

**BOROUGH OF STOCKTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
APPROVED: 11/9/15**

**REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 12, 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 October 12, 2015. The following members of the Borough Council were present: Mr. Tony Grecco, Mr. Adam Juncosa, Mr. Aaron Lipsen, Mr. Nic Messina, Mrs. Kate Steffanelli and Mr. Donald Vandegrift. Borough Administrator/Clerk Michele Hovan was 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. Mr. John Anderson, Area Manager for JCP&L reported that all was going well with the utility, that the Rocktown substation was now energized and the preparations for Hurricane Joaquin were in place and ready even though the storm did not materialize. Mr. Anderson shared an invitation to the November 17th open house to introduce the utility technology/power systems program that awards attendees with an associate’s degree and an opportunity to earn career paths with the utility. Adding that the program is a partnership with Raritan Valley Community College, Mr. Anderson asked that the governing body share the news to anyone that may be interested. Mr. Anderson fielded some general questions and thanked Council for their time. There being no further questions or comments, the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Messina, seconded Mr. Vandegrift and carried.

Minutes – September 14, 2015

Mr. Grecco stated that the record did not capture him accurately and asked that under Presentation – Preservation of Block 2, Lot 10 – Abandoned Graveyard, his statement that be changed from “Mr. Grecco said that it was a lawsuit waiting to happen if the Borough owned it” to “If the Borough bought the property, would we be liable?” Mr. Grecco said that he did not object to the Borough using taxpayer funds for a memorial bench or other tribute to late Council President Esposito and asked that the statement be stricken from the record. On motion by Mr. Vandegrift, seconded by Mr. Juncosa, with Mrs. Steffanelli abstaining due to absence, the minutes were approved as amended.

Resolutions – the following resolutions, as filed in the Borough Clerk’s office, were adopted as follows:

2015-65 BAN Certificate and Determination of Award – Ms. Hovan reported the results of the recent ban sale. Resolution No. 2015-65 was adopted on motion by Mr. Lipsen, seconded by Mrs. Steffanelli and carried unanimously.

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

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2015-66 2015 Best Practices Checklist Submission

Ms. Hovan explained the requirements of filing the annual Best Practices Checklist. Resolution No. 2015-66 was adopted on motion by Mr. Messina, seconded by Mr. Grecco and carried unanimously.

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

2015-67 FY2016 SAGE Authorization – Glenwood Drive

Ms. Hovan explained that the Glenwood Drive application was prepared and ready, that submitting it would be low cost since it was twice before submitted and unchanged. Mr. Messina said he was hoping for better results and recalled petitioning NJDOT for an extension on Mill Street some years back. Resolution No. 2015-67 was adopted on motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Grecco and carried unanimously.

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

2015-68 Hunterdon County Open Space Receipts Request

Ms. Hovan explained that a resolution was prepared to request \$25k of the approximately \$30k in Hunterdon County Open Space Municipal Program and that CFO McDaniel has recommended using it to offset debt service costs for the My Ben property. Ms. Hovan explained that the Borough annually pays roughly \$12,500 in debt service for the tract and collects approximately \$2,700 annual in the fund. Ms. Hovan explained that some of the funds were held back in suggestion so that perhaps some could be used to prepare the open space plan, adding that an application requires County approval and that it is not automatic. Some general discussion ensued regarding the program and suggested other values, ultimately landing at the \$25k. Resolution No. 2015-68 was adopted on motion by Mr. Messina, seconded by Mr. Vandegrift and carried unanimously.

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

2015-69 Personnel – Water Meter Reader

Ms. Hovan explained that Mr. Ent had requested to be paid a stipend for reading water meters since the former meter reader had resigned and that Mr. Messina approved the request. General discussion followed regarding responsibilities within the department. On motion by Mr. Messina, seconded by Mr. Juncosa and carried, Resolution No. 2015-69 was adopted, authorizing the stipend be retroactive to June 1, 2015.

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

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Absent: None
Abstain: None

Claims for Payment – Mr. Grecco questioned the frequency of the grass cutting and said he would speak to the contractor about slowing the schedule due to the season’s growing conditions. On motion by Mr. Grecco, seconded by Mr. Messina and carried, the claims for payment were approved.

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

Council Liaison Reports – Mr. Lipsen said that he contacted the Canal Commission regarding the flower pots and learned that advertising would be prohibited by the vendor. Mr. Grecco said that he needed a key for the jail to retrieve the Bridge Street signs and other materials at times that the office is closed. Mr. Lipsen said that he could help and offered to meet. Mr. Messina said that he discussed the graveyard idea introduced by David Reading at the last meeting with the NJ Conservation Foundation and that they may be interested in the property. Mr. Messina also reported on the Penn East pipeline and stated his intention to intervene and said he would offer a resolution for Council to consider at the next meeting.

Mayor Nemeth reported that he met with Chief Cane from the Delaware Township PD and that a contract was in the works for the coming year. Mayor Nemeth said that the agreement seemed to be working well for both Stockton and Delaware. Mayor Nemeth said that he was working on a subcommittee for the SHRSD regarding facility needs and said he would report back as the talks and recommendations were offered.

Mayor Nemeth announced the next meeting would be held on November 9, 2015. There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm on motion by Mr. Messina, seconded by Mr. Grecco and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Hovan, RMC
Borough Clerk