

Minutes of the Conference Meeting of the Borough Council held April 2nd 2015, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, 531 Speedwell Avenue, Morris Plains, New Jersey.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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 2015; WHICH RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL ON JANUARY 7, 2015, 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 C. Karr
Joseph Cecala, Jr.
Salvatore Cortese
John Doherty
Laurie J. Fu
Suzanne B. McCluskey

Absent: None

Present: Gail H. Fraser, Esq., Borough Attorney

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Mayor Druetzler asked if anyone had any questions concerning the Consent Calendar.

A question was asked about the planned improvements to Speedwell Avenue – exactly what section is involved.

Mayor Druetzler replied that the work is from Dayton Road to Hanover Avenue with a contribution being given by the CHS at Morris Plains assisted living development company. He believes their funding amount is approximately \$50,000 or \$55,000.

Mayor Druetzler reported on a meeting with Honeywell representatives that took place this morning. He also advised that Mr. Jason Larry who has served as the “point person” is leaving Honeywell to join another company. Mr. Larry introduced Mayor Druetzler to several other Honeywell representatives who will interact with the Mayor and other Borough representatives once he leaves Honeywell. An offer was extended to tour the site; any such tour would need to be conducted in the late afternoon.

Mayor Druetzler offered several possible dates for this tour: Tuesday, April 14th or Wednesday, April 15th; neither of these dates was good. He then asked about Tuesday, April 21st and Wednesday, April 22nd. It was determined that Wednesday, April 22nd, was the best date. Honeywell plans to begin moving in on the weekend of September 11th and 12th 2015. It will be a phased move occurring on each weekend until roughly mid October.

Councilmember Karr commented on the audit and encouraged all to review it.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Councilmember McCluskey:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Resolution No. 2015-48 entitled “Executive Session” be adopted.

Seconded by Councilmember Cecala. So ordered.

Voice Vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Councilmember Karr moved that the Executive Session be adjourned.

Seconded by Councilmember Doherty.

Councilmember McCluskey moved that the Conference Meeting be adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Seconded by Councilmember Karr.

Frank J. Druetzler, Mayor

Recorded by Rosanne Denman

June Uhrin, Borough Clerk

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Borough Council held April 2nd 2015 at 8:30 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
Jack Doherty
Laurie J. Fu
Suzanne B. McCluskey

Absent: None

Present: Gail Fraser, Esq., Borough Attorney

Mayor Druetzler welcomed Sergeant Rolph to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Karr moved:

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

Seconded by Councilmember Cecala. So ordered.

Voice vote. All in favor, except Councilmember McCluskey who was absent from this meeting and abstained. 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

None

THAT the Resolution No. 2015-49 entitled, “RESOLUTION ENTITLED TRUSTWORTHY TAXI & LIMO, LIMOUSINE OWNER LICENSE NO. LO1-5633-2015,” be adopted as attached.

THAT the Resolution No. 2015-50 entitled, “RESOLUTION ENTITLED TRUSTWORTHY TAXI & LIMO, LIMOUSINE OWNER LICENSE NO. LO2-2787-2015,” be adopted as attached.

THAT the Resolution No. 2015-51 entitled, “AUTHORIZING DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS PROPERTY,” be adopted as attached.

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 2015.

THAT the Borough Council approve the Mayor’s Proclamation declaring April 24th 2015, Arbor Day in the Borough of Morris Plains.

THAT the Borough Treasurer be authorized to advertise for the receipt of bids for the Improvements to Speedwell Avenue, Contract 2015.08, with bids to be received on Tuesday, May 5, 2015, up to 10:00 am in the Council Chambers.

THAT the Borough Council approves Ptl. Thomas Keane as an eligible recipient for participation in the Donated Leave Program.

Seconded by Councilmember McCluskey.

Yeas: Councilmembers Karr, Cecala, Cortese, Doherty, Fu, McCluskey
Nays: None
Absent: None
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 budget will be introduced later in this meeting. He thanked everyone for their time and effort in finalizing the budget. The Library will hold a shredding event on Saturday, April 11th 2015.

Public Safety

Councilmember McCluskey reported that she had nothing to report for Public Safety; however, she would like to discuss several other issues.

Councilmember McCluskey reported on a recent meeting with Jane Kurek of the Provident Bank Foundation. This meeting covered matters relating to the Affordable Housing project and a grant application submitted by Lou Riccio in the amount of \$100,000. It also provided an opportunity for Ms. Kurek to learn more about this project. It is hoped that this project will be successful in securing the \$100,000 grant.

Councilmember McCluskey reported that a proposal by a contractor was received and is being considered. One of this contractor's previous projects was Ridge Oak, a development in Basking Ridge that was visited by the Affordable Housing committee. Councilmember McCluskey contacted the Executive Director at Ridge Oak to ask about their experience with this contractor. In their experience, she advised only the best and gave high praise to this contractor and believed the Affordable Housing committee would be quite fortunate to be working with him. A meeting with him will be held in several weeks. The Committee has also met with representatives from IDBS, the parent company of Future Homes. Future Homes prepared all the specifications for the modular units. Plans were sent to the State for approval.

Councilmember McCluskey reported that both company representatives will attend the Council's second meeting in May (Thursday, May 21st 2015) at 7:30 P.M. to introduce themselves to the Governing Body and provide additional background. She explained what the modular company will be responsible for as well as the contractor's responsibilities.

Additional comments on the progress of the work relating to the Affordable Housing project were offered by Councilmembers Karr and Cortese. Both were highly impressed with the information offered at the meeting.

Police Sergeant Rolph reported on the status of the current hiring process and field training of new police officers. A new police vehicle will be purchased soon to replace the existing Crown Victoria; in the end this new vehicle will probably be an all-wheel-drive Dodge Charger, and he explained why.

Public Works

Councilmember Cecala reported that all Councilmembers have the report of Superintendent Signorelli. Brush pick-up is currently underway.

Councilmember Cecala reported on last night's meeting with the Beautification Committee. He stated that one of the members of this Committee noticed what looked like a leaking grease container behind the Plaza Diner. Although he advised he would ask Superintendent Signorelli to check this situation out, the consensus thinking was to advise the staff at the Plaza Diner, telling them to put cat litter or something similar on the spill. He thanked Mr. Ralph Rotando and Superintendent Signorelli for their assistance in connection with the auction of the surplus property.

Councilmember Cecala reported on a recent swimming meet held in North Carolina in which several Morris Plains residents participated.

Public Buildings & Grounds

Councilmember Fu reported on the Breakfast with the Easter Bunny and Egg Hunt event stating it was a great success and a very nice event. She thanked Sheryl McNicol, Karleen Leahey, and members of the Recreation Commission for their time and effort. She reminded that Little League Opening Day is on Saturday, April 18th 2015 at 10:00 A.M. Summer Camp registration begins on Wednesday, April 15th 2015. The Summer Camp Director attended the last Recreation meeting to report on her plans for the summer camp.

Councilmember Fu provided information on some of the highlights that are on the schedule for this season's summer camp. She reported on the Shade Tree Commission meeting that was held yesterday. She also shared information she obtained from an online article/survey ranking municipalities in terms of schools, shopping, restaurants, tax rates, home sale prices and the like – Morris Plains ranked #73 out of a total of 512 municipalities that were assessed.

Public Welfare, Sanitation & Sewers

Councilmember Doherty reported on the recent meeting of the Municipal Alliance. He provided information on a program that attracted an audience of more than 60 attendees. The group will also hold a parent education program on May 13th 2015 with a speaker. The organization will recognize eighth graders who have served as volunteers with Municipal Alliance. He also spoke about senior program(s) to be held on April 20th 2015 and that there is a desire to hold two outdoor local band concerts on Friday, July 17th 2015 and Friday, August 14th 2015.

Brief cross discussion about concerts and this specific request to be able to hold concerts.

Councilmember Doherty reported on Teen Center issues. As to the Board of Health, the massage parlor ordinance will be adopted in April. He provided some details about the ordinance. A meeting is to be held with Animal Care Solutions “so they know who their characters are”. There will be a Recycling meeting on April 15th 2015. One of the topics will be the problem in keeping the gates to the center closed.

Mayor Druetzler advised that Mr. Larry Ripley would like to create a community band. He has been trying to assist Mr. Ripley to reach this goal by arranging for possible use of the school's band room.

Ordinance & Public Utilities

Councilmember Cortese reported briefly on the M&M property site visit, stating it had been a busy week.

PRESENTATION OF COMMUNICATION, PETITIONS, ETC.

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

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None.

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

None.

RESOLUTIONS

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Introduction of the 2015 Municipal Budget

Councilmember Karr moved the Resolution entitled, “INTRODUCTION OF THE 2015 MUNICIPAL BUDGET”.

Seconded by Councilmember Doherty.

Mayor Druetzler complimented and thanked everyone for their work on this budget. The formal budget adoption hearing will be at the first meeting in May

Councilmember Karr thanked everyone in the Finance Office, Ana, the part-time accountant and all others for their time and effort on this project.

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

VOUCHERS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Cortese moved that the Regular Meeting be adjourned at 9:00 PM

Seconded by Councilmember Cecala.

Frank J. Druetzler, Mayor

Recorded by Rosanne Denman

June Uhrin, Borough Clerk