



Borough of Swedesboro Council Meeting
Swedesboro, NJ 08085

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
August 7, 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 Dryden was absent, all others present with Councilman Flaherty available by telephone.

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 7/17/06, regular, seconded by Ms. Churchville. Vote all yes.

Mayor read the following resolution: (Award Bid-Think Pavers – Streetscape Phase I)
Ms. Churchville moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Murray. Roll Call Vote- Dryden absent, all others yes.

Clerk read the following resolution: (Withdrawing Funds – Tax Collector)
Mr. Daley moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Roll Call Vote- Dryden absent, all others yes.

Clerk read the following resolution: (Support S-1199 & a-2589 Shade Tree)
Mrs. Gage moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Daley. Roll Call Vote – Dryden absent, all others yes.

Clerk read the following resolution: (2005 Garbage & Trash Audit)
Mrs. Gage moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Daley. Roll Call Vote- Dryden absent, all others yes.

Clerk read the following resolution: (Amend 2005 Budget)
Ms. Churchville moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Roll Call Vote- Dryden absent, all others yes.

Clerk read the following resolution: (Adopt 2005 Budget)
Mrs. Gage moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Ms. Churchville. Roll Call Vote- Dryden absent, all others yes.

Mr. Flaherty disconnected at 7:11 PM.

Mayor opened the meeting to the public.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION



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Dennis Conley, 1700 Kings Hwy. asked why that in regards to the construction project there are days when they are doing nothing. Mayor stated that they are now doing the prep work for the County road overlay

Mr. Conley stated that at least 4 people have looked at his curb and asked when the curb will be fixed at his corner. Mayor stated that it will be fixed.

Mr. Conley also reported that the street light in front of 1705 Kings Hwy. has been malfunctioning for a year. Clerk to let Carl Bagby, Safety Coor. know.

Ralph Page, 17 Richardson, complained about the high grass, vines and brush on the empty lot next to his house and also the property behind his garage. Clerk to leave a message for Mr. Orbanus.

Don Vallandingham, 309 Broad St. asked the status of the abandoned car at 249 Broad St. Mr. Murray stated that they are working on the problem that it first went to the Police then to the Prosecutor and then to the Solicitor and are checking to see if it is a Police or Zoning issue. Mr. Vallandingham stated that it is in a structure that doesn't qualify as a garage and it is an eyesore. Mayor stated that the Solicitor is on vacation and that the prosecutor said she spoke to him and she had called the Chief and that a ticket should be issued for an abandoned vehicle. Mayor clarified that our legal people told us to write a ticket and then the Judge will make a decision. Mr. Murray said that there are certain guidelines that the Police have to follow.

Lucille Stewart, 4 Richardson Ave. stated that there was a time when people took care of their properties and kept them nice but that now there are a lot of properties with high grass, trees etc.

Ms. Stewart thanked Mr. Flaherty for getting the cars removed on Richardson.

Dennis Conley, 1700 Kings Hwy. complained about the number of bags (8-12) of trash that some people put out that pay the same taxes as he does and he only has maybe 2 bags. Mayor stated that there has been talk of a recycle bank to encourage people to recycle and we did discuss the Pay as You Throw Program but that we all pay the same no matter how many bags are put out.

Mrs. Gage stated that there was someone who was cleaning out HUD properties in other towns and bringing the trash to their home in Swedesboro to dispose of the trash. Mayor said that one time a van pulled up on Church St. and put out trash.

Mrs. Gage stated that sometimes the amount of trash out is warranted because they are cleaning out their garages etc. Mr. Conley stated that it is unusual to have 8-9 containers every week. Mayor asked Mr. Conley to let him know if he sees someone abusing it.



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Karen Murray, Weatherby Ave. reported that every week people are putting trash out on weekends due to moving and the Police do nothing. Mrs. Gage stated that sometimes the people do call the Police to let them know that they have to put it out early. Mrs. Murray stated that at Broad & Second there is a lot of trash and has been there for over a week.

George Weeks, Helms Ave. asked that if the Police are doing their patrols why are they not seeing that trash is out early. Mayor stated that the Police have ticketed people for trash.

Lucille Stewart, Richardson Ave. stated that 2-3 churches have people parking across the exit. Mr. Murray asked if this was just on Sundays. Ms. Stewart stated that whenever the church has services.

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

Committee Reports

Parks & Rec. – Mrs. Gage reported that the committee would be meeting this Wed. at the Borough Hall. Clerk stated that the room is not available due to another group using it.

Mrs. Gage to have Jim Lovegrove email the suggested revised by laws to her and then will forward them to the Mayor.

Police – Mr. Murray reported that they have issued over 14 summons regarding abandoned vehicles.

Mr. Murray stated that they will begin to negotiate the Police contract shortly.

Mr. Murray reported that the Police dept. did not hold a National Nite Out due to lack of man power. Mayor stated that it was to be done in conjunction with Woolwich and would like to know why it was not done. Mr. Murray to find out.

Mr. Murray reported that S/W Day is moving along good and that they are meeting every 2 weeks with a lot of sponsors to help, the web site is up and running with all the forms on line and they will also put the sponsors links on there.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Gage expressed her concern that over the weekend there was nothing in her folder for preparation of the Council meeting but then when she comes to the meeting there are



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a lot of things that she does not have time to review before the meeting. Clerk stated that the items in the folder were gotten just that day.

Mr. Murray read a letter regarding Paige Howarth who is seeking funding for a Pre-teen America Scholarship for girls between the ages of 7-12 and needs \$325 to be sponsored. Mrs. Gage felt that it would be a legal issue and to get the Borough Solicitors opinion. Mayor stated that it is a path that we do not want to take because it could lead to getting 5-6 requests per meeting.

Mr. Murray stated that Memorial Day Ceremonies are organized through the Swedesboro-Woolwich Business Assoc. and that it is another event that it usually put together by the towns and would like to get the feeling of Council if it should be done by the town or are they happy with the SWBA running it. Mr. Murray stated that the SWBA is getting a lot of recruitment in Logan Twp. and should they have a group with outside influences run it or have the town run it.

Mrs. Gage stated that she has helped Joanna Gahrs for the past 6 years and also has Lucille Stewart. Ms. Stewart stated that before the SWBA they did not have a program. Ms. Churchville stated that this year she felt that the Mayor or a member of Council should have been on the dais and thought that it was strange that they were off to the side. She felt that the Mayor should have been on the dais and that she hopes in the future that the Mayor has the opportunity to address the crowd. Mrs. Gage stated that Mayor and Council were introduced not shunned. Mayor suggested that they attend a meeting and speak to them and he felt it was an absolute insult and that there had never been a Memorial Day service that the Mayor was not involved and that there were petty reasons for it and he was very unhappy that someone decided that the Mayor would not be involved.

Fire – Mayor went over the letter that was sent to all business owners that the Fire Safety inspections would be starting.

Mayor reported that there had been a pre- construction meeting regarding the streetscape project which went very well and they have started the preparation work and the lights are ordered.

Mayor also reported that the project is underway for the island replacement and they are laying the ground work for the traffic light.

Mayor reported that the overlay for Redrow Ave. will begin end of August or beginning of September. Mayor also stated that the work on Kings Hwy. is progressing and asked everyone to be patient and they are still on schedule.

Mr. Murray moved to accept the resignation of Pauline Jordan, Dep. Court Adm. effective 7/27/06, seconded by Ms. Churchville. Vote all yes.



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Clerk went over the League of Municipalities Conference in Nov. and informed Council that the CFO said there is money to attend and explained that the Clerk and Collector need CEU's and that they would both need to attend on the same day. Mayor suggested the W & S Sec. filling in while they were out. Clerk to email all info to Mayor and Council.

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

No one spoke.

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

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

Ms. Churchville moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Daley. Vote all yes.

Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:28 PM.

Dolores M. Connors,
Borough Clerk