

**BOROUGH OF STOCKTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
APPROVED:**

**REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 13, 2020**

The April Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton was called to order by Mayor Timothy Nemeth at 7:03 pm on April 13, 2020. The meeting was held online using Zoom technology due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Mayor Nemeth read the "Sunshine Statement" indicating the meeting was being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Ms. Michele Hovan called the roll. The following members of Council were present: Mr. Paul Bergquist, Mr. Adam Juncosa, Mr. Aaron Lipsen, and Mr. Donald Vandegrift. Mr. Michael Mann and Mr. Messina were absent. Borough Administrator/Clerk Hovan was also present. There were 2 members of the public present.

Mayor Nemeth opened the meeting to the public. Chief Rick Hendricks, Stockton Fire Company, thanked the Mayor and Council for their continued support and said that the equipment ordered for the new truck had started to arrive. There being no additional comments, the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Lipsen and carried.

Discussion/Update – COVID-19

Mayor Nemeth reported that he is receiving regular briefings from the County OEM and Health Department and pertinent information is being posted on the Borough's website. Mr. Lipsen said that he noticed people on the towpath and park. A brief discussion followed regarding the park gate and whether to close the park entirely. Mr. Lipsen said that the signs restricting access to the playground were down and Mr. Juncosa said that he would replace. Mayor Nemeth said that it would be difficult to monitor use of the park without a police department but that if anyone sees people congregating or other behavior counter to the State orders that the issue of closing the park entirely could be revisited. Mayor Nemeth also said that trout season was not being stopped and that people should call 211, not 911 with concerns about social distancing violations, etc. Mayor Nemeth stated that so far Stockton was the only town in the County not to have a confirmed case of COVID-19.

Minutes:

The meeting Minutes for the February 10, 2020 Regular Meeting and March 9, 2020 Regular Meeting were approved on motion by Mr. Bergquist, seconded by Mr. Juncosa and carried, with the March 9 minutes amended to include a correction to include that Mr. Lipsen reported the Stop sign missing from Ferry at Railroad.

Ordinance No. 20-01 – Second Reading/Public Hearing -Revaluation Project

"CAPITAL ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE REVALUATION OF ALL REAL PROPERTY FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES IN THE BOROUGH OF STOCKTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AND THE EXPENDITURE OF \$25,000.00 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE FINANCING THEREOF"

Ms. Hovan read Ordinance No. 20-01 by title and reported that the County order for a townwide revaluation would be postponed until 2021 due to the coronavirus, and inspectors unable to enter

**BOROUGH OF STOCKTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
APPROVED:**

**REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 13, 2020**

properties. She suggested that that the public hearing proceed since the funds will eventually be needed and because it is a capital ordinance, it will not matter from a timing perspective if it's adopted now and the funds are used at a later time. 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. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Bergquist and carried.

Resolution No. 2020-35, as filed in the Borough Clerk's office and to adopt Ordinance No. 20-01, was adopted on motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Bergquist and carried.

Roll Call: Ayes: Bergquist, Juncosa, Lipsen, Vandegrift
 Nays: None
 Absent: Mann, Messina
 Abstain: None

Resolutions – the following resolution, as filed in the Borough Clerk's office, was adopted on motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Vandegrift and carried.

2020-36 Temporary Emergency Appropriations

Claims for Payment – the claims for payment, as attached, and with the addition of a payment to Sowsian's Landscaping in the amount of \$8,500 for repairs made to Woolverton Road were approved on motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Bergquist and carried unanimously.

Roll Call: Ayes: Bergquist, Juncosa, Lipsen, Vandegrift
 Nays: None
 Absent: Mann, Messina
 Abstain: None

Mayor's Report – Mayor Nemeth said that he is staying up to date on COVID-19 news and will stay in touch with Council and that they should reach out with any questions or concerns as we go forward. He also reported on a complaint that a resident installed rebar in the right-of-way to stop trucks from driving on his property and that the matter was being addressed.

Mr. Lipsen said that he believed that the Bridge Street garden cleanup quote from last year was still valid and that he would confirm. He said that it was \$300. There were no objections to the expenditure.

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

**BOROUGH OF STOCKTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
APPROVED:**

**REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 13, 2020**

Mayor Nemeth announced that the next meeting would be held on May 11, 2020 at 7pm, likely also on Zoom. There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 pm on motion by Mr. Vandegrift, seconded by Mr. Bergquist, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Hovan, RMC
Borough Clerk