

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Borough Council held December 30th, 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

None.

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. 2013-154 entitled "APPROVING SETTLEMENT ON APPEAL FROM ASSESSMENT BOROUGH OF MORRIS PLAINS adv. THE PROVIDENT BANK, BLOCK 23, LOT 2 – 381 SPEEDWELL AVENUE, DOCKET NO.: 005389-2012; 005938-2013," be adopted as attached.

THAT the Resolution No. 2013-155 entitled "RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT H.R. 3685/S. 1798, CLARIFYING THAT VOLUNTEER FIRST RESPONDERS ARE NOT EMPLOYEES UNDER THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT," be adopted as attached.

THAT the Resolution No. 2013-156 entitled "RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE STATE LEGISLATURE AND THE GOVERNOR TO ENACT S. 3112," be adopted as attached.

THAT the Resolution No. 2013-157 entitled "APPROVING SETTLEMENT ON APPEAL FROM ASSESSMENT BRAZZEL, WILLIAM & DEBORAH adv. MORRIS PLAINS BOROUGH, BLOCK 27, LOT 24 – 566-568 SPEEDWELL AVENUE, MORRIS COUNTY DOCKET NO.: 2011; 000389-2012; 2013, OUR FILE NO.: 8281, 8669, 9277," be adopted as attached.

THAT the Resolution No. 2013-158 entitled “APPROVING SETTLEMENT ON APPEAL FROM ASSESSMENT BRAZZEL, WILLIAM & DEBORAH adv. MORRIS PLAINS BOROUGH, BLOCK 27, LOT 22 – 2 GLENBROOK ROAD, MORRIS COUNTY DOCKET NO.: 012860-2011; 013606-2012; - 2013, OUR FILE NO.: 8281, 8669, 9277,” be adopted as attached.

THAT having received bids through an online website for public electric service and street light service for 2014-2015, that a two-year contract be awarded to Tri Eagle Energu LP, and that the Mayor and Clerk be and they are hereby authorized to execute the contract.

THAT the Resolution No. 2013-159 entitled “POLICE DEPARTMENT SALARIES,” be adopted as attached.

THAT the Resolution No. 2013-160 entitled “DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS SALARIES,” be adopted as attached.

THAT the resignation of Hal Bermingham, Community Center employee, be accepted, effective December 31st 2013.

THAT John T. Signorelli be promoted to Master Senior Mechanic, granted the appropriate hourly increase, effective January 1st 2014.

THAT a meeting of the Borough Council be held on Thursday, January 9th 2014 at 8:30 p.m. and that the Clerk provide the proper notice.

Seconded by Councilmember Karr.

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. Seeing no one, he closed the public portion of this meeting.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND/OR DEPARTMENT HEADS

Finance

Councilmember Karr advised he had no report.

Public Safety

Councilmember McCluskey advised she had no report. However, she mentioned that on Christmas Eve the Police Chief had no e-mail capability through the Borough. The Chief advised that Moto and Mondesh worked tirelessly to resolve the problem, letting the Chief know that they would continue to investigate why this problem occurred.

Public Works

Councilmember Cecala advised he had no report.

Public Buildings & Grounds

Councilmember Fu stated she had no report. She thanked Mr. Bermingham for his years of service to the Borough and the Community Center.

Public Welfare, Sanitation & Sewers

Councilmember Mangravite reported that the meeting with Denville regarding animal control will be held on January 9th 2014 at 4:30 p.m. They have agreed to accept the Borough’s payment for the euthanasia of cats.

Ordinance & Public Utilities

Councilmember Coogan advised he had no report. He provided information concerning the contract with Tri Eagle Energy LP advising he anticipates a 12 to 14 percent reduction for street lighting.

PRESENTATION OF COMMUNICATION, PETITIONS, ETC.

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

Mayor Druetzler advised that American Road will be paved and asked for the Council's opinion on an issue relating to this project: Should the gas service be brought behind the curb?

The consensus was that this was a good idea. Mayor Druetzler advised he will contact Mr. Hall to ask that he contact Public Service on this matter. He also provided additional details about the road paving project.

Continuing, Mayor Druetzler advised of a retail store Grand Opening date change. Instead of this event being on Monday, January 6th, it will now be held on Sunday, January 5th at 12:00 Noon. All Councilmembers are invited to attend.

On Saturday, January 4th, there will be a Blood Drive at the Presbyterian Church beginning at 7:30 a.m. The second person to walk through the door to donate blood will represent the 10,000th pint of blood to be donated since Larry Ripley and the Rotary Club have been coordinating these drives. Mayor Druetzler hoped that a Councilmember could be at the drive at 7:30 a.m. to be able to a part of this event. Having a camera available would be a great idea, too.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None.

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

None.

RESOLUTIONS

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Hearing – Community Development
Home Investment Partnerships Program Application

Mayor Druetzler advised this matter relates to the recent presentation from Madison. A total of \$200,000 is being requested.

Councilmember McCluskey provided commentary in connection with this issue. There are changes since the presentation was given, but there can be modifications, and there does not need to be any kind of an agreement with Madison prior to the application being made. A Councilmember must be present when the application is discussed to indicate the Council is in favor of this application. This application must be submitted by January 10th 2014 in order to be considered.

Mayor Druetzler advised it was prepared by Madison and that Madison will be making the presentation(s). There is a Resolution that must be passed, and the Clerk must do all the usual notifications.

Councilmember McCluskey moved

THAT Resolution No. 2013-161, "RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)/HOME GRANT APPLICATIONS," be adopted as attached.

Seconded by Councilmember Mangravite.

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

VOUCHERS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Councilmember Coogan:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Resolution No. 2013-162 entitled "Executive Session" be adopted.

Seconded by Councilmember McCluskey So ordered.

Councilmember Mangravite excused at 8:52 pm
Councilmember Mangravite returned at 9:10 pm

Councilmember Coogan moved that the Executive Session be adjourned.

Seconded by Councilmember Cecala.

All in favor.

Councilmember Karr moved

THAT Resolution No. 2013-163, "SALARIES FOR REGULAR FULL TIME AND PART TIME EMPLOYEES," be adopted as attached.

Seconded by Councilmember Coogan.

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

Councilmember McCluskey moved that the Regular Meeting be adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Seconded by Councilmember Cecala.

Frank J. Druetzler, Mayor

June R. Uhrin, Borough Clerk