

April 14, 2022

The Rutherford REPORT

rutherfordboronj.com

THE BOROUGH OF
RUTHERFORD
NEW JERSEY

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Borough Hall is closed Friday, April 15th in observance of Good Friday

From the Desk of Mayor Frank Nunziato

I was happy to finally return to Council Chambers, in person, for Monday's Council Meeting. It was great to have a robust turn-out and see so many residents again.

Monday was also the debut of livestreaming Mayor and Council meetings. As with anything new, we had a few technical kinks to work out but overall I feel it was a success and I am happy that the Borough can now provide this convenience, making it easier for the public to be aware of how their local government works. In the very first edition of The Rutherford Report from March of 2020, I noted that livestreaming meetings was a definite goal for the Borough. That goal was interrupted by a few years of virtual meetings but I'm happy that we were ultimately able to accomplish it.

I encourage everyone to subscribe to the [Borough's YouTube channel](#) or visit the link on www.rutherfordboronj.com to follow along with Council meetings from the comfort of their homes. Those wishing to actually speak and participate at a meeting will still be required to attend in person.

I'd like to thank Bergen County Sheriff's Officer Anthony DiMaggio for attending to speak about Rutherford's own Officer Joseph Rybka, who we sadly lost in the line of duty in 1979 at the age of 32 while he was transporting a prisoner.

As a result of Officer DiMaggio's outreach on behalf of Officer Rybka's widow, the Borough has passed a resolution to name the portion of Ames Ave between Chestnut Street and Home Avenue for Officer Joseph Rybka, as he was a lifelong parishioner of St. Mary's. We anticipate having the dedication ceremony this summer and will keep the public apprised of the exact date.

Additionally at this week's meeting, the Council introduced an ordinance authorizing angled parking on The Terrace. This is part of a broader plan to create more parking in and around Park Avenue. For more detail about the changes coming to Park Ave parking, please read Councilman Mullahey's portion of the newsletter.

Sincerely,
Mayor Frank Nunziato



Homestead Rebate adjusted bills were mailed April 1st to property owners who received the credit. 2nd quarter property tax payments are due May 1st with a grace period to May 10th.

The Tax Collector's office is open to the public to make payment in person, however, we also have a Drop Box to the left of the Donaldson Avenue entrance door that is available 24/7 or you can pay online through the Borough website www.rutherfordboronj.com

REC

Looking for Summer Camp Counselors & Counselors In Training

rutherfordboronj.com/departments/recreation
for more information

Mayor & Council Meetings Now Livestreaming!

YouTube youtube.com/c/BoroughHall

Subscribe Today!

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE 4/15
LAST CALL to Register for the Derby &
all Rec Activities on RecDesk today!**

Rutherford Downhill Derby 2022
WE'RE BACK!
SATURDAY JUNE 18 1-5PM
REGISTRATION NOW OPEN
rutherforddownhillderby.org

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Council President Mark Goldsack
mgoldsack@rutherfordboronj.com

Recreation Department & Public Events:

I'd like to thank everyone who came out for the Annual Egg Hunt at Tryon Field on Saturday, and especially our Rec Department Staff and members of the volunteer committee whose hard work provided hundreds of Rutherford children with a great afternoon!

Registration for the 4th Downhill Derby is now open!

Visit rutherforddownhillderby.org for more information and to register through RecDesk.

Deadline to register is April 15!

The Rutherford Shade Tree Commission presents

Rutherford Tree Fest '22

An Arbor Day Craft & Food Festival celebrating the Borough of Trees

SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2022
12 - 5 PM • LINCOLN PARK

Councilman Ray Guzmán
rguzman@rutherfordboronj.com

Stay Up to Date with Library News

Did you know the Rutherford Library has a digital newsletter? Subscribe by clicking here or texting RUTHERFORDLIB to 28228. You may also follow the library on Facebook and Instagram.

Councilwoman Stephanie McGowan
smcgowan@rutherfordboronj.com

At Monday's meeting, the Borough Council adopted the CY2022 Municipal Budget. I would like to thank my colleague C/M Ray Guzman for working with me throughout the process. I also like to thank all of the Borough Department Heads and our CFO Gordon Stelter with their hard work to provide a reasonable budget during these difficult economic times without sacrificing services to our community. The budget does include a small municipal property tax increase of 1.63%. In terms of dollars, a home assessed at \$431,000 would pay \$67 more in property taxes in 2022 versus 2021. At time of adoption, we did not have the certified numbers from the county or board of education. We will update this information once those rates are certified. A power point presentation summarizing our budget can be found on the Borough website.

The next part of the budget process is finalizing this year's capital improvements budget. We anticipate introducing the ordinance at the April 25th meeting. The public hearing on the ordinance would be scheduled for May 9th and a vote on the ordinance would follow.



This week the field house at Tamblin Field was removed in the first step of phased-in improvements to the Tamblin Field overhaul. Bids for pickleball and basketball courts are currently being reviewed.

Councilman Tom Mullahey
tmullahey@rutherfordboronj.com

RPD:

Rutherford is very fortunate to have a Downtown that draws people from near and far. As we return to routine and bustling activities post-COVID, the Borough is working on a parking plan to better support the needs of patrons and businesses alike. This concept has several steps and requires a lot of planning but we think it will be worth the effort and benefit Rutherford.

Last month, the Council adopted an ordinance increasing meter fees to .25 per 15 minutes to mirror neighboring communities and in preparation of upgrading to digital meters. You may have seen DPW employees fixing the existing meter heads to reflect that ordinance while we await the installation of the new ones.

We anticipate the new digital meters to be in use by the end of the summer. These meters will accept credit cards, quarters and can also be operated via a phone app.

Additionally, we introduced an ordinance permitting angled parking on The Terrace. Angling would create four additional parking spaces on that street. At the next Council meeting, we'll take action to add two additional parking spaces on Spring Dell off Park. The Borough Engineer is also working with County officials to install new spaces in current no parking lanes on Park Ave.

In all, by reimagining the space we have to work with, the Borough feels it can gain 9 to 12 new spaces and designate two of those as 15 minute parking.

I'm happy to be part of this upgrade to the Downtown and I'd like to thank the Borough Administrator and Borough Engineer for helping us be more effective with the space we have.