



Borough of Swedesboro Council Meeting
Swedesboro, NJ 08085

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 17, 2007

A regular meeting of Borough Council was held on the above date in Council Chambers with the Honorable Thomas W. Fromm presiding. Councilman Murray 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 9/4/07, regular, seconded by Ms. Churchville. Vote all yes.

Mr. Dryden moved to allow Tanya Goodwin to take the minutes in the absence of Dolores Connors, Borough Clerk, seconded by Mr. Casella. Vote all yes.

Mayor, thanked Mary and Burrell King from Heritages Dairy Store for their support on National Night Out and presented them with a plaque.

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Gretchen Kunkle-4 Merkle- Mrs. Kunkle wanted to know the status on the letter she e-mailed and faxed to the Mayor. The Mayor responded that the letter was forward to the solicitor, Tim Chell, and was advised not to proceed until the matter was looked into.

Lucille Stewart-4 Richardson Avenue- Mrs. Stewart commented on the parking for Swedesboro Day specifically on Richardson Avenue. She wanted to know if permission could be received from Ron Baus to park on his lot. A discussion was held and it was recommended that there be no parking on Richardson Avenue on Swedesboro Day. Residents could possibly park in Nick's Auto lot.

Lucille Stewart-4 Richardson Avenue- wanted to know if there was a curbing ordinance. She states that there is a resident that is allowing her dog to go on other people's properties and is not cleaning up the mess. Mr. Casella replied that there was and that she should notify the police if this occurs.

Mr. Casella motioned to close the public portion, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Vote all yes.



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Committee Reports

Garbage & Recycling- Mr. Dryden met with Vince discussing the Recycle Bank and the contract with FCR. Mr. Dryden stated that the issues with Omni have been resolved and that Recycle Bank could possibly work something out with Omni.

Mr. Dryden stated that the tags for recycling were ordered.

The Mayor commented that the new residents are not receiving their recycling cans. He asked that a list be generated as to the name and addresses of the residents that request a can.

Public works department drafted a letter and delivered them to the new homes.

Mr. Dryden gave the recycling report and estimated that approximately 19.42% is being recycled.

Mr. Casella commented on JIF funds that were available to the Borough that have to be used or we will lose the funds.

Police

The Mayor reported that the new Durango is still at Atlas. He will need to talk with the CFO about the police budget and where to charge the equipment.

The Mayor commented on the new 4 way stop sign at Railroad and Second.

The Mayor asked Chief Dupper about the status of hiring class 1 & 2 officers. Chief Dupper stated that he has not met with any of the applicants and is doing background checks at this point.

Mr. Casella read an update on the police numbers that were reported incorrectly last meeting. The number of traffic violations submitted was 52, but the actual number was 253 for the month of August. Chief Dupper was asked to clarify the mistake and the Chief reported that it was the error of the county and that the 52 was only for the 1st week of August.

Chief Dupper was asked for the total numbers for July; however, the Chief stated that the only numbers that were available was for August. He stated that he requested the July numbers, but was only provided with the August numbers.

The Mayor asked Chief Dupper if his department kept a log, keeping track of citations issued. The chief stated that he did, but the county kept more up to date records.



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COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 17, 2007

Chief Dupper gave a statement directed at Mayor and Council regarding their comments in the New Town Press. He stated that he did not appreciate the negative comments directed at his department and felt that it was uncalled for.

Mr. Dryden addressed Chief Dupper's statement by adding that the comments that were made were based on the numbers that were provided to Mayor and Council. He explained to Chief Dupper that Mayor and Council are constantly being asked by the residents what is being done about the constant traffic violations.

Chief Dupper stated that he if there was a problem with his department he would like to be informed before going to the public.

Mrs. Gage commented that the trucks going through town do seem to be slowing down.

Chief Dupper commented that he notified several of the truck companies that they need to slow down.

Chief Dupper commented that in August there were 9 citations for crosswalks and in September so far there are 20.

Parks and Recreation

Mrs. Gage announced Natalie Mathias was made the new director of Locke Avenue and Lake Park.

Mrs. Gage announced some of the upcoming events for Parks and Recreation; 10/13/07 Halloween fun day at Stetchers, 10/31/07 parade at Locke Avenue, 11/10/07 New York Bus trip, Tennis clinic in the fall for 3rd to 6th graders six lessons for \$30.00, Stroller fitness club at Locke Avenue Park, 10/14/07 Kayaking safety at Lake Narraticon Park for 5th and 6th graders 11:00 – 3:00 p.m.. Insurance is covered through Red Cross. All supplies will be provided by instructor.

The Mayor commented that the light has begun to be installed outside of Borough Hall, reiterated the 4 way stop sign is up at Railroad and Second, the recycling bank program is being looked into, and the streetscape project is waiting for one more signature and hopefully will begin in the fall.

We are still awaiting the dam inspection. The detour route is set for the 5k run.

The Mayor stated that Pennoni Associates will be redoing the master plan for the Borough. \$35,000.00 was budgeted for this project and the total came in at \$34,650.00.

The Mayor stated that on or about 9/30/07 the County EMS services will be implemented, we are still awaiting the final documentation.



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Swedesboro Day parking was discussed. Mayor asked for a motion for temporary no parking from Church Street to the end of Locke Avenue. Mr. Casella motioned for temporary no parking, seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Vote all yes.

Mr. Flaherty asked if we are being assisted by Woolwich Twp. Police on Swedesboro Day. Woolwich Twp will be assisting.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Flaherty talked to Marge and will be meeting with her.

Mr. Flaherty stated that the police committee is waiting for a response from the police regarding the police contract.

Mr. Casella asked if we could introduce the ordinance he proposed in February or March titled Swedesboro Residential Homeowner Protection Ordinance, a discussion was held and it was decided to forward the draft ordinance to Tim Chell and allow him to look over it. Mr. Casella moved to forward the ordinance to Tim Chell, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Roll Call Vote, Mr. Murray absent, all others yes.

Tanya Goodwin read the following resolution: (Escrow Agreement for Development Fees for Affordable Housing and Authorizing Related Actions) Mr. Dryden moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Roll Call Vote, Mr. Murray absent, all others yes.

Tanya Goodwin read the following resolution: (Performance Bond Reduction to Swedesboro Square-Section B, block 52, lot 6.) Mr. Dryden moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Roll Call Vote, Mr. Murray absent, all others yes.

Tanya Goodwin read the following resolution: (Performance Bond Reduction to Swedesboro Square-Section C, Block 48, Lot 8). Mr. Dryden moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Roll Call Vote, Mr. Murray absent, all others yes.

Tanya Goodwin read the following resolution: (Appointing Harry Haushalter as Special Tax Counsel and Authorizing Professional Services for the Borough from September 17, 2007 through December 31, 2007. Mr. Flaherty moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Churchville. Roll Call Vote- Mr. Murray absent, all others yes.

Tanya Goodwin read the following resolution: (Overpayment of Tax collection). Mrs. Gage moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Dryden. Roll Call Vote-Mr. Murray absent, all others yes.



Borough of Swedesboro Council Meeting
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COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 17, 2007

Tanya Goodwin read the following resolution: (Appointing Lois G. DeMore as the Certified Tax Collector) Mr. Casella moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Roll Call Vote-Mr. Murray absent, all others yes.

Tanya Goodwin read the following resolution: (Appointing Bonnie Coleman as Deputy Tax Collector) Mr. Casella moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Dryden. Roll Call Vote-Mr. Murray absent, all others yes.

Tanya Goodwin read the following resolution: (Award Contract to Pennoni Associates for the upgrading of the Master Plan). Mr. Casella moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Roll Call Vote-Mr. Murray absent, all others yes.

Tanya Goodwin introduced ordinance adding Chapter 110, Handicapped Parking) with a public hearing on 10/1/07. Mrs. Gage moved to introduce the ordinance, seconded by Mr. Dryden. Roll Call Vote-Mr. Murray absent, all others yes.

Mr. Flaherty moved to approve sick pay benefits for William Goodwin on 9/10/07, seconded by Ms. Churchville. Vote all yes.

NEW BUSINESS

The Mayor asked Chief Dupper about the status of the radar signs, the Chief responded that he is getting quotes and will forward the e-mails to him by the end of the week.

Mr. Casella motioned to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Vote all yes.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Bob Kunkle-515 Redrow. Mr. Kunkle wanted to know why the street sweep truck has not been out. He was informed that the truck has started back up and that this is a seasonal service, not all year round. He was asked to contact Chuck about this service.

Mr. Kunkle also asked about leave/lawn debris pick up. Mr. Dryden informed him that this is a seasonal pick up not year round. He was advised to rake the leaves to the curb and the truck will be starting up in the fall for leave pick up. Mr. Dryden also informed him that lawn clippings could be mulched and bagged, or could be used for fertilizer of his lawn.

Angie Michener from the Swedesboro Police Department addressed Mayor and Council by reading a statement drafted by members of the police department. Several members of the Swedesboro Police Department were in attendance. The letter addressed statements in the Newtown Press regarding the police department made by members of Council. The police department feels that they were unfairly criticized in the article.



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Mr. Dryden tried to respond to their statements by stating that the comments were made based on the numbers that were submitted to them by the Chief of Police. The members of the police department proceeded to leave the meeting without further discussion.

Kathy-1911 Kings Highway- complained about the traffic violations along Kings Highway and commented on the number of citations issued. She commented that based on the reported numbers today that a lot more violations are occurring and that more cars should be cited.

Council responded that this matter was discussed on several occasions with Chief Dupper.

Mrs. Kunkle asked if the police are unwilling to do their jobs.

Mrs. Gage stated that the police cannot be everywhere. There are not enough police officers on duty to have them sitting along Kings Highway. There is crime occurring in Swedesboro that often pulls the officers off traffic duty.

A discussion was held on some of the known crimes that are going on in the Borough. The Mayor stated that he knows of vehicles being broken into, as well as homes. Members of the audience asked why known crimes are not in the crime logs listed in the paper. It was commented on that this would have to be submitted to the paper.

Mrs. Kunkle asked if the police crime logs could be in the Gloucester County Times notifying the residents of the crimes that are going on.

The Mayor stated that we should do the crime logs and that he and Council should be provided with specific information as to the crimes.

The Mayor also stated that the newsletter for Swedesboro residents is being done and that if this information was provided it could also be placed in the newsletter.

Mrs. Gage asked to remind Dolores about the letter to the Woolwich Police Department addressing the speed in which their officers come through town.

The Mayor stated that the letter should be from our police committee address to their police committee.

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

Mr. Casella moved to go into a closed session meeting, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Vote all yes.



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

Mr. Dryden moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Casella. Vote all yes.

Tanya Goodwin
For Dolores M. Connors, Borough Clerk