

**BOROUGH OF STOCKTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
APPROVED: 3/14/16**

**REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 8, 2016**

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 February 8, 2016. The following members of the Borough Council were present: Mr. Tony Grecco, Mr. Adam Juncosa, Mr. Aaron Lipsen and Mr. Donald Vandegrift. Mr. Nic Messina and Mrs. Kate Steffanelli were absent. Borough Administrator/Clerk Michele Hovan was also present. There were five 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.

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

Discussion – Use of/Improvements to Stockton Park Ball Field

Mr. Jim Gallagher, resident and president of the Lambertville Baseball Club, said that the club continues to be interested in using the park for practice and said that the club would be interested in partnering with the borough to rehab the field. According to Mr. Gallagher, the costs would total approximately \$4,000 and the work would include brush clearing, infield mix, add fill for outfield potholes and replace the backstop. A lively discussion followed, with interest expressed by all. Mr. Gallagher said that he could assemble estimates within three weeks to present to Council. A brief discussion regarding park bathrooms was had. Mr. Gallagher thanks the Mayor and Council for their time and they thanked him for his efforts.

Discussion – Stockton Fire Department 2016 Budget Requests

Chief Rick Hendricks briefed the Mayor and Council on budget priorities for the coming year, asking for continued assistance at the same levels as in prior years, with an eye toward a new truck in the time ahead. Chief Hendricks said he had provided a copy of the fire department 2015 audit to CFO McDaniel and Ms. Hovan said she would ask for it to distribute. Chief Hendricks also discussed the upcoming fire rating and the need for the Director of Water input. He also request that hydrant markers be installed and said he would provide a quote for them. Mayor Nemeth and Council members thanked the Chief for his time and service to the community.

Minutes - the Minutes of the January 4, 2016 Reorganization/Regular Meeting were approved on motion by Mr. Lipsen, seconded by Mr. Juncosa, and carried, with Mr. Vandegrift abstaining due to his absence.

Ordinance No. 16-01 – Cable Franchise Renewal – First Reading

Ms. Hovan read Ordinance No. 16-01 by title and explained that it would span a period of 15 years for the Borough. A brief discussion ensued regarding duration without amendment.

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Resolution No. 2016-28, as filed in the Borough Clerk's office and to introduce Ordinance No.2016-01, with a public hearing date of March 14, 2016

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

Resolutions – the following resolutions, as filed in the Borough Clerk's office, were adopted as follows after Ms. Hovan provided a summary of each:

2016-29	Emergency Appropriation – Snow Removal
2016-30	Budget Appropriation Transfers
2016-31	2015 Recycling Tonnage Grant filing
2016-32	Off-Premises Raffle License – Courthouse Quilters
2016-33	Request to NJDOT for Mid-Block Crosswalk

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

A brief discussion regarding the alternate mechanism permitted by statute to enable the Clerk's office to approve raffle licenses. Mayor Nemeth asked Ms. Hovan to prepare the ordinance for introduction at the next meeting.

Claims for Payment – Mr. Grecco inquired about charging snow removal costs to the deli since they were putting their snow in the public right of way. Mr. Grecco asked that a letter be sent. On motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Vandegrift and carried, the claims for payment were approved.

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

Discussion: FEMA Community Ratings System

At the request of Mr. Lipsen, a recap was provided regarding steps required and funding needed to participate in the Community Ratings System program. Council agreed to budget the \$5,000 estimated by the Borough Engineer for work associated with the participation in the 2016 budget.

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Discussion: Repairs to Hilltop Drive

A brief discussion regarding Hilltop Drive and its condition was had and Mr. Grecco offered that the road was in disrepair and that it would require reconstruction. Ms. Hovan was instructed to ask the Borough Engineer to estimate the repair cost so that a decision could be made for funding options.

Discussion: Animal Control Services

Mayor Nemeth said that a proposal was received for more comprehensive animal control services and a brief discussion followed regarding present services. Mr. Grecco asked if the animal control officer could attend a future meeting to discuss the role.

Discussion: County Division of Senior, Disabilities and Veteran's Services Coordinator

Mayor Nemeth said he received a letter from the County asking for a Borough representative for the program, noting that it meets once a week on a daytime Friday and asked Council members to let him know if they can think of a willing volunteer.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Nemeth said that a neighbor might be willing to donate a replacement flag for the building and also noted that a registered van on Railroad has been there for a long time without moving, creating difficulty for snow plow. It was noted that the Borough does not restrict parking when roads are snow covered and that if the van was legal, there was no enforcement recourse.

Council Liaison Reports – Mr. Vandegrift reported that he received a quote for blinds and would be submitting a purchase order request, also noting that the price was valid only for a few more days. Ms. Hovan said she would consult with the CFO to see about available funding. Mr. Grecco discussed the ISO field day and said he would talk to the Water Operator about hydrant flushing. Mr. Lipsen said that he cleared the flower beds and that the sidewalk at the crosswalk and canal path was not cleared. Mr. Grecco wanted a letter sent to the Canal Commission and then discussion turned to ask the snow contractor to shovel the walk. Mr. Grecco said that he was in contract with the County during the storm regarding the trash rack and distributed the contact person's information.

Mayor Nemeth announced the next meeting would be held on March 14, 2016. There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:46 pm on motion by Mr. Vandegrift, seconded by Mr. Juncosa and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Hovan, RMC
Borough Clerk