

BOROUGH OF BERNARDSVILLE
Mayor & Borough Council Meeting Agenda
December 29, 2006 – 8:00 a.m.

A meeting of the Governing Body was called to order by Mayor Jay Parsons at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, December 29, 2006. Members of the Borough Council present were Denis J. Dooley, II, Charlotte Foster, Lee C. Honecker and Michael Landau. Joseph Rossi, Jr. and Mikael Salovaara were absent. Also present were Robert Clarke, Labor Counsel, Ralph A. Maresca, Jr., Administrator/C.M.F.O. and Sandra G. Jones, Borough Clerk/Assistant Administrator.

Mayor Parsons announced that 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 14, 2005.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Resolutions

- #06-245 **AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS**
- #06-246 **APPOINTING DEBORAH VAUGHN, PART-TIME, SUBSTITUTE SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD**
- #06-247 **APPOINTING RICHARD CUMMO, PART-TIME FINANCE/PURCHASE ORDER ENTRY CLERK**
- #06-248 **AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF FUNDS**
- #06-249 **AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH STORMWATER COMPLIANCE SOLUTIONS FOR STORM SEWER INLET MAPPING AND CLEANING**
- #06-250 **APPOINTING SCOTT CHERTOFF AS A FULL-TIME POLICE DISPATCHER**
- #06-251 **APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT TO SETTLE I.B.E.W. UNION CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS**
- #06-252 **AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN A GRANT APPLICATION FOR SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL**

Mr. Landau asked to remove Resolution #06-252 from the consent list above, to allow for discussion on said resolution. Mr. Honecker moved approval of Resolutions #06-245 through #06-251. Mrs. Foster seconded, and the motion was approved with four yes votes.

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Resolution #06-252

The Safe Routes to School grant application was discussed. Mr. Landau expressed concerns that the plan was not approved by this Council, that related, matching cost to the Borough could be higher than future budgets could provide, and with perception problems with future grants if the Borough proceeds to file this application, secures this grant, then declines to use it because of associated costs. Mr. Honecker disagreed that the plan was not approved, or reviewed by the Council, citing the work of, and reports on the progress of same from the Town and School Committee meetings. Mr. Landau produced a

spread sheet provided by John Macdowall, entitled “Total Costs of Improvements, Safe Routes to School Priority Roadways”, that indicated the estimated additional cost in addition to the roughly \$800,000 in the grant is another \$1.2 million for a total of \$2 million. Mr. Dooley asked if the Borough receives the grant, will the Borough be locked into proceeding as prioritized on the spread sheet? Mr. Macdowall said that R.B.A. Group does not think so; that the Borough will be able to make future decisions regarding priorities within the scope of project. Council Member elect John McCrossan spoke in favor of proceeding with the grant application. Chief Valentine provided history, which he said began at Town and School meetings when the need for new or improved sidewalks was discussed. Mayor Parsons asked for a resolution or motion to resolve this issue. Mr. Landau said he would vote for the project as long as the record clearly reflects his “concerns that the specific plan described in the grant has never been reviewed and/or approved by this governing body,” and with that proviso he voted to approve **Resolution #06-252, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN A GRANT APPLICATION FOR SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL.** Mr. Dooley seconded, and the motion was approved with four yes votes.

Vision Service Plan for the PBA

Chief Valentine discussed a voluntary vision plan available to PBA members at no cost to the Borough, with an open enrollment which concludes 1/1/07. The potential cost of administration of the plan was a concern, but because it was believed to be minimal, it was agreed to approve PBA participation. Mr. Dooley moved approval, Mr. Honecker seconded and the motion was adopted with four yes votes.

Patriot Media Traffic Control

Chief Valentine discussed a request to provide 6 to 8 hours of traffic control, free of charge, to Patriot Media while they perform work on the INET (offered by Patriot when they got approval to provide cable service in the town). Mr. Landau asked why Patriot asked for this exception to the ordinance which requires escrow deposits for outside work? Chief Valentine said Mr. Rossi asked if the police department could cover the work, but because of concerns about perception with doing so when others pay, the question was referred to Council, and, in the meantime, Patriot was provided with the package given to all outside contractors. Mr. Dooley moved that Patriot be required to pay the normal cost. Mr. Landau seconded, and the motion passed with three yes votes. Mr. Honecker voted no.

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Executive Session

Mr. Landau moved that the meeting be adjourned to an executive session to consider labor negotiations and that the time when and circumstances under which the above can be disclosed to the public is when the matter is finally resolved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dooley and approved with four yes votes. Robert Clarke, Esq., Labor Counsel, was present for this session.

Following discussion, Mr. Landau moved to reopen the meeting to the public. Mr. Dooley seconded and the motion was approved with four yes votes.

Reorganization agenda

A draft of the reorganization agenda was reviewed, one professional services contract was deleted on page four, and the Borough Clerk was authorized to provide an agenda for the meeting on January 3rd which is substantially the same as the one reviewed on this date.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved at 9:45 a.m., seconded, and approved with four yes votes.

Borough Clerk

keywords: finance-storm-sewer-union-school-vision-plan-traffic-reorganization

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