



Borough of Swedesboro Council Meeting
Swedesboro, NJ 08085

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
June 18, 2007

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 Churchville, Dryden, and Murray were absent, all other 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 June 4, 2007, regular and closed, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Vote all yes.

Ms. Churchville arrived at 7:04 PM.

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Joe Ward, Logan EMC submitted the 5/07 monthly report.

Dan Orbanus, Kings Hwy. asked if there are fans available for senior citizens. Mr. Ward stated that they do not have any but will get in touch with different organizations to see if they have any.

Mr. Dryden and Murray arrived at 7:06 PM

Mr. Casella reported that he spoke to the Freeholders office to see if we can get some fans.

Lucille Stewart, Richardson Ave. asked who picks up cuttings of trees. Mr. Dryden stated that it needs to be bundled and put out in trash. Mayor stated that they have to be short lengths and the trash men will take them.

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

Mayor stated that Stan Bitgood, Borough Engineer, prepared an application for the Bikeway Grant and we need to do a resolution committing to the grant. Mayor stated that if we receive this grant we will get \$190,000 for the project and the Borough would match with 20% or \$26,000. Mr. Dryden stated that residents should be able to walk from Swedesboro to the park. Discussion followed regarding the path of the bikeway.



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Mayor read the following resolution: (NJ DOT application for Bikeway Grant)
Mr. Dryden moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Roll Call Vote – all yes.

Mayor reported that the Borough will receive \$50,000 for demolition of unsafe buildings and that the total amount applied for was \$170,000 to be distributed over three years. This grant will enable the Borough to go to the owner of a property and if they do not do anything then we have to follow through and this grant gives us the seed money to do that and then we will recoup the money when the property is sold. Mayor stated that there are at least 12 buildings to come down.

Committee Reports

Police – Mr. Murray reported that he, Mr. Casella, Mr. Flaherty, Mr. Stanley, Chief Dupper and Lt. Kemp interviewed 2 candidates for the full time position and will interview another when he comes back from vacation. Mr. Murray stated that the new police officers are working out well.

Parks & Recreation – Mrs. Gage reported that Fun Day was a huge success and the St. Jude Walk was well attended.

Mrs. Gage reported that the next meeting would be held at Mrs. Williams home and they will not meet in August but will resume in September.

Shade Tree – Mrs. Gage stated that the trees on Kings Hwy. will be trimmed.

Mrs. Gage read the following resolution: (Grant Agree. 2006 Community Forestry Stewardship Incentive Program Phase I)
Mrs. Gage moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Dryden. Roll Call Vote – all yes.

Mrs. Flaherty asked if this is the grant where they give away trees. Mrs. Gage stated no that was the Cool Cities Grant.

Mayor asked that Mrs. Homan be gotten in touch with regarding the removal of the tree stump at the end of Grant Ave. which is a safety hazard. Mayor stated that they will grade out the area with the help of Long Lane Appliance and then plant grass at the little park.

Library – Mr. Flaherty reported that Woolwich has declined to contribute to the expansion of the Library. Mr. Flaherty stated that he finds it hard to believe that the committee is not considering their children's future. Mr. Flaherty stated that Sam



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Maccerrone had all the figures for the expansion. Mrs. Gage suggested having the patrons of the library go to a Woolwich meeting and plead their case. Mr. Flaherty stated that they will figure out a way to make it a workable venture.

Mayor stated that the Fire house needs a new roof and our situation makes it easier for us to do the financing for the roof. They received 2 estimates and the range was from \$35000 to \$58000. Woolwich would pay back their share over a 5 year period and there will be an interlocal agreement.

Mr. Dryden motioned for the Borough to be the lead for financing the roof replacement at the fire house up to \$80000, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Vote all yes.

Mayor remarked on the letter received from the Falcianis and that it was time to move on.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Flaherty reported that the core samples taken on Redrow have been completed and the residents are very happy with the overlay.

Clerk read the following ordinance: 2007 SALARY 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.

Mr. Dryden moved to adopt the ordinance with a public hearing to be held July 2, 2007, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Roll Call Vote- all yes.

Mrs. Gage motioned to hire Brooke Goodwin for a summer help position, seconded by Ms. Churchville. Vote all yes.

Clerk went over the proposal from The Society to Protect Animals in the amount of \$2500 to do the dog census.

Mrs. Gage motioned to hire The Society to Protect Animals to do the 2008 Dog Census, seconded by Ms. Churchville. Vote all yes.

Clerk explained the problems with the issuing of yard sale permits regarding the amount of time in advance of the sale that a permit can be issued and suggested amending the ordinance.

After discussion, Mr. Dryden motioned to issue yard sale permits up to one business day prior to the sale and in the interim to grant approvals until ordinance is in effect, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Vote all yes.



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Clerk to get in touch with Borough Solicitor to do the amendment.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Dryden stated that we need to concentrate on enforcing the pedestrian crosswalks and explained that he was hit by a car in the crosswalk at Underwood Hospital. Mayor stated that the signs should be in this week.

Mr. Casella asked if the Borough could do anything regarding Merklng St. Mr. Flaherty stated that it is a private street which the residents own. Mayor stated that it should be the owners' responsibility to maintain the street and if we do it, it could be a liability issue. Mr. Flaherty stated that we should not plow or grade that road. Mr. Dryden stated that he felt we should continue to occasionally grade the road and plow the snow because the residents of Merklng St. pay the same taxes as the rest of the Borough residents and deserve these services. Mayor suggested that we look into seeing if they want to turn it over to the Borough.

Mayor announced that the Borough received from the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission 2007 Transportation & Community Development Initiative Grant in the amount of \$40,800 for the design of parking facilities.

Mayor reported that a truck hit a banner arm and that we are getting all new arms from the company at no cost which will be a little shorter.

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Diane Hale, Park Ave. Economic Dev. Ch. thanked Dan Orbanus for looking into houses in violation of the property maintenance code.

Mrs. Hale reported that the banner arms are down and waiting for the new ones and also in the process of ordering American flags which will hang over the sidewalks.

Mrs. Hale showed Council the new plant hangers which are \$47.00 each and 13 are needed and asked for Council approval to order. Mr. Dryden asked who will water the plant. Mrs. Hale stated that she has been watering them. Mayor asked Clerk to see if the Business Assoc. could ask the business owners to water them.



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Mrs. Hale asked for an ordinance for people who have junk on their porches. Mayor stated that it is part of the property maintenance ordinance. Mayor stated that the problem is getting worse and need Dan Orbanus to pay a visit.

Mrs. Hale asked for an ordinance regarding the parking lots on Kings Hwy. in the newly renovated areas to not be allowed to have stones on their lots due to them damaging the pavers. Mayor stated that he thinks there is an ordinance to address that. Mr. Murray stated that in front of the Chinese restaurant there is a pool of grease. Mrs. Hale to look into that. Mayor stated that it is a Police of Mr. Orbanus issue.

Mrs. Hale announced that there will be a meeting on Tues. at 7 PM at the Margaret Clifford School on the retail survey and they want to know what direction you want the town to go in and it is important that Swedesboro residents attend this.

George Weeks, Helms Ave. stated that he was unaware that cats are to be licensed and suggested raising the \$3.00 fee for unsprayed or non-neutered pets. Clerk stated that the \$3.00 fee is State regulated.

Mr. Weeks stated that until a permanent web person is hired he will continue doing the web page and requested approved copies of the minutes. Clerk stated that once she enters the minutes into the bound books that she deletes them from her computer. Mr. Weeks asked that all future minutes be sent. Mayor stated that input from committee chairmen is needed for the web page and if any organizations have pictures that could be posted.

Helen Fromm, Weatherby Ave. asked where the website is being advertised. Mayor stated that it needs to be in the New Town Press and the town newsletter when it begins.

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

Mr. Casella moved to pay all duly authorized bills, seconded by Ms. Churchville. Vote all yes.

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

Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:20 PM

Dolores M. Connors
Borough Clerk