

BOROUGH OF BERNARDSVILLE
Mayor & Borough Council Meeting
September 8, 2008

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Lee Honecker at 7:00 p.m. on September 8. Present were Denis J. Dooley II, Charlotte J. Foster, John McCrossan (arrived at 7:05), Edward McDowell, Joseph Rossi and Kevin Sooy. Also present were Borough Attorney John R. Pidgeon, Esquire, Ralph Maresca, Administrator/CMFO, and Sandra G. Jones, Borough Clerk/Assistant Administrator.

STATEMENT OF PRESIDING OFFICER

Notice of this meeting was provided to the Bernardsville News, Courier News and the Star Ledger, filed with the Municipal Clerk and posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board on December 18, 2007.

OPEN SESSION

Richard Tompeck, Crest Drive resident, complained about the condition of Crest Drive. Mayor Honecker said this matter was discussed at the last Public Works Committee meeting and that repairs before the end of 2008 are a possibility using funds reallocated from the Olcott Avenue project. Mr. Tompeck was advised that the Public Works Committee will make a recommendation to the Borough Council shortly.

Neil Schetelick, Housing Committee, thanked Council for their support, and asked when redesign of the borough website will be done? He recommended that department heads provide a wish list of things to be included in order to estimate cost. Councilman Sooy suggested exploring alternative IT help through the prison system, the high school and Raritan Valley College.

Messrs. Schetelick and DiGiacchino expressed concerns regarding term limits for members of the Housing Committee; Mr. Pidgeon explained that members can be reappointed. Mr. DiGiacchino commended Neil Schetelick for his work in the housing area. Mayor Honecker closed the public session.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Ordinances

Mr. McCrossan moved that **#08-1494, AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$15,000 FROM THE RECREATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF BACKSTOP AT KIWANIS FIELD**, be introduced by title, passed on first reading, published according to law, and that a public hearing be scheduled for a meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m., September 22, 2008. Mrs. Foster seconded and the motion was approved by six yes votes.

Mr. McDowell moved that **#08-1495, AN ORDINANCE INCREASING BASE SALARIES OF NON-CONTRACTUAL EMPLOYEES**, be introduced by title, passed on first reading, published

according to law, and that a public hearing be scheduled for a meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m., September 22, 2008. Mr. Sooy seconded and the motion was approved with six yes votes.

Resolutions

- #08-145 AUTHORIZING A PAY ADJUSTMENT FOR RICHARD McCORRY, SPECIAL OFFICER**
- #08-146 APPOINTING SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS**
- #08-147 APPROVING LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP IN MORRIS UNION FEDERATION (MUF)**
- #08-148 AUTHORIZING REFUNDS OF POLICE OFF-DUTY ESCROW FUND BALANCES**
- #08-149 AUTHORIZING REFUND OF ESCROW FEES**
- #08-150 PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE 2008 BUDGET (Chapter 159)**
- #08-151 AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS**
- #08-152 AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #2 TO THE CONTRACT FOR OLCOTT SQUARE/ROUTE 202 STREETScape PROJECT - FLAG POLE**
- #08-153 AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #3 TO THE CONTRACT FOR OLCOTT SQUARE/ROUTE 202 STREETScape PROJECT - EXTENSION OF TIME TO COMPLETE CONTRACT**
- #08-154 AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #1 TO THE CONTRACT FOR OLCOTT AVENUE ROAD AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS**
- #08-155 AMENDING RECREATION FEES**

Mr. Sooy moved approval of Resolutions #08-146 through #08-151 listed herein by title. Mr. Rossi seconded and the motion was approved upon a call of the roll:

Mr. Dooley	Yes	Mr. McDowell	Yes
Mrs. Foster	Yes	Mr. Rossi	Yes
Mr. McCrossan	Yes	Mr. Sooy	Yes

Resolutions #08-145 and #08-153 were held for review in executive session.

Resolutions #08-152, #08-154 and #08-155 were discussed, then Mr. Rossi moved approval. Mr. Sooy seconded the motion, which was approved as follows:

Mr. Dooley	*	Mr. McDowell	Yes
Mrs. Foster	Yes	Mr. Rossi	Yes
Mr. McCrossan	Yes	Mr. Sooy	Yes

*Mr. Dooley, as resident of Olcott Avenue, voted yes on #08-152 and #08-155, but abstained from voting on #08-154.

Review fee for conceptual plans

Consideration of this topic was tabled to the September 22 meeting, and in the meantime, a survey of fees charged by other local governments will be done.

Refund request from Jessica Walker

Ms. Walker’s request for a refund of pool membership fees (\$780) was denied by the Recreation Committee. Ms. Walker then appealed that decision to the Borough Council. After review, the group was polled on the question should a refund be approved? There were four no votes (McDowell, Sooy, Foster, McCrossan), therefore no refund was approved. Mr. Dooley favored a partial refund. Mr. Rossi abstained. It was noted for the record that this decision is consistent with current policy.

Shelter at Pine Street playground

Mr. Rossi said that the roof stored near the pool has been moved by flatbed truck to the quarry until a decision can be made about utilizing it to cover a shelter at Pine Street. The Recreation Committee meets on Tuesday night and should make a decision at that time. The possibility of grounding for the structure was discussed and it was agreed to seek the opinion of the electrical inspector.

Appointments to Housing Advisory Committee

Mayor Honecker appointed Scott Ritchie and Robert Marasco. Mr. McCrossan moved approval and the motion was seconded by Mr. Sooy. There were five yes votes for both candidates. Mr. Rossi voted yes for Mr. Ritchie and no for Mr. Marasco.

CLOSED SESSION

It was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved to adjourn to an Executive Session to consider the PBA Contract negotiations, the Nova Crete Contract, matters of personnel, and JCP&L poles (under the pending or anticipated litigation exception), and that the time when and circumstances under which the matters can be disclosed to the public is when they are finally resolved.

REOPEN

It was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved to reopen the meeting to the public.

Mr. Rossi moved approval of Resolution #08-145, **AUTHORIZING A PAY ADJUSTMENT FOR RICHARD MC CORRY, SPECIAL OFFICER.** Mr. McCrossan seconded the motion which was approved with six yes votes.

Mrs. Foster moved approval of Resolution #08-153, **AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #3 TO THE CONTRACT FOR OLCOTT SQUARE/ROUTE 202 STREETSCAPE PROJECT – EXTENSION OF TIME TO COMPLETE CONTRACT.** Mr. McCrossan seconded the motion which was approved with five yes votes. Mr. Rossi voted no.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Foster moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 p.m. Mr. McDowell seconded the motion which was approved with six yes votes.

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keywords: crest-drive-repairs-housing-website-recreation-salaries-library-finance-streetscape-downtown-project-olcott-drainage-improvements-plans-playground-refund