

March 2, 2015

Meeting Called to Order

The public meeting convened at 7:00 PM.

In accordance with the requirements of Section 4(a) of C.231, P.L. 1975, the required 48 hour advance notice of this meeting was given by mailing/faxing a copy of the agenda to the Asbury Park Press and the Two River Times, in addition, to posting on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on February 27, 2015 by the Municipal Clerk.

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Burden, Council Members DeNofa, DerAsadourian, DeSalvo & Pellegrino
Also Present: Borough Attorney Martin Barger, Borough Administrator Thomas Seaman, Clerk Kathleen Krueger & Deputy Clerk Bonnie Brookes
Absent: Council Members Dodge & Meyer

Salute to Flag

Led by Council Mayor Burden

Approval of Minutes: Borough Council Meeting February 17th 2015

Councilman DeNofa motioned to approve the February 17th Council Minutes, seconded by Councilman Pellegrino, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: DerAsadourian, DeSalvo & Pellegrino
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: DeNofa

Discussion of Emergency Road Conditions at Avenue of the Commons

Mr. Seaman explained that the Borough Engineer, Dave Cranmer, was concerned over the road conditions on Avenue of the Commons and explained that if the Borough does not deal with these serious road conditions it will be more costly to repair in the future. He noted that he filed the appropriate paperwork for an emergency purchase required under the purchasing policy. Mr. Seaman added that the Borough has money available for these repairs. Councilman Pellegrino clarified that these were minor repairs to keep traffic moving which Councilman DeSalvo confirmed.

Councilman Pellegrino motioned to authorize emergency repairs not to exceed \$18,000 for Avenue of the Commons roadwork, seconded by Councilman DeNofa, and approved by the following vote:

*AYES: DeNofa, DerAsadourian, DeSalvo & Pellegrino
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None*

Resolution #2015-27 (Emergency Temporary Budget)

Mr. Seaman explained that this temporary budget for the next quarter will remain in place until the budget is adopted. He explained how the amount was determined and noted that it included the full amount for the year in pensions and debt service which is allowed. Councilman

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Pellegrino motioned to approve Resolution #2015-27, seconded by Councilman DeNofa, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: DeNofa, DerAsadourian, DeSalvo & Pellegrino
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

Resolution #2015-28 (Appropriation Transfer #4)

Mr. Seaman explained that this was a standard transfer. DeNofa motioned to approve Resolution #2015-28, seconded by Councilman Pellegrino, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: DeNofa, DerAsadourian, DeSalvo & Pellegrino
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

Resolution #2015-29 (Length of Service Award Program 2014 for Active Fire & First Aid Members)

Councilman DeSalvo noted that the resolution included a list of members who were eligible. Councilman DeSalvo motioned to approve Resolution #2015-29, seconded by Councilwoman DerAsadourian, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: DeNofa, DerAsadourian & DeSalvo
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: Pellegrino

Mayoral Appointment to Local Emergency Planning Committee: Anthony Hernandez
Mayor Burden appointed Mr. Hernandez to the Local Emergency Planning Committee.

Proclamation in Recognition of Read Across America

Mayor Burden read the proclamation in full supporting the Read Across America annual event.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Seaman stated that Bond Counsel informed him that the Borough could save \$38,000 by doing a refunding issue with a bond from 2008 through the Monmouth County Improvement Authority. He noted how a refunding issue works and how it will save the Borough money.

Councilman Pellegrino motioned to authorize that an ordinance be prepared, seconded by Councilwoman DerAsadourian, and approved by the following vote:

*AYES: DeNofa, DerAsadourian, DeSalvo & Pellegrino
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None*

Mr. Seaman noted the deadline for the newsletter and updated the Council on sidewalk snow removal in the Borough. He informed the Council that the Borough received a letter from the State DEP Green Acres Program about a complaint filed concerning Patterson Avenue Park but no further details were available. He stated that he would be sending a letter to Green Acres to request more information on the complaint.

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Reports of Council

Councilman DeNofa reported the DPW is waiting for two more estimates to replace the roof. He stated that Ron Neis would be starting classes to become a Certified Public Works Manager. Councilman DeNofa stated that the meeting with the Borough Engineer was postponed to March 16th. He noted speed limit signs have been ordered to replace the missing ones on Patterson Avenue.

Councilwoman DerAsadourian stated that she would like to form a committee responsible for overseeing the Borough's vehicles in order to assess any future needs for the budget. She explained why she felt this was necessary. Mayor Burden stated that he did not feel this warranted a committee but could go through Mr. Seaman. The Council discussed the issue, how it should be handled, and who if anyone should take charge of it. The Council agreed that they would like a detailed bi-annual vehicle report on the condition of the Borough's vehicles including the mileage and maintenance costs.

Councilman DeSalvo reported on the Community Alliance's Symposium for parents on heroin and internet safety. He stated that the Borough's First Aid and Police were now carrying Narcan canisters. Councilman Pellegrino noted that they have had to use Narcan twice since receiving it. Councilman DeSalvo also noted that the website is almost ready.

Councilman Pellegrino reported that the Council received the proposed budget and that we would like to introduce it by April. He stated that the Community Garden is almost at full capacity with the plot registration.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Burden reported that the Borough Directory has been mailed and thanked the Borough staff. He reviewed the meetings and events he had attended in the previous two weeks. He also informed the Council of upcoming events such as the SPTG Gala and Rumson's St. Patrick's Day Parade which many Borough groups were invited to participate in.

Correspondence

Municipal Clerk Krueger stated the Borough received correspondence from Paint the Town Pink organizers requesting the Borough's participation by hanging a banner and supporting this endeavor. Mayor Burden decided that Councilman DeSalvo would be the point person for the event.

Open the Meeting to the Public

Councilman DeSalvo motioned to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Councilwoman DerAsadourian and approved by all members present.

Stuart Minis, 35 Thomas Avenue, Shrewsbury asked if the Borough would be passing an ordinance concerning any vacant and abandoned properties. Mayor Burden stated that it was decided that the current ordinance is adequate but more enforcement of it was needed. He noted that dealing with these properties can be very difficult considering all the parties involved but that they are moving rapidly on one of them. Mr. Minis informed the Council that there is an

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abandoned property on the south side of Thomas Avenue that is across from his house which has been vacant for several years. He stated that there is a sign that the house has been winterized but there is no basement window. Mayor Burden stated that the Borough would look into it.

Mr. Minis stated that the school crossing sign on the corner of Birch Drive and Patterson Avenue is on the ground. He also asked if the shoveling ordinance applied to commercial properties as well since many businesses on Broad Street have not shoveled. Councilman DeNofa stated that they were also covered by the ordinance. Mayor Burden noted that many times those businesses will shovel only to have their sidewalks covered again by the snow pushed up by the plows.

Mr. Minis asked when the agenda for the Council meeting was published. Clerk Krueger stated that the papers are just notified of the meeting's agenda but they are not published. Mr. Minis stated that he has a hard time getting the agendas off the Borough's website. Clerk Krueger informed Mr. Minis that to fix his problem he needs to delete his browser history and Deputy Clerk Brookes also noted that a direct link to the agendas are posted on the Borough's Facebook page.

Marjorie Clark, 213 Garden Road, Shrewsbury, said she had heard that taxes went up this year. Mr. Seaman informed Ms. Clark that this year's tax rate has not been set yet but noted that many people's tax assessments did go up. He further explained that the tax bills are not decided until July. Ms. Clark asked if the Borough thought there would be an increase. Council explained that they did not think there would be a tax increase last year but were blindsided by the size of the regional school tax. Ms. Clark was invited by Council to attend the budget workshop and noted that they hoped to have a date at the next meeting. Ms. Clark asked about the status of this year's regional school taxes and the dialog between the Council and the school. Councilman Pellegrino noted that the Borough has no say in the school tax rate. He added that the Borough has two elected officials that sit on the Board of Education which helps to determine the tax rate for the regional school. Ms. Clark asked if the school was doing anything about the issue. Attorney Barger noted that the state has made it clear that they will not do anything.

Ms. Clark asked if there was a reason the lights on Beechwood Drive were out. Councilman DeNofa explained that the lights are being worked on but the ground needs to thaw first since the work is more complicated than the other light pillars.

Ms. Clark stated that after the sleet that fell the night before she felt badly for people with sidewalks. She noted that her wreath from Christmas is under all the snow and asked what will happen when the snow melts. She was concerned that she would be found in violation. The Council informed her that it would be picked up by DPW when the snow melts.

Close the Meeting to the Public

Councilman DeNofa motioned to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Councilman DeSalvo and approved by all members present.

Payment of the Bills

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Councilman Pellegrino motioned to approve the bills list in the amount of \$1,115,383.48 seconded by Councilman DeSalvo, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: DeNofa, DerAsadourian, DeSalvo & Pellegrino

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

Adjourn

Councilman DeNofa motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:55PM, seconded by Councilman Pellegrino, and approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes.

Attest: _____
Kathleen P. Krueger, RMC – Municipal Clerk

Approve: _____
Mayor Donald Burden