

## **MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING HELD AUGUST 10, 2021**

Pursuant to rules of Council of the Town of Westfield, the members thereof convened in regular session Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at 8:00 p.m.

Mayor Brindle made the following announcements:

“The adequate notice of this meeting, as required by the Open Public Meetings Act, was provided by the posting, mailing and filing of the annual notice of regularly scheduled meetings of the Town Council on December 11, 2020. The notice was, on that date, posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building, mailed to THE WESTFIELD LEADER, and THE STAR LEDGER, and filed with the Clerk of the Town of Westfield.”

**PRESENT:** Mayor Brindle, Council Members, Parmelee, Katz, Mackey, Dardia, and Boyes

**ABSENT:** Council Members Habgood, LoGrippo, Contract

### **INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE**

Invocation was given by Councilman Boyes followed by the flag salute.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

#### Town Administrator's Update

- Provided an update on road paving and stated that 14 roads have been paved by Elizabethtown Gas to date with additional paving to occur once utility work is complete. Also discussed the number of roads paved by the Town to date and those that are next on the schedule. In addition, discussed improvements to Prospect Street and Willow Grove Road which are state aid projects and explained that state regulations must be followed for these projects which has caused some delay in them moving forward;
- Announced that street sweeping is nearing the second round of completion.

#### Mayor's remarks

Just as we did prior to the pandemic, our meetings continue to be live streamed for viewing only on Facebook, and public comment will be accepted in person only. As always, the replay will also be available afterwards on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), and TV 36.

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### **SECRETARY BUTTIGIEG VISITS WESTFIELD**

We were thrilled to host Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg yesterday right here in Town Hall to meet with members of the RVL Mayors' Alliance and Congressman Tom Malinowski for a robust discussion about the importance of infrastructure improvements in the region. In moderating this roundtable, I shared my personal experience about the toll that an inconsistent and increasingly unreliable commute takes over time -- a story shared by so many residents in Westfield -- and the reason I co-founded the RVL Mayors' Alliance. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal would enable, among many other key improvements, the long overdue Gateway tunnel to be built and pave the way for the one-seat ride this region deserves. I was grateful to have the opportunity to host this important conversation yesterday to bring us one step closer to our goal.

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### **EDISON SCHOOL FIELDS PROJECT**

Thanks to all of the residents who have provided their feedback on the Edison Fields project to date, all of which has been very helpful. The Recreation Commission is collecting this input and gathering follow-up data in order to provide additional information for the next meeting, focused on many of the consistent areas of most concern to residents -- such as traffic, parking, lighting, stormwater and environmental concerns, and the scale and scope of the project itself.

The Recreation Commission has been diligently working with Jim Gildea and the design firm Spiezle to address the questions that have been received. Based upon this input, they are also recommending reducing the scope of the project to a scale that is more consistent with what was recommended in the Strategic Parks plan.

For the latest status, I am going to ask Recreation Commission liaison Scott Katz to provide an update and information on the next meeting.

Comments from Councilman Katz:

- We have had two successful public input sessions and have put together a comprehensive list of questions and concerns.
- We have heard from the neighbors loud and clear, and as a result, are going to revisit the Parks Master Plan to see if scaling the plan back to the original recommended size and scope can address many of the neighbors concerns while fulfilling the commonly acknowledged need for more usable field space in Westfield.
- We have scheduled the first meeting of the Edison Neighborhood Advisory Group for next week, which includes five representatives from the impacted neighborhoods and members of the Recreation Commission.
- As a result of this potential revision, we need to do additional due diligence which will require additional time to address some of the issues in greater detail.
- This is all contingent upon further discussions with the BOE and that meeting is currently being scheduled.
- As a result, we believe the most productive course of action is skip the September 1 meeting in order to provide a more detailed revised proposal and answers to as many questions as we can in preparation for the scheduled September 20 meeting.
- This is not a fait accompli, and we are working very hard to listen to both the concerns of the neighbors as well as the needs of the user groups.

Please continue to send your feedback to [edisonfields@westfieldnj.gov](mailto:edisonfields@westfieldnj.gov), and plan to attend the meeting on September 20 at Edison at 7:00PM for additional information and details based on input received to date.

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### **COVID VACCINATION CLINIC**

The Health Department will be holding a COVID vaccination clinic on Wednesday from 4:00 - 7:00 PM for those 12 and over, where the Pfizer and J&J vaccines will be offered. No appointment is necessary, and adults seeking vaccination are able to bring children in their care into the building with them to make the process easily accessible for all.

As we continue to hear more about the highly contagious nature of the Delta variant of COVID, I urge everyone to take the proper precautions and follow the CDC guidance to help prevent additional infections. The CDC recently reiterated that if you get sick with the alpha variant, you could infect about two other unvaccinated people, whereas if you get sick with the delta variant, the estimation is that you could infect about five other unvaccinated people. While we are fortunate to have a high vaccination rate in Westfield, please remember that children under 12 are not able to be vaccinated yet, and we must rely on masking, distancing, and other best practices to keep them and other vulnerable members of our community protected. I continue to urge everyone who is eligible to get vaccinated.

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### **DOWNTOWN HAPPENINGS**

Sweet Sounds was postponed to Wednesday night due to stormy weather. The expanded capacity with the full closure of Quimby for Sweet Sounds has been very successful and enables more residents and visitors to enjoy this fantastic summer tradition in Downtown Westfield.

And for our history buffs, don't miss the March to Yorktown reenactment on August 29 at 11:00 AM beginning in Mindowaskin Park, where historical interpreters representing French Generals Rochambeau and Chastellux along with other interpreters will march through Town to commemorate the 240th Anniversary of the March to Yorktown, Virginia. On August 29, 1781, Continental soldiers, including the 1st Rhode Island Regiment passed through Westfield on the way to Princeton to meet with two columns of the French army before the combined forces continued on to Yorktown, VA, to besiege the position of British General Lord Cornwallis.

I'm always thrilled to see different components of Westfield's amazing history brought to life for the benefit of the community, and as a native of Yorktown, Virginia, this march is a piece of American history that is particularly familiar to me. It's wonderful to see its connection to

Westfield commemorated by the dedicated volunteers of the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route.

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### **TONIGHT'S AGENDA**

We have another busy agenda tonight. We will vote on a resolution to award a contract to Boxcar for the use of the coffee kiosk in the South Avenue train station parking lot in response to call for bids. I am very excited about the potential that Boxcar can bring to this space, starting with coffee sales and concierge services, as we begin to see increased usage of the lot and the gradual return to commuting.

We will also vote on three resolutions pertaining to public safety tonight:

- Authorizing the award of a contract for crossing guard management services to All City Management Services (ACMS) for the third consecutive school year. The Police Department continues to be very pleased with ACMS' management of the program, which removes the administrative burden and filling of empty posts from their daily responsibilities.
- Authorizing the purchase of ten new portable radar speed signs that were provided for in the 2021 capital budget, which will allow us to gather additional speeding data in known trouble spots to enhance enforcement efforts.
- Authorizing acceptance of the SFY21 Body Worn Camera Grant Program, expanding upon our current body worn cameras in the department.

Also on tonight's agenda is a resolution authorizing an award of contract for the AddamsFest Beer and Wine Garden concession for the return of this very popular event on October 16. Councilwoman Mackey will speak in more detail about how she and her team of volunteers have been planning for this year's AddamsFest, which will mostly consist of outdoor events and of course all applicable COVID protocols.

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With that, let's get to work. I want to remind everyone that I will be enforcing Robert's Rules this evening to ensure we stay on topic and the meeting runs efficiently.

### **APPOINTMENTS**

### **PRESENTATIONS**

### **ADVERTISED HEARINGS**

#### **GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2220**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD, CHAPTER 13, AS IT RELATES TO PARKING**

Advertised returnable this evening.

Hearing no comments, Mayor Brindle declared the hearing closed.

### **PENDING BUSINESS**

An ordinance entitled, "GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2220 - AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE HANDLER BUILDING REDEVELOPMENT PLAN" by Councilman Dardia, seconded by Councilman Boyes, was taken up, read and passed by the following vote of all present upon roll call as follows:

Yeas: Parmelee	Nays:	Absent: Habgood
Katz		LoGrippe
Mackey		Contract
Dardia		
Boyes		
Mayor Brindle		

### **BIDS**

**MINUTES**

On a motion by Councilwoman Mackey and seconded by Councilman Katz, Council approved the Minutes of the Town Council Regular and Conference Meeting held July 13, 2021.

**PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS****OPEN DISCUSSION BY CITIZENS**

Mayor Brindle opened the public comments portion of the meeting and asked if there were any questions or comments.

Bill Hedden, Knollwood Terrace, discussed the proposed field project at Edison Intermediate School and stated that he feels he speaks for those in attendance that there is a shortage of multi-purpose athletic fields in Westfield, but feels the development of the proposed sports complex maximizes field capacity with little regard to the impact this project would have on the neighborhood. Discussed the impact the turfing of Kehler Field has had on the neighborhood and stated that it placed a huge burden on the neighborhood that did not previously exist. Feels the project proposed for Edison School is several orders of magnitude greater than Kehler Field and that there are some fundamental principles from the residents' perspective that need to be considered before moving forward with this project. First, feels stadium lighting is not appropriate for a residential area. Stated that the activity, noise, traffic, heightened safety issues and light associated with nighttime athletic events are unnatural and disruptive. Believes Westfield residents moved to Town expecting to enjoy peace and quiet at night and lit athletic fields would "rob" them of that. Second, believes no neighborhood should bear the brunt of athletic field expansion for the entire town and that field capacity should be expanded across the entire town and not concentrated in one area, especially one in which an athletic stadium already exists. Feels other Town and Board of Education properties could be improved in the process. Third, feels the proposal's reliance on synthetic turf fields is one that "demands" scrutiny due to its cost and impact to the environment, health and safety. In addition, believes the installation of 9 acres of artificial turf is inconsistent with Westfield's aspiration to be a "green" town. Referred to the guiding principles of the Town's Master Plan and feels the proposed project at Edison School is inconsistent with the principal to preserve the attributes of the Town's unique character and community identity, the beauty of the Town's environment and the strengths of its neighborhoods. In addition, stated that Guiding Principal nos. 3 and 9 pertain to preserving open space, a community hometown feel and a commitment to sustainable principles. Believes nothing about the Edison School project is consistent with those principles. Assured the Town Council that this is not a "not in my backyard" argument because this neighborhood already has its fair share of athletic fields. Stated that residents of this neighborhood are opposed to lights in any residential neighborhood. Stated that the Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan contemplates lighted fields at Memorial Park, Elm Street and Tamaques Park and they believe that the principal of no lights should apply to those locations as well. Stated that he hopes that any field expansion considered for his neighborhood or any other neighborhood will now have a "seat at the table" to bring their perspectives and experiences to the conversation to develop a plan that is equitable to residents while achieving the goal of expanding athletic field capacity.

Jerome Feder, 789 Knollwood Terrace, discussed his residence in comparison to Edison Intermediate School. Provided a handout to Mayor Brindle and councilmembers related to the Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan ("Plan") prepared by Brandstetter Carroll and stated that the Plan "points in different directions" than the project proposed at Edison School. Feels that while many residents support the need for more field time, a better balance is needed as to the number of residents the project would serve. Also feels a better use of existing fields within Westfield would provide more field time while avoiding the impacts the proposed project at Edison School would have to the surrounding neighborhoods. Discussed the results of the statistically valid mail survey that was conducted by Brandstetter Carroll and included in the Plan and stated that the results of the mail survey indicate broad spectrum priorities which would benefit many people across different age groups, while the Edison School project is aimed at a narrow constituency and neglects many of the other constituencies within Westfield. Also discussed open houses and focus groups conducted by Brandstetter Carroll to gain input and stated that sports fields appeared as a priority through the results of those input methods which he feels were less reliable. In general, stated that he would like to see the sports groups get the field time they need and feels there are underutilized existing fields in Westfield that could address this issue. In addition, discussed the geographic allocation of park services as indicated in the Plan and stated that residents are more willing to access facilities that are in close proximity to their homes however concentrating facilities in one location, such as Edison School, conflicts with that

priority. Lastly, stated that the over 65 age population has increased by 40% while the under 18 population has decreased and feels the project should satisfy multiple age groups.

Jennifer Crawford, 795 Knollwood Terrace, stated that she was surprised to learn that the project proposed at Edison School suggests covering nearly 400,000 square feet of existing grass fields with artificial turf. Feels this is a complete contrast to everything Westfield stands for as a town. Stated that she read the Master Plan and she does not understand how it led to the project proposed at Edison School because residents did not ask for a giant sports complex and most do not support the installation of artificial turf and lighting in Westfield. Referred to the mail survey results included in the Plan and the top 12 upgrades that respondents wanted to see in Westfield's parks. Noted that respondents were not limited to a number of options to choose, and therefore believes that if a specific upgrade was not chosen, it could be interpreted to mean that the respondent did not support that upgrade. Discussed the results of the mail survey which indicated that 24% of residents selected sports fields lighting and 19% selected artificial turf fields. Noted that this question in the survey did not include an option for grass athletic fields, so it is unknown if any of those included in the 19% result just wanted new and improved fields but did not have a natural grass choice. In addition, Ms. Crawford discussed the results of the web survey conducted by Brandstetter Carroll which was available online with the goal of engaging anyone who wished to provide input. Discussed the results of the web survey versus the mail survey and stated that the results were similar for most categories, with the exception of sports fields lighting and artificial turf fields. Stated that artificial turf fields were ranked at number 12 in the mail survey but number 1 in the web survey, and sports fields lighting ranked at number 9 in the mail survey, but number 3 in the web survey. Explained that the reason for the difference in the results can be attributed to the mail survey being statistically valid. Addresses were verified, respondents were spread throughout Westfield and the respondents were also closely aligned with the age demographics of Westfield. Feels the results of the mail survey have a 95% confidence level, meaning that it could be confidently concluded that the results from the mail survey are representative of Westfield as a whole. In contrast, the web survey was taken by anyone who wanted to participate, regardless of who they were, and it was determined that it was possible that the same person could have taken the web survey multiple times. Stated that Brandstetter Carroll emphasized this point in the Plan as follows, "the web survey greatly overrepresented families with children and underrepresented those 65 and older". Feels this indicates that the web survey results are not representative of the Westfield demographics or the community as a whole. As such, feels the attention should be focused on the results of the statistically valid mail survey which indicates that most residents do not want artificial turf or sports field lighting. Also referenced another slide in the Plan in which Brandstetter Carroll explained how the Town should approach investing in facilities. Explained that Brandstetter Carroll looked at the survey results to identify which facilities were most important to Westfield residents, and where Westfield residents felt their needs were not being met. Based upon these results, Brandstetter Carroll prioritized where Westfield should focus its investment. The top 5 priorities were walking and hiking trails, paved bike trails, natural areas/nature parks, small neighborhood parks and large community parks. Noted that sports fields were not included in the top 5 priorities, with a median priority only relating to soccer fields. Stated that while sports fields were not a high priority, believes the issue needs to be addressed and explained that a key message in the Master Plan is that Westfield residents want to see improvements to parks and fields. However, feels the words in the priorities describe what Westfield residents envision for the future of Westfield, specifically trails, natural areas, and neighborhood and community parks, and that none of those words can be associated with 400,000 square feet of "plastic grass" in the middle of a residential neighborhood. Feels that is not what Westfield residents asked for and its not where it should be investing a large sum of money. Stated that she hopes the Town would continue to reevaluate this project and allow the resident's input provided through the surveys and public meetings help to guide and shape the future of Westfield's parks and fields.

Steve Kircher, 791 Knollwood Terrace, discussed the issue of public safety in connection with the proposed field improvements at Edison School. Feels the proposed creation of a 400,000 lighted facility does not "fit" in any neighborhood in Westfield. Discussed current traffic issues on Rahway Avenue and stated that it is a dangerous roadway because of speeding and congestion and feels the existing hawk light and notices by the Edison School principal to parents cautioning them of the "dangers" on Rahway Avenue are important insights concerning this issue. Believes the Edison School field improvement proposal would increase traffic in this area, resulting in additional traffic issues because it would increase the number of drivers unfamiliar with Westfield's traffic patterns. Feels the damage to existing speed bumps on Rahway Avenue are evidence of excessive speeding, especially by those who are unaware that the speed bumps are there. Discussed the presence of crossing guards during school hours that would not be present in

the evening during practices and games. Feels this would result in parents and coaches being forced to direct traffic and help children cross the roadway and believes the Police Department would have concerns with this. Also believes this creates different standards of safety for children during school hours versus when they attend sporting events. Discussed the recent graduation ceremony held at Edison School and stated that traffic was a “mess”, with parents dropping off children in the middle of the street and families walking in the roadway. In addition, discussed issues with large vehicles and feels there is insufficient space for their safe passage. Also discussed the current condition of sidewalks and stated that they are in “massive” disrepair. Believes the field improvements proposed for Edison School is a “recipe for disaster” and that there are better choices, such as spreading the traffic burden throughout Town, repairing sidewalks, and considering potential bicycle lanes. Referenced comments related to health concerns of artificial turf fields and discussed a study conducted by Penn State which determined that artificial turf fields are 40% to 70% hotter than natural grass fields. Stated that artificial turf can reach an average of 140 to 170 degrees as opposed to natural grass fields, stating that grass fields have a natural cooling effect due to the release of water vapors and rarely reach temperatures above 100 degrees. Also discussed a study by Brigham Young University which found that synthetic turf was 37% hotter than asphalt. Feels if artificial turf is installed, the Town must provide for the health and safety of its participants and discussed the potential for including monitoring systems for artificial turf fields.

Kerry Murphy, 502 Coddling Road, discussed various development projects planned within Westfield and the number of residential units to be included in each. Also mentioned the PILOT program that was approved for the South Avenue Redevelopment Project. Specifically discussed the Lord and Taylor properties and stated that she appreciates that the Town would want to actively engage Streetworks with respect to these properties to ensure that the Town has involvement in their development. In addition, discussed other properties within Town that she does not feel falls within “obligatory development”. Feels development of these properties is being encouraged and could result in the approval of additional PILOT agreements. Requested information concerning these properties and whether their development is necessary. Feels Westfield residents have not asked for the Town to be transformed into the “City” of Westfield. Discussed concerns expressed with vacant storefronts downtown and while that needs to be addressed, stated that she does not believe that the Town should “scrap” everything and “start from scratch”. Also feels more effort should be given to attracting businesses to Westfield rather than focusing on “overdevelopment”. Discussed the characteristics of Westfield that she feels keeps generations of residents in Town and feels overdevelopment is not wanted by residents. Feels a tremendous transformation is occurring and questioned who is asking for these changes and why taxpayers are not allowed to vote on them. Stated that questions have been asked concerning overdevelopment several times but feels no answers have been provided. Discussed the potential impact of development to schools and the structure of PILOT programs and expressed concern with potential tax increases for residents. Also discussed the potential impact to fields, parks, the pool, infrastructure, traffic, police, fire and DPW services and asked if the Town has a plan to address these issues and the related cost. Also asked how the additional residential units would help attract new businesses to Town and keep existing stores in business. Feels taxpayers should be made fully aware of these developments and should be part of the discussions, rather than an “afterthought” after the discussion is too far along to make any changes, which she believes occurred with the approval of the PILOT agreement for the South Avenue Redevelopment Project. Also believes residents need facts concerning apartment numbers, the number of PILOT agreements, infrastructure, congestion, impact to taxes and impact to home values. Feels there is a great cause for concern and a need for clarity from the current administration as to the long-term impact to the Town, schools, taxes and home values. Believes residents have “lost” their “voice” with decisions of great magnitude moving forward with little to no input. Discussed a recent post concerning a bond sale, the number of offers from various banks and the final interest rate that was issued. Feels if the Town was able to obtain this interest rate because of the banks’ confidence in the Town, PILOT agreements and designating the Town as “blighted” are not necessary to attract developers to Westfield.

Ms. Murphy also requested information related to Tamaques Park and its inclusion on the Union County Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan. Asked why residents were not made aware of this, specifically those residents that live in the vicinity of Tamaques Park. Feels Tamaques Park is one of the most beloved and utilized parks and has been instrumental in local youth sports and is a key location for every age and activity.

Lastly, Ms. Murphy referenced a post by councilmembers which indicated that the “D” for Democrat stands for “delivering” for Westfield. Questioned what they are delivering and to

whom, and listed words she believes the letter “d” stands for, such as overdevelopment, diminishing the budget surplus, demise of the Town, and deforestation as it relates to Tamaques Park being included on the Union County Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan.

Gregg Lehmberg, Grove Street, thanked the governing body for the opportunity to speak about the field improvements proposed for Edison School and provided a handout to Mayor Brindle and councilmembers related to the proposed project. Explained that some of his observations concerning the proposed project at Edison School might seem “harsh”, but his intent is to find the best possible solution to expand Westfield’s field capacity, protect the interest of residents, preserve the environment and keep children healthy and safe. Stated that he is an engineer with 39 years of experience managing capital projects. Explained that a standard practice of ensuring that a project is designed efficiently is called value engineering. Stated that this is a process conducted to ensure that every element of the project is working to achieve its goal at the lowest possible cost, and to assess the risks and develop mitigation plans, and it is from this perspective that he looked at the Edison School project. Stated that the objective of the project is to increase multi-purpose field capacity in Westfield with a scope to install 3 multi-purpose synthetic turf fields at Edison School, fourteen (14) lighting towers, synthetic turf varsity and JV baseball fields and a structure for restrooms and concessions. Provided an overview of the costs for each component of the project which breaks down to approximately \$32 per square foot for the synthetic turf portion of the project. Questioned why the Town would propose a project that he feels ignores the key findings from the Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan (“Plan”), is grossly overpriced, does not focus resources on increasing field capacity, burdens taxpayers with future costs and financial risks, does not consider lower cost, safe, ecofriendly options and includes a broader scope to improve more Board of Education properties. Discussed the key elements of the Plan and stated that the comparison that was conducted between Westfield and comparable towns indicated that Westfield was 5.3 fields “short” for rectangular fields versus the benchmark average. This included any type of field, either synthetic or grass. Stated that the comparison also indicated that Westfield has a higher number of synthetic fields as compared to the benchmark average, meaning that the Town is lacking in grass fields, not synthetic turf fields. Despite these results, the proposed project at Edison School, and the fields included in the Plan, focus exclusively on synthetic fields. Also discussed the estimated cost of the project at Edison School and stated that the number of fields proposed in the Plan was 2 rectangular fields, not 3 which has been proposed at Edison School. Questioned why the estimated cost for the Edison School project is over 5 times more than the estimated cost in the Plan, when the scope of the Edison School project is only 1.5 times more as compared to the Plan. Discussed comparable average rates for synthetic turf and feels the cost for the Edison School project should be much lower than the cost that has been estimated. In addition, Mr. Lehmberg does not feel the project proposed for Edison School focuses on increased field capacity because only 44% of the cost has been allocated toward rectangular multi-purpose fields, which is what the Town is lacking. Also feels traffic and parking issues would limit scheduling capacity between the Edison School fields and Kehler Field. Expressed concern with future costs and the burden to taxpayers because the replacement of synthetic turf, which is needed approximately every 8 to 10 years, is very costly, and the size of the area proposed at Edison School is unprecedented, which could result in cost overruns with respect to the installation of synthetic turf. In addition, feels the toxic nature of synthetic turf could inflate future disposal costs and health risk findings could require remediation. Also expressed concern if the revenue stream from the PILOT agreement does not materialize as expected, causing the burden of the cost to fall to taxpayers. Lastly, questioned why lower cost, ecofriendly and safer options were not considered in the proposal for Edison School. Stated that turfgrass fields costs are significantly lower than synthetic turf if they are constructed properly. In addition, grass fields are less costly to maintain, and referred to a study conducted by Princeton which concluded that the cost for a turf grass field would be \$1 million lower over a 16-year period than a synthetic turf field. Also feels the Town’s agreement with the Board of Education could be expanded to other properties if the focus were on grass fields. In closing, asked if Westfield would want to lead by implementing green solutions to solve its athletic field problem, or lag by defaulting to 20<sup>th</sup> century industrial solutions.

Erez Liebermann, 12 Normandy Drive, stated that he recently attended a soccer game at the Capelli Sports Complex in Tinton Falls. Feels it is a beautiful complex with 4 soccer fields, lights, multiple parking lots and a concession stand. Believes the Capelli Sports Complex is similar to what is being proposed at Edison School and encouraged councilmembers to visit it for themselves. Explained that unlike the Capelli Sports Complex, which is surrounded by the Garden State Parkway, Route 18 and an industrial area, the fields at Edison School are surrounded by residences. Feels the area in Tinton Falls is where a sports complex belongs and while it may appear to be a “negative” that Westfield does not have such an area to build a sports

complex, feels that is the “beauty” of Westfield because it does not have an “ugly” area in which to build a sports complex. Stated that while he welcomes field improvements at Edison School, he strongly believes field improvements should be spread throughout Westfield and urged the governing body to visit the Capelli Sports Complex before making any decisions about Edison School. Discussed research residents conducted to determine if there are other locations in which 400,000 square feet of artificial turf exist in a residential area and none could be found. Also discussed parking concerns and stated that the parking lots in Tinton Falls, which is a much larger area than the Edison School area, were filled to capacity. Believes it would not be possible to utilize the proposed fields at Edison School and the field at Kehler Stadium at the same time due to limited parking, which would be contrary to the project’s goal to maximize field usage. Feels the parking study that is being conducted would provide the Town with a better understanding of traffic and parking issues that would result from the Edison School project. Reiterated his support for field improvements but believes they should be spread throughout Town. Stated that he also does not understand the need for lights since lighting was opposed at Kehler Stadium. Believes if the governing body were to visit the Capelli Sports Complex and then ask themselves if something similar could be transplanted to a residential neighborhood in Westfield, the answer would be no.

Jean, Lehmborg, 528 Grove Street, stated that she is a teacher who believes in environmental stewardship and leaving a more sustainable world for generations to come. Discussed the IPCC report issued yesterday and comments by UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres in which he referred to the report findings as a “code red” for humanity. He also emphasized the need to act boldly to limit global warming. While she feels the Town has made great strides in the past 3 years, believes the IPCC report points to the necessity to chart a new course that would make Westfield a true leader in the fight to mitigate the climate change crisis. Discussed the Sustainable Land Use Pledge adopted by the Town Council in 2020 and the Sustainable Jersey Rookie of the Year Award to Westfield. In addition, discussed the proclamation issued by Mayor Brindle in 2021 which confirmed the Town’s commitment to the development and implementation of sustainable strategies to reduce the Town’s impact on the environment. Feels this commitment to reduce the Town’s impact on the environment and global warming was “displaced” when the field improvement project at Edison School was proposed. Stated that Sustainable Jersey identified synthetic turf fields as “heat islands” because they absorb high amounts of solar energy due to their plastic makeup which can reach up to 160 degrees in the summer. Also stated that Sustainable Jersey recommends that communities replace synthetic turf with natural grass when they need replacement. Explained that natural grass fields remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere which are stored in the root mass and soil, creating what is sometimes referred to as a carbon sink. Questioned why the Town would want to remove something that is beneficial with 400,000 square feet of plastic grass and foam rubber infill. Referenced the Guiding Principles of the Master Plan Reexamination Report which include a commitment to sustainable practices that promote social equity, environmental health, and economic prosperity. Feels it is not equitable to install lit athletic fields of any size in the middle of a residential neighborhood, with the noise, traffic and safety issues that accompany lights, as well as the unnatural glow and glare when the lights reflect off the turf. Also referenced the Journal of Pediatric Nursing which examined the association between green space and overall health and concluded that access to green space was associated with improved mental well-being, overall health and cognitive development of children, promotes attention restoration, memory, confidence, support of social groups, self-discipline, moderates stress, improves behaviors and symptoms of ADHD and was associated with higher standardized test scores. Believes all children should have access to the benefits of green space and should not be subjected to the health hazards associated with synthetic turf. Also believes it is not equitable to replace the only natural grass area that Edison Intermediate School students have with synthetic turf fields, especially when Roosevelt Intermediate School is adjacent to Clark Park and Memorial Park with plans to pave a connection to the park and school. Discussed the maintenance required for synthetic turf fields and the replacement that is necessary every 8 to 10 years, with the materials being disposed of in landfills because it is not recyclable. Also feels it is not equitable to “create a mess” and then expect future residents to bear the burden of “cleaning it up”. Feels number of parents that will not want their children exposed to synthetic turf will grow, as the dangers associated with it become more widely known. Feels it is not equitable to create a situation in which southside homes are at a lower value because new residents do not want to live in the Edison School area. Also referenced the New Jersey Student Learning Standards adopted in 2020 and referred to a quote from the Department of Education as follows, “These standards truly represent a foundation from which districts will build coherent curriculum and instruction that prepares each New Jersey student with the knowledge and skills to succeed in our rapidly changing world. They will put New Jersey again at the forefront of the national

education by including the following: climate change across all content areas, leveraging the passion that students have shown for this critical issue and providing them opportunities to develop a deep understanding of the science behind the changes and to explore the solutions our world desperately needs.” Questioned how the emotional well-being of the students that attend southside schools would be impacted when they study climate change and later learn that the Mayor and Town Council chose to remove the natural grass at Edison School with synthetic turf. Referred to a statement by Former Vice President Al Gore as follows, “I am incredibly proud that New Jersey is the first state in the nation to fully integrate climate education in their K to 12 curriculum. This initiative is vitally important to our students, as they are the leaders of tomorrow, and we will depend on their leadership and knowledge to combat this crisis”. Ms. Lehmborg feels that until those students become adults, residents are depending on the governing body’s leadership and knowledge to combat the climate change crisis. Also feels that the Westfield sports leagues who have “clamored” for synthetic turf fields might have seen them in other towns and assumed they were safe. In addition, feels the governing body might have assumed synthetic turf was safe. Believes this is understandable because the synthetic turf industry is not regulated by any government agency and believes their marketing techniques are similar to those used by tobacco companies in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. Also believes that because of the efforts of residents like herself, the governing body has been given the information it needs to “do better” because they “know better”. Asked if the governing body will “do better” by mandating that no new synthetic turf fields be installed in Westfield. Referenced the conclusions of a 2019 report by the Toxics Use Reduction Institute (TURI) stating, “From an environmental and health standpoint, organically managed natural grass is a safer choice for sports fields. When the full product life cycle is considered, organically managed natural grass also offers lower costs over time.” In addition, quoted Environment and Human Health, Inc. (EHHI) stating, “Towns and schools have an obligation to have their children and students play on a safe surface, and there is no safer surface than grass”. Asked if the governing body would “do better” by mandating that all new athletic fields be constructed from organically maintained natural grass. Feels every crisis provides an opportunity and believes the governing body has been given an opportunity to establish Westfield as a leader in the quest to combat the climate change crisis. Stated that this could be done by installing new organically maintained grass athletic fields throughout the Town of Westfield. In addition, if those new grass fields also include walking paths and pollinator gardens around the perimeter, 2 additional goals identified in the Plan would be fulfilled, which she believes would be a “win” for residents of all ages now and for generations to come.

Marisa Carnevale, Doris Parkway, stated that she is a mother of an athlete who has committed to a college for athletics, as well as a teacher. Stated that she is speaking tonight in her role as a teacher and advocate for children and students at Edison Intermediate School. Referred to Ms. Lehmborg’s comments with respect to the IPCC report and quoted the following, “The framework aims to galvanize this urgent and transformative action by governments and all of society, including indigenous people and local communities”. Stated that Westfield is the “local community”. Discussed the term “equity” and questioned how the term equity could be espoused and taught when the students at Edison Intermediate School would no longer have green space while the green space at the other middle school in Town would remain. Also feels that “plastic” grass is antiquated and she is surprised that a more natural solution could not be found for the Town’s athletes. Feels she needs to advocate for the children because she believes they take their green space for granted and she does want to see it taken from them. Explained that social and emotional learning is another component of her career. Believes “kids need a place to go” and they are fortunate to have a green space for recess. Stated that she saw a fox cross the field at Edison School recently and has also seen bats and deer. Believes students of Edison Intermediate School deserve the equity that the students of Roosevelt Intermediate School have and should not lose their green space for recess and physical education classes. Feels having a beautiful area around a school is something that should be cherished because not all children have that.

Norman Yang, 2 Normandy Drive, stated that he is a retired chemical engineer and explained that during his career he was responsible for his company’s Responsible Care Program. Discussed the Responsible Care Program and explained that it is the chemical manufacturing industry’s initiative to improve the health and safety of its employees, the communities in which they operate and the environment in general. Stated that since his retirement he has become very concerned with health, safety and environmental issues and expressed his concern with the use of artificial turf. Feels the Town should consider upgrading existing fields with properly designed high quality natural grass due to the significant health risks and environmental concerns associated with artificial turf. Explained that it is difficult to conclusively prove whether or not artificial turf is safe because there are significant health and environmental data gaps. Discussed

the key data gaps and stated that artificial turf pipes contain chemicals that are likely to be hazardous, such as toxins, carcinogens, and heavy metals, but have not yet been tested. In addition, explained that the data does not include synergistic effects and that chemicals can sometimes act together to cause cancer, even when low level exposure to individual chemicals might not be cancer causing. Feels this is particularly important to synthetic turf because it contains many hazardous chemicals. In addition, explained that health data only includes exposure via inhalation, ingestion or thermal exposure, not the simultaneous or cumulative effects that occur when playing on artificial turf. Investigations are in process to fill the data gaps but contrary to claims by the Synthetic Turf Council, there is no conclusive evidence that artificial turf is safe. Explained that there is mounting evidence that artificial turf likely imposes environmental and health hazards with “leaching” being the main environmental concern. Discussed the significant amount of chemicals that were identified in concentrations that were above ground water safety standards and stated that these types and concentration of emissions increases as the artificial turf ages and degrades. Also discussed contaminants and significant levels of lead and dioxins detected in soil samples and stated that a one-inch rainfall would result in 250,000 gallons of stormwater containing pollutants from the artificial turf proposed for Edison School that would likely runoff into the Robinson Creek. Explained that any project, particularly one that includes artificial turf the size proposed at Edison School, needs a waste management program to define the expected pollution from the artificial turf, and should also include the end of life for artificial turf disposal. Also stated that many hazardous chemicals and chemicals likely to be hazardous but not yet tested have been found in artificial turf. Discussed a health study conducted in 2019 by Drew University which indicated that toxic leachate from artificial turf infill impaired the early development of chicken in the brain and cardiovascular system and other studies showed significant outcasting of toxins from artificial turf which further increased exposure to health hazards. Health experts are now recommending that artificial turf be assumed to be hazardous until it is proven safe. Also discussed other issues related to artificial turf including an increased risk of injury, heat stress issues such as heat stroke, heat exhaustion and dehydration, blistering of hands and feet, turf burns and antibiotic resistant staph infections. Discussed the cities, states and countries that are issuing moratoriums and/or bans on the installation of foam rubber and/or artificial turf due to increasing data indicating related health and environmental hazards. In addition, foam rubber is facing a potential ban in Europe due to concerns with cancer, and the NFL Player’s Association is opposed to artificial turf and FIFA would be requiring grass fields for the World Cup in 2026. Feels Westfield should follow that lead and ban artificial turf in Town.

Bianca Wright, 771 Knollwood Terrace, stated that she is a landscape architect and has been a member of the Green Team since earlier this year. Thanked Mayor Brindle and the Town Council for their efforts in making the Town of Westfield more sustainable and discussed initiatives and recycling programs recently implemented which she feels “puts Westfield on the map” as an innovative and responsible town. Discussed the proposed project at Edison School and feels it is neither innovative nor responsible because it involves the installation of 100 tons of artificial grass and 1 million tons of infill that will need to be removed at the end of the field’s life cycle in 8 to 12 years. Explained that while manufacturers claim that their synthetic turf is recyclable, the separating of individual chronic components that make up the synthetic turf is difficult and not yet available on a large scale in the United States. Commended Mayor Brindle and the Town Council on the Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan (“Plan”). Feels it is a very detailed and comprehensive analysis of the Town’s open space and lays out an action plan with 150 strategies with a capital priority ranking. Questioned how a large-scale artificial turf field complex was derived from the Plan. She interpreted the Plan to recommend a multi-pronged approach to address the shortage of rectangular multi-purpose fields in several locations. Also questioned why there is a focus on artificial turf because the Plan does not include an analysis of the pros and cons of fields made of artificial turf versus natural grass. Stated that she does not want to repeat the health and environmental concerns associated with artificial turf that were expressed by previous speakers, but she does support their conclusions. In addition to benchmarking, feels there should be an audit of all of the space in Town currently used for sports teams that should include the patterns of their use, scheduling conflicts, the number of teams for each sport at each level, the demand for school teams versus the Town’s sports leagues and the condition and problems of each grass space. Feels this would be helpful guide in determining which grass areas should be improved to a specific level of quality to ensure that the portion of the budget for youth sports is used effectively. Commended Mayor Brindle and the Town Council for their unprecedented cooperation with the Board of Education. Feels it is an innovative approach to sharing land for a similar purpose and feels it could be the starting point for an original approach to athletic fields in historic towns in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, since many towns are turning to artificial turf as the solution to address the problem. Stated that Westfield is a

densely populated town that is cherished and sought after for its quiet neighborhoods and does not feel artificial turf is not the right approach for the Town. Believes a lighted, multi-purpose field complex at Edison School does not fit in the surroundings. Discussed Mayor Brindle's efforts to "champion" the preservation of historic buildings in Town and feels the quality of life and preserving the Town as a whole is needed. Believes a lighted artificial turf field does not belong in any residential neighborhood, including Edison School, Memorial Park or Elm Street, and suggested that the success of preserving historic buildings be extended to entire neighborhoods. Discussed the issue of the athletic field shortage and the potential for using it as an opportunity in finding a unique solution that strengthens Westfield as a whole. Feels there is potential for it to become a "great" project that could solidify Westfield as a sustainable community. Stated that she hopes she can commend Mayor Brindle and the Town Council in the future for moving forward with innovative town planning.

Jan Onishi, 759 Knollwood Terrace, stated that she is a retired pharmaceutical basic research scientist and had spent time during her career researching and analyzing information. Discussed research she conducted with respect to the proposed project at Edison School and feels an understanding of the 2 water sources in the area are important considerations for the project. Stated that the proposed project would be constructed next to a creek that is an integral part of the Town's stormwater sewer system. Provided a handout to Mayor Brindle and the Town Council that shows a map of the Town's stormwater sewer system and stated that she confirmed her interpretation of the map with a Town employee. Discussed open waterways in Westfield as indicated on the map, specifically a creek behind Edison Intermediate School and the pond and canal in Mindowaskin Park. Discussed the section of the map which shows the stormwater sewers from ward 4 that drain into the creek as well as the sewer line that runs under the Edison School varsity baseball field and Kehler Stadium that collects water from ward 3. This sewer line also empties into the creek. Also discussed sections of the sewer system that drain in ward 1 as well as sections that run into ward 2 areas. Feels it is clear that this creek is an integral part of the Town's stormwater system and any impact to the creek would not only affect the residents of Knollwood Terrace and ward 4 but would also potentially impact the rest of the Town. Explained that the creek is currently a concrete canal that extends south of Shackamaxon Drive past homes on Westbrook Road, Knollwood Terrace and Normandy Drive with the stormwater sewer system ending in Tamaques Park where the creek returns to its natural state. The stormwater flow then continues into the Township of Clark and eventually into the ocean. Stated that the torrents of water that pass through the creek during rain events are impressive and believes that large volumes of rapidly moving water over the decades have contributed to the present physical state of the creek. Feels it is important to note that Westfield has many hilly neighborhoods and over time there have been larger homes with outdoor entertainment areas constructed since the 1950's when the canal was designed and built. Explained that with the construction of larger homes, there is less slow percolation of water through soil and faster runoff through properties into the stormwater sewer system, and that she has frequently seen water flowing out of homes, presumably through sump pumps, even on dry days. Discussed the Town's stormwater management plan prepared in 2008 which warned of the change that construction projects could have on the water drainage of properties causing, "flow downstream waterways to peak faster and higher than natural conditions". Questioned how many residents throughout Town have observed changes in water flow through their properties and neighborhoods. Also stated that she wonders if DPW has maintained records of residents requesting assistance with water draining issues on their properties and if there has been an increase in these types of requests in the last decade. In addition, discussed the proposal for field improvements at Edison School and questioned whether any research had been done to determine if the existing stormwater sewer system has reached its capacity. In addition, Ms. Onishi discussed the project at Edison School which is proposed to be built adjacent to this creek which is part of the Robinson's branch tributary of the Rahway River Watershed and is classified by FEMA as a flood zone. Stated that this creek runs through the properties of homes on Westbrook Road and Knollwood Terrace which are currently not listed in a flood zone. Explained that it is her understanding that when an athletic field is constructed, whether artificial turf or natural grass, it is designed to drain quickly so that sporting events can resume soon after a rain event. Stated that the existing fields behind Edison School remain wet after a rainstorm, suggesting that the drainage is slow. Discussed the many gallons of water that need to drain from a 400,000 square foot space when there is an inch of rain. Also stated that the architectural firm designing the fields proposed for Edison School indicated at a recent information gathering that they do not have experience developing fields of this magnitude. Believes how this field would drain has not been described and is the "crux" of the question. Discussed the prediction for more frequent and intense storms in the coming years and feels it is not unreasonable to predict that the amount of water in the Town's stormwater system would increase. Questioned how the construction of a 9.1-acre athletic sports complex

could be expected not to contribute to local flooding. Stated that she hopes the governing body understands her concerns for the flooding of neighborhoods if the project at Edison School moves forward. Also stated that she is glad to hear that the project is being studied further and that she looks forward to new designs. Also stated that she hopes the Town would consider the concerns and information provided by residents during the recent public meetings. Mentioned that residents have been assured that the proposal for Edison School is conceptual only and that further discussions would occur in September. Believes children and residents deserve safe and clean outdoor spaces for sports and recreation

Tim Eaton, 762 Knollwood Terrace, stated that he and his wife have been residents of Knollwood Terrace for 34 years and feels the neighborhood is a quiet, safe and peaceful environment. Feels the project proposed for Edison School is very concerning to residents of the area because they believe it will impact their safety, health and quality of life. Stated that the installation of 400,000 square feet of artificial turf would generate safety and environmental concerns. Natural grass fields are safer and would preserve the green environment. In addition, believes the increased noise levels coupled with the light towers would compromise indoor and outdoor activities within the neighborhood, impacting quality of life and mental health. Increased water levels and flooding would result in runoff into the creek adjacent to the field, and chemicals from the field would pollute the drinking water and negatively impact wildlife. Parking and traffic would increase on Knollwood Terrace and other streets because there is a lack of adequate parking on the school grounds. Discussed an asphalt path that is located at the bend of Knollwood Terrace which provides access to the fields at Edison School. Feels the project proposed would lead to more traffic and turn Knollwood Terrace into a "200-yard parking lot", leaving less room for walks, bike rides and other activities and safety would be compromised. For these reasons, residents are asking that alternatives to the proposed plan at Edison School and believes spreading the increased field capacity needed to multiple locations throughout Town is the right thing to do. Feels family and home are people's most important assets and urged the Town not to take away their great neighborhood with the proposed project at Edison School. Stated that the impact to health, safety, environment and quality of life is very concerning and saddens him deeply. Believes using multiple locations with grass fields is the right answer.

Anthony Scaglione, 543 Washington Street, thanked the governing body for the opportunity to speak. Stated that he is the father of 2 girls who played youth soccer and they did not need lights because they were home after dinner doing homework. Feels kids should not be playing sports at night and should be home studying and doing what is necessary to be successful in school. Also stated that most of the in-Town teams do not play at night, it is the travel teams that play at night. In addition, stated that he has a son that played all of the sports the Town offered. Football was his son's primary sport, which he also played in college, and that his son did not need lights when he played. Also stated that during the 22 years he has lived in Westfield, residents have voted against lights 3 times, twice at Kehler Stadium and once at the high school when the entire Town voted it down. Discussed the public input sought by the governing body and Recreation Commission concerning this project and questioned why the years of opposition by residents to lights was ignored and how the proposal was brought forward with lights included. Believes the proposal for a lighted sports complex conflicts with historical input by residents. Stated that he is an electrical engineer and discussed the lighting systems made by manufacturers and explained that while a company might be based in a certain state, when the work is subcontracted, it is spread throughout the United States. Further explained that the reason subcontracting is spread throughout the country is to ensure these companies obtain funding through congressional support. Feels if the governing body and Recreation Commission listened to public input provided by residents in the past, the consultant hired to address the issue would have proposed a project that solved the problem without lights. Stated that he asked during previous public meetings if a proposal without lights was considered and if Roosevelt School was considered for field improvements and he was told no to both questions. Questioned why Edison School is the focus for this project when the area is already overburdened with Kehler Stadium. Also questioned why the project was brought forth by a 4<sup>th</sup> ward councilman when the majority of residents that would be impacted live in the 4<sup>th</sup> ward. Also stated that he spoke with other 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> ward councilmembers who told him that they were not aware of the proposal until it was presented to the full council. Feels the governing body, the Recreation Commission and the Board of Education need to commit to a solution that does not include lights, spreads the improvements across all fields in Westfield, and commit to real trade studies that show that the need for more fields could met without lights. In addition, stated that he is unsure as to which sports teams the Town is attempting to accommodate. Feels meeting the needs of the in-Town teams should be a priority because the travel teams play all over the east coast and sometimes

further. Explained that it is his understanding that the travel teams have complained about needing to travel to a neighboring town when they travel all over the state. Feels this is not acceptable. Feels no residential neighborhood should have to endure the noise and traffic that would result at night if lighting is installed. Stated that he hopes his questions would be addressed when the public comment portion of the meeting is closed.

Jim Heston, 670 Vermont Street, stated that he became a Westfield resident recently and believes he understands what the Town is trying to attract with the proposed project at Edison School. However, he attended all of the public input meetings for the project and no one seems to believe the proposal is a "great idea". Stated that he moved to Westfield from the city because of the green space. Explained that his residence is at the "epicenter" of the proposed project and feels there has been a lack of maintenance on Vermont Street with respect to paving, street lights and garbage pickup. Feels the Town's "track record" has not been great as to the services provided to the area and he has not complained, however he feels the project proposed for Edison School is at a "whole different level". Believes that all of the presentations that were given tonight are "spot on" and agrees with those who feel that field improvements should be spread throughout the Town. Believes field improvements are needed at both Roosevelt and Edison Schools but not at the level that has been proposed for Edison School. Feels a balanced approach is needed and expressed concern with the impact to the quality of life to those in the Edison School neighborhoods. Also expressed concern to the impact to the wildlife and access to the fields if the project moves forward, as well as the level of transparency with respect to the proposal.

Joycee Vartoukian, 9 Doris Parkway, discussed the concerns expressed and considerations for possible alternatives to the project proposed at Edison School. Referenced the comments made and addressed them individually. Began with the unmet need for fields indicated in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan ("Plan") survey, as well as the unmet need in other towns. Stated that the statistically valid mail survey in the Plan identified several needs that were a higher priority than synthetic turf fields, yet the project at Edison School is getting disproportionate attention and funding. Stated that walking, hiking and biking trails, nature areas, parks and better restroom facilities were the top priorities in the Plan, not plastic grass fields. Requested information as to when the high priority items would be addressed. Discussed the assessment of service level across Westfield which indicated low levels of service in much of the northside of the Town and asked why fields have not been proposed there to balance the service levels and avoid congestion, traffic and safety issues in one area. Also discussed demographic trends which indicate that the senior population is increasing, while the youth population is decreasing. Residents care about the youth population and youth athletics, but feels the recreation needs of adults and seniors need to be addressed too. Discussed health and safety and stated that the scale of the proposal for Edison School would bring unprecedented amounts of traffic into the areas surrounding Edison School both day and night. Existing parking and traffic issues would be substantially increased, raising the safety risks of pedestrians, bicyclists and motor vehicles. In addition, artificial turf field temperatures can reach 170 degrees on hot, sunny days, making it unsafe for athletes to practice or compete. Burns, blisters, dehydration, and heat exhaustion are all common issues related to artificial turf. In addition, significantly higher rates of injuries have been reported on synthetic turf fields, particularly ACL and PCL injuries. Discussed the materials in synthetic field turf carpet and infill, stating that they include toxins, carcinogens, and heavy metals, and the synthetic turf industry is not regulated by the government and make misleading statements as to the health risks of these materials, with no conclusive proof that these materials are safe. Stated that the primary role of government is to maintain the health and safety of its citizens and feels the proposed project at Edison School is increasing these risks, not reducing them. As to environmental issues, leaching of chemicals into water and soil have significant environmental concerns and stated that these chemicals would eventually end up in Robinson's Creek, the Rahway River and the Middlesex County reservoir. Robinson's Creek is considered a flood zone by FEMA and an integral part of the stormwater management system in Westfield. Management of rainwater from the proposed project at Edison School needs to be studied and engineered to ensure that the risk of flooding in the creek is not increased. In addition, stated that Sustainable Jersey considers synthetic fields to be "heat" islands, which are dangerous to players but also contribute to global warming, and recommend that communities consider natural grass for future construction of athletic fields. Sustainable Jersey also recommends that communities consider converting synthetic turf fields to natural grass when carpet replacement is needed. Explained that grass fields stay cool and help sequester carbons. Several local, state and national governments are placing moratoriums or bans on crumb rubber and/or synthetic fields due to the growing health safety and environmental concerns. Discussed inequity and stated that for the next 30 years, students at Edison School would be deprived of green space during physical education and recess if this proposal moves forward, while the

Roosevelt School students would enjoy colocations with Clark and Memorial Park. Feels this is not equitable. Furthermore, homes in the Edison School catchment area could be less desirable to prospective buyers, especially when they learn that the middle school has no green space, but is a potential 9-acre health hazard. Feels the 400,000 square foot installation of synthetic turf is unprecedented and unforeseen issues, both short and long-term, could lead to unexpected costs and believes the real capacity from the investment would be less than anticipated due to the lack of available parking in proximity to Kehler Stadium. As to the financial aspect of the project, stated that the cost of the project is grossly overpriced, with less than half of the funding being spent on multi-purpose fields, which was the main objective of the project, and taxpayers would carry the burden for future costs and risks. Stated that grass fields are much less expensive to construct, the cost of ownership is less than synthetic fields and the investment would be more beneficial if fields were built in multiple locations. In summary, stated that stadium lighting does not belong in any residential neighborhood, and residents should be able to enjoy peace and quiet at night without having to worry about pedestrian and traffic safety risks that would increase after dark. Athletic fields should be developed throughout Town, and not concentrated in one area, especially the area that is already dominated by Kehler Stadium, and spreading fields throughout Town would allow for better management of traffic and parking. Stated that artificial turf carries a host of known health and environmental risks and should not replace any of the remaining natural grassy areas in Westfield. Investing in improvements and ongoing maintenance of grass fields are a lower cost, safe and more eco-friendly option than synthetic fields. Stated that she has been a Westfield resident for almost 27 years and moved to Town because it was safe, had an excellent school system, and a unique sense of community. Also stated that she raised her son in Westfield and when he finishes with university, she believes he will return to his hometown. Hopes Mayor Brindle and the Town Council would rethink the plan for Edison School so that young people, like her son, will not need to reconsider whether Westfield is a good place to live.

Hearing no further comments, Mayor Brindle closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

Mayor Brindle thanked all who provided comments this evening. Feels the Town heard them “loud and clear” and explained that the input provided was one of the drivers behind Councilman Katz’s earlier announcement about scaling down the project. Assured all that their concerns are understood and appreciated, and the Town would be prepared at the meeting scheduled for September 20, 2021 to answer some of the questions raised and provide context for some of the information and decisions that were made. Also mentioned that an advisory meeting has been scheduled, which she believes would be a good forum for everyone to work together.

Mayor Brindle also addressed comments concerning the survey and provided some clarification. Explained that it was understood before the survey was conducted that the mail survey would be statistically valid. In addition, feels it is natural to assume that things like walking and nature trails would appeal to more age groups. Also explained that the governing body is following the recommendations and lead of the Recreation Commission. In addition, explained that the project at Edison School was just one of the priorities included in the Plan, and is not happening at the expense of the other priorities included in the Plan. Listed some of the other improvements that have been implemented or planned, such as a new playground at Sycamore Park, a new playground at Windsor Park, upgrades to the bathrooms and a new pavilion at Tamaques Park, potential upgrades to Sid Fay/Houlihan Fields and improvements to the water at Brightwood Park. Lastly, mentioned that the reduction in scope that was announced by Councilman Katz needs to be discussed with the Board of Education and she hopes the Board of Education would contemplate it. Thanked all again for their comments and provided assurance that their concerns have been heard. Also thanked those who acknowledged the Town’s record of sustainability and stated that she is proud of what has been accomplished with the Green Team. Assured all that potential environmental impacts would not be taken lightly and would be a significant consideration in terms of a project moving forward. Hopes that the Town’s record of progress over the past 3 years is a demonstration of that.

Lastly, Mayor Brindle addressed Ms. Murphy’s comments and stated that she feels there are some misunderstandings related to her comments on overdevelopment. Reiterated that she is a full-time Mayor, who is available to meet or speak to residents in person or through email, and that she would be happy to meet with Ms. Murphy to address those misunderstandings.

#### **BILLS AND CLAIMS**

On motion by Councilman Parmelee, and seconded by Councilman Dardia, bills and claims were adopted unanimously:

RESOLVED that the bills and claims in the amount of \$609,522.56 per the list submitted to the members of this Council by the Chief Financial Officer, and approved for payment by the Town Administrator be, and the same are hereby, approved and that payroll warrants previously issued by the Chief Financial Officer be ratified.

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**Finance Policy Committee**

The following resolutions, introduced by Councilman Parmelee and seconded by Councilwoman Mackey, were unanimously adopted.

**Resolution No. 173**

WHEREAS, the following applicants have placed the required cash bond of \$1500.00 to cover the following Road Opening Permits, and

<b>Date</b>	<b>Permit No.</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Address of Opening</b>
7/23/20	20-110	Jordan Seales 706 Westfield Avenue Westfield, New Jersey 07090	706 Westfield Avenue, Westfield, New Jersey 07090
8/6/20	20-126	D. Villane Construction LLC. 2376 South Avenue Scotch Plains, NJ 07076	412 Palsted Avenue Westfield, New Jersey 07090

WHEREAS, the above applicants are entitled to have this amount to be returned to them, and

WHEREAS the Town Engineer has inspected the roadway excavation and has found the excavation to have been properly repaired.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Treasurer be authorized to draw a warrant in the name of applicants noted above for \$1,500.00 and forward to the applicants address as listed.

**Resolution No. 174**

RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to draw a warrant in the amount of \$63.00 to the order of New Jersey Department of Health, P.O. Box 369, Trenton, New Jersey for Dog Licenses issued by the Town Clerk for the month of July 2021.

**Resolution No. 175**

RESOLVED, that the Town Treasurer be authorized to refund the following fees to the following individual:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Account</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Fee</b>
Michael Moriarty 318 Belmar Place Westfield, NJ 07090 11:20	Pool/Swim Lessons 03-55-920-203	Refund Swim Lessons Gabiella Moriarty/Beginner Sess 2	\$70.00
Beth Dundon 136 W Dudley Ave Westfield, NJ 07090 3 9:35	Pool/Swim Lessons 03-55-920-203	Refund Swim Lessons Madilyn Dundon/Little Dipper Sess	\$70.00
Michael Mesi 536 Coleman Place	Pool/Swim Lessons 03-55-920-203	Refund Swim Lessons	\$70.00

Westfield, NJ 07090 10:45		Michael Mesi/Beginner Sess 3 1	
James Pilachowski 800 Wallberg Ave Westfield, NJ 07090 Sess 3 10:10	Pool/Swim Lessons 03-55-920-203	Refund Swim Lessons Cooper Pilachowski/Fearful Beg	\$70.00
Anthony DeVita 945 Cleveland Ave Westfield, NJ 07090 3 9:35	Pool/Swim Lessons 03-55-920-203	Refund Swim Lessons Jaxson DeVita/Fearful Beginner Sess	\$70.00
Robin Vinegra 592 N Chestnut St Westfield, NJ 07090	Pool/Swim Team 1-03-55-920-204	Refund Swim Team Kyle Vinegra/Swim Team 2021	\$100.00
Ming Han 705 Dartmoor Westfield, NJ07090	Pool/Swim Lessons 03-55-920-203	Refund Swim Lessons Jerry Han/Intermediate Sess 3 10:10	\$70.00
Laura Skidmore 1175 Lawrence Ave Westfield, NJ 07090 Session 3	Tennis/Rec T-05-600-071	Refund Adult Tennis Laura Skidmore/ Beg/Adv Beg	\$90.00
Ken Soriero 808 Shackamaxon Dr Westfield, NJ 07090 1/Session 2	Tennis/Rec T-05-600-071	Refund Youth Tennis Ella Soriero/Summer /Level	\$162.00
Erica Bush 255 Twin Oaks Terrace Westfield, NJ 07090	Tennis/Rec T-05-600-071	Refund Youth Pickleball Daniel Mirsky/Summer Session 2	\$130.00
Maite Quinn-Richards 711 Austin Street Westfield, NJ 07090 Video	Tennis/Rec T-05-600-071	Refund Built By Me Camp Nicolas Richards/Digital Photo &	\$275.00
Lisia Zheng 500 Arlington Ave Westfield, NJ 07090 Robot	Tennis/Rec T-05-600-071	Refund Built By Me Camp Sophie Hohlfeld/Robotics w mBot	\$275.00
Huifang Yao 157 Summit Court Westfield, NJ 07090	Tennis/Rec T-05-600-071	Refund LEGO Camps/Summer Austin Yi/ (\$165.00) Austin Yi/ (\$165.00)	\$330.00
Elizabeth DeFoe 714 Austin St Westfield, NJ 07090	Tennis/Rec T-05-600-071	Refund Field Hockey Camps/Summer Sophie DeFoe/ (\$140) Sophie DeFoe/ (\$110)	\$250.00

Monica Liggio 2435 Richelieu Place Westfield, NJ 07090	Tennis/Rec T-05-600-071	Refund LEGO Camp/Summer Marco Liggio/LEGO Session 5	\$165.00
Robert Garrison 715 Kimball Ave Westfield, NJ 07090	Tennis/Rec T-05-600-071	Refund Fencing Camp Maya Garrison/Session 4	\$300.00

**Resolution No. 176**

WHEREAS, Darren Stivale, P.O. Box 1033, Barnegat Light, NJ 08006 paid the required fee of \$50.00 to obtain Tree Permit 21-046 for 1 Faulkner Drive, and

WHEREAS, Darren Stivale has requested that this amount be returned because he was exempt from requiring a tree permit per the Town's Code Enforcement Officer, Greg O'Neil.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Treasurer be authorized to draw a warrant for \$50.00 in the name of Darren Stivale, P.O. Box 1033, Barnegat Light, NJ 08006.

**Resolution No. 177**

RESOLVED, that the Chief Financial Officer be and hereby is, authorized to draw warrant for unused parking permit fee as follows:

Scott McQuery 110 Golf Edge Westfield, NJ 07090	Lot 9	#21080064	\$290.00
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**Resolution No. 178**

RESOLVED that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:23-4.19, that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized and directed to draw a warrant in the sum of \$21,402.00 to the TREASURER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY for the first quarter Construction Official's State permit fees for 2021.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said check be forward to the Division of Codes and Standards, Department of Community Affairs, CN 802, Trenton , New Jersey 08625-0802.

**Resolution No. 179**

RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer be, and he hereby is authorized to draw warrants to the following persons, these amounts being overpaid for 2020-2021:

Block/Lot/Qualifier Name	Property Address	Quarter/Year Amount
501/26 MITCHELL, Eileen	719 Highland Avenue	3 <sup>rd</sup> /2020 \$6,234.46
2211/14 REDINGTON, Gregory J	120 Chestnut Street North	3 <sup>rd</sup> /2021 \$8,092.06
3113/6 BARSEMIAN, Harout	214 St Paul Street	3 <sup>rd</sup> /2021 \$5,516.47
4103/46 LACKET, Christopher G & Amanda T	705 Carleton Road	2 <sup>nd</sup> /2021 \$5,756.46
5710/35 DOMINO, Edward	1737 Central Avenue	3 <sup>rd</sup> /2021 \$2,273.15

**Check payable to:**

Amrock, LLC  
662 Woodward Ave

**Resolution No. 180**

RESOLVED that the Treasurer be and he hereby is authorized to draw warrants to the order of the following persons, this being the amount taxes were overpaid for the year 2019 pursuant to the Tax Court of New Jersey:

Block/Lot Name	Address	Year	Amount
4103/46 LACKETT, Christopher G & Amanda T	705 Carleton Road	2019	\$5,439.50

**Check payable and mail to:**

Jennifer R. Jacobus, Trustee for LACKETT, CHRISTOPHER G & AMANDA T  
201 Littleton Road, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Morris Plains, NJ 07950

**Resolution No. 181**

WHEREAS, the Westfield Police Department has made application to the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General for funds to further expand its Body Worn Camera Program to include all sworn members of the law enforcement agency;

WHEREAS, the Westfield Police Department is the subsequent recipient of an award contract of \$124,318.00 with no match under the SFY21 Body Worn Camera Grant Program, State Account No BFY21-100-066-1020-495, Grant#21-BWC-469;

WHEREAS, the Town of Westfield desires to accept this award contract in the amount of \$124,318.00 with no match under the SFY21 Body Worn Camera Grant Program, State Account No BFY21-100-066-1020-495, Grant#21-BWC-469 on behalf of the Westfield Police Department to further expand its Body Worn Camera Program to include all sworn members of the law enforcement agency and is authorized to do so;

WHEREAS, the Town of Westfield and the Westfield Police Department have reviewed the general conditions and special conditions attached to this award contract and have accepted same; and

WHEREAS, the acceptance of this award contract represents a joint effort between the State of New Jersey, Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General and the Westfield Police Department for the purpose described above and in the application.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Westfield as follows:

1. The Town of Westfield and the Westfield Police Department desire to participate with the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General to the fullest extent possible to further expand the Westfield Police Department's Body Worn Camera (BWC) Program to include all sworn members of the law enforcement agency;
2. The Office of the Attorney General will receive the awarded funds on behalf of the award recipient;
3. The Office of the Attorney General will be responsible for the receipt and review of the application of said award funds;
4. The Office of the Attorney General will initiate allocations of award funds to the award recipient as authorized.

**Resolution No. 182**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A.40A:4-87 (Chapter 159, P.L. 1948) provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of

revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by the law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget, and

WHEREAS, the Director may also approve the insertion of any item of appropriation for an equal amount;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Westfield hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget year 2021 in the sum of \$2,000.00, which is now available from Sustainable Jersey Grant funded by the PSE&G Foundation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the like sum be, and the same is hereby appropriated under the following caption:

General Appropriations	
Sustainable Jersey – PSE&G Foundation	\$2,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that one copy of this resolution be forwarded electronically to the Division of Local Government Services by the Chief Financial Officer.

**Resolution No. 183**

WHEREAS, the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders is allocating matching grant dollars for tree plantings in Union County municipalities under its Greening Union County initiative; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Westfield desires to participate in the 2021 Greening Union County program; and

WHEREAS, matching funds in the amount of \$43,750.00 will be certified by the Chief Financial Officer to be charged to account no. 1-01-137-255.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the proper Town officials be, and hereby are authorized and directed to file an application with the Union County Open Space, Recreation & Historic Preservation Trust Fund for a “Greening Union County” grant in the amount of \$43,750.00.

BE IT FUTURE RESOLVED that the proper Town officials be, and hereby are, authorized and directed to enter into a contract as prepared by the Union County Law Department.

**Resolution No. 184**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Treasurer of the Town of Westfield be and he is hereby authorized and directed to draw the necessary 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> quarterly assessment warrants and issue same to the County of Union, via wire transfer, as follows:

	County Purpose Tax	Open Space Tax
2021 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	\$9,444,578.71	\$310,526.87
2021 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	9,444,578.71	310,526.88

**Resolution No. 185**

RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to issue warrants noted below to the order of the Downtown Westfield Corporation, for Special District Taxes as provided in the year 2021 budget:

August 11, 2021	\$104,086.75
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November 9, 2021

\$104,086.75

**Resolution No. 186**

WHEREAS, the Town of Westfield has resolved to join both the Suburban Joint Insurance Fund and the Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund, following a detailed analysis and has been a member since 1994; and

WHEREAS, the Bylaws of said funds require that each municipality appoint a Risk Management Consultant to perform various professional services as detailed in the Bylaws; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Westfield solicited requests for proposals for such services in accordance with G.O. 1753 of the Town of Westfield; and

WHEREAS, the Bylaws indicate that the commission rate shall not exceed six percent (6%) of the Member's Annual Assessment; and

WHEREAS, Brown and Brown, 56 Livingston Avenue, Roseland, NJ 07068 submitted a proposal to perform such services outlined for two percent (2%) of annual assessment; and

WHEREAS, the Bylaws of the aforesaid Fund require that in such case the municipality will make payment for such professional services directly to the Risk Management Consultant.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer of the Town of Westfield be, and hereby is, authorized and directed to draw warrant to the order of Brown and Brown, 56 Livingston Avenue, Roseland, NJ 07068, in the sum of \$11,641.06 representing the first half of the annual assessment.

**Resolution No. 187**

WHEREAS, sealed bids were received on July 28, 2021 by the Town Clerk for Crossing Guard Services for the Westfield Police Department for a term beginning September 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the low bid in the amount of \$585,540.00 submitted by All City Management Services, 10440 Pioneer Boulevard, Suite 5, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670 has been analyzed and found to be in conformance with the appropriate plans and specifications; and

WHEREAS, the Town Treasurer has certified to the availability of adequate funds for payment, of which \$235,000.00 will be charged to Account 1-01-132-111, with the balance (\$350,540.00) subject to availability of funds in the 2022 Operating Budget, and prepared in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30 1.10 under Purchase Order 21-02571.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Westfield that a contract for Crossing Guard Services for the Westfield Police Department be and hereby is awarded to All City Management Services, 10440 Pioneer Boulevard, Suite 5, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670 at a cost not to exceed \$585,540.00 with \$235,000.00 charged to the 2021 Operating Budget, the balance (\$350,540.00) subject to the availability of funds in the 2022 operating budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the proper Town Officials be, and hereby are, authorized to take whatever actions are appropriate in the execution of discharge of this Contract.

**Resolution No. 188**

WHEREAS, the Town of Westfield determined that there was a need a concessionaire for the operation of the kiosk at the Southside Westfield Train Station; and

WHEREAS, on June 14, 2021, a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the aforesaid service was advertised to be returnable on June 29, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on June 29, 2021, one (1) response to the RFP was received; and

WHEREAS, Boxcar, Inc., 1 South Union Avenue, Cranford NJ 07016 submitted a proposal to perform said services for the contract period of one year; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Westfield has deemed that the background, experience and qualifications of the respondent herein satisfy the criteria set forth in the RFP.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Westfield be and hereby authorizes an award of contract to Boxcar Inc., 1 South Union Avenue, Cranford NJ 07016 for the operation of the kiosk at the Southside Westfield Train Station for the contract period of one year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proper Town Officials be authorized to effect whatever actions are necessary in the execution and discharge of this contract.

Public Safety, Transportation and Parking Committee

The following resolution, introduced by Councilman Dardia and seconded by Councilman Katz, was unanimously adopted.

**Resolution No. 189**

WHEREAS, a need exists for the purchase of Police Department related traffic safety equipment as provided for in the 2021 Capital Budget, and

WHEREAS, the contract to purchase this equipment is to be awarded to an vendor through the State of New Jersey Procurement Bureau under State Contract 17-FLEET-00776, and

WHEREAS, this equipment will be sufficient to meet the needs of the Department, and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law (40A:11-3) requires that purchases through New Jersey State Contracts be authorized by resolution of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, the Town Treasurer certified to the availability of adequate funds for payment, prepared in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30 1.10, which will be in the amount of \$46,076.00 charged to Special Ordinance 2221, account number C-07-21-222-1B1, under Purchase Order #21-02564.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Westfield will purchase the following equipment from the indicated vendor:

All Traffic Solutions	
12950 Worldgate Dr #310	
<u>Herdon, VA 20170</u>	
Portable Radar Speed Signs	\$46,076.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proper Town Officials be, and they are hereby authorized to take whatever actions are appropriate in the execution and discharge of this Contract.

Code Review & Town Property Committee

The following resolutions, introduced by Councilman Parmelee and seconded by Councilwoman Mackey, was unanimously adopted.

**Resolution No. 190**

RESOLVED that the following applications for Peddlers License be and the same are hereby approved:

Jose Cachada  
Joes Catering

258 Perry Avenue  
Union, NJ 07083

Scream Truck Additional Drivers

Mia Miller  
Scream Truck  
30 Hillside Avenue  
Springfield, NJ 07081

Anton Christopher Tolentino Uri  
Scream Truck  
111 Fernwood Court  
Clifton, NJ 07011

Raymond Marin  
Scream Truck  
194 Mallory Avenue  
Jersey City, NJ 07304

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the licenses shall not be issued by the Town Clerk unless the departmental inspections of the premises have been completed and the premises approved for the licensed use.

**Resolution No. 191**

RESOLVED that the following application for children's amusement devices be approved:

Jersey Jumpy  
PO Box 217  
Iselin, NJ 08830

Block Party  
September 25, 2021  
Harrison Avenue  
Westfield, NJ

Lauren Colon  
174 Harrison Avenue  
Westfield NJ, 07090

**Resolution No. 192**

WHEREAS, the Town of Westfield is seeking qualified business entities with the appropriate ABC license to provide a Beer and Wine Garden Concession at the AddamsFest event scheduled for October 16, 2021 within the Town of Westfield; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Westfield issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the aforementioned service through a fair and open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq., and

WHEREAS, UT Westfield, LLC, dba Addams Tavern, 115 Elm Street, Westfield, NJ 07090 submitted a proposal to perform said services at the AddamsFest event with a payment to the Town of Westfield totaling thirty (30 %) percent of sales at said event; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Westfield has deemed that the background, experience and qualifications of the respondent herein satisfy the criteria set forth in the RFP.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Westfield does hereby award a contract to UT Westfield, LLC for a Beer and Wine Garden Concession at the AddamsFest event; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proper Town Officials be, and hereby are, authorized to take whatever actions are appropriate in the execution and discharge of this contract.

**General Ordinance No. 2221**

Regarding the following ordinance, Councilman Parmelee made the following announcement:

I hereby move that an ordinance entitled, “GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2221 - AN ORDINANCE RESCINDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE TOWN CODE FOR THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD”

The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Mackey.

Yeas: Parmelee	Nays:	Absent: Habgood
Katz		LoGrippo
Mackey		Contract
Dardia		
Boyes		
Mayor Brindle		

Heretofore introduced, General Ordinance No. 2221 does now pass on first reading, and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage at a meeting to be held on the 14th day of September 2021 at 8:00 o'clock, p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached, in the Council Chambers, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey, and that at such time and place or any time and place to which such meeting shall from time to time be adjourned, all persons interested be given the opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance, and that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish said ordinance according to law with a notice of its introduction and passage on first reading and of the time and place when and where said ordinance will be further considered for final passage.

**General Ordinance No. 2222**

Regarding the following ordinance, Councilman Parmelee made the following announcement:

I hereby move that an ordinance entitled, “GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2222 - AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CERTAIN PROVISION OF THE LAND USE ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD REQUIRING THE SUBMISSION OF A DIGITAL COPY OF APPLICATIONS TO THE PLANNING BOARD AND BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT”

The motion was seconded by Councilman Boyes.

Yeas: Parmelee	Nays:	Absent: Habgood
Katz		LoGrippo
Mackey		Contract
Dardia		
Boyes		
Mayor Brindle		

Heretofore introduced, General Ordinance No. 2221 does now pass on first reading, and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage at a meeting to be held on the 14th day of September 2021 at 8:00 o'clock, p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached, in the Council Chambers, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey, and that at such time and place or any time and place to which such meeting shall from time to time be adjourned, all persons interested be given the opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance, and that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish said ordinance according to law with a notice of its introduction and passage on first reading and of the time and place when and where said ordinance will be further considered for final passage.

**Special Ordinance No. 2222**

Regarding the following ordinance, Councilman Parmelee made the following announcement:

I hereby move that an ordinance entitled, “SPECIAL ORDINANCE NO. 2222 - A SPECIAL ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF TOWN PROPERTY KNOWN AS 121 MYRTLE AVENUE IN THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD”

The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Mackey.

Yeas: Parmelee	Nays:	Absent: Habgood
Katz		LoGrippo
Mackey		Contract
Dardia		
Boyes		

Mayor Brindle

Heretofore introduced, Special Ordinance No. 2222 does now pass on first reading, and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage at a meeting to be held on the 14th day of September 2021 at 8:00 o'clock, p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached, in the Council Chambers, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey, and that at such time and place or any time and place to which such meeting shall from time to time be adjourned, all persons interested be given the opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance, and that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish said ordinance according to law with a notice of its introduction and passage on first reading and of the time and place when and where said ordinance will be further considered for final passage.

**Special Ordinance No. 2223**

Regarding the following ordinance, Councilman Parmelee made the following announcement: I hereby move that an ordinance entitled, "SPECIAL ORDINANCE NO. 2223 - A SPECIAL ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF TOWN PROPERTY KNOWN AS 650 HORT STREET IN THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD"

The motion was seconded by Councilman Dardia.

Yeas: Parmelee	Nays:	Absent: Habgood
Katz		LoGrippe
Mackey		Contract
Dardia		
Boyes		
Mayor Brindle		

Heretofore introduced, Special Ordinance No. 2223 does now pass on first reading, and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage at a meeting to be held on the 14th day of September 2021 at 8:00 o'clock, p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached, in the Council Chambers, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey, and that at such time and place or any time and place to which such meeting shall from time to time be adjourned, all persons interested be given the opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance, and that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish said ordinance according to law with a notice of its introduction and passage on first reading and of the time and place when and where said ordinance will be further considered for final passage.

**Public Works Committee**

The following resolution, introduced by Councilman Katz and seconded by Councilman Parmelee, was unanimously adopted.

**Resolution No. 193**

WHEREAS, on February 23, 2021, under Resolution 64-2021, a Unit Price Contract was awarded to Northern Nurseries of New Jersey, Inc., for the purchase of various landscape materials, including trees, at unit pricing in an amount not to exceed \$70,000 and

WHEREAS, due to continuous evaluations made in the field and following the award of the original contract, a need exists for the purchase of additional landscape material for use by the Department of Public Works, as provided for in Public Works account 137-254, and

WHEREAS, Certificate of the Town Treasurer, certifying to the availability of adequate funds for this Amended Contract, prepared in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30 1.10 has been furnished to the Town Clerk. Expenditure of funds pursuant to this Contract to be charged to Public Works account 137-255, under Purchase Order PO# 21-00541, in an amount not expected to exceed \$110,000, an increase of \$40,000.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Unit Price Contract originally awarded to Northern Nurseries of New Jersey, Inc., be and is hereby amended in an amount not to exceed \$110,000 (increased \$40,000) and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the proper Town Officials be, and they are hereby, authorized to take whatever actions are appropriate in the execution of discharge of this Contract.

Town Council Comments:

Councilwoman Mackey discussed the contract awarded for the Addams Fest Wine and Beer Garden. Explained that the Town is proceeding with “cautious optimism” that an outdoor event can be held and announced the dates for both the Wine and Beer Garden and the Masquerade Ball.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn, made by Councilman Parmelee and seconded by Councilman Dardia at 10:25 p.m. was unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Rowley, RMC  
Town Clerk