

**BOROUGH OF STOCKTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
APPROVED: 7/13/15**

**REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 8, 2015**

A Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton was called to order by Mayor Timothy Nemeth at 7:07 pm on June 8, 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 Vandgrift. Borough Administrator/Clerk Michele Hovan and Chief Financial Officer Diane McDaniel were 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. Ms. Sally Jagoe of 26 Risler Street and also owner, of N. Railroad apartments, inquired about filling potholes at the drive accessing the N. Railroad lots and said she was seeking permission to pay for the work. After some discussion, it was confirmed that the access road in question was private and that no permission was needed. Ms. Jagoe thanked Council and announced that on June 13th there was a bluegrass concert at the Prallsville Mills to raise funds for the building’s electrical upgrades.

There being no additional questions or comments, the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Vandegrift, seconded Mr. Messina and carried.

Ordinance No. 15-04 – Second Reading/Public Hearing – Exceed the 2015 Municipal Budget Appropriations Limit and to Establish a Cap Bank

“ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE 2015 MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK”

Ms. Hovan read Ordinance No. 15-04 by title and explained that the cost of living cap adjustment was required to be adopted prior to the adoption of the municipal budget. Mayor Nemeth opened the meeting to the public. There being no comments, the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Lipsen, seconded by Mr. Vandegrift and carried.

Resolution No. 2015-45, as filed in the Borough Clerk’s office and to adopt Ordinance No. 15-04, was adopted 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 Municipal Budget

Mayor Nemeth opened the public hearing on the 2015 municipal budget. Ms. Hovan and Ms. McDaniel provided a brief overview of the budget. There being no questions or comments, the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Grecco, seconded by Mrs. Steffanelli and carried.

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Resolution No. 2015-48, as filed in the Borough Clerk's office and to authorize Self-Examination of the 2015 Municipal Budget, was adopted 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

Resolution No. 2015-49, as filed in the Borough Clerk's office and to adopt the 2015 Municipal Budget, was adopted 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

Resolution No. 2015-50, as filed in the Borough Clerk's office and to adopt salary and wage rates for municipal officials and employees was adopted on motion by Mrs. Steffanelli, seconded by Mr. Juncosa and carried.

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

Claims for Payment – The Claims for Payment, as attached, were approved on motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mrs. Steffanelli and carried.

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

Council Liaison Reports – Mr. Lipsen reported on the second park clean-up day and said it required two loads of mulch, that the bees were addressed and discussed upcoming tree work. Mr. Lipsen also said he was seeking estimates for the Bridge Street "gardens." Mr. Grecco said that the volunteer or contracted gardener should have their own insurance. Ms. Hovan said that volunteer or nominal cost for the weeding would be covered under the Borough's general liability policy just as board members and other volunteers are. A spirited discussion ensued regarding the gardening work. Mr. Grecco offered the name of Stephanie McGill and Mr. Lipsen said he would obtain a quote for the work.

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Mr. Juncosa reported on the results of the parks survey and said that there were 50 online responses, of which 7 were non-residents and 15 paper responses, all residents. Mr. Juncosa said that he was still reviewing the submissions but that there were three main areas that produced reactions and that there was, in general, overwhelming support for park improvements. Mr. Juncosa said that the responders were interested in ballfield improvements, bathrooms (50/50) and that 80% said that some tax increase to fund park improvements was necessary or acceptable. Mr. Juncosa said that he would finalize his review and would provide it in document form.

Mr. Grecco said that he was working with Deptcor regarding signs and that he needed the language for the Bridge Street parking ordinance. Ms. Hovan suggested that the sign reflect the ordinance language regarding restrictions. Some discussion ensued. Mr. Lipsen said that there were 6-7 "antique" signs in storage and that perhaps they could be modified for use. Mr. Juncosa said that the Stockton Market folks supported limited parking along Bridge Street. Mr. Grecco said that there was an issue with the catch basins on Mill Street deteriorating and that he would like the engineering specifications for the work. Mr. Grecco said that the contractor should be responsible for it and that the lawyer should write a letter. Some discussion followed regarding the length of a maintenance bond and Ms. Hovan said that the Borough Engineer was inspecting the issue. Mr. Grecco said that the Borough should not have to pay anything to get the work done.

Chief Rick Hendricks of the Stockton Fire Department entered the meeting. Mayor Nemeth opened the meeting to the public. Chief Hendricks distributed copies of the department's 5-year business and financial plan and said that the Treasurer appeared before Council previously to ask for help with the paving project but that they would like to switch the request to HVAC work because they couldn't wait for the budget process for the paving. Ms. Hovan asked if an estimate for the work has been received yet and said that the Borough would have to bid the project if approved but that Council needed the value first. Chief Hendricks said that the estimate was forthcoming. There being no further discussion, the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Messina, seconded by Mr. Lipsen and carried.

Mayor Nemeth announced the next meeting would be held on July 13, 2015. There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm on motion by Mr. Messina seconded by Mr. Vandegrift and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Hovan, RMC
Borough Clerk