

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Borough Council held March 5th 2015 at 8:32 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, 531 Speedwell Avenue, Morris Plains, New Jersey.

Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer.

Mayor Frank J. 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 2014; WHICH RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL ON JANUARY 7, 2014, 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
Councilmembers: Jason Karr, Council President
Joseph Cecala, Jr.
Sal Cortese
Laurie J. Fu
Suzanne B. McCluskey

Absent: Councilmember Jack Doherty

Absent: Gail Fraser, Esq.

Mayor Druetzler asked if anyone had questions about the Consent Calendar.

There were no questions.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Karr moved:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Executive, Conference and the Regular Meetings of February 19th 2015 be approved.

Seconded by Councilmember Fu. So ordered.

Voice vote. All in favor, except Councilmembers Cecala and Cortese who abstain as they were absent from this meeting. Motion carried.

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

Animal Control, February 2015
Police Department, February 2015

THAT the Resolution No. 2015-41 entitled, "RESOLUTION AMENDING THE EXISTING "PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL" OF THE BOROUGH OF MORRIS PLAINS, DATED MAY 2014 WITH AN AMENDMENT TO THE "HEALTH AND INSURANCE BENEFITS" IN ARTICLE IV ENTITLED "BENEFITS"," be adopted as attached.

THAT the Resolution No. 2015-42 entitled, "THE PUPPY RESCUE MISSION RAFFLE LICENSE NO. 265-15," be adopted as attached.

THAT the Resolution No. 2015-43 entitled, "THE PUPPY RESCUE MISSION RAFFLE LICENSE NO. 266-15," be adopted as attached.

THAT the attached Instructors be hired for the Recreation 2015 spring programs at the position, date and salary stated.

THAT the letter of retirement of Lou Mautone, Sgt., MPPD, be accepted effective April 1st 2015.

THAT the Borough School Athletic Department be granted permission to use Simons Park for Track and Field week day practices during the months of March through May 2015 from 3:15 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

THAT the Borough Treasurer be authorized to advertise for the receipt of bids for the Improvements to Watnong Drive and Trowbridge Road, Rosedale Avenue sidewalk, Watnong Drive drainage, Mayfair Road sidewalk and Central Avenue sidewalk, Contract 2015.01, with bids to be received on Tuesday, April 14th 2015, up to 10:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers.

THAT Susan Carey, 4 Sparrow Road, Randolph, N.J. be hired as part-time Summer Camp Director for the 2015 Summer Recreation Program at an annual salary of \$7,000.00, effective March 5th 2015.

Seconded by Councilmember Cecala.

Mayor Druetzler commented on the most recent animal control report received from the recently-hired animal control vendor. He also commented on the raffle to be held at Harley-Davidson in connection with the Puppy Rescue Mission organization.

Yeas: Councilmembers Karr, Cecala, Cortese, Fu, McCluskey

Nays: None

Absent: Councilmember Doherty

Abstain: None

GREETINGS OF PUBLIC AND INVITATION FOR DISCUSSION

Mayor Druetzler opened this portion of the meeting to comments from the public. Seeing no one, he closed the public portion of this meeting.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND/OR DEPARTMENT HEADS

Finance

Councilmember Karr reported that the auditors completed the work last week. The Finance Committee will be meeting with Bruno & Associates early next week. The Finance Office will also be researching new hardware for use in their office.

Public Safety

Councilmember McCluskey reported on new video conferencing technology. It will allow the Court to interact with defendants being held at the Morris County Jail versus having such persons transported from the jail to the Court. The work to purchase all needed equipment is underway and the necessary funds will come from the Borough's Parking Account. She reported on an arrest last week involving counterfeit money being passed at Kohl's.

Councilmember McCluskey reported on the Eagle Scout project status for the installation bicycle racks at Simons Park and Watnong Park.

Councilmember McCluskey reported on a recent housing meeting advising the Soil Conservation application was submitted and that funding is being sought from Provident Bank, Wells Fargo, Bank of America, Lakeland Bank, TD Bank Foundation, Investors Bank, and Santander Bank. Last Monday she and Councilmember Karr attended the presentation of the Borough's community development block grant funding application; \$100,000 is being requested through this grant. Last year's requested funding, while not yet received, was approved. She shared many details of what occurred at this meeting. Mr. Riccio stated he really appreciates the broad and deep support he has received from the Borough on this project; he stated that going forward he will consider his work with the Borough as a model for the future.

Councilmembers Karr and McCluskey engaged in cross discussion with the Council and Mayor Druetzler about their thoughts on this meeting.

Councilmember McCluskey reported on the plans are for a variety of Eagle Scout and non-Eagle Scout projects that are being planned by the scouting organization.

In the absence of Police Chief Kohn there was no report

Public Works

Councilmember Cecala reported on last night's Beautification Committee's meeting, including that the Committee is seeking new members and hoping to find a way to provide water at the small park on the corner of Route 202/Littleton Road and Malapardis Road. Certain Committee members also asked about the changes related to the voucher system and purchasing process. George Ross will ask the Finance Office to acquire the necessary information on these procedures; there is also a P-Card for the Committee.

Councilmember Cecala reported that the final deer cull report was presented at the Council's last meeting. He also rather gleefully advised that the State is looking into the possibility of holding a bow-and-arrow hunting season on bear with the possibility of expanding the program in Morris County.

Councilmember Cecala reported that salt is expected to arrive tomorrow. Superintendent Signorelli believes this salt delivery will cover for this

storm and for one more storm this year. A question was recently asked of him as to whether the Department of Public Works (DPW) staff could remove snow from the fire hydrants. This has never been done by the DPW. Typically, the fire department requests that citizens do this with this request being published each year in *Plains Talk*.

Public Buildings & Grounds

Councilmember Fu reported that the Family Bingo Night event was a great success. There were 80 participants, and due to its success, this event may be held again. At the recent Recreation meeting, a resident requested the creation of a “pickle” ball court somewhere in the Borough. Apparently seniors in other municipalities are having much fun playing this game. The Recreation Commission agreed to consider this request. Local bands are quite interested in participating in 2015’s Summer Concert Series; the Commission is considering possibly expanding the season to five concerts.

Councilmember Fu reported on Summer Camp sign up dates and Breakfast with the Easter Bunny.

Councilmember Fu reported on a recent meeting of some Recreation Commission members, DPW staff and members of the school district to discuss matters relating to the Borough School baseball and softball fields. All appears to be in good order for the upcoming sports seasons.

Mayor Druetzler advised he would not be opposed to identifying funds to allow for a fifth concert to be held as part of the Summer Concert Series.

Public Welfare, Sanitation & Sewers

In the absence of Councilman Doherty, there was no report presented.

Ordinance & Public Utilities

Councilmember Cortese reported on his attendance at a recent financial matters meeting and a seminar involving interaction with Jersey Central Power & Light (JCP&L) and other subjects raised by JCP&L.

Cross discussion initiated by Mayor Druetzler about JCP&L matters.

Councilmember Cortese stated he believes being at the JCP&L meeting was a very worthwhile learning experience. He commented on the process involved when there is an electrical power outage in the Borough.

Councilmember McCluskey reported that there will be an award ceremony at the VFW on March 18th 2015 honoring one of the Morris Plains police officers. She has not yet seen an invitation, but Chief Kohn wanted the Mayor and Council to be aware of this event. Chief Kohn is now the Safety Chairperson for JIF and the JIF Chairperson for police department accreditations.

PRESENTATION OF COMMUNICATION, PETITIONS, ETC.

Mayor Druetzler opened the meeting to the public. Seeing none, Mayor Druetzler closed the public hearing.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Councilmember Cortese introduced the following ordinance and read the same by title and moved that it be passed on First Reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 5-2015

**CALENDAR YEAR 2015
ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET
APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK
(N.J.S.A. 40A:4 45.14)**

Councilmember Karr seconded the motion.

Mayor Druetzler explained that this is done each year.

Yeas: Councilmembers Karr, Cecala, Cortese, Fu, McCluskey
Nays: None
Absent: Councilmember Doherty
Abstain: None

Thereupon, Councilmember Cortese offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the above ordinance was introduced and read by title at this meeting on March 5th 2015 and passed on First Reading.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that at a meeting to be held on March 19th 2015 at 8:30 PM prevailing time in the Municipal Building in the said Borough, this Council will further consider for Second Reading and final passage of said ordinance.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of this Borough be and she is hereby directed to publish and mail the proper notice therefor, including the ordinance, post the ordinance on the Bulletin Board in the Municipal Building and make copies available to members of the general public.

Councilmember McCluskey seconded the resolution. Voice vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Councilmember Cortese introduced the following ordinance and read the same by title and moved that it be passed on First Reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 6-2015

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE PARTIAL AMENDMENT AND REVISION OF SECTION 11A-12 "CONSTRUCTION OFFICIAL" IN CHAPTER 11A ENTITLED "FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION" OF THE "REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF MORRIS PLAINS, NEW JERSEY, 1972" TO RE-NAME THIS SECTION AS "ADMINISTRATION" AND TO DESIGNATE AN NFIP FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATOR

Councilmember Cecala seconded the motion.

Mayor Druetzler provided an explanatory statement on this ordinance which relates to the appointment of the Borough Engineer as this Administrator.

Yeas: Councilmembers Karr, Cecala, Cortese, Fu, McCluskey
Nays: None
Absent: Councilmember Doherty
Abstain: None

Thereupon, Councilmember Cortese offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the above ordinance was introduced and read by title at this meeting on March 5th 2015 and passed on First Reading.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED at a meeting to be held on March 19th 2015 at 8:30 PM prevailing time in the Municipal Building in the said Borough, this Council will further consider for Second Reading and final passage of said ordinance.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of this Borough be and she is hereby directed to publish and mail the proper notice therefor, including the ordinance, post the ordinance on the Bulletin Board in the Municipal Building and make copies available to members of the general public.

Councilmember Karr seconded the resolution. Voice vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Councilmember Cortese introduced the following ordinance and read the same by title and moved that it be passed on First Reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 7-2015

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE PARTIAL 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 REPEAL OF SECTION 18-7 "QUALIFICATIONS"

Councilmember Karr seconded the motion.

Mayor Druetzler provided explanatory commentary regarding this proposed ordinance which will require stronger qualifications in order to serve as a police officer.

Yeas: Councilmembers Karr, Cecala, Cortese, Fu, McCluskey
Nays: None
Absent: Councilmember Doherty
Abstain: None

Thereupon, Councilmember Cortese offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the above ordinance was introduced and read by title at this meeting on March 5th 2015 and passed on First Reading.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED at a meeting to be held on March 19th 2015 at 8:30 PM prevailing time in the Municipal Building in the said Borough, this Council will further consider for Second Reading and final passage of said ordinance.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of this Borough be and she is hereby directed to publish and mail the proper notice therefor, including the ordinance, post the ordinance on the Bulletin Board in the Municipal Building and make copies available to members of the general public.

Councilmember Karr seconded the resolution. Voice vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

Councilmember Cortese read by title the ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 4-2015

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNITS IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF BOROUGH OF MORRIS PLAINS, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$10,000,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$8,500,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH FINANCING SUCH APPROPRIATION.

which ordinance was introduced and passed on First Reading at a meeting held on February 19th 2015.

The Clerk read the following notice:

The Bond Ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein was introduced and passed upon First Reading at a meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Morris Plains in the County of Morris, New Jersey, on February 19th 2015. It will be further considered for final passage at the public hearing at a meeting of the Governing Body to be held in the Municipal Building and scheduled for March 5th 2015 at 8:30 o'clock P.M. During the week prior to and up to and including the date of such meeting copies of the full Ordinance will be available at no cost during regular business hours at the Clerk's Office in the Municipal Building for the members of the general public who shall request the same.

Councilmember Cortese 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 has 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 is 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, he closed the public hearing.

Thereupon Councilmember Cortese 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 Karr seconded the motion.

Yeas: Councilmembers Karr, Cecala, Cortese, Fu, McCluskey
Nays: None
Absent: Councilmember Doherty
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

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

VOUCHERS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember McCluskey moved that the Regular Meeting be adjourned at 9:25 P.M.

Seconded by Councilmember Cecala.

Frank J. Druetzler, Mayor

June Uhrin, Borough Clerk