

**BOROUGH OF STOCKTON  
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES  
APPROVED: 12/12/16**

**REGULAR MEETING  
NOVEMBER 14, 2016**

A Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton was called to order by Mayor Timothy J. Nemeth at 7:01 pm on November 14, 2016. The following members of the Borough Council were present: Mr. Anthony Grecco, Mr. Adam Juncosa, Mr. Aaron Lipsen, Mr. Nic Messina, and Mr. Donald Vandegrift. Mrs. Kate Steffanelli was absent. Borough Administrator/Clerk Michele Hovan, Borough Attorney Michael Butler and Borough Engineer Dennis O'Neal were also present. There were three 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.

Ms. Jerri Collevecchio of Safe Coalition of Somerset and Hunterdon Counties thanked Mayor Nemeth and the Borough Council for the opportunity to discuss tobacco free measures and introduced Ms. Jenna Giaquinto of Tobacco Free for a Healthy NJ. Ms. Giaquinto discussed the benefits of community wellness and healthy lifestyles and said her organization is working to remove tobacco products from public places to create a consistent message with smoke-free measures in schools. Ms. Giaquinto noted that discarded cigarette butts are a public nuisance and that small children can accidentally pick them up. Mayor Nemeth stated that enforcement is always a consideration and that the NJ State Police service Stockton Borough. Ms. Giaquinto said that enforcement is difficult in most communities and that signs sometimes serve as a sufficient reminder of community expectations. General discussion ensued. Ms. Giaquinto said that the organization would provide signs for Stockton Park and the community if the Borough passes a tobacco free ordinance. As there was no opposition, Mayor Nemeth asked Ms. Hovan to prepare a draft ordinance for the Borough to consider in 2017 and thanked the presenters for their time. There being no additional discussion or further comment, the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Lipsen and carried.

Minutes – The meeting minutes for the September 12, 2016 Regular Meeting were approved on motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Vandegrift and carried, with Mr. Messina abstaining due to his absence. The meeting minutes for the October 10, 2016 Regular Meeting were approved on motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Vandegrift and carried, with Mr. Grecco abstaining due to his absence.

Report of the Borough Engineer - Mr. O'Neal reported that his firm was working on the FEMA documents for the Community Ratings System as authorized by the Borough Council and that he was in contact with the County Engineer regarding the trash rack designs and next steps and that a meeting was pending for later in the week. Mr. O'Neal explained that the project must be approved by the Freeholders and discussion followed regarding Freeholder Holt's expressed willingness to help Stockton. Mr. O'Neal also reported that he was in contact with NJ Water Authority regarding the park sinkhole and discussion led to the tarping of the canal banks. Mayor Nemeth said that he was of the understanding that the Army Corps of Engineers abandoned the project after Superstorm Sandy and that the authority was working on the design. Mayor Nemeth said that they would be willing to meet to discuss but were not prepared to present a design to the

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public at this stage. Mr. Grecco said that he wrote to the Lt. Governor and Dan Kennedy after a discussion at the fireman's convention and said that the borough owes it to the citizens to stay on top of the issue. Mr. Grecco said that he wrote a letter as a resident of Mill Street and that the residents received letters that construction was slated for 2016 and that 2016 was almost over. Mayor Nemeth said that the water authority has an interest in the integrity of the banks too. Ms. Hovan said that she would reach out to schedule a meeting to include Mayor Nemeth, Mr. Lipsen and Mr. Grecco.

Mr. O'Neal reported that he investigated the issues with the hydrant flow as noted in the recent ISO report and that he was in contact with Greg Ent and Chief Rick Hendricks. Mr. O'Neal said that flow issue would not improve just by replacing hydrants and that the Borough would need either a raised reservoir or bigger system lines to correct. Mr. Grecco said that the flow issue on Mill Street was impacted because the lines were not flushed. Discussion followed regarding stand pipes and water tanks and Mr. O'Neal said he would contact the Canal Commission to obtain permission regarding stand pipes first; then obtain estimates for stand pipes for budget consideration if project was likely. Mr. O'Neal also reported that the Worman Street permits were filed and that he awaiting reply from NJDEP. Additional discussion included the well house roof, the sink hole on Mill Street and the commencement of survey work on Glenwood Lane.

Ordinance No. 16-01 – Cable Franchise Renewal – Second Reading/Public Hearing

Ms. Hovan read Ordinance No. 16-01 by title and explained that despite the Borough's expectation that the BPU and Comcast might've resolved their issues, no authorization was received in order to conduct the ordinance's second reading. On motion by Mr. Juncosa and seconded by Mr. Vandegrift and carried, the public hearing was carried to the December 12, 2016 meeting.

Ordinance No. 16-10 – Water Capital – Facility/System Improvements – Second Reading/Public Hearing

“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 \$15,000.00 FROM THE WATER UTILITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE FINANCING THEREOF”

Ms. Hovan read Ordinance No. 16-10 by title and explained that the ordinance funds the new roof for the well house and discussion followed regarding types, ending with a consensus that a metal roof was most practical. Mr. O'Neal and Ms. Hovan said that they would coordinate, also for the tree removal once the funds were available. 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. Messina and carried. Resolution No. 2016-77, as filed in the Borough Clerk's office and to adopt Ordinance No. 16-10, was adopted on motion by Mr. Lipsen, seconded by Mr. Juncosa and carried.

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

Resolutions: Resolution Nos. 2016-78 and 2016-79, as listed below and as filed in the Borough Clerk's office, were adopted on motion by Mr. Vandegrift, seconded by Mr. Lipsen and carried unanimously:

2016-78     Municipal Prosecutor (balance of 2016)  
2019-79     Emergency Management Coordinator

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

Claims for Payment – the claims for payment, as attached, were approved on motion by Mr. Lipsen, seconded by Mr. Juncosa and carried unanimously. Mr. Vandegrift inquired about the payment for the blinds and Ms. Hovan stated that they were to be paid after the meeting.

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

Council Liaison Reports – Mr. Lipsen reported that he, Mr. Vandegrift, Ms. Hovan and Planner Joanna Slagle were planning to meet to discuss the Open Space and Recreation Plan draft. Mr. Lipsen said that the parks budget was mostly used for mowing and introduced discussion about trees by the Stockton Market. Additional discussion was held regarding the trees and vegetation at the end of Mill Street and Mr. O'Neal and Ms. Hovan said they would obtain pricing since it is the Borough's responsibility to maintain.

A brief discussion regarding a change in meeting dates beginning in 2017 was had, with Council members to consider suitable dates for consideration.

Mayor Nemeth announced that the next meeting would be held on December 12, 2016. There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 pm on motion by Mr. Vandegrift seconded by Mr. Messina, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Hovan, RMC  
Borough Clerk