

Minutes of the Conference Meeting of the Borough Council held March 17th 2016, at 7:34 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 2016; WHICH RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL ON JANUARY 7, 2016, 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: Suzanne B. McCluskey, Council President
Joseph Cecala, Jr.
Salvatore Cortese
John Doherty
Laurie J. Fu
Jason C. Karr

Absent: None

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

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Mayor Druetzler asked if anyone had any questions on the Consent Calendar or any information to share.

Councilmember McCluskey provided details about the police car that is included on the Consent Calendar. A 2007 Ford Expedition will be auctioned off and the four-wheel drive 2012 Chevy Tahoe will be used for road jobs. The new vehicle, the Dodge Charger, will be marked and have all the necessary lights on it. The Police Department prefers to provide a balance of different vehicles in the department. She also briefly referred to an active shooter program.

Cross discussion about the Police Department vehicles.

Councilmember Karr reported on the budget process and that the Chief Financial Officer is preparing an electric provider bid for tomorrow, March 18th 2016.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Councilmember McCluskey:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Resolution No. 2016-45 entitled "Executive Session" be adopted.

Seconded by Councilmember Cortese. So ordered.

Voice Vote. All in favor.

Councilmember Karr moved that the Executive Session be adjourned.

Seconded by Councilmember Cecala.

Councilmember Doherty moved that the Conference Meeting be adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Seconded by Councilmember Karr.

Frank J. Druetzler, Mayor

June Uhrin, Borough Clerk

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Borough Council held March 17th 2016 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 2016; WHICH RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL ON JANUARY 7, 2016, 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: Suzanne B. McCluskey, Council President

Joseph Cecala, Jr.

Sal Cortese

Jack Doherty

Laurie J. Fu

Jason C. Karr

Absent: None

Present: Gail Fraser, Esq.
Leon Hall, PE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember McCluskey moved:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Executive, Conference and the Regular Meetings of March 3rd 2016 be approved.

Seconded by Councilmember Karr. So ordered.

Voice vote. All in favor.

Councilmember McCluskey moved:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Budget Meeting of March 4th 2016 be approved.

Seconded by Councilmember Cortese. So ordered.

Voice vote. All in favor.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember McCluskey 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

Municipal Clerk, February 2016
Animal Licensing, February 2016
Sanitarian, February 2016
Animal Control, February 2016
Municipal Court, February 2016
Tipping Fees, February 2016
Fire Department, February 2016
Tax Collector, February 2016
Treasurer, February 2016
Building Inspector, January & February 2016

THAT the Resolution No. 2016-46 entitled, "A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MORRIS PLAINS AUTHORIZING THE USE OF AN ONLINE REVERSE AUCTION FOR THE PURCHASE OF ELECTRICITY SERVICES FOR PUBLIC USE FOR STREET LIGHT SERVICE," be adopted as attached.

THAT the Resolution No. 2016-47 entitled, "A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MORRIS PLAINS AUTHORIZING THE USE OF AN ONLINE REVERSE AUCTION FOR THE PURCHASE OF ELECTRICITY SERVICES FOR PUBLIC USE FOR NON-STREET LIGHT SERVICE," be adopted as attached.

THAT the Resolution No. 2016-48 entitled, "RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO ENACT H.R. 343, VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY RESPONDERS TAX DEDUCTION ACT," be adopted as attached.

THAT the Resolution No. 2016-49 entitled, "RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNITS DEED RESTRICTION WITH MACK-CALI JOHNSON ROAD, LLC," be adopted as attached.

THAT the Borough Council approve the Mayor's Proclamation declaring the month of April as "AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH" in the Borough of Morris Plains.

THAT the Borough Council authorize the Amendment to the Agreement between Delta Dental Plan of New Jersey, Inc. and the Borough of Morris Plains for the period April 1st 2016 through March 31st 2017.

THAT the Borough Treasurer is authorized to solicit bids for Contract A.2016, Fireworks Display Services for 2016 with up to two 1year contract extensions in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-15, with notice to be published in the official newspaper on March 24, 2016 and bids to be accepted on April 19, 2016 at 10:30 A.M. in the Council Chambers.

THAT the Borough Treasurer is authorized to advertise for the receipt of bids for the improvements to Burch Drive, Merchant Place, Keenan Place, Borough Terrace and Library Parking Lot Resurfacing, Municipal Parking Lot #1, Diana Road, Littleton Road & Central Avenue Sidewalks, the American Road & East Hanover Avenue Intersection, with bids to be accepted on April 20, 2016 up to 10:00 A.M. in the Council Chambers.

THAT St. Paul's Episcopal Church and Morris Plains Presbyterian Church be granted permission to conduct an ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service at Roberts Garden on Sunday, March 27th 2016, from 6:30 AM to 7:30 AM.

THAT having received a “COPS IN SHOPS” grant in the amount of \$1,600. for December 1, 2015 to June 15, 2016; that the Police Chief shall submit the reimbursement form on a monthly basis.

THAT Michael Swanson, 1 Valley Stream Circle, Morris Plains, Eagle Scout candidate from Boy Scout Troop 39, be permitted to build and install six bat houses, two in community Park, two in Watnong Park and two in Central Park as his Eagle Scout project .

THAT Susan Carey, 4 Sparrow Road, Randolph, NJ be hired as part-time Summer Camp Director for the 2016 Summer Recreation Program at an annual salary of \$7,000., effective March 17th 2016.

THAT the residents of Idlewild Drive be granted permission to hold a Block Party on Saturday, March 26th 2016 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., that permission to serve alcoholic beverages be granted and that the Road Department provide the necessary barricades.

THAT the Borough Council authorize the purchase of one (1) 2015 Dodge Charger Police Vehicle, from Beyer Dodge, 200 Ridgedale Avenue, Morristown, New Jersey under the State Purchasing Bid Contract, in the amount of \$26,006.00, which contract was awarded through a fair and open process pursuant to N.J.S.A, 19:44A-20.4 et seq.

THAT the Borough Council authorize the Council President to execute any necessary documentation in the Mayor’s absence.

Seconded by Councilmember Doherty.

Yeas: Councilmembers McCluskey, Cecala, Cortese, Doherty, Fu, Karr
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 a shredding event will be held at the Library on Saturday, April 16th 2016. The event will run from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon.

Public Safety

Councilmember McCluskey presented a brief report on the status of the affordable housing project; including that the project developer has applied for a \$25,000 grant from Provident Bank. This grant also was applied for in 2015, but not received.

Councilmember McCluskey reported that the Fire Department will be offering an advanced training program in connection with injured persons. The program is free and is provided by the County. The Department now has two vehicles with complete sets of TNT rescue tools that can respond to motor vehicle accidents.

Fire Chief Kevin Rongo provided information for the re-numbering of the Borough's fire apparatus. This process relates to the fact that the Department is now assigned # 23 the County.

Police Chief Kohn provided information on the patrolman applicants PT Test given last Saturday, March 12th 2016. 40 applications were returned of approximately 70 sent out. Out of the 40 applications, 37 were present for the testing and 34 passed. Interviews will begin during the first week in April.

Police Chief Kohn reported that the Department is in the process of updating their Emergency Operations Plan – 2016. CPR training was provided for the Department this week. Det. Rapp will be starting Traffic Engineering School at Rutgers on March 27th 2016; he will attend once a week for seen weeks.

Police Chief Kohn distributed a report to Mayor Druetzler and Councilmembers Police Department activity since January 1st 2016 which provides a comparison with all the other municipalities that are on the County's Records Management System; he provided some background information about this system.

Mayor Druetzler explained to Fire Chief Rongo and Fire Prevention Chief Shay the resolution in support of H.R. 343, "Volunteer Emergency Responders Tax Deduction Act" as listed on the Consent Calendar. Mayor Druetzler is hopeful this resolution will be approved in the House/House Ways and Means Committee. Passage will allow volunteer emergency responders to take up to 300 hours at \$20.00 per hour reduction which would be a deduction of up to \$6,000.00. This is a great idea and Congressman Frelinghuysen is in support.

Public Works

Councilmember Cecala reported that this Saturday, March 19th 2016, there will be an auction at the Town Garage. Some fire equipment will be placed on an online site for sale with the hopes of bringing in greater funds. There will also be a Mayor's Cup Tae Kwon Do tournament at Borough School beginning at 9:00 AM on Saturday, March 19th 2016.

Councilmember Cecala referred to Superintendent Signorelli's most recent report indicating that the Department of Public Works (DPW) staff has been quite busy over the past month. A trellis was taken down at Community Park; certain plants were also removed. He advised of a telephone call from a resident at 2 Rudden Lane who related information about Verizon and Jersey Central Power & Light signs/flags on or near his front lawn. Mr. Signorelli advised that the utility companies had begun marking out in connection with the gas main work to be begin shortly. He provided an updated work list which he was advised is the most updated work list currently available. Apparently, no letters were sent to residents by PSE&G advising of this work to be done.

Mayor Druetzler asked Mr. Hall what he knows about this situation.

Mr. Hall advised he sent a letter to PSE&G three weeks telling them they must apply for a road opening permit, something they have not yet done. This project cannot be started until they apply for the proper permit. He advised he had received a telephone call from a resident at the intersection of Madison Avenue and Watnong Drive also wondering about the mark-up flags installed at her property.

Cross discussion about the matter of the upcoming gas main project.

Mayor Druetzler asked Mr. Hall to again contact PSE&G and also tell them complaints are being received from residents.

Mr. Hall updated on various work projects scheduled for this year, including Arbor Terrace and the Mack-Cali Johnson Road apartment project. The salt shed is anticipated to be completed by April 1st 2016; he provided some details about the progress of this work.

Public Buildings & Grounds

Councilmember Fu reported that the Breakfast with the Easter Bunny and Egg Hunt event will be held this Saturday, March 19th 2016 at 9:00 AM. All tickets were sold. The Community Band will have two performances soon on March 23rd 2016 and on April 27th 2016. She advised she is seeking items to place in a new display case at the Community Center.

Mayor Druetzler asked Councilmember Doherty if he knew where the flag was that was received from Skip Windt. He advised that Skip Windt grew up in the Borough, graduated from the Naval Academy and currently is stationed in the Middle East. Upon receiving Christmas greetings from the Rotary Club, Mr. Windt flew a flag over one of the missions in the plane and then sent a citation and the flag back to the Rotary Club.

Councilmember Doherty believes Steve Rosenstein has it.

Mayor Druetzler commented on his attendance at one of the Community Band's performances. He stated it was really very nice and that the Band was excellent and entertaining.

Public Welfare, Sanitation & Sewers

Councilmember Doherty reported on the Board of Health activities, including the introduction of two ordinances (relating to massage parlors and vending machines). Animal Control responded to ten (10) calls in February.

Councilmember Doherty reported still concerns relating to immunization records when children are registered for recreation.

Councilmember Doherty reported that there will be a Recycling meeting on Wednesday, March 23rd 2016 at 7:00 PM.

Councilmember Doherty reported on Teen Center and Municipal Alliance matters.

Ordinance & Public Utilities

Councilmember Cortese reported on a recent meeting with the Zoning Officer and the Building Inspector. He advised he believes Mack-Cali will be coming tomorrow with a check for their foundation. He, too, was disappointed with the issues relating to the utility flags/signs being installed when these matters were specifically talked about.

PRESENTATION OF COMMUNICATION, PETITIONS, ETC.

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

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None.

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

The schedules/legal descriptions were not published in the *News Bee*. For this reason Ordinance No. 5-2016 and Ordinance 6-2016 will be tabled with public hearing and final adoption occurring at the first meeting in April 2016.

Ordinance No. 5-2016

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION AND ACCEPTANCE OF A MODIFICATION AND RECONFIGURATION OF AN EXISTING PERPETUAL EASEMENT FOR PUBLIC SANITARY SEWER PURPOSES ON BLOCK 171, LOT 1 IN THE BOROUGH OF MORRIS PLAINS, KNOWN AS 250 JOHNSON ROAD

Councilmember Cortese moved that Ordinance 5-2016 be tabled to the first meeting in April 2016.

Seconded by Councilmember McCluskey.

Voice vote. All in favor.

Ordinance No. 6-2016

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A PERPETUAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT DEDICATED AND CONVEYED TO THE BOROUGH OF MORRIS PLAINS ON BLOCK 171, LOT 1 IN THE BOROUGH OF MORRIS PLAINS

Councilmember Cortese moved that Ordinance 6-2016 be tabled to the first meeting in April 2016.

Seconded by Councilmember McCluskey.

Voice vote. All in favor.

RESOLUTIONS

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

VOUCHERS

Councilmember Karr moved the approval of the vouchers for March 17th 2016 in the amount of \$2,983,585.53.

Seconded by Councilmember Cecala.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember McCluskey moved that the Regular Meeting be adjourned at 9:02 PM.

Seconded by Councilmember Doherty.

Frank J. Druetzler, Mayor

June Uhrin, Borough Clerk