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Borough of Rutherford NJ

October 15, 2021

From the Desk of Mayor Frank Nunziato

At Tuesday's meeting, the Council voted in favor of designation M&M at Rutherford Urban Renewal Company, LLC the redeveloper of record for the the redevelopment area known as Agnew A. The Council also voted to authorize the execution of a financial agreement by and between the Borough and M&M. The financial agreement can be found on the [Borough website under Mayor and Council agendas](#). More information regarding the Boroughs obligation to meet affordable housing requirements can be found under the [Land Use & Redevelopment page on the Borough home page](#).

The ordinance authorizing a financial agreement between the Borough and M&M passed on first reading and will be up for a second reading at the October 25th Mayor and Council meeting. At that time the public will have two opportunities to speak on it before it is voted on.

I'd like to announce that the committee, board and commission application process has reopened and we will be accepting applications from now through November 15th. We are especially looking for residents willing to lend their specific talent to a committee whose mission is within your area of expertise. This kind of a volunteering is a great way to strengthen our community.

Having a diverse group of residents willing to serve benefits our committees, boards or commissions since it allows professionals at many levels to weigh in on issues on programs that pertain to our residents. Please note that boards and commissions are governed by by-laws and have a limited number of seats available each year. The application can be found on the home page of the Borough website along with descriptions of each committee, board and commission.

Finally, I'd like to thank everyone who came out to our first ever Rutherford Day on October 2nd, as well as our staff from Recreation and DPW who helped make it possible. It was a great community event and what I hope will be the first of many Rutherford Days to come!

Sincerely,
- Mayor Frank Nunziato

2022 Committee Applications Now Open through Nov. 15

Interviews via Zoom

rutherfordboronj.com/committees for more information

Early Voting Information:

In-Person Early Voting Locations open Saturday, October 23rd through Sunday, October 31, 2021; Monday through Saturday, 10:00 am to 8:00 pm and Sunday, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm.

Rutherford is host to an early voting location at the Williams Center, 15 Sylvan Street.

For information in regards to the other eight Bergen County locations, kindly contact the Bergen County Board of Elections at elections@co.bergen.nj.us or (201) 336-6230.

Basketball & Wrestling Coordinators & Coaches Wanted!

Volunteer coaches are what make
Rutherford's youth sports possible.

Help us plan for the upcoming season by signing up now.

Player registration begins October 20th



Sign up at:

rutherfordnj.recdesk.com

Department News



2021 Final/2022 Preliminary Tax Bills were mailed 10/8. You should expect to see the bills in your mailbox within the week. If you should not receive a bill prior to Nov. 1, please contact the Tax Collector's Office.



The Rutherford Health Department will be conducting two Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Programs for residents on Wednesday, October 27, 2021. [Learn more here.](#)



Council Reports

Council President Mark Goldsack

mgoldsack@rutherfordboronj.com

On Monday the Council both designated M&M at Rutherford Urban Renewal Company, LLC as the redeveloper of the redevelopment area known as Agnew Place Area A and also passed on first reading an ordinance authorizing the execution of a financial agreement by and between the Borough and M&M.

This project has been the subject of discussion during numerous meetings over the course of two administrations. The public has had numerous opportunities to share their concerns about this project over the course of many years.

We have heard those concerns and believe we have come to an agreement that will not only start the process or finalizing a project in an area of our community that was highlighted in our master plan as a prime location for redevelopment, but also start the process of putting a concrete plan in place to begin building our much needed affordable housing obligations by 2025.

I believe this project will be an asset to our community from an economic standpoint, bringing additional foot traffic to our business community, but also from a tax revenue standpoint. Keep in mind that the Borough receives 95% of the revenue from PILOT payments, with the remainder going to the county. Also keep in mind that the land itself is still taxed conventionally, meaning the schools receive their usual allocation of their tax revenue.

With that in mind I know that Mayor Nunziato has committed to having discussions with Superintendent Hurley and the Board of Education about the possibility of sharing in PILOT payments if the circumstances call for it.

I look forward to working with Mayor Nunziato and my council colleagues as we continue to discuss and develop this project to ensure that all concerns are addressed and succeed in executing a project that is beneficial for Rutherford now and in the future.

Councilwoman Stephanie McGowan

smcgowan@rutherfordboronj.com

Recreation Update:

Reminder- don't forget to set up your Rec Desk account today at <https://rutherfordnj.recdesk.com/community/home>. This application allows for you and your family to register for events in town, as well as receive information about future events. Set up your individual or family account now and be a part of all the great events coming up!

55 Kip Center Mark your calendars to support the 55 Kip Center's Casino Night on Friday, October 22nd from 7:00-11:00pm at the Fiesta! If you would like to sponsor this event and assist in continuing the program offerings of this amazing organization, please contact the event planning team at 201-460-1600. Tickets are \$80 and it includes Kip Kash play money, dinner & cocktails, and supporting an amazing organization!

Affordable Housing and Working Toward the Borough's Obligation of 2025

On Tuesday evening, the Mayor and Council took another step toward satisfying our Fair Housing Act responsibility formerly known as the Council on Affordable Housing or COAH. Per the decision rendered by the NJ Supreme court in 1975 (South Burlington County NAACP v. Twp of Mt. Laurel, 67 NJ 151 (1975)), and subsequently in 1983 (South Burlington County NAACP v Mt. Laurel Twp., 92 N.J. 158 (1983)), municipalities such as Rutherford, are required to provide a fair share of affordable housing when development projects happen. The subsequent decision of 1983 addressed a consequential action to those municipalities that remained non-compliant with creating affordable housing known as a "builders remedy". Per our Borough website, "In September 2019 a settlement with the FSHC (Fair Share Housing Center) was reached that will protect the borough until July 1, 2025. It establishes certain benchmarks and goals for the borough's development of affordable housing through its ordinances, administrative procedures, and redevelopment and planning" (www.rutherfordboro.nj/landuseanddevelopment/affordablehousing). As a Borough, the governing body must make progress toward satisfying the negotiated number of units within our borders to the best of our ability to satisfy the obligation before or by 2025. We took the first step of continued negotiations this week. I thank my fellow elected colleagues who understand the magnitude of this responsibility, and equally the severe penalties for non-compliance, that voted to support the redevelopment agreement for the Agnew Place project



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On Facebook:
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Councilman Matthew Cokeley

mcokeley@rutherfordboronj.com

Rutherford FD: Last year, I brought my children up to witness the beautiful Firemen's Memorial tribute here in Rutherford for the very first time. This year I was honored to participate.

Over the last 10 months as we began to work together, I remarked to myself how impressive the Rutherford Fire Department's dedication and commitment to their craft and this community is.

From car fires on the black asphalt of rte 3 in the dead of summer to pulling motorists, families and pets from raging flood waters in the dark of night, their unparalleled and unwavering dedication to those around them has left me in awe.


as with anything requiring a lifetime commitment of this magnitude (and make no mistake, it is a lifetime commitment), no one can truly understand unless they do the job themselves.

However, what we, as a community can do is acknowledge the commitment, dedication and sacrifice and give thanks.

So, i and everyone else in attendance yesterday and every-day thank you and your families for your service.

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a Rutherford Volunteer Firefighter - youth or adult - email recruitment@rutherfordfd.com. The Rutherford Fire Department's Junior Firefighter's program is now open to 16 and 17 year old youths.

Social Services: Families in need of emergency food please contact the Social Services Director, Genevieve Kacmarcik, at 201- 460-3028 or gkacmarcik@rutherfordboronj.com or me directly at mcokeley@rutherfordboronj.com and we can connect you with the Rutherford Food Pantry.

 **Rutherford Police are hosting a DEA's Take Back Day collection site: Saturday, October 23, 2021 from 10AM-2PM inside the RPD lobby at 184 Park Ave.**

The DEA's Take Back Day events provide an opportunity for Americans to prevent drug addiction and overdose deaths.

Councilman Ray Guzman

rguzman@rutherfordboronj.com

Historic Preservation Guided Walking Tour Available

The HPC is proud to present our first self-guided tour of Rutherford with a tour of historic Park Avenue! The tour goes from the train station to the Masonic Temple, and can be taken any time and at your own pace. See what Park Avenue used to look like, find the historic architecture you can still see in many of the buildings, and learn some of the history of the street and the Borough.

Go to <https://historicparkaverutherford.stqry.app/> to start the tour on your phone or just take a look online. The tour is through a web-based app and is free of charge.



New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission

Mobile Motor Vehicle Commission

Rutherford will be hosting the MVC Mobile Unit at Memorial Field on Thursday, October 28, 2021 from 10 AM to 2 PM.

***** Registration Required *****

Limited to 40 customers, with an additional 10 customers to be placed on a standby list. First come, first served by registration. Register Call: 201-460-3054

What will be handled:

- Driver's License Renewals
 - Limited READ ID - your current license
- Registration Renewals
- Veteran, Handicap, Purple Heart Recipient Placards
- Non-Driver ID

For more information:

<https://www.rutherfordboronj.com/departments/police/2021/10/15/mvc-mobile-unit/>

Rutherford's HALLOWEEN 2021

Win
Prizes!

Save the Date: Sunday, October 31
Ragamuffin Parade* & Spooktacular

*Pre-registration requested at rutherfordnj.recdesk.com

And check out the Halloween Contests for Residents:



House Decorating Contest

Showcase your Halloween creativity!

1st, 2nd & 3rd Place winners will receive gift certificates to a local business.

Registrations must be received by midnight, October 21.

A downloadable map of all acceptable entries will be posted on the borough website by Monday, October 25th. A paper map will also be available for pick up beginning Monday, October 25th in the Rec Department at 176 Park Ave. Houses must be ready for judging by October 25th.



Jack-O-Lantern Photo Contest

Sharpen those carving skills! Email photo entries to RutherfordRecContest@rutherfordboronj.com by midnight, Monday, October 25th!



Purple Pumpkin Pursuit

Search Rutherford for the prized purple pumpkin and WIN a \$50 gift certificate!

Dates of Pursuits: 10/29 and 10/30



Sponsored by

BCB Bank

For more information, rules and regulations for all contests please visit rutherfordnj.recdesk.com



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On Instagram
[@rutherford_recreation](https://www.instagram.com/rutherford_recreation)



The Borough of
RUTHERFORD
New Jersey

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