

Minutes of the Conference Meeting of the Borough Council held April 4, 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 J. Fu
Councilmembers: George J. Coogan
Jason C. Karr
Frank Mangravite
Suzanne McCluskey

Absent: Councilmember Joseph Cecala, Jr.

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

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

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

Councilmember Karr reported on matters relating to the 9-11 Memorial including the lighting, the upgrading of the website which continues as planned with a draft anticipated in several weeks, and that the Borough's website had to be shut down today because of hackers.

Several Councilmembers had no questions or reports.

Councilmember McCluskey reported an update to the senior affordable housing issue. There had been a meeting in February with the Morris County Housing Authority at which time there was a presentation to the Borough relating to funding involving tax credits. It was a different proposal than anticipated and resulted in a doubling of the cost of building the facility (because of developer's cost, professionals' costs, etc.). She stated "we don't want to expend any more funds." They are now looking into another senior affordable housing provider and will be visiting with them next week to meet with their financial representatives. They are in Somerset County and would be willing to come here.

Continuing, Councilmember McCluskey advised there is absolutely no money available and must be done with tax credits. The estimated HUD cost for building the building was just over \$5M, but then rose to just over \$9M with the developer's and professionals' costs. She commented on possible future HUD programs.

Mayor Druetzler advised he spoke with Tim Quinn and Peter Mancuso yesterday when Jay Webber was here with his town meeting. He commented on a contribution to the ballfields and the soccer fields. He also commented on issues

relating to Greystone. He advised of activity and contributions (or lack thereof) from surrounding municipalities.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Councilmember Coogan:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Resolution No. 2013-59 entitled "Executive Session" be adopted.

Seconded by Councilmember McCluskey. So ordered.

Frank J. Druetzler, Mayor

June Uhrin, Borough Clerk

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Borough Council held April 4, 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 J. Fu
Councilmembers: George J. Coogan
Jason C. Karr
Frank Mangravite
Suzanne McCluskey

Absent: Councilmember Joseph Cecala, Jr.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Fu moved: No meeting minutes to approve.

Mayor Druetzler advised that April 11, 2013 is the 75th anniversary of barber shop quartets in America. The Council is honored to have a barber shop quartet this evening.

The leader of the barber shop quartet provided a brief overview of what the quartet is planning to do this evening. The quartet then performed after which each member identified himself.

Mayor Druetzler asked each member to leave his name; he wants to put information about the quartet on the Borough's website along with a photograph.

Each Councilmember introduced him/her self.

Mayor Druetzler read a portion of a proclamation proclaiming the week of April 7, 2013 through April 13, 2013 as Barber Shop Harmony Week in the Borough of Morris Plains, New Jersey.

Photographs were taken with the quartet.

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

Fire Prevention, March 2013

Sanitarian, March 2013
Animal License, January & February 2013

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

THAT the Resolution No. 2013-60 entitled, "GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN MORRIS PLAINS BOROUGH AND THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY BY AND FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION GRANT IDENTIFIER: PF13-085," be adopted as attached.

THAT the Borough Council approve the membership application of Daniel Ferguson, 15 Watnong Drive, Morris Plains, as a member of the Morris Plains Junior Fire Auxiliary.

THAT Lorey Canning be hired for the Recreation program "Kids Helping Kids" Reading Instructor at \$50.00 per hour effective April 9th 2013; which mentor program is authorized through a Grant and Registration [the program is self funded].

THAT Joyce Kwasney be hired for the Recreation program "Kids Helping Kids" Let's Pretend Instructor at \$40.00 per hour effective April 9th 2013; which mentor program is authorized through a Grant and Registration [the program is self funded].

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 2013 through March 31st 2014.

THAT Christine Antico be granted permission to serve alcoholic beverages at a birthday party to be held Saturday, June 8th 2013, from 11:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. at Community Park

THAT Jerry Rota be granted permission to serve alcoholic beverages at a Picnic to be held Saturday, July 20th 2013, from 11:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. at Community Park.

THAT the Borough Council approve the Mayor's Proclamation declaring April 26th 2013 Arbor Day in the Borough of Morris Plains.

THAT having received bids for the Jim Fear Drive, Laurel Street, Maple Avenue, Granniss Avenue, Academy Road, and Watnong Drive Improvements, that a contract be awarded to D. S. Meyer Enterprises, LLC, for their low responsible and responsive bid of \$269,635.68, and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute the necessary contract in the for approved by the Borough.

Seconded by Councilmember Karr.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Joseph Cecala, Jr.

Abstain: None

GREETINGS OF PUBLIC AND INVITATION FOR DISCUSSION

Mayor Druetzler opened this portion of the meeting to any member of the public wishing to address the Council. Seeing no one, he closed this portion of the meeting to the public.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND/OR DEPARTMENT HEADS

Finance

Councilmember Karr reported on one of the computers in the Clerk's office that is no longer functional; a new one has been ordered. The deadline for the completion of the elected officials financial disclosure statements is extended to May 15, 2013.

Public Safety

Councilmember McCluskey reported that Patrolman Ryan McKay will be taking the DARE training course shortly. The annual court visitation will be next Thursday, April 11, 2013 and the Rotary project to build a sign at Roberts Garden is progressing very well.

The Borough Police Chief presented his report, including a three-day training course to be hosted by the OEM and that on Saturday, April 27, 2013 there will be a drug take back at Stop & Shop.

Public Works

In the absence of Councilmember Cecala there was no report.

Public Buildings & Grounds

Councilmember Fu reminded that the Little League Opening Day is Saturday, April 13, 2013, at Community Park. Summer recreation programs registration will open this week on April 10, 2013. She also reported on the recent Shade Tree Commission meeting, highlighting the Arbor Day celebration on Friday, April 26, 2013. The Department of Public Works (DPW) has been working to prepare the fields for Opening Day.

Councilmember Fu reported on the "Sustain the Plains" committee meeting.

Cross discussion including Direct Install and the recycling center.

Public Health, Sanitation & Sewers

Councilmember Mangravite reported on the Recycling Committee's bi-annual meeting. He also reported on Board of Health and Municipal Alliance matters. He also reported on the Teen Center. He also referenced an upcoming 350th anniversary.

Mayor Druetzler commented on the matter of the 350th anniversary so that people know about the stone located at Community Park that is marked with "1664 - 1964", the 300th anniversary. This is also where a time capsule is buried and after 50 years it will be taken up. There could be a celebration planned around the opening of the time capsule. The date is in June.

Ordinance & Public Utilities

Councilmember Coogan advised of a meeting next week with JCP&L representatives to review what progress has been made since the earlier meeting held about one month ago.

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

None.

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

None.

RESOLUTIONS

Councilmember Karr moved Resolution No. 2013 – 61 entitled:

Resolution Authorizing Termination of Employment of Noreen Morris.

Seconded by Councilmember Coogan.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Karr introduced the 2013 Municipal Budget.

Seconded by Councilmember Coogan.

Mayor Druetzler reviewed the highlights of the 2013 Municipal Budget. The budget is \$12,740,117.00, which represents an increase of \$212,137.00. He also presented data regarding taxes. He thanked all those who were responsible for development of this budget and provided general commentary in connection with the budget and specific budget allocations. He also briefly referenced the M & M lawsuit.

Cross discussion about the budget and various allocations and percentages.

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

Mayor Druetzler stated the tax rate late year was 1.982 and estimated to be 2.053, a total increase of 7.1 cent. The municipal portion goes up 2.9 cents.

VOUCHERS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember McCluskey moved to adjourn at 9:10 P.M.

Seconded by Councilmember Coogan. All in favor.

Frank J. Druetzler, Mayor

June Uhrin, Borough Clerk