

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Borough Council held on March 18, 2010, at 8:34 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, 531 Speedwell Avenue, Morris Plains, New Jersey.

Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer.

Mayor Druetzler called the meeting to order and read the following notice:

I HEREBY ANNOUNCE AND STATE THAT ADEQUATE NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS PROVIDED BY VIRTUE OF A RESOLUTION SCHEDULING THE TIME, DATE, AND PLACE OF MEETINGS OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MORRIS PLAINS FOR THE YEAR 2010; WHICH RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL ON JANUARY 8TH 2010, AND WAS PUBLISHED IN THE MORRIS NEWSBEE AND IN THE DAILY RECORD AND BY THE FORWARDING OF SUCH RESOLUTION TO ALL PERSONS ON THE REQUEST LIST; BY THE POSTING OF SUCH RESOLUTION ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE BOROUGH HALL; ALL OF THE ABOVE ACTIONS BEING IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, *ET SEQ.*

Present on Roll Call: Mayor Frank J. Druetzler
Council President Jason C. Karr
Councilmembers: Joseph Cecala, Jr.
George J. Coogan
Laurie J. Fu
Suzanne B. McCluskey
Ray Zabihach

Also Present: Gail Fraser, Borough Attorney
Leon C. Hall, Borough Engineer

APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Karr moved:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Morris Plains, that the attached reports be accepted and that said reports be kept on file in the Clerk's Office:

REPORTS

Borough Clerk, February 2010

Tax Collector, February 2010
Municipal Court, February 2010
St. Hubert's Giralda, January 2010

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

THAT the Mayor be and he hereby is authorized to execute the Municipal Alliance's MC Board of Chosen Freeholders Application for 2010 Supplemental Funding and Letter of Agreement.

THAT Amy Mullen, Valley Stream Circle, be granted permission to serve alcoholic beverages at an anniversary party to be held Saturday, May 15th 2010, from 1:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M., at Community Park.

THAT Monica Pecoraro be hired for the Recreation program Kids Helping Kids/Creative Writing at \$30.00 per hour effective April 1st 2010; which mentor program is authorized through Grant and Registration [The program is self funded].

Seconded by Councilmember Zabihach.

Yeas: Councilmembers Karr, Cecala, Coogan, Fu, McCluskey & Zabihach
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Karr moved:

BE IT RESOLVED that the minutes of the Executive, Conference & Regular Meetings March 4th 2010 be approved.

Seconded by Councilmember Cecala. So ordered.

GREETINGS OF PUBLIC AND INVITATION FOR DISCUSSION

Mayor Druetzler opened the meeting to the public. Seeing no one, Mayor Druetzler closed the public portion of the meeting.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND/OR DEPARTMENT HEADS

Finance

Councilmember Karr reported that the second budget meeting is scheduled for March 26th 2010.

Councilmember Karr stated that there will be another subcommittee meeting next week to discuss the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual.

Public Safety

Councilmember Cecala advised that the Traffic Committee met this evening, but he had to leave early to attend the Conference Meeting. He will provide a Traffic Committee report at the next meeting.

Chief Thompson provided a report on Police Department activities. He explained to the Mayor and Council that one of our police officers was needed to bolster security at Morristown High School due to threats received.

Chief Thompson advised that the Police Department has worked with a task force to investigate ATM burglaries, which resulted in an arrest and a press conference.

Chief Thompson advised that a credit will be forthcoming from Verizon in May for \$1,300.00.

Public Works

Councilmember Coogan acknowledged that the Department of Public Works' report was distributed.

Councilmember Coogan stated that a solar power grant was filed with the Morris County Improvement Authority and a copy of the paperwork is on file in the Clerk's Office.

Borough Engineer Leon C. Hall advised that there will be four bid openings in early April 2010.

Public Buildings & Grounds

Councilmember McCluskey stated that next Saturday, March 27th 2010 is the Bunny Breakfast. The Recreation Commission is looking for volunteers to help with serving and cleaning. The Easter Egg Hunt will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Councilmember McCluskey stated that there will be a Children's Concert at the Trinity Lutheran Church for Haiti relief on Saturday, March 27th from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Public Welfare, Sanitation & Sewers

Councilmember Fu stated that the Board of Health met on Wednesday, March 10th 2010 and discussed ways to better the traffic flow and parking at next year's Rabies Clinic.

Councilmember Fu stated that the Municipal Alliance held a meeting and discussed their application for the supplemental funds grant, which the Governing Body approved this evening. They are planning a father and son activity to be held at the Community Center the evening of Little League's Opening Day. There will be a dinner and activities. Girls On The Run is accepting registrations now and it will begin at the end of March. The after school programs sponsored by the Alliance start today and have about 60 students registered.

Councilmember Fu advised that a school assembly program will be run by the NJ Devils at no charge. They will be discussing determination, goal setting, and commitment to excellence, as well as a substance abuse message.

Councilmember Fu suggested to Mayor and Council to look at the Municipal Alliance's website. There are many informative items on the site, including Pathways, the mentor program for Kids Helping Kids. A few of our students have become lead mentors and they had an opportunity to go before the State Board of Education in Trenton to advocate for more inclusion of disabled children in the classroom.

A Book Club will be coming up for parents on "Raising Cain," protecting the emotional life of boys. The author will be appearing in Chatham on April 28th so the participants will be encouraged to attend.

Councilmember Fu stated that the Helping Hand Newsletter will only be posted online now due to changes in the post office. The website will feature a "Citizen Spotlight" where a resident of the community representing good will and/or good health will be selected and highlighted on the site.

Councilwoman Fu stated that the Teen Center had 78 skaters attend the Mennen Arena event on March 5th 2010. There was a special guest appearance by Governor Chris Christie. On April 16th 2010 the Teen Center will host a farewell to the 8th graders. On April 24th 2010 they will hold their annual Garage Sale fundraiser. The Teen Center will hold a planning meeting on April 27th to begin preparing next year's activities calendar.

Ordinance & Public Utilities

Councilmember Zabihach advised that the Planning Board met on Monday, March 15th 2010, although he was not able to attend. The agenda had one application from the Learning Center on American Road. The application was deemed incomplete.

Councilmember Zabihach advised that there will be a Special Meeting on Monday, March 22nd 2010 for the Morris County Board of Transportation to discuss cuts that New Jersey Transit is proposing for the Morris Metro System; they plan to cut all but one bus route in Morris County. The Board will try to get two more routes passed; one is anticipated to go through Central Avenue.

Mayor Druetzler reported that a Shared Services Meeting was held with the Board of Education. Items of discussion included work on the fields, some additional tree trimming at Glenbrook Road, and a new backstop at the softball field. The Board of Education expects to recoup \$100,000 by the end of the year for children living at the shelter.

PRESENTATION OF COMMUNICATION, PETITIONS, ETC.

Mayor Druetzler opened the meeting to the public. Hearing no one, Mayor Druetzler closed the public portion.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None.

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

Councilmember Zabihach read by title the ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 3-2010

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE AMENDMENT OF CHAPTER 18, "POLICE DEPARTMENT," OF THE "REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF MORRIS PLAINS, NEW JERSEY, 1972" WITH THE PARTIAL AMENDMENT, SUPPLEMENTATION AND REVISION OF PARAGRAPH (C) IN SECTION 18-7 "QUALIFICATIONS."

which ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a meeting held on March 4th 2010.

The Clerk read the following notice:

Notice is hereby given that the following ordinance was submitted in writing at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Morris Plains, in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey held on March 4th 2010, introduced and read by title and passed on first reading, and that the said Governing Body will further consider the same for second reading and final passage thereof at a regular meeting beginning at 8:30 P.M., on March 18th 2010 at the Borough Hall, 531 Speedwell Avenue, Morris Plains, New Jersey, in said Borough at which time and place a public hearing will be held thereon by the Governing Body and all parties in interest and citizens and all persons shall have an opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance.

Councilmember Zabihach read the following notice and ordinance by title and stated that the Notice and Ordinance had been published as required by law that the ordinance had been posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and that copies had been made available to members of the general public.

Mayor Druetzler announced that the meeting was open for a public hearing on the ordinance and stated that any taxpayer of the Borough of Morris Plains and all parties and persons in interest and citizens may be heard.

Seeing no one, Mayor Druetzler closed the Public Hearing.

Thereupon Councilmember Zabihach offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLVED, That the above ordinance as read by title on Second Reading, at this meeting, be adopted and finally passed.

Councilmember Cecala seconded the motion.

Mayor Druetzler ordered the Clerk to call the roll on the passage thereof and the vote was as follows:

Yeas: Councilmembers Karr, Cecala, Coogan, Fu, McCluskey & Zabihach
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

Mayor Druetzler declared the ordinance adopted and finally passed, approved the same and ordered the Clerk to publish the proper notice thereof in the newspaper and to record the ordinance in the proper place.

RESOLUTIONS

Councilmember Cecala moved:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Resolution No. 2010-46 entitled, "Standards of Promotion – Police Department Sergeant" be adopted.

Seconded by Councilmember Karr.

Yeas: Councilmembers Karr, Cecala, Coogan, Fu, McCluskey & Zabihach
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

Councilmember Cecala moved:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Resolution No. 2010-47 entitled, "Standards of Promotion – Police Department Lieutenant" be adopted.

Seconded by Councilmember Zabihach.

Yeas: Councilmembers Karr, Cecala, Coogan, Fu, McCluskey & Zabihach
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

VOUCHERS

Councilmember Karr moved:

BE IT RESOLVED that the following vouchers for March 2010 be approved.

Frank J. Druetzler, Mayor

Seconded by Councilmember Zabihach.

Yeas: Councilmembers Karr, Cecala, Coogan, Fu, McCluskey and Zabihach

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Councilmember Coogan:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Resolution No. 2010-48 entitled, "Executive Session" be adopted.

Seconded by Councilmember Zabihach. So ordered.

Mayor and Councilmembers returned to the Regular Meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Councilmember Zabihach moved:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Resolution No. 2010-49 entitled, "Approving Settlement on Appeal from Assessment Borough of Morris Plains adv. Pfizer, Inc., Block 121, Lot 1 – 200 Tabor Road, Docket No. 007684-2009" be adopted.

Seconded by Councilmember Karr.

Yeas: Councilmembers Karr, Cecala, Coogan, Fu, McCluskey & Zabihach

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Councilmember Coogan moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Seconded by Councilmember Cecala. So moved.

Frank J. Druetzler, Mayor

June R. Uhrin, Borough Clerk