition, I introduced to the Borough Council an amended Ordinance 2021-23, Restorations to Streets and Sidewalks under Chapter 256-9, which they adopted on 9/20/2021. The intention of this amended ordinance is to enhance the borough’s control over the paving and restoration process of our streets when utilities or private contractors must conduct work on them. This ordinance has brought New Jersey American Water and PSE&G to the table in discussion of helping the Borough pave curb to curb several sections of roads for free over the next several years.

Additionally, the Borough was awarded a grant in the amount of \$504,550 from NJDOT’s Municipal Aid for fiscal year 2021 for improvements to Lincoln Avenue. These funds are in addition to the Borough’s NJDOT Municipal Aid of \$525,000 for fiscal year 2020 for Lincoln Avenue. We are hopeful these grants will cover the majority, if not all, of the expenses for the Lincoln Avenue Roadway Improvements. This project is fully funded and approved and is anticipated to begin once utility work is finished on the road this year. Furthermore, in 2021 the

Borough was awarded a grant in the amount of \$556,530.00 from NJDOT's Municipal Aid for fiscal year 2022 for improvements to Kline Place. We are proving that with creative ideas, patience and collaborating with various stakeholders, we can pave more roads in Dunellen over a shorter period of time and at less cost to the taxpayer.

The revitalization of Dunellen's downtown is in the dawn of a renaissance. We can see it through the new businesses opening along North Avenue and all the beautification projects and downtown promotions that the Dunellen Downtown Management Organization hosts throughout the year. A popular project was the Dunellen Pop-Up Park which helped promote outdoor dining in a space that the public could gather for social events and help support our local businesses. The Pop-Up Park was a success due to the volunteers who helped make it happen. The Dunellen Station development project is proceeding and by summer we may be welcoming in new residents to Dunellen. The project is quickly becoming a desired location to live as there have been over a dozen townhomes sold pre-construction. Dunellen is an attractive place to live, shop and raise a family! The Dunellen Station project is not the only development in the pipeline; there are several other development projects already approved and/or will be presented this year. The increase of investments in downtown Dunellen is breathing new life into it and so long as we continue to promote and adopt a commerce-friendly mentality to attract and retain new businesses, investors and builders, our downtown will thrive, create more ratables and therefore revenue to help the Borough offset the tax burden on our residents.

In addition to the redevelopment efforts, we began to implement amendments to our redevelopment plan that were guided by the 2020 community vision plan survey on downtown Dunellen that was overseen by DMR Architects, our Municipal Planner. The purpose of this survey was to better understand our community's preferences as we continue to redevelop Dunellen's downtown. These amendments addressed the fractional numbers of inclusionary units (affordable housing) should a project not produce a whole number. A payment in lieu trust fund would be created based on a formula to make up for the fractional number. These funds would be later used on affordable housing units in other projects when fractional numbers need to be made whole. The amendments also addressed density. It limits the number of units based on building height (three stories) and different sizes of 1-bedroom, 2-bedroom, and 3-bedroom units. In addition, the amended plan addresses parking for both residential and commercial spaces to ensure these projects have adequate parking for their residents and commercial tenants. It sets up payment in lieu of parking which would establish a trust fund for future parking and/or related infrastructure projects in downtown, as well as provide for electronic vehicle parking. The amendment addresses front setback requirements - allowing for builders to create wider sidewalks for pedestrian experiences in our downtown such as streetscapes, seating, and outdoor dining. These improvements to the redevelopment plan will provide the Borough the opportunity to be better positioned when negotiating future development projects for the Borough with the added benefit of requiring fewer variances for developers as they seek to build projects in our downtown. Another interesting piece of 2021 was the addition of Dunellen to the NJ Motion Picture and Television Commission catalog. This catalog lists Dunellen as a location open to potential filming for the film and television industry and should Dunellen ever be selected, this could provide an economic benefit to our local businesses.

The Dunellen Borough Council adopted four quality of life ordinances designed to improve the aesthetics of our downtowns and neighborhoods. They were an ordinance controlling electronic smoking devices and banning their sale within five hundred feet of schools and parks; an ordinance prohibiting residents and businesses from disposing household or business trash or rubbish in public receptacles, as well as waterways of any kind; an ordinance requiring property owners to remove snow and ice from corners within 24 hours of end of a snowfall and requiring them to remove snow or ice from abutting sidewalks on or around fire hydrants; and an ordinance to prevent the delivery of unsolicited handbills and circulars to properties in Dunellen and create a process to report these unwanted solicitations. Nothing says “this is a good neighborhood and an attractive downtown” more than clean sidewalks and walkways in town that are also safe from slipping on ice and snow.

As part of our ongoing effort to enhance communication with residents and business owners, the Borough improved our website with regular and timely updates. Dunellen’s Downtown Management Organization has continued to improve its monthly e-newsletter, *Next Stop! Dunellen*. Furthermore, we continue to use traditional forms of print such as About Our Town’s *Community News* and Dunellen’s quarterly newspaper, *The Dunellen Report*, which is now entering its eleventh year of publication. We have also been able to virtually broadcast the Borough Council Meetings and plan to upgrade this technology this year. I have continued to provide the public with monthly “Messages from the Mayor,” updating residents on what is happening at Borough Hall and what capital projects, events, and redevelopment projects both myself and the Borough Council are working on, as well providing several video Updates with the Mayor and hosting Mayoral Town Hall’s on important topics such as the legalization of cannabis in New Jersey and Understanding Redevelopment in Dunellen. We continue to present our budgets through more visual forms such as PowerPoint and infographics, to better explain our goals and budget to the public. Our chief financial officer formally presents the budget to the public through PowerPoint, and we include infographics both in print sent home in our tax bills, as well as making them digitally accessible on our website. It is our responsibility to never allow for constituents to feel as if they are unaware of the happenings of their local government. I know the Borough Council shares this same view. We will continue to fulfill this mission.

These are just a few of the examples of the significant improvements that this governing body made in 2021. Now, I would like to highlight the accomplishments of our departments, Boards, committees, and commissions.

The Dunellen Parks and Recreation Department had another successful and memorable year in 2021 having hosted twenty events and served more than 350 participants with five youth sport programs and two camp programs. Their annual visit from the Easter Bunny in April and their hosting of the 73rd annual Halloween Parade in October presented opportunities to continue these great Dunellen traditions and adapt to another unique year. Our annual Memorial Day Parade was highly attended with sidewalks which were overflowing with friends and neighbors waving flags and showing support for the veterans. Parade watchers enjoyed the classic cars, fire trucks, the scouts, youth sports teams and more as they passed by. The event ended with a remembrance ceremony to honor all of those who died in service.

One of the great triumphs of 2021 for the Borough of Dunellen was the Recreation Department's hosting of Dunellen's own 2-time Olympian Sydney McLaughlin. We hosted a watch party for the Olympic qualifying round of her race, the women's 400-meter hurdles at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. The stands at Columbia Park were packed as fans cheered for her. Sydney would go on to win the Olympic gold medal in that race and in the women's 4x400 meter relay race, as well as set the world record – twice – for the women's 400-meter hurdles. To celebrate Sydney's extraordinary accomplishments, the Borough honored her at the Columbia Park Track Naming Ceremony on August 28. The event drew a crowd of more than five hundred, including dignitaries, friends, neighbors, and fans.

In addition to all this exciting news, the Recreation Department was able to continue park improvement plans by paving new basketball courts at Morecraft and Gavornik Parks. They launched the Hometown Heroes Banner program displaying fifty-two banners on flagpoles in the downtown. And most importantly, they resumed their youth programs in 2021 and offered: baseball and softball; Spring and Fall Tennis; soccer; and their Summer Recreation Camp. We all recognize these accomplishments are made possible by our Recreation Director Alex Miller, Recreation Administrative Assistant Julie Grof, Recreation Staff Members, the Recreation Commission, coaches and all the volunteers who help support the department and its programs. We have one of the top-notch Recreational Programs in the State of New Jersey because of all of them.

In 2021, the Dunellen Police Department welcomed two new officers, Anthony Issler and Manuel Santiago. The department made some needed improvements to the detective bureau and records offices, as well as the processing room that was damaged from rainwater. Our Officers were active on their patrol with over 170 total arrests, over 70 DWI arrests, and 3,500 summonses. Our Borough is safe because of our Officers in blue and we thank them for the risks they take each day to protect us. The Dunellen Rescue Squad performed with extraordinary valor as they always do during challenging times, while the Dunellen Office of Emergency Management went through many updates such as revisions of Dunellen Emergency Operation Plans (EOPs) that were revised and accepted by the NJ State Police making Dunellen eligible for grants and other aid. Dunellen EOPs were overdue and had not been revised since 2013.

Dunellen OEM applied for an Emergency Management Agency Assistance Grant and having met the eligibility criteria, has been awarded a \$10,000 grant payable after July 30, 2022. As a result of the Dunellen OEM Coordinator Homer Mosley Jr., Dunellen has its first Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) with its fifteen members, having gone through 8 weeks of in-person training to graduate. Members are continuing in-person and on-line FEMA Independent Study Classes. Dunellen CERT has already been deployed at Dunellen planned events and we couldn't be more proud of their accomplishments.

Our Dunellen Fire Department and its members are filled with men and women who define the words strength and determination. While the rest of us are running away from a fire, they are running towards it. On October 12, 2021, these members and our community lost a pillar and piece of history in Dunellen when the Fire House burned. What we didn't lose is the determination to keep moving forward and come back stronger than before. The Borough of Dunellen along with the Dunellen Fire Department have been working hard to return the

volunteers of the Dunellen Fire Department back to their rightful home at 231 South Madison Avenue. These men and women have given so much to our community and we are here to support them. What struck me the most out of all that day on scene, was the image of the American Flag standing untouched inside the smoke damaged bay of the Fire House. At that moment, it signified not just a national symbol for our country, but the strength and determination of our men and women who serve and protect us. I would like to take this moment in announcing and thanking Dunellen native and Olympic gold medalist Sydney McLaughlin who has so generously donated \$50,000.00 to Dunellen to assist in the rebuild of the Fire Department.

The Dunellen Downtown Management Organization hosted its annual HarvestFest in Washington Memorial Park, Dunellen Restaurant Week, decorated the downtown for spring with flower baskets and added string lights around our Victorian light poles, and for the holidays with Christmas trees, while the Dunellen Arts and Culture Commission hosted their annual Art Summer Camp, summers concerts in the park series and plays in the park, and decorated downtown storefronts with painted winter scenes. Both organizations really helped to bring to life our downtown this year and I know there is so much more to look forward to from them in 2022!

The Dunellen Municipal Alliance held several events, informing our community of the Alliance's mission to protect our youth from the effects of drug and alcohol abuse, while the Dunellen Diversity & Inclusion Committee was formed to celebrate Dunellen's diverse community. The Dunellen Public Library continued to provide a full range of services to residents including materials, children's and adult programming, arts and crafts, photocopying and faxing. The Friends of The Dunellen Public Library coordinated their successful outdoor market, with the funds from vendor fees benefiting the Library. The Dunellen Planning Board held important and successful meetings this year as it continues to be the municipal agency that has oversight of site plans for redevelopment projects and that these projects are abiding by our zoning laws. The Mayor's Traffic & Pedestrian Safety Task Force assisted on the input of the striping of several of the newly paved roads this year. Finally, the Construction Office was able to realize upward of \$1.2 million in permit fees from redevelopment this year, the highest in Dunellen history and will continue to see revenue from permits related to redevelopment projects this coming year. I will note that it would be wise for us as a governing body to ensure these monies be used to alleviate the tax burden in Dunellen, improve needed infrastructure, assist in debt services and allowing ourselves to add to surplus, as these monies are only for short periods of time and should assist us in needed circumstances.

As you can see, we were able to make great progress for the Borough in 2021. This is all due in part to our ability to collaborate with one another and due to the great professionalism of our employees and volunteers. Now, I would like to share with you a vision for Dunellen that I believe will support our revitalization efforts and stay true to our small-town values. These are just some of our priorities for Dunellen in 2022 and beyond:

Dunellen will continue to focus on the revitalization of our downtown. The construction of Dunellen Station has led to other interested developers in Dunellen, and we anticipate seeing the presentation of several these residential and mixed-use projects this year. I am looking

forward to bringing these projects to the Borough Council this year and working with the Planning Board as they progress through the application process. It is important we recognize the significance these projects will mean to our downtown and its revitalization. It will bring new residents into Dunellen, as well as retailers, and will foster an economic boom for our business district. To further enhance economic development in downtown Dunellen, we will be working with DMR Architects to amend our redevelopment plan to allow for breweries, wineries, and distilleries in our downtown. We will finally introduce the finalization of the sign ordinance to the Borough Council so we may better regulate the aesthetics of signage in our downtown and create a more uniform and attractive North Avenue. 2022 will also present the opportunity for the Borough of Dunellen to provide for a general Re-examination of its master plan and development regulations by the Planning Board. This re-examination occurs every 10 years and with the assistance of DMR Architects we will use community input to help steer the direction of our land use development regulations and the vision for the future of Dunellen.

We are continuously exploring ways to save money and streamline municipal services through innovative shared services agreements with other municipalities and agencies. Some major infrastructure improvement goals in 2022 will include: working with Middlesex County on the milling and paving of several more streets in Dunellen; advancing the Culvert rebuild under the NJ Transit tracks to alleviate flooding and move us closer to applying to FEMA to redraw the flood maps; and planning Morecraft Park playground improvements. The governing body will continue to work closely with one another and department heads to develop a long-term capital improvement plan so the Borough may better strategize for needed improvements. There is no “I” in team and this is an effort that will take all of us working together. Finally, as we have so much to accomplish moving forward, I look forward to continuing to review ordinances and make updates to them where applicable. There are several that will be introduced throughout the year through committees and then introduced to the Borough Council.

I would like to take the time to thank the borough’s administration and staff, and our various boards, commissions, and committees.

Though there are many I would like to recognize by name, here are just a few:

William Robins, our Municipal Clerk and Borough Administrator, for his help throughout the year; Debra Weaver, our Human Resources manager, does a magnificent job overseeing payroll and accounts payable; Lauren Staats, our Administrative Assistant and Deputy Clerk, who does it all, from overseeing vital statistics to animal licensing; our borough attorney, John Bruder, always provides us with sound legal advice and counsel; Scott Olsen, our chief financial officer, works wonderfully with our team in the tax office, including Dawn Hutchison, tax collector and Gail Woerner, tax office clerk; we thank Judge Katherine Howes, the municipal court administrator Terry Crisafulli, and her Violations Clerk, Lauren Smith; our Department of Public Works employees who work to keep things moving around town; we thank Scott Luthman and Rich Gianchiglia in our Construction Office and Dawn Guttschall our tax assessor; all of our professional services; and we appreciate Alex Miller, Julie Grof and the Recreation Commission for expanding our youth programs and overseeing our parks.

We thank all our volunteer agencies, including the Parking Authority, the Planning Board, Dunellen Downtown Management Organization, Mayor’s Traffic & Pedestrian Safety Task Force, Dunellen Diversity & Inclusion Committee, Dunellen Arts and Culture Commission, the Maurer House Committee, Shade Tree Commission, the Dunellen Public Library Board, the Mayor’s Cannabis Task Force, and the Dunellen Senior Club. Dunellen’s success is truly measured by the countless volunteers who serve our community.

We are fortunate to have what I feel is the best emergency services in all Central New Jersey. Thank you to Chief Daniel Smith and his Police Department for serving and protecting our Borough, as well as Debbie Ritchie, the Police Department’s administrative assistant, and Lieutenant Chris Beenders. I look forward to working with all of you to continue keeping our community safe. To our new Chief Jonathon Scott of the Dunellen Fire Dept and newly appointed Chief Bridget Nordstrom of the Dunellen Rescue Squad, I thank you both for your service and your members’ service. And, to former Chief Mark Crawford of the Fire Department and Chief Jeff Best of the Rescue Squad, thank you for all your years of service and friendship to our Borough. We all recognize the great risk each of our emergency services members takes when going out on a call. I know I can speak for myself and the Borough Council when I say you have our support. Please keep safe out there.

Finally, I would like to recognize and thank my family for their unwavering support. I extend my love and gratitude to my wife, Lindsay, for all her love and support, as well as my mother & father, my brother & sister, and their families.

I am honored to have the opportunity to serve the community that helped raise me and my family. As Mayor, I promise to work with all members of Council to make sure successful government is delivered to our constituents and to ensure all residents feel they are being represented through my office and this governing body. May we set aside partisan politics and devote ourselves to the true meaning of public service – serving the people. Dunellen is a place where neighbors, friends, and families come together to create greatness and ventures that uniquely define us as a community. We care about making this Borough a wonderful place to live, work, create and raise a family, and that is what makes our square mile the “miracle mile!”

Thank you for your time today. I look forward to working with all of you. Happy New Year!

PUBLIC PORTION:

No one from the public spoke.

At this point, the Dunellen Borough Council honored former Dunellen mayor John Gibney with the Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr. Robins introduced Mr. Gibney and spoke of some memories he shared with him. He then read the following Proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

On Awarding John Gibney Dunellen's 2021 Lifetime Achievement Award

WHEREAS, John Gibney is a life-long resident of Dunellen; and

WHEREAS, John served on the Dunellen Planning Board for four years; and

WHEREAS, John served on the Dunellen Borough Council for two terms, from 1982 to 1987; and

WHEREAS, John served as Dunellen's mayor from 1988 to 1992; and

WHEREAS, John has been a member of the Dunellen Lion's Club, the Dunellen High School Booster Club, has been a Dunellen Little League Coach, and a Washington Rock Pop Warner Coach; and

WHEREAS, John has contributed to the artistic, commercial, and aesthetic advancement of the Borough of Dunellen by creating the Welcome to Dunellen signs on major thoroughfares into our borough, by fashioning decorative and informative signs for our parks, and by crafting appropriate and dignified sign acknowledgments of our home-town Olympian, Sydney McLaughlin.

NOW THEREFORE I, Mayor Jason F. Cilento, along with the Borough Council, extend congratulations to John Gibney in awarding him with Dunellen's 2021 Lifetime Achievement Award.

At this point, the Dunellen Borough Council honored Diana Starace with the Citizen of the Year Award. Dr. Robins introduced Mrs. Starace, made some remarks, and read the following proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

On Awarding Diana Starace Dunellen's 2021 Citizen of the Year

WHEREAS, Diana Starace is a long-time resident of Dunellen, having moved here in 1997 with her daughter, Anielle, and purchased a home with her husband, David Starace, in 2013 where they raised their own two daughters; and

WHEREAS, Diana Starace began her lifetime of service to our community with becoming a Girl Scout Assistant Leader, and a Class Mother in John P. Faber Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, from 2003 to 2009, Diana was a member of the Municipal Alliance Community Needs Survey Committee, which helped identify Dunellen's available community resources and the risk and protective factors for our youth; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, Diana became a driving force in the resurrected Dunellen Municipal Alliance and currently serves as Chair of the Alliance; and

WHEREAS, Diana's volunteer passion coincides with her professional enthusiasms. She is the Injury Prevention/Safe Kids Middlesex County Coordinator at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital; and

WHEREAS, Diana demonstrates profound leadership acumen through public speaking to community organizations on injury prevention, her steadfast approach to eradicating the scourge of human trafficking, and her overall commitment to the advancement of public health, especially as it affects the well-being of our children. This is prominently revealed through her promotion of the Annual Walk to School and Bike to School Days at John P. Faber Elementary School.

WHEREAS, Diana Starace embodies all the traits and characteristics to qualify her for the designation of Dunellen's "Citizen of the Year."

NOW THEREFORE I, Mayor Jason F. Cilento, along with the Borough Council, extend congratulations to Diana Starace in awarding her the honor of being Dunellen's 2021 "Citizen of the Year."

On the motion of Mrs. Rios and seconded by Mr. Sigmon, it was moved to accept the following:

01-01-2022: #32

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

The Dunellen Borough Council Meeting of January 1, 2022 is adjourned.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

The YouTube presentation of this Council meeting can be found at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qe4GMQaKbiY>