



Borough of Swedesboro Council Meeting
Swedesboro, NJ 08085

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
May 19, 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 and 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.

Mr. Weeks moved to approve the minutes of 5/5/08, regular and closed, 5/8/08, special, seconded by Mr. Casella. Vote all yes.

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chief Dupper presented Alfred Worrell Jr. with a plaque thanking him for his many years of service with the Borough.

Mayor thanked him for his service to the town and stated that they will present him with a proclamation at a later date.

Mr. Casella thanked Mr. Worrell and Chief Dupper for having special officers Fratto and Spithaler at the Garden Show on Saturday.

Lucille Stewart, 4 Richardson Ave. stated that she was told that the recycling program had not started yet in Swedesboro. Mayor stated that it has started and he will look into this.

Mildred Brennis, 24 East Ave. stated that she requested coupons and has not received them as yet. Mr. Casella asked her to check and verify the numbers on the can with her account.

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

Committee Reports

Police - Mr. Casella thanked the Police for their assistance at the Garden Show.

Mr. Casella reported that Christian Gregory is moving forward at the Police Academy.



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Fire – Mr. Casella reported that the roof replacement should begin shortly, probably after Memorial Day.

School Boards – Mr. Weeks reported that he and the Mayor met with Kingsway and S/W School Dist. and Kingsway agreed to recommendations and Swedesboro tax will be 1/8 of a cent and the Board will not do away with the lunch ladies.

S/W was asked to reduce their budget by \$700,000 which the cuts represents 9 new hires and an increase in class sizes. They are the lowest spending district per student in the whole State of NJ.

Mr. Weeks stated that RecyclBank is in effect and that 28 tons was recycled in April.

Mayor thanked Mr. Weeks for helping with the school budgets.

Mr. Dryden arrived at 7:15 PM.

Parks & Recreation – Mr. Flaherty reported that the Splash and Water Day went well and a group will clean the back trail and remove debris and make a walking trail again.

Library – Mr. Flaherty stated that they are moving forward and looking to conclude shortly the expansion of the library.

Streets & Roads – Mr. Flaherty reported that he met with the contractor on 5/14 regarding Phase II of the Streetscape and the pavers were laid today on the west side of Kings Hwy. and will be done by Friday and then begin the other side of the street. Mr. Flaherty spoke to the library regarding the moving of the book drop and planting a tree.

Economic Dev. – Mrs. Hale reported that their meeting was cancelled this month and will meet to do a follow up about the Garden Show next week.

Clean Communities – Mrs. Hale stated that Jeff Hale got in touch with the County for procedures for groups to do projects.

Mr. Weeks reported that there was a Gloucester County ambulance at the Garden Show all day and our police officers did a great job.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Hale reported that the Garden Show was wonderful and everyone did a great job.

Mr. Flaherty stated that Fun Day is 6/14/08 and that tickets are available.

Mr. Casella thanked the Mayor for locating the money for the police vehicle.



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Mayor stated that Ron Baus did a great job at the Garden Show and thanked the Swedesboro Auction for allowing us to use their property. There were seven farmers selling their wares and maybe there could be a farmers market on a regular basis.

Clerk read the following resolution: (Temp. Budget)

Mr. Weeks moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Roll Call Vote- Gage absent, all others yes.

Clerk read the following resolution: (Participate in Feas. Study for S.Jersey Health Ins.)

Mr. Weeks moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Casella. Roll Call Vote – Gage absent, all others yes.

Clerk read the following resolution: (Appt. William Tambussdi, Esq.)

Mr. Flaherty moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Casella. Roll Call Vote- Gage absent, all others yes.

Clerk read the following resolution: (Certifying Kingsway tax)

Mr. Weeks moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Casella. Roll Call Vote- Gage absent, all others yes.

Clerk read the following resolution: (tax refund)

Mr. Flaherty moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Roll Call Vote- Gage absent, all others yes.

Clerk read the following resolution: (Certifying S/W School tax)

Mr. Flaherty moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll Call Vote- Gage absent, Weeks, no all others yes.

Mr. Weeks explained that the S/W School Dist. has the lowest cost per student in the whole state of NJ and that he didn't agree with the resolution.

Mayor stated that he, Mayor Chila and Mr. Weeks met with Sen. Sweeney to see if anything could be done to help with the school taxes. A letter was received from Sen. Sweeney outlining three possible options to make us whole and fully fund the district. Mr. Casella stated that if the Governor Corzine had not cut the budget thee wouldn't have been an increase and everyone needs to write letters to the State.

Mr. Flaherty moved to approve sick pay for Ronald Borden, 5/2, 5/3, 5/4/08, Ken Hunt, 5/1, 5/8/08 ½ day, Carl Bagby, 5/5, 5/8/08 ½ day, and John Gangemi, 5/9/08, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Vote all yes.

NEW BUSINESS



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Mr. Weeks reported that the Historical Society will hold a Strawberry Festival on 6/1/08 from 3-5 PM at the Stone Meeting Church.

Mrs. Hale suggested forming a committee to review the sign ordinance. There are signs being placed on the new light poles and also in the bump out and the ordinance needs to be enforced or come up with something better.

Mrs. Hale asked Paul Lott for a price to clean the bricks from Phase I.

Mayor stated that he hoped that all noticed the front door which is an exact replica of the original door and thanked Jack Adams for the pictures showing the original door.

Mayor reported that the clock tower is done but that due to bleeding from the copper, they will repaint a part of it and use a special epoxy that will be put on the copper and it won't bleed. The other work being completed is the gutters and pointing of the back wall and replacing a chimney.

Mr. Weeks stated that \$139,000 will be restored to our local budget which equals \$.15 - \$.16 cents of the projected tax increase. Mr. Flaherty stated that funds are coming back but that it will probably go away next year. Mayor stated that we will adjust.

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No one spoke.

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

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

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

Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:50 PM.

Dolores M. Connors
Borough Clerk