

Minutes of the Conference Meeting of the Borough Council held October 3, 2013, at 7:32 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 about the Consent Calendar.

Councilmember Mangravite asked a question concerning a hire.

The Borough Clerk advised she had the documentation he asked about, and she offered to make copies, which she did at the request of Mayor Druetzler.

There were no further questions concerning the Consent Calendar.

Mayor Druetzler next asked if there were any other items for discussion at this Conference Meeting.

Councilmember Karr advised that all key fobs are now up to date except for the newest employee, and the Borough Clerk will handle that. This Wednesday is the date to move the servers out of the Police Department. Computer guidelines were received from Mutu and have been reviewed by the Finance Committee, and the Committee's comments will be returned to Muthu.

Councilmember Mangravite stated he spoke with Donjon, and they will be sending a proposal to the Borough reflecting an approximately 30 percent increase over what has been in existence for the past five months since the electronics were stopped. A retroactive check in the amount of \$280 will be sent to the Borough.

Councilmember Fu reported on the Sustainable New Jersey grant. The Borough did not receive the \$50,000 grant applied for use in connection with the Community Garden (\$10,000) and for the school's outdoor classroom (\$40,000). The Borough was not selected in this round; however, a second round will open in October that the Borough can apply for. She has reached out to the Sustainable New Jersey staff in an attempt to obtain suggestions as to projects that might have greater success in being approved. A conference call is scheduled with the Sustainable New Jersey Director this coming Tuesday.

Mayor Druetzler asked if two applications can be made and then divided.

Councilmember Fu advised that two applications cannot be made. She offered to make the initial application available if anyone would like to review. She also stated that if anyone has questions or recommendations, she will make them part of her discussion with the Director on Tuesday.

Councilmember McCluskey advised that the Fire Department did not receive a certain grant that it has always received. In talking with Congressman Frelinghuysen's office, she learned that significant amounts of grant funding were given to others who experienced more severe damage due to Hurricane Sandy. These communities were give first preference.

Councilmember Mangravite provided an update relating to the hardcover book collector advising that the reimbursement method was changed from \$40 per bin to 15 percent of the net sales of the books received from the Borough. The sale of every book is tracked. From the most recent information, it appears that the amounts received under both methods are roughly the same.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Moved by Councilmember Coogan:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Resolution 2013-110 entitled "Executive Session" be adopted.

Seconded by Councilmember McCluskey. So ordered.

Councilmember Coogan moved that the Executive Session be adjourned.

Seconded by Councilmember Karr.

Councilmember Karr moved that the Conference Meeting be adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Seconded by Councilmember Coogan.

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Frank J. Druetzler, Mayor

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June Uhrin, Borough Clerk

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Borough Council held October 3, 2013 at 8:33 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:

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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 September 5, 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**

None.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**

*THAT* the Resolution No. 2013-111 entitled “RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF ITEMS OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION NJS 40A:4-87; BUCKLE UP GRANT,” be adopted as attached.

*THAT* the Resolution No. 2013-112 entitled, “RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF ITEMS OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION NJS 40A:4-87; CLEAN COMMUNITIES GRANT,” be adopted as attached.

*THAT* the Resolution No. 2013-113 entitled, “FORM OF RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF ITEMS OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION NJS 40A:4-87; MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE GRANT,” be adopted as attached.

*THAT* the Resolution No. 2013-114 entitled, “ST VIRGILIUS CHURCH, RAFFLE LICENSE NO. 250-13,” be adopted as attached.

*THAT* the Resolution No. 2013-115 entitled, “ST VIRGILIUS CHURCH, RAFFLE LICENSE NO. 251-13,” be adopted as attached.

*THAT* the attached be hired for the Recreation program “Kids Helping Kids” at the position and salary stated effective October 1, 2013; which mentor program is authorized through a Grant and Registration. [The program is self funded.].

*THAT* the Borough Council approved the Mayor’s Proclamation in recognition and congratulation to Rabbi David Joseph Nesson.

*THAT* having received quotes for the 2013 Shade Tree fall planting from the following:

Cerbo’s Parsippany Greenhouses, Inc.	\$12,800.00
Pat Scanlon Landscaping, Inc.	\$13,894.00
Rose Valley Nursery	\$19,040.00

*THAT* a purchase order be issued to Cerbo’s Parsippany Greenhouses, Inc., Parsippany, New Jersey in the amount of \$12,800.00; subject to the Borough Attorney’s review and approval of the documents.

*THAT* the Borough Clerk be and she hereby is authorized to advertise for an Auction to be held on Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup> 2013, at 10:00 A.M., at the Department of Public Works, 10 Borough Terrace, for the purpose of disposing of the following pieces of property at the suggested minimum bid:

			<u>Minimum Bid</u>
One	(1)	2008 Ford Crown Vic Vin#2FAHP71V28X131113, mi.: 106623	\$2,000.00
One	(1)	2008 Ford Crown Vic Vin#2FAHP71V28X1788612, mi.: 95698	\$2,000.00
Four	(4)	Bicycles	\$ 10.00
One	(1)	Graco Stroller	\$ 10.00
One	(1)	Basketball Self Standing Board	\$ 10.00
		Misc. Police Equipment	Varies

See Borough Website, [www.morrisplainsboro.org](http://www.morrisplainsboro.org) for additional information.

Seconded by Councilmember Cecala.

Mayor Druetzler commented on the various grants advising \$4,000 was received for the Buckle-Up Grant, \$11,387 for the Clean Communities Grant, and \$2,500 for the Municipal Alliance Grant. He also congratulated Councilmember Fu in connection with the No Net Loss Grant and program supporting the replacement of trees lost as a result of the Routes 53 and 10 intersection work; because of reimbursement of costs aligned with this project, the final cost will be zero and will allow for continued tree planting over the upcoming four to five years.

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.

Ms. Nancy Logan, 69 Maple Avenue, Morris Plains, New Jersey, stated she enjoys residing in Morris Plains very much and also thanked the Council for a variety of recent actions; for example, prohibiting left turns at a certain location along Maple Avenue. She lives near the Quick Chek.

Ms. Logan stated the primary reason she is at this meeting tonight relates to a feral cat issue. She detailed her concerns regarding feral cats on her property and in her neighborhood and her interactions with Animal Control in efforts to resolve the issue.

Ms. Logan also recounted discussions with Mayor Druetzler about her offering to help organize a way to adopt out such cats and kittens before they reach the shelter since the shelter is often very crowded and Animal Control is overwhelmed. She visited the shelter to observe first hand what the situation was.

She wondered if there is something else the Borough can do to help Animal Control and also educate the Borough's residents; she is willing to assist with this effort. Having read about feral cats, she now realizes this is a growing problem throughout the United States. She would like to something different than what currently exists.

Mayor Druetzler referenced an article regarding feral cats was published in *Plains Talk* recently.

Mayor Druetzler explained that feeding the cats will beget more cats. This problem has occurred in other Borough neighborhoods, too.

Mayor Druetzler advised he will ask Diane Rochford, who lives in the Borough and who is very involved with animal situations, if she can provide assistance to Ms. Logan. He asked for Ms. Logan's telephone number.

Ms. Logan provided her call telephone number stating she will do whatever she can to help this project.

Mayor Druetzler explained about the cats picked up who had ringworm and the effect it has had on Animal Control.

Councilmember McCluskey stated Animal Control said this has never happened to her in all the years she has been doing this work.

Ms. Logan advised she contacted other facilities and they all mentioned having ringworm problems, too. She further stated that part of the problem is that the Denville Shelter does not have a designated quarantine/isolation area for animals with contagious diseases, including ones caught in the wild, completely separate from the area for adoptions.

Mayor Druetzler stated that he will ask Councilmember Mangravite to speak with Animal Control and in the meantime he will also contact Diane Rochford to determine if she can assist Ms. Logan.

Councilmember Mangravite advised he has asked Ms. Logan to attend next Wednesday's Board of Health meeting.

Ms. Logan confirmed she will be at the Board of Health meeting.

Mayor Druetzler stated Ms. Logan is stating a rational concern and trying to find a solution. Diane Rochford has helped the Borough several times, and she has a tremendous passion for all kinds of animals, not just cats and dogs.

Ms. Logan replied she wants to be a help in any aspect of this town; she would put in the time and energy. She thanked the Council for its time and attention to this situation. She definitely will be at the Board of Health meeting this coming Wednesday.

Mayor Druetzler thanked Ms. Logan for her input.

Seeing no one else wanting to address the Governing Body, he closed this portion of the meeting to the public.

## **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND/OR DEPARTMENT HEADS**

### **Finance**

Councilmember Karr advised there is a Special Election on October 16<sup>th</sup> 2013 and on October 19<sup>th</sup> 2013 the Library will hold its shredding event from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon..

### **Public Safety**

Councilmember McCluskey stated that October is Fire Prevention and Public Safety Month. She reported on the most recent meeting of the Roberts Garden Commission, and a variety of trees were selected and the list of trees was given to the Shade Tree Commission for fall planting under the No Net Loss Program. At this meeting Nancy Critchley provided an update on the progress of the Rotary Club-Robert Gardens signage project; it may be possible to include the new trees planted this fall, too. The Farmers Market will be open for two more Saturdays. A local artist will demonstrate acrylic painting techniques on both Saturdays; he is also offering a class for the Recreation Commission. On the last Saturday, the Scouts will be taking orders for holiday greens and the Mom's Club will host a lemonade stand to support the charity Alex's Lemonade Stand. Two of the vendors at the Farmers Market often donate unsold food to the Jersey Battered Women's Shelter.

Chief Thompson presented his report, including a Take Back the Drugs event at Stop & Shop on Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup> 2013, from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. He then provided an update on the Central Avenue traffic issues stating that the Park Police will assist with these efforts.

Mayor Druetzler thanked Chief Thompson for the efforts concerning Central Avenue.

### **Public Works**

Councilmember Cecala commented on Superintendent Signorelli's report. The deer cull now numbers 11, all does. The numbers are somewhat lower due to the weather. Mr. Hall is not at tonight's meeting.

### **Public Buildings & Grounds**

Councilmember Fu presented her report, including that the Recreation townwide garage sale days are on Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> 2013. A total of 86 sale sites are on the list, one of them being the Teen Center. The booklets will be available and distributed at various locations around the Borough. She provided details about the Bonfire that is set for Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup> 2013. At the Recreation Commission's

last meeting the Fee Schedule was discussed, and several recommendations will be made for Fee Schedule changes. The basketball court at the Pool is in and looks great.

Continuing, Councilmember Fu discussed Shade Tree Commission issues and activities. Planting will begin soon at approximately 40 residential sites and in the parks where 20 trees will be planted. She also advised there will be a Sustain the Plains Committee meeting on October 22<sup>nd</sup> 2013.

Councilmember Cecala asked if more volunteers are needed to distribute garage sale maps/flyers. He is willing to help out as needed.

Mayor Druetzler advised he will be doing from 9:00 A.M., but needs to leave to attend the 10:00 A.M. ribbon cutting ceremony at Regalo. Kevin will replace him at that time.

### **Public Welfare, Sanitation & Sewers**

Councilmember Mangravite reported on the Teen Center's participation in the townwide garage sales on Saturday and on Sunday they will collect food for the Interfaith Food Pantry and will be at Stop & Shop from 12:00 Noon to 4:00 P.M. The Municipal Alliance is planning for Drug-Free School Week and will attend the next Council meeting in connection with a proclamation on their behalf. He mentioned Mr. Andy Jensen who dismantles the appliances at the Recycling Center, the new contract, the new schedule of pricing that now includes a pick-up charge against a cents per pound reimbursement. The work done by Mr. Jensen allows tighter packing and thus is a help in this process.

Continuing, Councilmember Mangravite stated The Flu Clinic was yesterday with 111 participants versus in 60 in 2012. From a health point of view the turnout was excellent even though there were some logistical problems due to so many more attendees than anticipated. Wellness Day will be held on Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup> 2013, from 8:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. There will be four to ten exhibitors this year for the first time.

Mayor Druetzler commented that the Flu Clinic was indeed very successful. Some people left due to long lines. Due to its popularity, this event next year will require some adjustments and personnel.

Councilmember Mangravite believes the website and greater distribution of the initial flyer were primarily responsible for the greater Flu Clinic turnout.

### **Ordinance & Public Utilities**

Councilmember Coogan reported that First Energy Corporation, the parent of Jersey Central Power and Light has developed a website that allows for reporting of street light outages. He explained what needs to be done to do this. He believes it is working very well compared to past actions (or lack thereof). He also reported that his review of electrical bill payouts to the end of September through the end of the third quarter shows the Borough is running about \$20,000 less than last year. The work done to replace air conditioning units, controls on air conditioning units, and use of energy-efficient lighting is starting to pay off.

The Beautification Committee met last night, and he reported they have delivered approximately 250 pounds of vegetables to the Interfaith Food Pantry this season. Their January meeting will include discussion of possible projects for 2014, including replanting the area around the sign board.

Councilmember McCluskey stated this summer several people asked about the garden from Randolph. They are going to do their garden in Randolph.

Councilmember advised that Mr. George Ross and Mr. Dave Banks met with these people recently and they will try to have their garden installed by spring 2014.

Mayor Druetzler commented that the Beautification Committee has done a wonderful job this year.

### **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**

None.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

### **VOUCHERS**

None.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

Councilmember Mangravite moved to adjourn at 9:12 P.M.

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

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Frank J. Druetzler, Mayor

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June R. Uhrin, Borough Clerk