



Borough of Swedesboro Council Meeting
Swedesboro, NJ 08085

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
February 21, 2006

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 Daley was 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.

Mrs. Gage moved to approve the minutes of 2/6/06, regular and closed, seconded by Mr. Murray. Vote all yes.

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Jason Heller, Logan EMS submitted the EMS report for the month of January, 2006.

Mr. Heller showed Council the Knox Box for residents with medical conditions which would allow the EMS access into the home in the event of an emergency.

Mr. Dryden explained that his mother is elderly and its a great program for her in case he would not be available to allow the EMS access to her home.

Mr. Murray asked if the Fire Co. can also use this. Mr. Heller stated only Logan EMS have access.

Mrs. Gage asked if any other municipalities are using this. Mr. Heller stated that no one locally in this area.

Mr. Murray asked if the residents pay for the box. Mr. Heller stated that they are working with the residents right now but hopes that businesses would sponsor a box.

Mr. Heller went over the Vial of Life Program which is a program that the residents would write down their medication information and put it in a vial and store in their refrigerator so that the information is available to the EMS in the case of an emergency. There is a sticker that is placed on the outside of the refrigerator so that the EMS is alerted.

Mayor commended them for all they are doing for the community.



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Joanna Gahrs, VP, SWBA asked if any new information regarding S/W Day. Mayor stated that there is no new information. Mrs. Gahrs asked if Kings Hwy. will be shut down and will the Police and W & S employees be used. Mayor stated yes and that Woolwich would share the expense.

Anthony Granato, Mattioni Law Firm, asked if the businesses would be allowed to have a spot on the street. Mayor stated yes.

Mayor stated that it will be the same for the businesses and that he wants to upgrade the crafters etc. There will be a committee formed which will include Swedesboro and Woolwich residents, SWBA, Police, and EMS on the committees.

Dave DiFranco, Pres., SWBA stated that it was a positive meeting on Thursday but that the Business Assoc. was the group that originated Swedesboro Day to promote the businesses in town and that the day was taken away from the Business Assoc. instead of working with the Business Assoc.

Mayor apologized and stated that he will attend a Business Assoc. meeting to apologize to the members and that he feels it is the right decision and it is time to move forward. Mayor stated that people are excited and will all work together and make it the greatest S/W Day ever.

Mrs. Gage stated that her concern was that it was a fund raiser for the SWBA and felt it was not fair to block them out of one of their biggest fund raisers other than the golf tournament by telling them that they can not sponsor it and make money from it. Mr. Murray stated that they can have a block of booths or a ride that the SWBA could make money on that. Mr. Dryden stated that it was unfortunate that we assumed that it would be where the SWBA could do their thing and the town could do theirs rather than not allow the SWBA to do what they have been doing for years and that it has become a exclusive town project rather than doing it together.

Anthony Granato asked about the parking at St. Josephs. Mayor stated that they are in negotiations with the diocese regarding insurance etc. and hoping to get it settled before the County does Kings Hwy. Mayor stated that there is temporary approval now and will also talk to Nate Russo, Bottos, and Bank of America to use their lots for emergency parking.

Edie Rohrman, Trinity Church asked if when the construction begins if their parking lot on Church would be shut down. Mayor stated that he did not feel there would be any impact that truck traffic will be diverted to Rt. 322 and then down to Locke Ave.

Mr. Ferguson reported that if one street off of Kings Hwy. is closed then the next street will be open and that the worst case scenario is that 50' of construction will be completed in a day and the best case if 150' a day. The total job should take 4-6 weeks.



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Mrs. Gage asked about the bowl on the island and where it will be placed. Mrs. Rohrman stated that it will be stored at St. Josephs to get it out of the way and once everything is settled it will be placed at Trinity Sq. which is a neutral spot in town.

Mr. Flaherty asked if it has been considered to have it cleaned. Mrs. Rohrman stated that hopefully in the future it will be done. Mr. Flaherty stated that they are looking for the best option to have it moved and placed. Mayor stated that once 3/6/06 comes they will have about 3-4 weeks to move it. Mr. Dryden asked if the contractor could do the curb cut at St. Josephs. Mayor stated that they need to get County approval.

Edie Rohrman thanked everyone who cooperated with the Christmas House Tour. It was a great success.

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

Committee Reports

Fire – Mr. Murray reported that he met with Andy Lovell and Mayor Chila and that the EMS program is an over whelming success and that other communities want to join. Its a good program and #1 in the State.

Mr. Murray reported that he met with Mr. Fisher and he wants to go over with Council the proposed budget. There has been a 37% increase in student population. Mr. Murray stated that he will put together a committee to review the proposed budget.

Economic Development – Mr. Murray reported that he and Mrs. Rohrman met with the State regarding the 2nd phase of the Streetscape project and that only 14 towns were accepted out of 144 towns. Mr. Murray thanked Diane Hall, Edie Rohrman, and Toni Beltz who worked hard on the application. Mayor stated that the first phase will begin shortly.

Garbage & Trash – Mr. Dryden reported that Mr. Teter will be applying for the Tonnage Grant and that we get credits for the recycling that we and the businesses do. Mr. Teter explained that the Recycling Enhancement Act is to continue the recycling programs in NJ. Mr. Dryden stated that he is gathering an informal committee to come up with a program to improve the recycling in town.

Mayor asked Mr. Dryden if he knows of someone who would be interested in being the Clean Community Coordinator. Mr. Dryden stated that he knows of 2 people who might be interested.

Ms. Churchville stated that she is the Swedesboro representative for the Logan EMS interviewing process for hiring of EMS personnel and they are accepting applications.



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Mr. Flaherty reported that they are planning on moving oil from a tank at the Fire Co. to the Borough Hall and the Library and also to a facility in Woolwich. Once the oil is out the tank will need to be removed and the approx. cost is \$3770.00 to remove or \$3300.00 to fill with sand. The cost will be shared with Woolwich and suggested meeting with Woolwich to see where they want to go with this.

Mr. Flaherty reported that the preliminary plans are out for the Library extension and it will double the size of the present Library.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Gage asked Mrs. Rohrman about the postponement of the Progressive Love Tea. Mrs. Rohrman stated that it will now be held on 3/12/06.

Clerk read the following resolution: (Tonnage Grant)
Mayor asked that the resolution be tabled to the next meeting.

Clerk read the following resolution: (Recycling Enhancement Act)
Mr. Dryden moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Roll Call Vote – Daley absent, all others yes.

Mr. Dryden moved to approve sick pay benefits for Dominick Colavita, 2/9/06, Ken Hunt, 1/31, 2/1/06, Ronald Borden, 2/7/06, seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Vote all yes.

Clerk asked if Council has made a decision regarding having an outside company do the dog census. Mayor asked to give everyone a copy of the proposal again.

Clerk asked Council what their decision is on the excess water usage at the Auction. Mr. Murray stated that we haven't formally asked to use their property but it was mentioned and should be allowed as long as we have insurance. Mayor asked to have them split the bill if we can use their property.

Clerk to call and ask them what they feel is a fair amount to pay. Mayor stated that anything over 50% is okay, we have to consider the cost of treatment.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Dryden stated that a resident in town who has a rental property who thought that they had to pay the \$75.00 Landlord Registration fee every time the tenant changed.

Mr. Flaherty stated that we need to come up with a new way to do the water bills and suggested that we look at towns around us to see how they bill. Mr. Flaherty stated that we need to put money in the budget to cover new meters.



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Mayor reported that Westrum Development asked if there should be a ground breaking ceremony to begin the construction on Kings Hwy. Mayor stated that the SWBA, His. Society and Council would be invited.

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Edie Rohrman commented on the Eagle Scout Project of Joey Laughlin who is cleaning up the Trinity cemetery. Ms. Rohrman stated that it is a community project with True Value, Borries, and Gahrs Excavating contributing.

Mayor stated that there will be an article on the traffic light in town in Sundays paper.

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

Mrs. Gage moved to pay all duly authorized bills, seconded by Mr. Murray. Vote all yes.

Clerk read the following resolution; (Closed Session)

Mrs. Gage moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by MR. Murray. Roll Call Vote – Daley absent, all others yes.

Mayor adjourned to closed session at 8:43 PM.

After returning from closed session, Ms.Churchville moved to approve Option II with the AmeriHealth Insurance Plan with the vision rider, seconded by Mr. Dryden. Vote all yes.

Mrs. Gage moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms.Churchville. Vote all yes.

Mayor adjourned the meeting at 9:50 PM.

Dolores M. Connors,
Borough Clerk