

Minutes of the Conference Meeting of the Borough Council held December 17th 2015, at 7:33 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, council President
Joseph Cecala, Jr.
Salvatore Cortese
John Doherty
Laurie J. Fu
Suzanne B. McCluskey

Absent: None

Present: Gail H. Fraser, Esq., Borough Attorney
Leon Hall, Borough Engineer

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Mayor Druetzler commented on the agenda actions that will be taking place at the Regular Meeting.

Mayor Druetzler stated that Councilmember McCluskey will serve as Council President in 2016 and that Councilmembers will retain the same Committees.

Councilmember Karr commented on an item that was on the Consent Calendar and stated it related to certain appropriations/budget allocations.

Brief cross discussion concerning the appropriations/budget allocations matter raised by Councilmember Karr.

Mayor Druetzler advised of the New Jersey Transit Positive Train Control project, including the need for the installation of a specific pole at or near the train station.

Councilmember Cecala commented that the pole will be approximately 60' high

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Councilmember McCluskey:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Resolution No. 2015-159 entitled "Executive Session" be adopted.

Seconded by Councilmember Doherty. So ordered.

Voice Vote. All in favor.

Councilmember Doherty moved that the Executive Session be adjourned.

Seconded by Councilmember Fu.

Councilmember Fu moved that the Conference Meeting be adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Seconded by Councilmember Karr.

Frank J. Druetzler, Mayor

June Uhrin, Borough Clerk

Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer.

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

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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

Leon Hall, PE, Borough Engineer

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Karr moved:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Executive, Conference and Regular Meetings of December 3rd 2015 be approved.

Seconded by Councilmember Doherty. So ordered.

Voice vote. All in favor.

AWARDS – Police Officers

Mayor Druetzler asked the Police Chief to present his introduction of and comments about the police officers being recognized at this meeting for their services rendered to a patron in distress at Arthur's Tavern on Tuesday, November 24th 2015. The combined efforts of these police officers saved a man's life.

The officers are: Sergeant Jeff Hochman
Sergeant Bruce Rapp
Patrolman Ryan McKay
Patrolman Mike Kelly
Patrolman Robert Guild
Patrolman Nicholas Grahwer

Also Hanover Township Patrolman Jim Grahwer

Chief Kohn commented that this call was an unusual event and that even officers who were off duty came to the scene to offer assistance. He thanked all those who provided help.

Each officer was roundly applauded when they received their award.

Mayor Druetzler asked that all involved with this presentation to pose for a photograph with the Mayor, Council and Police Chief.

Mayor Druetzler introduced Tom and Aileen Griffith who were in the audience.

Mr. Griffith provided a brief medical update on how his father is progressing in his recovery. He deeply thanked the police officers on behalf of himself and his family.

The Alice McGreevey, owner of Arthur's Tavern also stated that she is very grateful for the officers' services during this incident.

Mayor Druetzler added his gratitude and thanks to the police officers, too, remarking that while this kind of incident does not happen frequently in the Borough, he believes it is very comforting to know that there are very competent people working for the Borough who know what to do in order to save a life. He invited all in attendance to join him for some refreshments.

PUBLIC HEARING

2016 CDBG Application – Affordable Housing

Mayor Druetzler asked Councilmember McCluskey to present her statement for the record.

Councilmember McCluskey stated this relates to work that will be done during the anticipated timeframe of March through September 2016 with occupancy being expected in September 2016. This application is in the amount of \$100,000. The Housing Committee will appear before the Community Development Committee in February 2016 in order to make their presentation; they are very hopeful the funding will be received.

Mayor Druetzler asked if there were any comments or questions. He opened this portion of the meeting to the public. Seeing no one, he closed the hearing.

Councilmember McCluskey moved:

THAT the application for the 2016 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) be submitted.

Seconded by Councilmember Doherty

Voice vote. All in favor.

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, November 2015
Animal Licensing, November 2015
Animal Control, November 2015
Fire Prevention, November 2015
Sanitarian, November 2015
Tax Collector, November 2015
Tipping Fees, November 2015
Municipal Court, November 2015

Treasurer, November 2015
Building Inspector, November 2015
Fire Department, April 2015 – November 2015

THAT Resolution No. 2015-160 entitled, “REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT,” be adopted as attached.

THAT Resolution No. 2015-161 entitled, “REDEMPTION RESOLUTION,” be adopted as attached.

THAT Resolution No. 2015-162 entitled, “RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES,” be adopted as attached.

THAT Resolution No. 2015-163 entitled, “RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES,” be adopted as attached.

THAT Resolution No. 2015-164 entitled, “RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL PLANNING SERVICES,” be adopted as attached.

THAT Resolution No. 2015-165 entitled, “CANCEL UNEXPENDED 2015 BUDGET APPROPRIATION BALANCES,” be adopted as attached.

THAT Amy VanBuskirk be hired for the Recreation program “Kids Helping Kids” as Magic Reading Instructor for the winter/spring programs at \$50.00 per session effective January 19, 2016; which mentor program is authorized through a Grant and Registration [The program is self funded].

THAT Nicholas Hussey, 127 Granniss Avenue, Morris Plains, be appointed a volunteer Student Intern in the offices of the Morris Plains Police Department, effective December 18th 2015.

THAT the resignation of Thomas Keane, Patrolman, for the Police Department be accepted, effective January 31, 2016.

THAT having received bids for an Emergency Generator Installation at the Community Center, that a contract be awarded to Envirocon, LLC, for their low bid of \$85,762.00 and that the Mayor and Clerk be and they are hereby authorized to execute the contract, subject to the approval of the Borough Attorney

THAT the Borough Council authorize the release and return of the Performance Guarantee \$6,500.00, Road Opening Inspection fee \$372.00 and Improvement Inspection fee \$2,011.10 to Quick Chek per the Borough Engineer’s correspondence dated November 24, 2015.

Seconded by Councilmember Cecala.

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 this public portion of the meeting.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND/OR DEPARTMENT HEADS

Finance

Councilmember Karr stated that he had no report.

Public Safety

Councilmember McCluskey reported on a notice from the Fire Department regarding the new officers of the Fire Association. She read the list of the 2016 officers with their title.

Chief Kohn had no report.

Public Works

Councilmember Cecala reported on the current deer cull report. He also explained why there is no report from Assistant Superintendent Signorelli, due to computer problems. He provided details of recent work done by the Department of Public Works (DPW) staff, including leaf pick-up and the status of the salt shed.

Mr. Hall provided additional information regarding the status of the salt shed. The Speedwell Avenue contract specs are almost done. He also spoke about capital improvements for next year. He commented on Mack Cali, Investors Savings Bank and Arbor Terrace projects. All three are pursuing their conditions of approval. He expects that Mack Cali and Arbor Terrace begin demolition work in January. All three will most likely break ground sometime during mid winter or early spring. He also discussed procedures of cold weather provisions.

Public Buildings & Grounds

Councilmember Fu reported that she had nothing to report. However, she did comment on Basketball's Opening Day; recognition of a Recreation Volunteer of the Year; contact made with prior Basketball organization president(s); and a Harlem Wizards show.

Public Welfare, Sanitation & Sewers

Councilmember Doherty reported that the Rabies Clinic will be held on January 9th 2016 with a snow date of January 16th 2016. This event will be held at the DPW garage. The Board of Health is currently reviewing the ordinance relating to vending machines, with a likely introduction in January.

Councilmember Doherty reported that the Teen Center did not hold a December meeting. Ms. Anne Marie Emge has advised the Board of her resignation. A total of 23 children attended an eighth grade event on December 4th 2015. He also reported on some upcoming Municipal Alliance activities in 2016.

Ordinance & Public Utilities

Councilmember Cortese had no report.

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

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

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN ELECTRIC/
COMMUNICATION UTILITY EASEMENT TO JERSEY
CENTRAL POWER & LIGHT COMPANY AND
VERIZON OF NEW JERSEY, INC. RELATING TO THE
DEVELOPMENT OF BOROUGH PROPERTY
LOCATED AT BLOCK 101, LOT 3.02, COMMONLY
KNOWN AS 260 TABOR ROAD, MORRIS PLAINS**

Councilmember McCluskey seconded the motion.

Mayor Druetzler asked a question of Mr. Hall. He asked about the phrase, "necessary anchors and guides for support of said pole". Are they going to have guide wires there? Will it interfere with anything?

Mr. Hall responded that he did not know absolutely. He did provide additional commentary on this matter, including overhead wires, an easement, underground electrical service, and a certain exhibit.

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

Thereupon, Councilmember Cortese offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the above ordinance was introduced and read by title at this meeting on December 17th 2015 and passed on First Reading.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that at a meeting to be held on December 29th 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.

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

Councilmember Cortese read by title the ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 20-2015

**BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE
IMPROVEMENT OF VARIOUS ROADS AND
SIDEWALKS IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF
MORRIS PLAINS, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS,
NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$490,000
THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE
OF \$465,500 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE
BOROUGH FOR FINANCING SUCH
APPROPRIATION**

which ordinance was introduced and passed on First Reading at a meeting held on December 3rd 2015.

The Clerk read the following notice:

The Bond Ordinance and Summary the 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 December 3rd 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 December 17th 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 has 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.

Mayor Druetzler asked if anyone wished to address the Governing Body. 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 Doherty seconded the motion.

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

Councilmember Cortese read by title the ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 21-2015

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE PARTIAL AMENDMENT, SUPPLEMENTATION AND REPEAL OF CERTAIN FEES SET FORTH IN THE FEE SCHEDULE OF THE BOROUGH OF MORRIS PLAINS, CHAPTER 2, SECTION 2-46, IN THE "REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF MORRIS PLAINS, NEW JERSEY, 1972"

which ordinance was introduced and passed on First Reading at a meeting held on December 3rd 2015.

The Clerk read the following notice:

Notice is hereby given that the following ordinance was submitted in writing at a 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 December 3rd 2015, 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 PM, on December 17th 2015 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 Cortese read the following notice and ordinance by title and stated that the Notice and Ordinance has 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.

Mayor Druetzler asked if anyone wished to address the Governing Body. 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 Cecala seconded the motion.

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

Councilmember Cortese read by title the ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 22-2015

**AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING
SALARIES AND LONGEVITY PAY**

which ordinance was introduced and passed on First Reading at a meeting held on December 3rd 2015.

The Clerk read the following notice:

Notice is hereby given that the following ordinance was submitted in writing at a 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 December 3rd 2015, 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 PM, on December 17th 2015 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 Cortese read the following notice and ordinance by title and stated that the Notice and Ordinance has 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.

Mayor Druetzler asked if anyone wished to address the Governing Body. 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, Doherty, Fu, McCluskey
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

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

Councilmember McCluskey advised that the affordable housing modular boxes are expected to be delivered before Christmas or during the week between Christmas and New Year. She will further advise everyone when it will actually take place. A total of 20 modular units will be delivered

VOUCHERS

Councilmember Karr moved that vouchers for December in the amount of \$3,544,474.92 be approved.

Seconded by Councilmember McCluskey

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Councilmember McCluskey:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Resolution No. 2015-166 entitled “Executive Session” be adopted.

Seconded by Councilmember Cecala. So ordered.

Voice Vote. All in favor.

Councilmember Karr moved that the Executive Session be adjourned.

Seconded by Councilmember Doherty.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Cecala moved that the Regular Meeting be adjourned at 10:00 PM.

Seconded by Councilmember Karr.

Frank J. Druetzler, Mayor

June Uhrin, Borough Clerk