

**BOROUGH OF STOCKTON  
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES  
APPROVED: 12/14/15**

**REGULAR MEETING  
NOVEMBER 9, 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 November 9, 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 Attorney Michael Butler and Borough Administrator/Clerk Michele Hovan were also present. There were six members 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.

Mr. Butler administered the Oath of Office to Councilman Adam Juncosa for the unexpired term to expire 12/31/16.

Mr. Butler administered the Oath of Office administered to Councilman Anthony Grecco for the unexpired term to expire 12/31/17.

Mayor Nemeth opened the meeting to the public. Chief Jason Strauss of the Lambertville Rescue Squad introduced himself and assured Stockton Borough that the squad was prepared to fill the coverage void left by Stockton Rescue Squad's dissolve. Chief Strauss urged Council to contact him with any issues that may arise and the Mayor and Council thanked him for the service.

Mr. Bob Lee of Flemington, appearing as a Trustee of the Hunterdon Historical Society said that he supports David Reading and his initiatives to preserve the abandoned graveyard in Stockton. There being no additional comment, the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Messina, seconded by Mr. Juncosa and carried.

Presentation – Preservation of Block 2, Lot 10 abandoned graveyard  
Mt. Amwell Project, Inc.

Mr. David Reading, Executive Director of the Mt. Amwell Project, reported that his group had conducted some additional research regarding the abandoned graveyard and had an agreement in principal with the adjacent property owner for access and maintenance. Mr. Tim Morris, Director of Stewardship said he contacted the New Jersey Conservation Foundation and learned that the organization would not be interest in ownership because they are interested primarily in areas threatened by development. An extended conversation ensued regarding Stockton's willingness to acquire the property under the statutory framework and concerns regarding liability and ownership were raised. Mr. Butler suggested that the next step be a title search and survey and Mr. Reading said the organization might be willing to assume some costs. After continued discussion, Mr. Grecco said he would talk to the property owner to learn more and Mayor Nemeth said he would as well. Mr. Vandegrift said that he would like to know more of what the Borough was getting into before committing to expending taxpayer funds.

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After more discussion, Mayor Nemeth said that he should know more after talking to the property owner and could report at the next meeting. Mr. Reading thanked the governing body for their time.

The Minutes of the October 12, 2015 Regular Meeting were approved on motion by Mr. Lipsen, seconded by Mr. Messina and carried.

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

2015-70 Budget Transfers on motion by Mr. Vandegrift, seconded by Mr. Messina and carried:

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

2015-71 Chapter 159 – Clean Communities Grant on motion by Mr. Grecco, seconded by Mr. Messina and carried:

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

2015-72 Award of Contract – Mill Street Inlets Project on motion by Mr. Vandegrift, seconded by Mr. Lipsen and carried.

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

2015-73 Shared Services Renewal – Police Services on motion by Mr. Lipsen, seconded by Mrs. Steffanelli and carried:

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

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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

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.

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Some general discussion Mayor Nemeth commented that the increased police presence has been a positive influence and that he's received numerous words of praise for the new service. Mrs. Steffanelli added that the presence during the Halloween parade was appreciated. She and Mr. Lipsen mentioned recent robberies in Kingwood and Solebury.

Claims for Payment – Mr. Lipsen noted that the work from Roy Myers was not complete and asked that payment be held until finally completed. On motion by Mr. Messina, seconded by Mr. Lipsen 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 – Mrs. Steffanelli said that she heard that the most direct route to have a crosswalk installed at Cravings is for the town to request it. Some discussion followed and Mr. Grecco said he would contact Dave Martin. Ms. Steffanelli said that she ran into Jim Gallagher and that the ball teams are interested in helping to rehab the field in Stockton Park. Mayor Nemeth said that he had a similar conversation and asked that the parks committee help to determine what is needed for future discussions. Mr. Lipsen suggested Mr. Gallagher be invited to the next parks committee meeting and added that the memorial bench and some tree work were pending items to address in the park as well. Mr. Lipsen said that the planner's estimate for park plan was \$8,500 and that more discussion was needed, especially regarding a potential open space tax that would be necessary for eligibility for Green Acres funds. Mayor Nemeth inquired about street parking at Bridge Street and Route 29. Mr. Grecco said that he would ask NJDOT for signs prohibiting trucks over 4 tons. General traffic discussion followed.

Mayor Nemeth announced the next meeting would be held on December 14, 2015. There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 pm on motion by Mr. Vandegrift Messina, seconded by Mr. Grecco and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Hovan, RMC  
Borough Clerk