

**BOROUGH OF STOCKTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
APPROVED: 9/14/15**

**REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 10, 2015**

A Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton was called to order by Mayor Timothy Nemeth at 7:04 pm on August 10, 2015. The following members of the Borough Council were present: Mr. Tony Grecco, Mr. Adam Juncosa, Mrs. Kate Steffanelli and Mr. Donald Vandgrift. Mr. Aaron Lipsen and Mr. Nic Messina were absent. Borough Administrator/Clerk Michele Hovan and Chief Financial Officer Diane McDaniel were also present. There was one member of the public present.

Mayor Nemeth read the “Sunshine Statement” indicating the meeting was being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act and led the flag salute. Mayor Nemeth opened the meeting to the public. There being no questions or comments, the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Grecco, seconded Mrs. Steffanelli and carried.

Ordinance No. 15-05 – Second Reading/Public Hearing – Capital Ordinance – Mill Street Inlets
“CAPITAL ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF NEW OR REPLACEMENT DRAINAGE EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS ON MILL STREET IN THE BOROUGH OF STOCKTON, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF STOCKTON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, AND THE EXPENDITURE OF \$20,000.00 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE FINANCING THEREOF”

Ms. Hovan read Ordinance No. 15-05 by title and explained that ordinance funds the repairs to the deteriorated inlets on Mill Street. Mrs. Steffanelli said that she would like compensation from the contractor for the “shoddy work” and said that Hopewell Valley Engineering should produce documentation for what was signed off on. Mr. Grecco said in his 35 years of experience with storm drains, he believes the work was not up to specifications and that the contractor should “make good” on the contractor. Ms. Hovan relayed a message from Mr. Butler regarding the letter wherein he asked for specific language. A lively discussion ensued and Ms. Hovan said she would convey the sentiments of Council regarding the letter, that the contractor should compensate the Borough in a fair way. Mr. Grecco said that he wanted to be present when the repairs are scheduled so that he can oversee the work. Ms. Hovan said that she would relay the same to the Borough Engineer.

Mayor Nemeth opened the meeting to the public. There being no questions or comments, the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Vandegrift, seconded by Mr. Juncosa and carried.

Resolution No. 2015-58, as filed in the Borough Clerk’s office and to adopt Ordinance No. 15-04, was adopted on motion by Mr. Vandegrift, seconded by Mr. Juncosa and carried.

Roll Call: Ayes: Grecco, Juncosa, Steffanelli, Vandegrift
 Nays: None
 Absent: Lipsen, Messina
 Abstain: None

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Ordinance No. 15-06 – Second Reading/Public Hearing – Wilson Drive Trash Rack Engineering and Legal Expenses

“CAPITAL ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE CERTAIN SECTION 20 EXPENSES, INCLUDING ENGINEERING AND LEGAL SERVICES IN CONJUNCTION WITH STORM WATER CONTROL EQUIPMENT ON WILSON DRIVE IN THE BOROUGH OF STOCKTON, FOR USE BY THE BOROUGH OF STOCKTON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, AND THE EXPENDITURE OF \$6,000.00 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE FINANCING THEREOF”

Ms. Hovan read Ordinance No. 15-06 by title and explained that the ordinance funds engineering design and legal expenses for the upgraded trash rack on Wilson Drive. A lengthy debate followed regarding Mr. Grecco’s concern’s that the County won’t maintain the structure. Mr. Grecco said he disagreed with spending Borough funds when the trash rack is the County’s responsibility. Mayor Nemeth and Ms. Hovan recapped the meeting earlier in the year with the County Engineer in that if the Borough would come up with a design, he’d be willing to present the project to the Freeholders for funding. Ms. Hovan explained that the County does require there be easements in place for the work and said there has been a lack of willingness on the part of the property owner where access is required for maintenance. After further discussion regarding the public safety need for condemnation if necessary, the focus on the ordinance did proceed.

Mayor Nemeth opened the meeting to the public. There being no questions or comments the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Grecco, seconded by Mr. Vandegrift and carried.

Resolution No. 2015-59, as filed in the Borough Clerk’s office and to adopt Ordinance No. 15-06, was adopted on motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Vandegrift and carried.

Roll Call: Ayes: Grecco, Juncosa, Steffanelli, Vandegrift
 Nays: None
 Absent: Lipsen, Messina
 Abstain: None

Ordinance No. 15-07 – First Reading – Water Capital Ordinance – Utility Improvements

“CAPITAL ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF NEW OR REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS FOR USE BY THE STOCKTON BOROUGH WATER UTILITY, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF STOCKTON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, AND THE EXPENDITURE OF \$10,000.00 FROM THE WATER UTILITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE FINANCING THEREOF”

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“CAPITAL ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF NEW OR REPLACEMENT DRAINAGE EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS ON MILL STREET IN THE BOROUGH OF STOCKTON, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF STOCKTON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, AND THE EXPENDITURE OF \$20,000.00 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE FINANCING THEREOF”

Ms. Hovan read Ordinance No. 15-05 by title and explained that ordinance funds the repairs to the deteriorated inlets on Mill Street. Mrs. Steffanelli said that she would like compensation from the contractor for the “shoddy work” and said that Hopewell Valley Engineering should produce documentation for what was signed off on. Mr. Grecco said in his 35 years of experience with storm drains, he believes the work was not up to specifications and that the contractor should “make good” on the contractor. Ms. Hovan relayed a message from Mr. Butler regarding the letter wherein he asked for specific language. A lively discussion ensued and Ms. Hovan said she would convey the sentiments of Council regarding the letter, that the contractor should compensate the Borough in a fair way. Mr. Grecco said that he wanted to be present when the repairs are scheduled so that he can oversee the work. Ms. Hovan said that she would relay the same to the Borough Engineer.

Mayor Nemeth opened the meeting to the public. There being no questions or comments, the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Vandegrift, seconded by Mr. Juncosa and carried.

Resolution No. 2015-58, as filed in the Borough Clerk’s office and to adopt Ordinance No. 15-04, was adopted on motion by Mr. Vandegrift, seconded by Mr. Juncosa and carried.

Roll Call: Ayes: Grecco, Juncosa, Steffanelli, Vandegrift
 Nays: None
 Absent: Lipsen, Messina
 Abstain: None

Resolution No. 2015-60, as filed in the Borough Clerk’s office and to introduce Ordinance No. 15-07, was adopted on motion by Mr. Vandegrift, seconded by Mrs. Steffanelli and carried.

Roll Call: Ayes: Grecco, Juncosa, Steffanelli, Vandegrift
 Nays: None
 Absent: Lipsen, Messina
 Abstain: None

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Ordinance No. 15-08 – First Reading – Sewer Capital Ordinance – Utility Improvements
“CAPITAL ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF NEW OR REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS FOR USE BY THE STOCKTON BOROUGH SEWER UTILITY, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF STOCKTON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, AND THE EXPENDITURE OF \$10,000.00 FROM THE SEWER UTILITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE FINANCING THEREOF”

Ms. Hovan read Ordinance No. 15-08 by title. Resolution No. 2015-61, as filed in the Borough Clerk’s office and to introduce Ordinance No. 15-07, was adopted on motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mrs. Steffanelli and carried.

Roll Call: Ayes: Grecco, Juncosa, Steffanelli, Vandegrift
 Nays: None
 Absent: Lipsen, Messina
 Abstain: None

Claims for Payment – The Claims for Payment, as attached, were approved on motion by Mr. Grecco, seconded by Mr. Juncosa and carried after discussing curbing work and lawn cutting schedules.

Roll Call: Ayes: Grecco, Juncosa, Steffanelli, Vandegrift
 Nays: None
 Absent: Lipsen, Messina
 Abstain: None

Council Liaison Reports – Mrs. Steffanelli reported that there are kids jumping off logs and trees into the river and that the fire department is trying to spread words of caution. Mr. Juncosa reported on the park cleanup for the broken glass and commended Mr. Lipsen on all of his efforts. Mr. Juncosa said that the Borough might consider a camera in the park to discourage vandals. In response to a question raised by Mr. Vandegrift, Mr. Juncosa said that the tree work was done. Mr. Vandegrift said he wanted to gauge sentiment for hiring a landscape architect to design a park plan and discussion followed. Ms. Hovan suggested that the committee might want to consider the Borough Planner and said she would send the contact information. Mrs. Steffanelli inquired of the status of the crosswalk for Cravings and Ms. Hovan said there was none. Mayor Nemeth said that the crosswalk would be desirable in that area but that no information was forwarded to the Borough. In response to a question raised by Mr. Juncosa, Mr. Grecco said that he was leaning to using the old signs for the Bridge Street parking and then said he would work with the Deputy Clerk to get pricing on new ones.

Mayor Nemeth thanked everyone Council and staff for all the support in recent weeks after suffering the loss of his brother and said that he appreciated everyone’s care and concern.

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Mayor Nemeth announced the next meeting would be held on September 14, 2015. There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm on motion by Mr. Grecco seconded by Mr. Vandegrift and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Hovan, RMC
Borough Clerk