

BOROUGH OF BERNARDSVILLE
Mayor & Borough Council Meeting Agenda
December 28, 2009

The meeting of the Governing Body was called to order by Mayor Honecker at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 28, 2009. Present were Joseph DeMarco, Charlotte J. Foster, John McCrossan, Edward McDowell, and Joseph Rossi. Also present were Borough Attorney John R. Pidgeon, Esquire, Ralph Maresca, Administrator/CMFO, and Anthony Suriano, Deputy Borough Clerk. Kevin Sooy was absent.

STATEMENT OF PRESIDING OFFICER

Notice of this meeting provided to the Bernardsville News, Courier News and the Star Ledger, filed with the Municipal Clerk and posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board on January 6, 2009.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - was recited by all present

PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Honecker read a proclamation thanking the members and volunteers of the Bernardsville ad hoc Highlands Evaluation Committee for their dedication and hard work on behalf of the Borough.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. McCrossan had a change to the executive session minutes of December 14th and asked that it be discussed in executive session. Mrs. Foster moved to accept the minutes of the meetings held November 10th (Council Member McDowell was absent), November 23 and December 14, except the executive portion of December 14th. Mr. Rossi seconded and the motion was approved with five yes votes.

OPEN SESSION

Mayor Honecker opened the public session. Terry Thompson said Paul Ferriero is finalizing maps for the Bernardsville Highlands Committee, which show subdividable plots under current Bernardsville zoning; subdividable plots using the septic density standards under the Highlands Regional Master Plan; and subdividable plots using the expected septic density standards of the County Wastewater Plan. These maps will be displayed in the Bernardsville Library during the month of January.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

This executive session, as listed on the agenda, was tabled to a future meeting.

ORDINANCES (none)

RESOLUTIONS

- #09-203 MAKING JENNY LIN PART-TIME**
- #09-205 ACCEPTING MONTHLY REPORTS**
- #09-206 AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF FUNDS**
- #09-207 APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Mrs. Foster moved that **Resolutions #09-203, and #09-205 thru #09-207**, listed herein by title, be hereby approved. Mr. Rossi seconded and the motion was approved upon a roll call vote:

Mr. DeMarco	Yes	Mr. McDowell	Yes
Mrs. Foster	Yes	Mr. Rossi	Yes
Mr. McCrossan	Yes	Mr. Sooy	Absent

Resolution #09-208, Canceling ‘09 Current Fund Appropriations to Surplus. Mr. McCrossan said this resolution reduces the operating budget by \$70,000. Mr. McCrossan moved to adopt Resolution #09-208. Mrs. Foster seconded and the motion was approved upon a roll call vote:

Mr. DeMarco	Yes	Mr. McDowell	No
Mrs. Foster	Yes	Mr. Rossi	No
Mr. McCrossan	Yes	Mr. Sooy	Absent

Resolution #09-204, Approving Membership in The Fire Company, was held to executive session.

REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL ATTORNEY

Mr. Pidgeon’s report was reviewed. The downtown project will be discussed in executive session.

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Safety - Mr. Rossi said the executive session regarding a grievance that was tabled tonight, will be discussed at the January work meeting. Mr. Rossi said a school resource officer is important and he would like talk about the funding and go forward at the January work meeting. Mr. McCrossan mentioned a letter written to the Courier News by Chief Valentine in support of a school resource officer, and asked if permission for the letter was granted by the borough. Mr. Pidgeon said it is freedom of speech. Mr. Rossi said a review of the upper level of Old Fort Road for sidewalks

and stop signs is necessary. He suggested a professional service contract with RBA Group for analysis.

Finance - Mr. McCrossan mentioned the adoption of Resolution #09-208 at tonight's meeting which reduces the operating budget by \$70,000.

Personnel - No report, Mr. Sooy was absent.

Engineering, Technology & Public Works - Mr. McDowell reported that Oak Ridge Road drainage will be finished after the holidays, then curbing and asphalt will follow. All other 2009 projects are complete. Library lighting should be complete either this week or next. Ferriero will have a road study done by February. Mr. Rossi suggested curbing in the spring since it is better weather. Mr. DeMarco said that can be discussed with John Macdowall.

(Quarterly reports)

Cable TV - Mr. Rossi said cameras for the meeting room will be discussed with the cable company.

Board of Health - Mr. McDowell mentioned the Board held a meeting tonight.

Environmental Commission - Mr. DeMarco said at their last meeting discussion took place on the Highlands, and plan and site reviews.

Information Systems - Mr. Rossi reported about possibly putting drivers in place in January.

Open Space Committee - No meeting took place to report on.

Planning Board - Mrs. Foster said that Historic Preservation and the Planning Board are working together, along with architects, on subdivisions.

Recreation Committee - Mr. McCrossan said winter programs and basketball registration are ongoing.

Shade Tree Advisory Committee - No report, Mr. Sooy was absent.

HPAC - Mrs. Foster said Dan Lincoln will come to council regarding the dumpster ordinance.

Insurance - Mr. McDowell said there was no meeting in December, and JIF reorganization is in January. In November, Harding joined the JIF while Bound Brook was denied membership.

Housing Committee - No report, Mr. Sooy was absent.

Library Board of Trustees - Mr. McCrossan said the lights are almost done and should be completed by mid January. The library budget will be discussed in January.

Sustainable Jersey - Mrs. Foster said on March 9th there will be a public event at the library where the green team will be introduced and Sustainable Jersey will be discussed. Mrs. Foster is looking at the energy audit along with Eric Stiles. Specs from the county may be needed.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Reorganization - Mayor Honecker mentioned Jeff Sailliard is no longer on Shade Tree. Terry Thompson will move to Class IV on the Planning Board and Alice Rochat will move to Class II on the Planning Board. Philip Pitney will be reappointed to HPAC. Linda Kragie will move from Alternate #1 to a regular member of HPAC, creating an vacancy at Alternate #1.

Ten Towns membership - Mayor Honecker will ask Terry Thompson to write a benefits analysis to help decide on membership. This topic will be tabled, but no future meeting date was given.

OPEN SESSION

Mayor Honecker opened the public session. With no comments or questions from the public, Mayor Honecker closed the public session.

CLOSED SESSION

Mrs. Foster moved to adjourn to an executive session to consider anticipated litigation, and that the time when and circumstances under which the matters can be disclosed to the public is when they are finally resolved. Mr. McDowell seconded and the motion was approved with five yes votes.

REOPEN

Mr. Rossi moved to adopt **Resolution #09-204, Approving Membership in The Fire Company**. Mrs. Foster seconded and the motion was approved with five yes votes.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved and seconded at 8:25 p.m. Motion carried.

Anthony Suriano, Deputy Clerk

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keywords: highlands-finance-reorganization-ten-towns-school-resource-officer-library-lighting