

Department News

Borough Hall will be closed Monday, January 18th in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day



From the Police Department

Dear Rutherford Residents,

As I have previously mentioned, 2021 will see the Rutherford Police Department at the forefront of National and State Police Reform. While most of those reforms will affect how we conduct our traditional enforcement responsibilities for the better, I can assure you that our service-oriented duties will remain a priority for us.

Just a few years ago, the Rutherford Police Department began our Community Outreach initiative which enhanced our interactions with our community, establishing partnerships and fostering communication with those we serve. Administrative Sergeant Julie Ann Zeigler leads these initiatives and continues to make tremendous enhancements regularly. Although the COVID-19 pandemic temporarily stalled most of our programs, I can assure you Sergeant Zeigler and the members of the Rutherford Police Department are preparing to bring back our Community Outreach once restrictions begin to ease.

I look back with satisfaction at what our Community Outreach has accomplished these last few years and look forward with anticipation to the prospect of what we will do next. From our efforts with our seniors to our programs with our local youth and schools, the Rutherford Police Department will continue to stay true to our mission. For a detailed list of our Community Outreach initiatives or questions, please contact Administrative Sergeant Julie Ann Zeigler at jzeigler@rutherfordpd.com or 201-460-305

- Chief John R. Russo



Department of Public Works will now accept electronic waste at its Saturday drop-off. The hours are 9:00AM - 1:00PM

REC

We would like to thank Laura Ward for her many years of dedication to the children of Rutherford.

· Recreation is offering a new class Youth Yoga for ages 5-8 year olds & 9-12 year olds via Zoom

Important COVID Information:

As we head into the new year we feel its important to reiterate the Borough's stance on COVID-19 quarantining as it relates to Recreation programming.

If you or your child participates in any in-person program sponsored by the Recreation Department we are requiring the family to notify the Recreation Department immediately if they have been made aware that anyone in their household has received a positive COVID test. If you or your child has been notified that you've been in close contact with someone who has tested positive, you are required to quarantine for 14 days before returning to Borough activities.

Any family who fails to notify the Borough of a positive test within their household, or anyone deemed jeopardizing public health, will have all members of their household suspended from recreational activities sponsored by and/or associated with the Borough for one year.

The safety of our residents is always our first concern. We are all in this together!

Thank you,
Rutherford Recreation Department



The 2021 1st quarter Taxes are due February 1, 2021 with a grace period up to and including February 10, 2021

Effective December 4, 2020, State law (P.L. 2019, c. 413) eliminates the wartime service requirement for the \$250 Veterans Property Tax Deduction. Veterans must have active duty service with an honorable discharge. Reservists and National Guard personnel must be called to active duty service to qualify. Active duty for training continues to be ineligible.

If you are an honorably discharged veteran with active duty military service, you may qualify for an annual \$250 Property Tax Deduction.

You also may qualify if you are a surviving spouse/civil union/domestic partner of an honorably discharged veteran with active duty military service



From the Desk of Mayor Frank Nunziato

At Monday's Mayor and Council meeting, I began making appointments to boards, commissions and committees, as typically happens during the first few Council meetings of the new year.

I'm proud to say, however, that this year we have made a major improvement to what has historically been an ambiguous process with little oversight.

As stated in Borough code, all appointments are made at the discretion of the Mayor.

But for years I've noticed that we needed to make an effort to proactively seek out members of the community who may not be aware that their unique skills and expertise can benefit Rutherford.

Without proactively inviting residents to participate, we risk having our committees become stale and unproductive, which benefits no one. Simply being an acquaintance of the Mayor should not automatically qualify a person to serve our town if Rutherford is to continue to thrive.

That is why in 2020 I asked Councilmen Guzman and Goldsack to spearhead a new application process in order to provide an even stronger pool of resident volunteers for me to choose from.

Please understand that creating a new process, promoting it and conducting well over 100 interviews via Zoom was no easy feat during an already crazy year, both technically and logistically. I'd like to thank all the council members for supporting this effort, which we plan to repeat yearly, and for understanding that the hard work will pay off.

I'd like to especially thank Councilmen Guzman and Goldsack for their dedication to the new process as well as all the residents who took the time to fill out an application and interview. If you were not chosen for an appointment, please understand that the talent pool was extremely competitive and exceeded even my expectations. Please don't let it deter you from applying again next year or finding other ways to volunteer for the community.

For those of you who I will be appointing over the next few weeks, congratulations and I look forward to the great things you can help Rutherford achieve in 2021.

Sincerely,
Mayor Frank Nunziato

HEALTH

The Rutherford Health Department advises residents that the governing body recently updated its property maintenance code and changes have taken place regarding the degree of heat required in an apartment in the Borough of Rutherford. Rental units that receive heat, provided by the owner, are required to provide heat at 70 degrees from the period of October 1st to May 1st.

Tenants who feel that their apartments are not at the proper degree of heat should have an accurate thermometer in their unit to verify the actual room temperature. Efforts should be made by the tenant with the owner, manager, or superintendent of the apartment complex to correct any heating deficiencies. When those efforts have failed, the Rutherford Health Department can be reached weekdays between 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. at 201-460-3020 for assistance.

Council Reports

Council President Mark Goldsack mgoldsack@rutherfordboronj.com

Happy New Year! I'd like to take a moment to thank my colleagues for electing me to serve as Council President in 2021. I look forward to working with each of them as we move Rutherford forward in 2021.

I'd also like to take a moment to thank Councilman Tom Mullahey for his incredible leadership during an extremely difficult 2020. Councilman Mullahey, with Mayor Nunziato, worked tirelessly on behalf of the residents of the Borough, ensuring that we remained safe and informed, while also developing creative ideas which allowed our community to find ways to celebrate our front line heroes, our championship achievements, and the spirit of the holidays, in a way that makes Rutherford the amazing place we all love. Thank you, Councilman.

PLANNING BOARD:

Authorization of Planning Board Request for Review Date of March 20, 2021 in regards to the Williams Center site - Passed

- On December 14, 2020, the Council passed a resolution directing the Planning Board to prepare a report of its recommendations to the redevelopment plan of the Williams Center site within 45 days, in accordance with the requirements of the Redevelopment Law. However, in light of the reorganization of both the Mayor and Council and the Planning Board, the Chairman of the Planning Board, through the Board Secretary, has requested an extension to the 45 day requirement indicating that the Board would review the plan at its March 20, 2021 meeting.

On Twitter:
@Rutherford07070

On Facebook:
Borough of Rutherford NJ

January 15, 2021

Councilman Matthew Cokeley

mcokeley@rutherfordboronj.com

On January 2, 2021 at 6pm 15 members of Rutherford's Bravest were sworn in to their newly awarded positions. We would like to send a special thanks to new Department Chief, Dennis Gentile, and all of the men, women and families of the Rutherford F.D. for their continued service. Thank you.

The Rutherford Fire Department's Junior Firefighter's program

is now open to 16 and 17 year olds youths. More information by emailing recruitment@rutherfordfd.com.

Arts Committee: Work has begun to organize the year's efforts and meetings. More information to follow soon.

Felician University will be sponsoring a virtual town hall in the next few weeks to be hosted by Councilwoman Maria Begg-Roberson. A date and time will be delivered as soon as it is confirmed.

On a personal note, I would like to say thank you again to Council-President Mark Goldsack and Councilman Ray Guzman for their incredible dedication to the Volunteer database initiative. It was an honor to sit in on several of the interviews and meet so many intelligent & talented Rutherfordians. I am looking forward to helping bring our full potential to life with the aid and insight of all these fine citizens.

Councilwoman Stephanie McGowan

smcgowan@rutherfordboronj.com

The Introduction and Passing of Resolution 23-2021

On November 6, 2020, Rutherford, along with American's across this nation, participated in the process of voting. As Senior Councilwoman of the Rutherford Borough Council; as well as one of the three Council members elected by the residents of Rutherford (S. McGowan, M. Cokeley, & R. Guzman), it was my honor and privilege to request consideration of Resolution 23-2021. As such, Resolution 23-2021, "A Resolution in Support of The Borough of Rutherford's ("Borough") Municipal Election Results, New Jersey Electors Representing the Will of The Borough of Rutherford, And in Support of The Mayor and Council of The Borough in Upholding the United State of America Constitution," was moved and passed unanimously by the governing body on Monday, January 11, 2021. In response to the chaos and violence that took place at the United States Capitol on January 6, 2021 targeting the fabric of our American democracy, the spirit of this Resolution was to show unity and support for the democratic election process and the certification of the Electoral College. Further, this Resolution affirms that we in the Borough of Rutherford, the State of New Jersey, and American's across this country and abroad, participated in a free and fair election, despite the challenges of the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic.

As stated in the Resolution, the Borough Clerk was instructed to send this Resolution to the following elected officials: NJ Governor, NJ Lieutenant Governor, NJ Attorney General, NJ Senate and Assembly Majority and Minority Leaders, Bergen County Board of Commissioners, Bergen County Clerk, and the Municipal Clerks of each Bergen County Municipality.

Councilman Tom Mullahey

tmullahey@rutherfordboronj.com

SafeWalk Crosswalk Illuminators were installed at the following critical points throughout town: Montross Ave at the Felician University parking lot as well as the intersections of Orient Way and East Pierrepont Ave, Summit Cross, Highland Cross, East Passaic Ave and East Erie at the train station.

These Illuminators use a flood light to beam light to the center of the crosswalk ensuring motorists can easily see pedestrians throughout the crosswalk. Pedestrians can activate them from dusk to dawn with LED warning lights.

This pedestrian safety project has been years in the making. The research and funding of these Illuminators have been a collaborative effort between Mayor Frank Nunziato, Chief John Russo and myself.

2021 BERGEN COUNTY UTILITIES AUTHORITY

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENTS

Take your hazardous waste to a safer place!

PARAMUS	MAHWAH	MOONACHIE
Bergen Community College 400 Paramus Road (Entry via Paramus Rd. only)	Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation 200 Campgaw Road	Bergen County Utilities Authority Foot of Empire Blvd. (Entry via Empire Blvd. only)
SUNDAY April 11th June 13th October 17th	SATURDAY May 15th July 10th September 11th	SATURDAY March 6th November 13th
9:00 am - 3:00 pm	9:00 am - 3:00 pm	9:00 am - 3:00 pm

All collection sites open (rain or shine) at 9:00 a.m. and close promptly at 3:00 p.m.

FREE OF CHARGE FOR BERGEN COUNTY RESIDENTS ONLY - ID REQUIRED!

Absolutely no business or commercial waste will be accepted without prior written approval. Businesses must pre-register prior to attending BCUA sponsored hazardous waste collection events. A disposal fee will be charged and collected. Call 201-807-8696 for further information.

DO NOT BRING electronics, paper shredding, or tires to hazardous waste collections!!

Visit www.bcuu.org for additional information.

  Recycle!
Printed on recycled paper.

NO RETURNS. This includes gasoline and motor oil containers. Please plan accordingly.