



MAYOR DIPAOLA'S MEETING REPORT OCTOBER 15, 2024

- We are excited for the Fall Harvest Festival fundraiser this Sunday, October 20th at Hillman Park from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM. Proceeds will benefit the Emerson Recreation Commission. Food and beer will be available for purchase. Wristbands for the activities will be for sale for a small fee. With pick-a-pumpkin, hay wagon rides, arts and crafts, facepainting, and more, it promises to a fun event! We hope to see everyone there!
- The Fire Department is holding its annual Fire Safety Open House on Wednesday, October 16th at 6:00 PM.
- Free paper leaf bags are still available to residents at the DPW garage on a first-come, first-served basis. Bags may be collected by homeowners only, Monday to Saturday from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM through November 10th. 20 bags per household will be given out during the first round of distribution. The second round of distribution starts the week of October 21st.
- The Mayor's Wellness Campaign will be having a Community Conversation on "Opioid Misuse Among Teens" on Thursday, October 24th beginning at 7:00 PM at the Senior Center. I encourage our residents to attend to this discussion to hear valuable information on this important topic. Free Narcan will be given out while supplies last.
- The Emerson Fire Department will be hosting their annual Ragamuffin Parade on Saturday, October 26th at 12:00 PM. The parade will begin on High Street and Highland Avenue and ends at the Firehouse for refreshments and a costume contest. The rain date will be Sunday, October 27th.
- National Drug Take Back Day is Saturday, October 26th. You may turn in medication that you are not using anymore for safe disposal at Emerson Police Headquarters between 10 AM and 2 PM.

- Adjustments have been made at the Linwood Avenue traffic light to improve the flow of traffic during the periods of 7:45 AM to 9:00 AM and 2:45 PM to 3:45 PM, Monday to Friday. During these times, there are 15 extra seconds of green light. I invite those who pass through during those times to contact the Borough Administrator at 201-262-6086 ext. 1202 or administrator@emersonnj.org to let us know how this is working.
- On October 2nd, I welcomed new business, Local Infusions, to Shop Rite Plaza. They specialize in treating patients with chronic autoimmune conditions.
- I also recently attended the Bergen County Economic Resiliency Advisory Committee's Annual Mayors Meeting at Soldier Hill Golf Course where we discussed opportunities for economic growth, such as attracting new businesses and being "Film Ready" to market Emerson to the television and motion picture industry. We also learned about services that are available from the County to help save towns on costs, especially through their ambulance service. The Borough will be looking into these further to see whether or not they are beneficial to our residents and taxpayers.
- The Villano School held their annual Walk, Bike or Roll to School Day on October 11th. It was a fun walk led by our outstanding high school marching band!
- Two important property tax relief programs that I would like to encourage eligible residents to participate in are:
 - The State's 2023 Senior Freeze Program, which reimburses eligible seniors and disabled persons for property tax increases on their principal residence. Visit www.nj.gov/treasury/taxation/ptr/ for more information. Applications are being accepted through October 31st.
 - The ANCHOR rebate program which provides up to \$1,750 dollars to income eligible homeowners or renters. More information can be found at anchor.nj.gov. The deadline to apply is November 30th.
 - For further information on either of these programs, please visit the borough website or call Lauren in the Tax Office at (201) 262-6086 X 1211.
 - And, if you have already applied for the ANCHOR rebate, be on the lookout for your payment as the State has started to deposit them into bank accounts.
- Another program that I strongly encourage our residents to look into is Emerson's Home Improvement Program, which provides up to \$17,000 in assistance to qualified residents who meet eligibility requirements to make needed repairs for roofs, foundations, heating, electrical, windows, insulation, plumbing and more. Please visit the borough website or www.hip.cgph.net for more information.

- **SAVE THE DATES:**
 - **Free Paper Shredding Event**
 - Saturday, November 2nd, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM at DPW Recycling Center
 - **Veterans Day Ceremony**
 - Monday, November 11th at 11:00 AM sharp at the Senior Center
 - The Emerson Community Policing Program will be generously providing a complimentary full breakfast at 10:00 AM from Flynn's Deli
 - **Free Rabies Vaccination Clinic**
 - Saturday, November 9th from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the DPW Garage
 - **Flu & COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic**
 - Thursday, November 14th from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the Senior Center
 - More information on all of these events is posted on the borough website at www.emersonnj.org/news

- Borough Hall will be closed on November 11th in observance of Veteran's Day.

- The next regular meeting of the Emerson Governing Body will take place on Tuesday, November 12th at 7:30 PM in Borough Hall Council Chambers.

- I want to acknowledge that today, October 15th, is our Borough Administrator Rob Hermansen's five-year anniversary with the Borough of Emerson. Thank you for your service, Rob!

- Congratulations to Hackensack Golf Club on their 125th Anniversary! On Saturday, October 19th, I will be attending their gala and presenting a congratulatory proclamation on behalf of the Governing Body.

- I want to wish our residents a Happy and Safe Halloween! Just a reminder for our residents under 18, the curfew is 9:00 PM on Wednesday, October 30th and Thursday, October 31st.