



Borough of Swedesboro Council Meeting  
Swedesboro, NJ 08085

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
February 6, 2006

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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. Councilmen Daley and Dryden 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.

Mr. Flaherty moved to approve the minutes of 1/17/06, regular and closed, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Vote all yes.

Mrs. Gage moved to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Mr. Murray. Vote all yes.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Gerald Sinclair, representing Westrum Dev. explained that part of the County approval was to have the developer approach Mayor and Council to request that they enact a "No Parking" ordinance along certain portions of Kings Hwy. Mr. Sinclair stated that they sent a letter to all residents that would be affected by the "No Parking" ordinance and 8 were against the "No Parking" and 2 owners did not have a problem with it. Mr. Sinclair requested that Council make it known to the County that the Borough does not want the "No Parking" ordinance enacted. A letter from Mayor and Council would be sent to the County regarding this. Mr. Sinclair stated that he will get in touch with Tim Chell, Borough Solicitor and draft the letter.

Mr. Flaherty asked if there will be any "blind spots". Mr. Sinclair stated that they meet all the requirements of the State.

Mrs. Gage motioned to proceed to have attorneys prepare the letter to the County that the Borough does not want the "No Parking" ordinance, seconded by Ms. Churchville. Vote all yes.

Larry McKnight, Westrum Dev. stated that the traffic control plans will be sent to the Borough Engineer tomorrow and they will meet with the businesses shortly.

Mr. Flaherty stated that the island can be removed once the bowl is removed. Mayor asked that before the island is removed to get in touch with the Business Assoc. regarding the plants.



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Constance Brooks, 40 Franklin St. stated that a car ran into a home on Lake Ave. and asked that when the bridge was replaced did Council think about the residents homes that would be in danger due to no guard rails etc. Mrs. Brooks stated that she feels the residents and homes safety was not considered. She suggested a cinder block wall to protect the homes and asked Council what kind of protection will they give them. Mayor stated that this is the first that he has heard of the issue and if it is a safety issue it would go to the County. He stated that they are trying to control the traffic and speeds. Mrs. Brooks stated that they feel like sitting ducks and need protection. Mrs. Brooks also brought up the problem with the water meters that are in the ground and have to be dug up every year to read them and would like that changed.

Elaine Edwards, Auburn Ave. thanked everyone who attended the Martin Luther King program on 1/16/06 and stated that they are in the process of sponsoring another program the Black History Program which will be held at the Trinity Church on 2/26/06. Mrs. Edwards also announced that the Women's Progressive Club will hold their Annual Love Tea Program on 2/12/06 honoring Rev. Cynthia Holloway, Dr. Josette Palmer, Edie Rohrman and Rev. Andre Ascalon.

Mrs. Edwards stated that the water meters should be outside especially on rental properties instead of getting an estimated bill.

Ms. Churchville moved to close the public portion, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Vote all yes.

#### Committee Reports

Police – Mr. Flaherty reported that the Chief is having his force be trained on the radar guns and the on board computers. Mr. Flaherty stated that two officers are doing the follow up on the stop signs in town and if the Borough puts them up it is our responsibility and if we ask the State for their approval of the placement then they will be responsible.

Parks & Recreation – Mrs. Gage stated that there will be a Bowling Party on 2/11/06, on 3/26/06 there will be a Phantoms game and the tickets are \$8 a piece and they are planning a Medieval Knights Bus Trip on 5/13/06.

Mrs. Gage reported that the PMC addition to the park is put on hold due to the State doing a study on Bog Turtles.

Mrs. Gage stated that Ryan Robichard has resigned as Vice Pres. of Parks & Recreation and Kelly Poole has also resigned. Rick Emmett is now the new Vice Pres. and there is still an opening for a Swedesboro resident.



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Fire – Mr. Murray stated that Mr. Selb & Mr. Connelly submitted the fire safety violations to him and a Fire Violations Recovery Ordinance which Mr. Murray will look into.

Economic Dev. – Mr. Murray stated that they are expanding the town yard sale and will have vendors and make it a Spring Fling. The Produce Auction property may be used.

Mr. Murray spoke to the Auction owners and there was a leak after the meter under a bathroom and they were unaware of it. Mayor stated that if they allow the Borough to use their property for a town function maybe we could make an allowance on the excess charge. Mayor asked Mr. Murray to get in touch with them and see what is comfortable for them to pay and to see what the cost is to treat a gallon of water.

Mr. Murray reported that he attended the Fire Co. Banquet on Saturday and a good time was had by all.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Gage asked the Mayor if he spoke to the developer regarding the problems that Mr. Connelly was having. Mayor stated that no he did not speak to them but that Mr. Connelly was to call the Police if he had a problem and to put in writing what is occurring.

Mr. Flaherty asked if the list was completed for the vehicle auction. Clerk stated that she has not received anything yet.

Mr. Flaherty reported that due to the construction on Kings Hwy. by the developer we need to reach out to the owners of the vacant lots on Kings Hwy. to use for parking during the construction. Mrs. Gage asked if a letter should be sent out to those owners. Mayor stated he wants to wait until we have a definite start date. Mayor asked Council to help by knocking on doors. Mayor stated that Westrum wants a meeting with the businesses and can go through the Business Assoc.

Mr. Murray asked if ornate street signs can be placed along Kings Hwy. Ms. Churchville to look into it.

Mayor introduced Joanne Mitcho as our new Chief Financial Officer. Ms. Mitcho stated that she will work on Tuesdays and Thursdays and asked if she should sign up for the Tax Collector courses. Mayor stated that he wants her to be certified as a Tax Collector. Mrs. Gage asked how long it would take for her to be certified. Ms. Mitcho stated that the earliest would be Fall, 2006.



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Mayor stated that he spoke to a few interested people for the Tax Collector position and for now we have someone for the interim for as long as needed. Mayor stated that they would like her to pursue the Tax Collector classes and to get the Edmunds computer programs ASAP.

Clerk read the following resolution: (Appt. Mitcho CFO)  
Mr. Murray moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Ms. Churchville. Roll Call Vote- Daley, Dryden absent, all others yes.

PUBLIC HEARING

Public hearing was held on the following ordinance: 2006 SALARY ORDINANCE, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "SALARY ORDINANCE 1976 BOROUGH OF SWEDESBORO" WHICH WAS ADOPTD AT A REGULAR MEEITNG OF BOROUGH COUNCIL ON MARCH 15, 1976.

No one from the public spoke for or against the ordinance.

Ms. Churchville moved to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Roll Call Vote- Daley, Dryden absent, Gage abstain, all others yes.

Clerk read the following resolution: (Appt. Lieberman & Blecher)  
Mr. Flaherty moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Murray. Roll Call Vote – Daley, Dryden absent, all others yes.

Clerk read the following resolution: (Appt. Coleman, Tax Coll.)  
Mr. Murray moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Ms. Churchville. Roll Call Vote – Daley, Dryden absent, all others yes.

Clerk read the following resolution: (Auth. Mayor to sign Mutual Aid Agree. with Gibbstown Fire. Co.)  
Mrs. Gage moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Murray. Roll Call Vote- Daley, Dryden absent, all others yes.

Clerk asked Mayor and Council to read the letter received from the Business Assoc.

Clerk went over the proposal for the computer program for Landlord Registration.  
Mrs. Gage motioned to accept the proposal and purchase the program, seconded by Mr. Murray. Vote all yes.

Mr. Flaherty motioned to approve the application for Daniel Lewis into the NJ State Firemen's Assoc., seconded by Ms. Churchville. Vote all yes.



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Mrs. Gage moved to approve sick pay benefits for William Goodwin, 1/25/06, Carl Bagby, ½ day 1/27/06, seconded by Ms. Churchville. Vote all yes.

Clerk went over the new rates for the health insurance program for the employees. Mayor and Council to review but in the meantime all employees will fill out the application.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Gage stated that she received correspondence for the Green Acres Program and that the Parks & Recreation Committee would like a boat ramp at the park for canoes. Discussion followed. Mr. Flaherty stated that he would rather see walking trails.

Mrs. Gage asked Mr. Flaherty to tell Chief Dupper that there was an incident at the Post Office and a resident noted that the officers were kind and took care of the problem.

Mayor stated that he and Mayor Chila will be sending a letter to the Business Assoc. that the towns will be taking over the running of Swedesboro/Woolwich Day in 2006 and future years. Mrs. Gage stated that all the work of all the past years has been done by the Bus. Assoc. and now it will be taken away from them. Mayor stated that the Bus. Assoc. can do a fundraiser that day and that the day should be a break even proposition and not lose money. Mr. Flaherty stated that that day did not make any money for the town and the town needs to be more involved. Mayor stated that towns have a say on what is done on Swedesboro/Woolwich Day and we will get money to reimburse the Borough for the use of our Public Works Employees and Police. Mrs. Gage stated that she feels that they should meet with SWBA Pres. Dave DiFranco first and then meet with Council representative and Mayor Chila because the Bus. Assoc. has done alot for the town. Mayor stated that they will continue to do alot for the town but that Swedesboro and Woolwich need to have a say. Mayor stated that something this big we will have control over and make exceptions and ban all political parties from participating.

Ms.Churchville motioned to start the dialogue to begin the transition that the two towns take over Swedesboro/Woolwich Day, seconded by Mr. Murray. Vote – Gage no, all others yes.

Clerk read the following resolution: (Closed Session)

Ms. Churchville moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Murray. Roll Call Vote – Daley, Dryden absent, all others yes.

Mayor adjourned to closed session at 8:52 PM.

After returning from closed session, Ms. Churchville moved to pay all duly authorized bills, seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Vote all yes.

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Mayor adjourned the meeting at 10:32 PM.

Dolores M. Connors  
Borough Clerk