

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Borough Council held on April 15, 2010, at 8:33 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, March 2010

Dog & Cat, March 2010
Fire Prevention, March 2010
Municipal Court, March 2010
St. Hubert's Giralda, March 2010
Police Department, March 2010
Building Inspector, March 2010
Treasurer, March 2010

Borough Attorney, Quarterly

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

THAT the Fire Department be granted permission to hold a Car Wash Fundraiser on the Fire House ramp on Sundays during the months of April through November 2010, from 8:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

THAT the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Watnong Post 3401, be granted permission to distribute Little Red Buddy Poppies at various locations within the Borough of Morris Plains from May 1st through May 31st 2010.

THAT the Memorial Day Parade Committee be granted permission to hold its 24th Annual Memorial Day Parade on Saturday, May 29th 2010.

THAT Elizabeth McCrea, 10 Sunrise Drive, be granted permission to serve alcoholic beverages at a picnic to be held Sunday, May 23rd 2010, from 12:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M., at Community Park.

THAT Mark Eschbacher, 120 Littleton Road, be granted permission to serve alcoholic beverages at a graduation party to be held Sunday, May 30th 2010, from 12:00 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. at Community Park.

THAT having received bids for the Teen Center Sewer Lateral project, that a contract be awarded to Jo-Med Contracting Corporation for their low bid of \$24,000.00, per the Borough Attorney's April 14th 2010 approval of the bidding documents.

THAT having received bids for the sidewalk repair along Littleton Road (Route 202 northbound), Route 53 curb cuts, Cornine Lane, Thompson Way paving, curbing along one side of Sunset Road and drainage at Community Park, that a contract be awarded to Salomone Brothers, Inc.

for their low bid of \$177,155.50, per the Borough Attorney's April 14th 2010 approval of the bidding documents.

THAT having received bids for the Speedwell Avenue improvement project, that a contract be awarded to Tony's Concrete Construction, Co. for their low bid of \$125,385.00, per the Borough Attorney's April 14th 2010 approval of the bidding documents.

THAT the Borough Council approves and consents to the execution of recording by the owners of Lots 1.01, 1.02, 1.03, 1.04, 1.05 in Block 11 of an Amended and Restated Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions and Grants of Easements in the form annexed hereto, and that the Cash Maintenance Guarantees posted in connections with PB-006-05 and PB-06-06 be accepted for the two year maintenance period commencing on August 7, 2009 through August 6, 2011.

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THAT having received bids for the Central Avenue improvements, that a contract be awarded to J.A. Alexander, Inc. for the low bid of \$148,233.14, per the Borough Attorney's April 13th 2010 approval of the bidding documents.

THAT the Borough Clerk be authorized to post and publish a notice that the May 6, 2010 Conference Meeting will commence at 7:00 p.m. and the May 20th 2010 conference meeting will commence at 6:30 p.m.

Seconded by Councilmember Zabihach.

Mayor Druetzler addressed the public in attendance and stated that he was pleased with the number of bids received, which were all under the estimates. Relative to Block 11 and various lots, Mayor Druetzler explained that this is updating an existing agreement.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None.

GREETINGS OF PUBLIC AND INVITATION FOR DISCUSSION

Mayor Druetzler opened the meeting to the public.

1. Bill Grieco, Kosakowski Drive resident, requested consideration for a crosswalk on Speedwell Avenue extension near the Model Train Station. Mayor Druetzler referred the request to Chief Thompson who stated that he will look into possible solutions and will provide a recommendation at a later meeting. Attorney Fraser added that it may require DOT approval.
2. Ed Fletcher, Dogwood Road resident, commended the DPW for the good job they did on street-sweeping and brush pickup. Mr. Fletcher discussed the pending School Board budget, as well as last year's defeated budget. Mr. Fletcher discussed utilities on Kosakowski Drive.

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND/OR DEPARTMENT HEADS

Finance

Councilmember Karr reported that the budget is close to being finalized.

Councilmember Karr advised that the School Election is next Tuesday, April 20th 2010, and polls are open from 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Community Center.

Public Safety

Councilmember Cecala advised he is in receipt of bids for the fireworks and is hoping to complete his review by the end of this week.

Chief Thompson reported that police officers will be taking the Lieutenant's test and the Sergeant's test. He will be administering the test on April 26th and 27th 2010. Chief Thompson supplied information on the company providing the tests and added that results should be in by the end of the week. Chief Thompson will provide his evaluations on the officers to Mayor and Council.

Chief Thompson advised that probationary Police Officers Daniel Gallagher and Peter Rolph are still riding with their field training officers and will hopefully be riding on their own by Memorial Day.

Chief Thompson reported that he held a Local Emergency Preparedness Committee Meeting on April 6th 2010. Chief Thompson also met with the Director of County Critical Infrastructure and was informed there may be funding available with Federal money.

Councilmember Cecala reported on a letter from a resident on Forest Drive who commended the Morris Plains Fire Department and the Morris Plains Police Department for their promptness after she placed a call to 911. She also praised the outstanding, professional job they all did.

Public Works

Councilmember Coogan acknowledged that the Department of Public Works' took out a defective call box at the pool. That telephone number will be removed from our billing.

Councilmember Coogan stated that that the Department of Public Works Superintendent's report was distributed. Councilmember Coogan stated that street sweeping of various sections of Morris Plains and Morris Township were completed as part of the Shared Services program.

Councilmember Coogan stated that there was a sewer problem at 71 Sun Valley Way and the new sewer router machine was used in correcting that situation.

Borough Engineer Leon C. Hall advised that Toby Barkman Excavating has completed Phase II of the drainage improvements at Community Park last Friday and everything seems to be in good order.

Borough Engineer Leon C. Hall advised that he received plans from the County relative to improvements at the intersection of Stiles Avenue and Hanover Avenue, which include curbing, adding a new concrete sidewalk at the intersection, restriping the intersection to accommodate the left hand turn lane, etc.

Public Buildings & Grounds

Councilmember McCluskey provided the Summer Camp and Recreation Programs flyer. Evening registration for the Enhancement Programs will be held Monday, April 19th 2010.

Councilmember McCluskey stated that the pool brochures were mailed and there have been 14 registrations received to date.

Councilwoman McCluskey stated that Little League Opening Day will be held Saturday, April 28th 2010 at 9:00 a.m.

Councilmember McCluskey stated that the concert being organized by Ian McCleary as a fundraiser for Autism will take place on June 5th 2010 at Roberts Garden from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Councilwoman McCluskey advised that the Arbor Day Ceremony will be held on Friday, April 30th 2010. Mayor Druetler added that the Board of Education received 150 little saplings that they would like to plant.

Public Welfare, Sanitation & Sewers

Councilmember Fu stated that the Recycling Committee held their Spring meeting on April 6th 2010 and the contract with DonJon seems to be working out well. A check was received for \$755.00 which will be assessed throughout the year. The County asked that the Recycling Committee survey all the schools to determine their recycling measures and see if their procedures could be improved. Co-coordinator Mark Belles will work with Borough School's groundskeeper to improve recycling efforts. The Recycling Committee will also be working closely with Little League and the Department of Public Works.

Councilmember Fu stated she will be attending an MUA tour on May 13th 2010.

Councilmember Fu advised that the Municipal Alliance has their Father and Son program this Saturday night at the Community Center and there are 30 fifth and sixth grade boys and fathers participating. The Girls on the Run program is starting up with 13 participants registered. Audra Toner, Chairperson, is creating a Facebook page for Municipal Alliance with hopes of linking it with the Madison, Chatham, Harding and Morristown Municipal Alliances. Tomorrow, April 16th, a retired Devil's player will go to Borough School to do an assembly program on character building. The Dare Program Graduation is taking place May 27th 2010 and the Governing Body is invited to attend.

Councilmember Fu stated that the Teen Center's Yard Sale will take place Saturday, April 24th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., with a rain date of Sunday, April 25th. The 8th Grade Farewell will be taking place at the next house event on Friday night, and they will be receiving iTunes gift cards as their parting gift.

Councilmember Fu advised that the Board of Health's Wellness Clinic will take place on October 16th.

Ordinance & Public Utilities

Councilmember Zabihach advised that the Planning Board will meet on Monday, April 19th 2010 and will discuss the Learning Resource Center's tenancy change and parking variance application.

Councilmember Zabihach advised that the new Fire Code for the State of New Jersey has recommended that house and building numbers be at least four inches tall. Councilmember Zabihach met with Fire Prevention Official John Boudreau to discuss changes to the existing ordinance. These changes will only affect new construction and/or change of tenancy; commercial uses are already mandatory under John Boudreau's authority.

Councilmember Zabihach advised that NJ Transit will have a rate increase of ten percent on bus fares and twenty-five percent on train fares. Morris County Metro was discussing downsizing from eight buses to one bus and, at the County's urging, NJ Transit has agreed to keep three buses, all of which run through Morris Plains.

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

None.

RESOLUTIONS

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

VOUCHERS

Councilmember Karr moved:

BE IT RESOLVED that the following vouchers for April 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. 2010-52 entitled, "Executive Session" be adopted.

Seconded by Councilmember Zabihach. So ordered.

Councilmember Coogan moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

Seconded by Councilmember Fu. So moved.

Frank J. Druetzler, Mayor

June R. Uhrin, Borough Clerk