

**BOROUGH OF STOCKTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
APPROVED: 2/9/15**

**REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 12, 2015**

A Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton was called to order by Mayor Timothy Nemeth at 7:00 pm on January 12, 2015. The following members of the Borough Council were present: Mr. Tony Grecco, Mr. Aaron Lipsen, Mr. Nic Messina, Mrs. Kate Steffanelli and Mr. Donald Vandegrift. Borough Administrator/Clerk Michele Hovan was also present. There were two 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 questions or comments, the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Messina, seconded by Mrs. Steffanelli and carried.

Ordinance No.15-01

"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. 15-01 by title and said that earlier in the day, the Sewer Operator reported a service leak with an approximate repair cost of \$7,000. Ms. Hovan said that an emergency appropriation resolution later in the agenda would enable the immediate expenditure of the emergency repair, with full funding to be appropriated from the ordinance.

Resolution No. 2015-26A, as filed in the Borough Clerk's office and to introduce Ordinance No. 15-01, was adopted on motion by Mr. Lipsen, seconded by Mr. Grecco and carried unanimously.

Minutes – the minutes of the November 10, 2014 regular meeting were approved on motion by Mr. Nemeth, seconded by Mr. Messina and carried.

Mayor Nemeth reopened the meeting to the public. Mr. John Anderson, JCP&L Area Manager, wished the Mayor and Council a Happy New Year and announced a new power system school or "line school" to be held on February 3rd, from 6pm to 8pm for candidates interested in careers in the utility. Mr. Anderson also discussed operations and plans for the Rocktown substation and general discussion ensued regarding utility issues.

Mayor Nemeth introduced Mr. Adam Juncosa, who was in attendance and who had expressed interest in filling the vacant Council position. Mayor Nemeth said that Mr. Juncosa would be the fourth person living at 2 Stockton Sergeantsville Road that served on Council, if he is confirmed. Mr. Juncosa said that he worked in high level technical support for Citicorp, that he's lived in town for 3 years and would be interested in serving his community. In response to a question raised by Mrs. Steffanelli, Mr. Juncosa said that he works from his house and could be available to address issues in the daytime as needed. Mayor Nemeth added that a call for nominations

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would be made later in the agenda. There being no additional questions or comments the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Messina seconded by Mr. Vandegrift and carried.

Resolutions

At Mayor Nemeth's request, Ms. Hovan described the content of the resolutions offered. Resolution Nos. 2015-27 through 2014-31, as filed in the Borough Clerk's office and listed below, were adopted on motion by Mr. Vandegrift, seconded by Mr. Messina and carried unanimously.

2015-27	Budget Transfers
2015-28	2015 Municipal Alliance Grant Application
2015-29	On-Premises Raffle License – Lamb Yankees
2015-30	Off-Premises Raffle License – Lamb Yankees
2015-31	Emergency Appropriation – Sewer Repairs

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

Claims for Payment

Mr. Lipsen inquired if Ms. Hovan had confirmed that the snow plow contract would be clearing the walk at Borough Hall. Ms. Hovan replied that she did reach out and would follow up on that request. The Claims for Payment, as attached, were approved on motion by Mr. Vandegrift, seconded by Mr. Messina and carried.

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

Discussion/Update – Shared Services Agreement with Delaware Township Police for Supplemental Traffic Enforcement Services

Ms. Hovan explained that the agreement from Delaware Township was just received and can be executed as it was consistent with the review conducted by Mayor Nemeth, Chief Cane and the Delaware Township and Stockton Borough Attorneys. Mr. Grecco inquired about liability for the town and general discussion ensued regarding the expectation of supplemental services. Mayor Nemeth said that he believed the contract would be of benefit to both communities and that he was very pleased about the new partnership for this service.

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Resolution No. 2015-32, as filed in the Borough Clerk's office and to authorize the execution of a shared services agreement for supplemental police services, was adopted on motion by Mr. Messina, seconded by Mrs. Steffanelli and carried, with Mr. Grecco abstaining.

Length of Service Appreciation Program Clarification

Ms. Hovan reported that CFO Diane McDaniel discovered an error in contributory payments made by the former CFO, and that amounts in excess of the \$400 voter-approved contribution was made for several years. Ms. Hovan said that she and Ms. McDaniel were researching the available options right now and that she would report more once known. Ms. Hovan said it was very likely that the payments would need to be reversed and Mrs. Steffanelli said that if there was some way that the fireman could keep the additional amount, she would be in favor of that. Ms. Hovan said the Borough could always amend the contributions by ordinance going forward if so desired and said that once a final determination was made, she would report on it.

Discussion/Possible Nomination to fill Council Vacancy – term to expire November 3, 2015

Mayor Nemeth opened the floor for nominations, noting that Mr. Juncosa was a registered Democratic, recommended by the Stockton Democratic committee, and was willing to serve. Mr. Grecco said that he spoke to another candidate who told him he would serve if no one else wanted to. On motion by Mr. Messina, seconded by Mr. Vandegrift and carried unanimously, Council appointed Adam Juncosa to fill the vacant council seat through November 3, 2015. Ms. Hovan said that she would prepare the Oath of Office to be taken at the February meeting.

Council Committee Appointments

Mayor Nemeth explained that because the council was short two members at reorganization, the Committee assignments were still pending. A lengthy discussion ensued about the committees and it was determined that two sets of committees be appointed as follows:

Buildings and Grounds/Parks/Finance: Mr. Vandegrift, Mrs. Steffanelli, Mr. Lipsen

Sewer and Water/Streets and Roads: Mr. Messina, Mr. Juncosa, Mr. Grecco

Mayor Nemeth said that he was continuing the committee assignment held by his predecessor, including public safety, shared services and personnel.

Council Liaison Reports

Mr. Lipsen said that he met with Richard Yard regarding an estimate to restore water service to the park and that the sidewalk heaving issue was fixed. Mr. Grecco asked if the Borough asks for maintenance bonds for improvements, to which Ms. Hovan replied in the affirmative if the project was publically bid. Ms. Hovan said that the Bridge Street work was completed in 2008 and that the 2-year maintenance bond was long since expired. Ms. Hovan also suggested that Council consider future repairs commensurate with property ownership, like projects in town. Mrs. Steffanelli asked if there was any further discussion about a memorial bench for late Council President Esposito and Mr. Messina and Mayor Nemeth described one including his famous briefcase that he carried for all meetings, much like his father-in-law, the late Mayor Errico

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carried before him. Mr. Grecco suggested a flag pole outside Borough Hall be erected in Mr. Esposito's memory. Mr. Lipsen said there was a Stop sign down on Railroad Avenue and Mrs. Steffanelli and Mr. Grecco discussed "skins" rather than replacing the whole sign. Mr. Vandegrift discussed plans to hire a landscape architect to develop a park master plan and discussion followed regarding hopeful elements of it.

Mayor Nemeth announced the next meeting would be held on February 9, 2015. There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:13 pm on motion by Mr. Vandegrift seconded by Mr. Grecco and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Hovan, RMC
Borough Clerk