

Minutes of the Conference Meeting of the Borough Council held March 7, 2013, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, 531 Speedwell Avenue, Morris Plains, New Jersey.

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 2013; WHICH RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL ON JANUARY 7, 2013, 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 Laurie Fu
Councilmembers: Joseph Cecala
George Coogan
Jason Karr
Frank Mangravite
Suzanne McCluskey

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

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Mayor Druetzler asked if there were any questions on the Consent Calendar.

Mayor Druetzler advised that at the next Council meeting the Freeholders have requested time to advise on their budget. He also commented on a League of Municipalities meeting/event on April 3, 2013; various Councilmembers indicated they will be attending. He reminded of the parade on this Saturday, and on this Sunday there is a breakfast.

Continuing, Mayor Druetzler commented on the school budget stating that there was a meeting this week. He spoke about the fact that everyone has a 2% cap and a raising of tuition. He provided data on an additional subject.

Councilmember Coogan reported on a recent meeting with the Borough's new JCP&L representative, Ms. Colon. Mayor Druetzler provided a list of the low wires along the roadways. She was also given a tour of the Borough to allow her to observe some of the work that needs to be done. She initially indicated that JCP& L provides regular follow-up; however, in the end it was determined that there is no regular follow-up. Someone from the Borough must contact JCP& L to check on the progress of work/repairs. While he does not know how well this arrangement is going to work, he is hopeful that issues will be addressed better in the future than in the past.

Councilmember McCluskey provided updated information in connection with the traffic pattern at Franklin Place and certain changes. Chief Thompson advised what was being considered cannot be done because of the existing signalization (arrow lights). The subject roadway portion is a State road and the State does not intend to make any changes, not even the timing.

Councilmember Mangravite stated he had four items: (1) a cost estimate for the Borough Treasurer for the offsetting of the Morris Township sewer contract maintenance and (2) sewer ordinance issues relating to a \$4,200 connection fee. He inquired about how old this is (several years) and who would have a report (Mr. Hall may have a report or a recommendation). He referred to a State statute as to how these connection fees are calculated. There is a second part to this statute that drops the fee to \$3,600 per a certain measurement for non-residential construction changes. He asked if this would apply to M & M. He

wondered if there could be one fee instead of the two different ones. He suggested that the one fee be \$4,200.

Cross discussion concerning the subject of the connection fees and any revisions that might be considered in the future.

Councilmember Mangravite asked who signs off on vouchers for engineering services as the person certifying that the work being billed is completed. He stated he believes it is a matter of having a minimum of financial oversight; checks and balances.

Councilmember Coogan responded that generally it is Joseph Signorelli, Department of Public Works (DPW). Some vouchers would be signed by the Planning Board or the Board of Adjustment.

Cross discussion of who certifies that certain work has indeed been completed, especially if there is no identified department head specifically connected to the work done, matters of financial oversight, agreements, whether rates are contained in agreements, issues of trust in department heads, observation of work being done by Borough vendors/Professionals at various hours/times of day and checks and balances.

Various Councilmembers advised of the different ways they have seen different people/departments indicate their approval of this voucher or that voucher. There was also discussion of how vouchers and invoices are “packaged” together for the purpose of approvals being obtained, including the role of and the work performed by the Finance Department.

Councilmember Mangravite briefly mentioned that his specific questions arose because there is no internal Engineering Department.

Councilmember Coogan referred to a resolution on tonight’s agenda regarding energy generation services. He provided a brief summary of the purpose of this resolution. The projected savings on the electric bills is approximately 17%.

Councilmember Cecala reported on a telephone call from a resident on Sun Valley Way in connection with a potential tree problem. He requested that DPW personnel check this tree. DPW reported that the tree is in bad condition; a call was placed to the Shade Tree Commission Secretary.

Councilmember Karr reported on work scheduled at the 9-11 Memorial to completely finish this work project (some lighting, minor work). He stated there is a new auditor representative, Valerie Dolan.

Mayor Druetzler advised of accidents occurring on Route 53 at Foxwood. Complaints have been received and the Traffic Committee has looked at the situation. Assemblywoman DeCroce was contacted about it and a meeting was held with the Police Chief. He also referenced a letter. Accident records have been provided as appropriate.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Councilmember Coogan:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Resolution No. 2013- 51 entitled “Executive Session” be adopted.

Seconded by Councilmember Karr. So ordered.

Frank J. Druetzler, Mayor

June Uhrin, Borough Clerk

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Borough Council held March 7, 2013 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 2013; WHICH RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL ON JANUARY 7, 2013, 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 Laurie Fu
Councilmembers: Joseph Cecala
George Coogan
Jason Karr
Frank Mangravite
Suzanne McCluskey

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Fu moved:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Executive Conference and the Regular Meetings of January 18, 2013.

Seconded by Councilmember Coogan. So ordered.

Voice vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Councilmember Fu moved:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Executive Conference and the Regular Meetings of January 24, 2013.

Seconded by Councilmember Karr. So ordered.

Voice vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Fu 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 Court, January 2013
Police Department, January 2013

Animal Control, January 2013
Tax Collector, January 2013
Building Inspector, January 2013

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

THAT the Resolution No. 2013-52 entitled "MUNICIPAL RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT APPLICATION, BOROUGH OF MORRIS PLAINS" be adopted as attached.

THAT the Resolution No. 2013-53 entitled "CANCELLATION OF 2012 LATE FEE BLOCK 27, LOT 28, 520 SPEDWELL AVENUE" be adopted as attached.

THAT the Resolution No. 2013-54 entitled "RESOLUTION AMENDING THE EXISTING "PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL" OF THE BOROUGH OF MORRIS PLAINS, DATED APRIL 2011 WITH THE ADOPTION OF A NEW SECTION ENTITLED "NON-OCCUPATIONAL INJURY LIMITED DUTY" IN ARTCILE VI, LEAVES AND EXTENDED ABSENCES." be adopted as attached.

THAT the resolution No. 2013-55 entitled, RESOLUTION ADOPTING A TEMPORARY CAPITAL BUDGET FOR 2013," be adopted as attached.

THAT permission be granted for the Morris Plains Farmers Market to be conducted Saturdays, June 15th through October 12th 2013 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM, in the Merchant Block.

THAT the resignation of Andrew Cazzetto, Department of Public Works Senior Truck Driver, effective march 4th 2013 be accepted.

THAT the Borough Treasurer be authorized to advertise for the receipt of bids for the Jim Fear Drive, Laurel Street, Maple Avenue, Granniss Avenue, Academy Road and Watnong Drive, with bids to be received on Thursday, April 4th 2013, up to 10:30 AM, in the Council Chambers.

Seconded by Councilmember Cecala.

Yeas: Councilmembers Fu, Cecala, Coogan, Karr, Mangravite, 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. Hearing no comments, he closed this portion of the meeting to the public.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND/OR DEPARTMENT HEADS

Finance

Councilmember Karr advised of a problem in connection with the E-Mail Alert at a most inopportune time of the year; however, this unforeseen problem has been corrected. Apologies were received from the company and the webmaster.

Public Safety

Councilmember McCluskey stated she had no report.

Chief Thompson presented his report, specifically citing a certain bicycling event that is scheduled. He reported the Police Department recruits are progressing

well and provided an update on the three generators from OEM that were discussed at a previous meeting(s).

Public Works

Councilmember Cecala reported on a letter received from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) on February 28, 2013 in connection with diesel vehicles, a telephone conversation with Mr. Signorelli, Department of Public Works (DPW) on this subject, and a related e-mail received from the Borough Clerk. It was determined that diesel vehicles will require a certain filter that will greatly reduce pollution. He asked Mr. Signorelli to discuss this new need with the School Board in relation to school buses; fire trucks are exempt. The cost to retrofit the vehicles that require it will be at no cost to the Borough as the cost is fully funded by a New Jersey business tax. The necessary retrofitting must be completed by September 8, 2013. Randy from the DPW is coordinating this project.

Councilmember Cecala also reported on the lack of heat at the Recycling Center problem. The necessary part to fix this is on order.

Public Buildings & Grounds

Councilmember Fu presented her report, including the Recreation Commission's Breakfast with the Easter Bunny and Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 23, 2013. The Little League Opening Day is on Saturday, April 13, 2013. Kids Helping Kids will host their first Friday night social at the Community Center on Friday, March 8, 2013. Ms. Susan Carey, the new Recreation Camp Coordinator, is working with Mrs. Leahey on getting the summer camp enhancements in place for registration. She reported on the Little League President's presentation at the February Recreation Commission meeting, the anticipated Shade Tree Commission grant, and the status of DPW work projects.

Cross discussion about the book bin for hardcover books program.

Public Welfare, Sanitation & Sewers

Councilmember Mangravite reported that the MUA representative actually saw the book bin recycling program at the Borough's Recycling Center. Two new bins are being added per month.

Ordinance & Public Utilities

Councilmember Coogan advised he had no report.

Mayor Druetzler commented on Councilmember Coogan's role in connection with community development and the generator.

PRESENTATION OF COMMUNICATION, PETITIONS, ETC.

Mayor Druetzler opened the meeting to the public. Hearing no one, Mayor Druetzler closed the public hearing.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Councilmember Coogan introduced the following ordinance and read the same.

Ordinance No. 4-2013

BOND ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$631,000 AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A \$600,000 BOND OR NOTES FOR THE BOROUGH FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS FOR PURPOSES AUTHORIZED TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE BOROUGH OF MORRIS PLAINS IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

Seconded by Councilmember Cecala.

Yeas: Councilmembers Fu, Cecala, Coogan, Karr, Mangravite, McCluskey

Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

Thereupon, Councilmember Coogan offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the above ordinance was introduced and read by title at this meeting on March 7, 2013 and passed on first reading;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED at a meeting to be held on March 21, 2013 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 the proper notice thereof, including the ordinance, post the ordinance on the Bulletin Board in the Municipal Building and make copies available to members of the general public.

Seconded by Councilmember McCluskey.

Voice vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

None.

RESOLUTIONS

Moved by Councilmember Coogan

Thereupon, Councilmember Coogan offered the following resolutions:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Resolution No. 2013-56 entitled, "Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Energy Generation Services for Public Use Through an Online Website Reverse Auction" be adopted.

Seconded by Councilmember McCluskey. So ordered

Yeas: Councilmembers Fu, Cecala, Coogan, Karr, Mangravite,
McCluskey
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

Moved by Councilmember Coogan:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Resolution No. 2013 - 57 entitled, "Borough of Morris Plains, Speedwell Avenue Project" be adopted.

Seconded by Councilmember Cecala. So ordered.

Yeas: Councilmembers Fu, Cecala, Coogan, Karr, McCluskey
Nays: Councilmember Mangravite
Absent: None
Abstain: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

VOUCHERS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

Councilmember Mangravite moved to adjourn at 8:59 PM

Seconded by Councilmember Cecala. Voice vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Frank J. Druetzler, Mayor

June R. Uhrin, Borough Clerk