



Borough of Swedesboro Council Meeting  
Swedesboro, NJ 08085

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
August 15, 2005

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**APPROVED MINUTES**

A regular meeting of Borough Council was held on the above date in Council Chambers with the Honorable Thomas W. Fromm presiding. Councilman Dryden and Daley were absent, all others present.

A moment of silent prayer was followed by the flag salute.

Mayor advised that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law.

Ms. Churchville moved to approve the minutes of 8/1/05, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Vote all yes.

Mr. Murray moved to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Ms. Churchville. Vote all yes.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Brett Boone – 6 Richardson Ave. Mr. Boone spoke on behalf of the 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church. He wanted to commend the police department for their exceptional work. He stated that they are very helpful to the church when they have funerals and need traffic control.

Jeff Hale – 506 Park Ave. Mr. Hale complained about the trucks on Franklin Street. He wanted to know what could be done to slow them down and stop them from j-breaking. Mr. Flaherty stated that there were signs posted on Franklin. The mayor stated that there is an ordinance in place for trucks j-breaking and speeding. Chief Dupper stated that the police are issuing tickets and are doing the best they can. Chief Dupper stated that the residents can write down the company's name, the license plate of the truck, etc and report to the police.

Mr. Flaherty moved to close the public portion, seconded by Mrs. Gage.

**Committee Reports**

Streets and Roads – Mrs. Gage spoke with Mr. Simmerman about ring risers for manholes and Mr. Simmerman is checking into this. The Mayor stated that the engineer will also look into it.

Mr. Flaherty stated that the overlay project on East Avenue is underway and will be a mess for a while. Residents on East Avenue were offered the opportunity to connect their sump pumps at this time. This should take care of the ice/water problems on East Ave.



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---

Trash – Mrs. Gage spoke on behalf of Mr. Dryden regarding placing dumpsters or cans at Kingsway Apartments. Several of the residents stated they would prefer a dumpster instead of cans.

There was no meeting for Parks and Recreation this month.

Economic Development – Mr. Murray stated that Art Stanley from the South Jersey Business Guide and the Historical Society would like to promote the house tour this year and promote advertising for the town of Swedesboro. Mr. Murray stated that the Historical Society would contribute towards the cost of Advertising and that he was going to speak at the Swedesboro Woolwich Business Association meeting on 8/17/05 asking them to contribute as well. He also stated that perhaps t-shirts could be sold as a fundraiser with proceeds going towards advertising.

Mr. Murray stated that the Video of Swedesboro would hopefully be ready by Swedesboro Day.

Police – Mr. Flaherty made a motion for Joseph Hargraves, Jr. to be promoted to second class, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Vote all yes.

**OLD BUSINESS**

The Mayor thanked Diane Hale and everybody who helped with the grants for the improvement project on Kings Highway including light fixtures, street scaping, etc. The initial project will be from Franklin to Ashton. Diane Hale stated that she is asking for another \$375,000.00 in grants to finish the project.

Mrs. Gage congratulated Chief Dupper for National Night Out and stated that it was a great success.

Mayor stated that the Devault property is demolished.

Deputy Clerk read the following resolution: (Resolution approving the recommendation of the planning board that the redevelopment area studied is an area in need of redevelopment) Mr. Murray moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Roll Call Vote-Daley, Dryden absent, all others yes.

Deputy Clerk read the following resolution: (Resolution supporting the you Drink and Drive, you lose 2005 Enforcement Project) Mr. Flaherty moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Roll Call Vote Daley, Dryden absent, all others yes.

Deputy Clerk read the following ordinance: (An Ordinance to amend an ordinance Entitled “Salary Ordinance 1976 Borough of Swedesboro” which was adopted at a regular meeting of Borough Council on March 15, 1976. A public hearing is to be held



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---

on September 6, 2005. Mrs. Gage moved to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Mrs. Churchville. Roll Call Vote- Daley, Dryden absent, all others yes.

Deputy Clerk read the following ordinance (Ordinance of the Borough of Swedesboro Amending Borough of Swedesboro Land Use Plan) Mr. Flaherty moved to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Mr. Murray. Roll Call Vote- Daley, Dryden absent, all others yes.

Deputy Clerk read the following ordinance (Ordinance implementing a redevelopment plan pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-7 for an area in need of redevelopment) Mr. Flaherty moved to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Mr. Murray. Roll Call Vote – Daley, Dryden absent, all others yes.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Gage stated that she would like all of her papers for the Council Meeting the Friday before the meeting so she has time to review.

The Mayor stated that there is a DRP workshop on 8/24/05 if anyone from Council or the Historical Society would like to represent the town.

The Mayor also stated that there was a Seminar for Elected Women Officials if either Mrs. Gage or Ms. Churchville would like to attend on 11/17/05.

The Mayor asked members of Council to review the draft regarding rental properties and to call the solicitor or him with any questions/comments. The Mayor stated that he would like to have this introduced at the September 6, 2005 Council meeting.

The Mayor stated that he spoke with a representative from the DRPA. The Mayor stated that he has asked the DRPA to contribute to the expense for the traffic light at Glen Echo since a lot of this traffic is generated because of their bridge. They are asking for 25% of the cost and the DRPA gave a positive response.

The Mayor stated that the information in the paper regarding the light at Auburn was incorrect, it will be done in 2006.

The Mayor stated that the roof at the Firehouse is need of repair and emergency funding is needed. The cost will be split with Woolwich. The estimated cost to Swedesboro is approximately \$30,000.00. Bids are in the process of being obtained.

The Mayor stated that Interlocal agreement Between the Township of Woolwich and The Borough of Swedesboro regarding the costs of provisions of service towards emergency medical services was signed over the weekend. Shared services with Logan, Swedesboro, and Woolwich are now in affect.



Borough of Swedesboro Council Meeting  
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COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
August 15, 2005

---

The Mayor stated that he attended the School Board Meeting and the \$374,000.00 school aide went directly to the Swedesboro/Woolwich Taxpayers.

The Mayor stated that the overall tax rate increase was approximately 11 1/2 cents compared to 24 cents last year.

Mr. Murray motioned to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Ms. Churchville. Vote all yes.

Lucille Stewart – 4 Richardson Ave. Complained about the trash men not putting her trash cans back. She states that they throw the cans in the Street. Mrs. Gage stated she should call Borough Hall with the complaint and they will call Republic Services.

Lucille Stewart also wanted to know what was being done about cleaning up vacant properties. The Mayor told her that Mr. Orbanus notifies the owners of the properties via certified mail. If they do not respond the public works department cuts their grass and a lien is put on their property. The Mayor stated that residents should notify Borough Hall with any property complaints.

Lucille Stewart – 4 Richardson Ave. also wanted to know why the local assistance board was being eliminated. The Mayor stated that Swedesboro is only one of three towns that still do public assistance. All other towns are done by the County at no cost. This would be an approximate \$ 7,000.00 savings to Swedesboro. The Mayor stated that it would be no inconvenience for the recipient.

Elaine Dumas – 636 Auburn Ave. called Mr. Simmerman about taking care of her property that was damaged when connected to the sewer. There is a sink hole that needs to be repaired. Mr. Simmerman stated that he will be taking care of this soon.

Edie Roherman – Trinity Church wanted to know if anybody was informed of the 911 services. She stated that the Business Association was supposed to be coordinating it. The Mayor or Council did not have any information and Edie stated that perhaps it would be addressed at the next Business Association meeting.

The Mayor asked Edie if the Re-enactment ever took place and she stated that it did not. Edie stated that it needed to be planned at least a year in advance and would take a lot of permits, land, etc. She did state that if it could be pulled off it would be a great event.

Dan Orbanus – 1529 Kings Hwy. asked when the work is going to be started on Borough Hall. He stated that it seems like the grants were received a while ago. The Mayor stated that the grant agreement was only signed 6-7 days ago. The Mayor stated that the work is going out to bid. The Mayor stated that 50% of the money will be received at the time of



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---

proposal and the other 50% will be received at completion. The Mayor stated that it is a long process and has to go through the State.

Ms. Churchville moved to close the public portion, seconded by Mr. Murray. Vote all yes.

Mrs. Gage moved to pay all duly authorized bills, seconded by Ms. Churchville. Vote all yes.

Mr. Flaherty motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Churchville. Vote all yes.

Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Tanya L. Goodwin,  
Deputy Clerk