



Borough of Swedesboro Council Meeting
Swedesboro, NJ 08085

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
January 22, 2008

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 Flaherty and Councilwoman Gage 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.

The meeting was stopped at 7:05 to do the Oaths of Office for the new police officers. The Oath was given to Jennifer Fratto for the position of Class II officer, Stephen Spithaler for the position of Class I officer, and Wilbert Thomas for position of Class II officer.

The meeting was reopened at 7:20 p.m.

Mr. Weeks moved to approve the minutes of 1/7/08 regular and reorganization, seconded by Mrs. Hale. Vote all yes.

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

No one from the public spoke.

Mr. Weeks moved to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Mr. Casella. Vote all yes.

Committee Reports

Garbage/Recycling- Mr. Dryden asked about the status of the recycle bank. Mayor Fromm stated that hopefully by the end of the month the contracts will be signed.

Economic Development - Mrs. Hale stated that the first meeting scheduled will be this Thursday, 1/24/08 at Borough Hall.

Board of Health- Mr. Casella informed everyone that Rosemarie Bellace gave her letter of resignation due to personal reasons. Mr. Casella asked for a motion to accept her letter of resignation, Mr. Dryden moved to accept her letter of resignation, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Vote all yes. Mr. Casella asked that a letter be sent on behalf of the Borough thanking her for her service. Mr. Casella stated that a new board of health member will have to be appointed.



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Police- Mr. Casella and Mr. Weeks met with the chief. Further discussion was had about having an emergency call box in the front and back of borough hall. Chief Dupper stated that he had some concerns about the outside lines interfering with his police lines. If someone happened to be on the phone at the same time of an emergency call then they could possibly hear a police conversation. The mayor stated that he felt that this issue could be resolved and asked George Weeks to contact the county IT guy, Jim Butts to address this issue.

There was a town meeting at Councilwoman Gages house on Sunday with Chief Dupper, Councilman Casella present and the main topic of discussion was the ongoing drug problem on Broad Street. Chief Dupper encouraged the residents to call the police if they witness anything suspicious.

Mayor Fromm asked Chief Dupper to be more proactive on the borough's website and post information for the residents.

Mayor Fromm also asked Chief Dupper when Lieutenant Kemp was going to be involved in more administrative duties and Chief Dupper responded in early February.

Mayor Fromm stated that the residents should have access to the police department's e-mail. He stated that a resident called for this information and was denied. Chief Dupper stated that there was a website for the police department and Mr. Weeks could link it to the borough's website.

Mr. Casella reported that the members of the police department have finally signed and returned their employee handbooks to the borough clerk.

Mr. Casella stated that at the request of Chief Dupper additional police officers not be hired until the Spring so that they can properly train the current new hires.

Public works- Mayor Fromm commented on the emergency repair required for well # 4, which broke down in early January, 2008. He stated that AC Schulte's will be doing the repairs at a cost of approximately \$24,000.00.

Mayor Fromm also commented that he spoke with Joanne Mitch, CFO and stated that water/sewer developer connection fees are to be put into the water/sewer capital account to help cover such emergencies.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Dryden asked about the disposal of the old oil tank and the Mayor stated that he is looking into it.



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Deputy Clerk read the following resolution: (Performance Bond reduction to Westrum Development Company, Swedesboro Square-Section C, Block 48, Lot 8). Mr. Casella moved to adopt the resolution based on the recommendation of the engineer, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Roll Call Vote-Gage and Flaherty absent, all others yes.

Deputy Clerk read the following resolution: (Performance Bond reduction to Westrum Development Company, Swedesboro Square-Section A, Block 53, Lot 4). Mr. Casella moved to adopt the resolution based on the recommendation of the engineer, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Roll Call Vote: Gage and Flaherty absent, all others yes.

Deputy Clerk read the following resolution: (Authorizing the Mayor to sign the proposal for construction management and inspection services for the reconstruction of Fow Avenue) Mr. Dryden moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Roll Call Vote: Gage and Flaherty absent, all others yes.

Mr. Weeks asked if the trucking company is fixing the pot holes. The Mayor stated that they are not required to repair the streets, but he would talk to them and maybe they would help with the cost to repair the streets.

Deputy clerk read the following resolution: (Establish dedicated by rider reserved trust fund for Developers Recreation Fees,) Mr. Weeks moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Dryden. Roll Call Vote Gage and Flaherty absent, all others yes.

Mr. Casella asked what the fees are and if everyone building a house has to pay or just the developers. Mayor stated that it is outlined in the ordinance.

Deputy clerk read the following resolution: (Authorizing repair of Well #4 pump). Mr. Dryden moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Roll Call Vote Gage and Flaherty absent, all others yes.

Mr. Dryden moved to approve sick pay benefits if they had the time for Ptl. Chris Beckett and Ptl. Michael Denick, second by Mr. Casella. Gage and Flaherty absent, all others yes.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Weeks presented a brochure for sensor/electric lights. Mr. Weeks stated that the lights can be programmed to go on and off at whatever time. A discussion was held and the Mayor asked Mr. Weeks to get in contact with Mr. Flaherty about possible grant money.

The Mayor, Joanne Mitcho, and Diane Hale had a meeting with a representative from the State about the RCA program with Woolwich Twp. Woolwich sent us a proposal in the amount of \$250,000.00 for houses in Swedesboro in need of repair. He explained that this did not need to be paid back to Woolwich as this was for them to meet the RCA



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requirements. The Mayor stated that by the next meeting he would like to appoint someone to be the liaison for RCA.

The Mayor commented that he has spoke with several people about reducing the water and sewer bills for seniors who have met the criteria for the senior tax reduction. When in place the seniors who qualify will have their bills reduced by half. He stated that there are about 31-35 people who currently met the criteria.

Mr. Casella commented about the firehouse roof. He stated that the bids were submitted. He stated that the difference in cost between a metal roof and a shingle roof was about \$40,000.00. Mr. Casella stated that he was in favor of the shingle roof as it was a more practical solution. The Mayor commented that he was in favor of the shingle roof as well. After a discussion it was decided that all members present were in favor of the shingle roof. Mr. Casella stated that Woolwich Twp was also discussing this at their meeting tonight.

The Mayor commented that Woolwich Twp was also discussing at their meeting tonight the possibility of taking over our Zoning office.

Mr. Dryden motioned to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Vote all present yes.

Dan Orbanus-Kings Highway asked if the RCA program was only for homeowners. The Mayor stated that this was only for homeowners, not landlords and not business owners.

Mayor stated that he would like more participation with regards to the Newsletter with Diane Angelucci. Every department is encouraged to give her information and he is hoping to have a letter out ASAP.

Chief Dupper thanked Mr. Dryden and his company for distributing to himself and all his officers a resourceful pocket guide with helpful information.

Mr. Weeks moved to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Mrs. Hale. Vote all present yes.

Deputy Clerk read the resolution: (closed session). Mr. Dryden moved to accept the resolution, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Gage and Flaherty absent, all others yes.

Went into closed session at 8:10 p.m. and returned from closed session at 9:22 p.m.

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

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



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Mayor adjourned the meeting at 9:23 p.m.

Tanya Goodwin-Deputy Clerk for
Dolores Connors, Borough Clerk