



Borough of Swedesboro Council Meeting
Swedesboro, NJ 08085

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
February 4, 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 Dryden 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.

Mr. Weeks moved to approve the minutes of January 22, 2008, regular and closed, seconded by Mrs. Hale. Vote all yes.

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Peter Patane, Franklin St. announced that the Knight of Columbus will hold a Fish Fry on Friday, 2/8/08 from 5 PM – 7 PM.

Mayor asked Mr. Patane to get the details to Mr. Weeks to place info on the web site.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Board of Health – Mr. Casella stated that the Board met last week and asked that Margaret Morrison be considered to serve on the Board. She has been active for years in the community and has agreed to serve if appointed.

Mr. Casella reported that there was an incident at Kingsway regarding the MRSA virus and the students were notified by letter but the Swedesboro Board of Health was not notified. Mr. Casella stated that Don Fanslau made contact with the County and they will inform all the sending Districts in the future.

Mr. Casella stated that last year he tried to institute the free fan program in Swedesboro but it was too late to do so. This year he contacted the Freeholder office and hopes to be one of the designated towns where fans can be picked up.



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Swedesboro, NJ 08085

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
February 4, 2008

Police – Mr. Casella reported that he met with the Lt. and the Chief will bring him to the office this week. Mr. Weeks and Mr. Casella met with the Chief again and the Chief will meet with the Lt. once a week.

Mr. Casella stated that the Police Dept. did a requisition for ammunition due to as a result of the war in Iraq ammunition is becoming very hard to obtain so they are ordering early a two year supply. Mr. Casella stated that other towns are doing the same thing. Mayor asked to find out how much is actually used. Mr. Flaherty asked if it is stored in this building. Mr. Casella stated yes it is but if it is a problem we could probably ask the Prosecutors office to see if it can be stored there.

Planning/Zoning - Mr. Weeks reported that the Planning/Zoning Board met and reorganized and approved a subdivision on Vanneman & Leahy and there will be a hearing for a possible variance at the next meeting.

School Boards - Mr. Weeks stated that Kingsway has started their budgeting process and there are concerns to having to fund lab renovations and a problem with the weight room. Mayor asked if we can be a part of the budget process before rather than after the vote. Mr. Weeks stated yes we can.

Shade Tree – Mrs. Gage reported that the Tree City report was submitted 1/08 and the Forestry Grant report is due 2/08. Mrs. Gage stated that trees were planted on Kings Hwy. and Paul Beister is donating two trees and there is a sign to be installed on trees that they are from the grant. In March and April, 30 trees will be planted throughout town and Mrs. Gage went over the guidelines for the reimbursement of the funding of the State Grants. Mayor stated that if there is no money in the budget then it can't be done. We must have a signed agreement or Borough funds will not be authorized. Mayor stated that we can't front the money, it must be budgeted. Mr. Flaherty suggested that they meet with Carol and Joanne to discuss how to fund the project.

Mrs. Gage asked what area Phase II and Phase III Streetscape will cover so that there are no conflicts with Shade Tree projects.

Mrs. Gage stated that Mrs. Homan has submitted a letter asking that Carolyn Dupper be considered to be on the Shade Tree Commission. Mrs. Dupper has been a life long resident of town, very reliable and would be an asset to the Commission.

Library – Mr. Flaherty reported that Marge is preparing a power point presentation regarding the expansion of the Library and will shortly set up a meeting to for Council to view.

Parks & Recreation – Mr. Flaherty reported that there will be the following programs:
Bowling Party 2/9/08

- Egg Hunt 3/27/08



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February 4, 2008

- Phantom Tickets March, 2008
- Movie Night May, 2008
- Summer Fun Kids Camp over the summer

Economic Development – Mrs. Hale reported the following:

- Attended a meeting on 1/24/08 about attracting business and tourism into the County.
- Bankers & Brokers Breakfast will be held on 4/25/08 and will set up display to show what we have to offer.
- Community Development Block Grant application due end of March.
- Michael Murray resigned and swore in Helen Fromm.
- Discussed Outdoor Garden Show and the Jazz Festival.

Mayor's Report - Mayor stated he attended the Gloucester County Tourism meeting on 2/1/08 and asked everyone to go to the web site and fill out the survey.

Mayor stated that we will be signing the Recycle Bank contract and there has been a revision to the Omni contract with a target date of 3/10/08 to begin.

Mayor reported that he has received a verbal from Swedesboro Auction to use their site for the garden show.

Mayor stated that he met with Pennoni, who is revising our Master Plan, and that a group will be made up of someone from Planning/Zoning, Economic Dev., Historical Pres. and Council Pres. to come up with a vision for a new plan.

Mayor reported the following:

Well # 4 back in service.

He and Mrs. Hale will meet with Collingswood Mayor to discuss redevelopment.

Today was the day for yea or nay on the Police contract and that it is close to being signed but if not it will go to interest arbitration.

Mrs. Gage stated that the Splash Program will be held 5/10/08 and that Parks & Recreation is applying to the State for a special use permit to suspend the requirement of fishing licenses that day.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Gage asked that in reducing the W & S bills for seniors who would qualify. Mayor stated right now 30-35 are eligible based on the property tax rebate that they already receive.

Mr. Weeks stated that he has not heard from the company regarding the crossing lights.



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COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
February 4, 2008

Mr. Weeks reported that he spoke to the Supt. at Kingsway and they are interested in Mrs. Bagby's proposal and they will be in touch with their music teacher who will then get in touch with Mrs. Bagby directly. They stated that they hope to hold the program next February.

Mr. Casella stated that he received a letter from the Adm. of Woolwich Twp. regarding the roof at the firehouse and Woolwich agreed on the shingle roof with us. Mayor stated that it must be made clear that we are only borrowing the exact amount that is needed for the roof replacement.

RESOLUTIONS

Clerk read the following resolution: (Auth. Mayor to sign proposal reconst. of Fow Ave.)
Mr. Weeks moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll Call Vote – Dryden absent, all others yes.

Clerk read the following resolution: (Auth. Mayor to sign Parking Study Grant Agree.)
Mr. Weeks moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll Call Vote- Dryden absent, all others yes.

Clerk read the following resolution: (Auth. Mayor to sign Streetscape II agreement)
Mrs. Gage moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Roll Call Vote- Dryden absent, all others yes.

Clerk read the following resolution: (Transfers)
Mr. Weeks moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Casella. Roll Call Vote- Dryden absent, all others yes.

Clerk read the following resolution: (Appt. Conklin Adm. Agt. For Aff. Hous)
Mrs. Hale moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Roll Call Vote- Dryden absent, all others yes.

Mrs. Gage moved to approve the cancellation of the Building Inspector Trust Fund Account, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Vote all yes.

Mr. Casella moved to approve the Clerk attending the NJ Municipal Clerks Conf. in April, 2008, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Vote all yes.

Mr. Casella moved to approve sick pay benefits to Gregory Weber for 1/23, 24/08, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Vote all yes.

Clerk asked Council if they would like her to respond to the request for reimbursement of W & S fees for the property located on Auburn Ave. Council agreed.



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NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Weeks reported that he and Mrs. Hale attended the budget training session sponsored by Bowman & Co.

Mr. Flaherty asked that the Twiss property have the disabled person tax relief status changed due to the death of Mr. Twiss. Clerk to get in touch with the Tax Assessor.

Mayor asked the status of the Musumeci property regarding the W & S billing. Clerk stated that she has not heard recently where it was. Mayor to get in touch with Borough Solicitor.

Mrs. Hale stated that there will be a meeting at Mrs. Daley's on 2/5/08 at 7:15 PM.

Mrs. Hale reported that she received an email from the Gloucester Count Workforce Investment Bd. advertising the Jazz Festival. Mayor stated that the word is out that Swedesboro is doing well.

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Margo Bagby, Turner Ave. thanked Mr. Weeks for contacting the school regarding her proposed program. Mrs. Bagby stated that she was upset with Mrs. Hale for not getting back to her regarding her proposal and explained her background in music and stated that she would like to go with Mr. Weeks to meet with the Supt. Mr. Weeks stated that they do want her to write up more about her proposed program.

Mrs. Bagby stated that she wants to work on the committee for the Jazz Festival. Mayor replied that anyone who wants to be involved can be and stated that he never heard that Mrs. Hale said no to anyone. Mrs. Hale stated that funds are needed to pay the musicians. Mrs. Bagby said that she has gotten in touch with some groups and has asked them to send in the bio.

Mr. Casella stated that we always want to improve all programs and that no one would use the issue of race to not be involved. He urged her to get the proposals and see if we can afford the musicians.

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



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

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

Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:22 PM.

Dolores M. Connors,
Borough Clerk