



Borough of Swedesboro Council Meeting
Swedesboro, NJ 08085

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES of December 15, 2008
Approved January 5, 2009

A regular meeting of Borough Council was held on the above date in Council Chambers with the Honorable Thomas W. Fromm presiding. Councilmen Flaherty and Hale 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.

Mayor asked for a roll call of Council.

Mrs. Gage moved to approve the minutes of 12/1/08, regular and closed, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Vote all yes.

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

No one spoke.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Clerk read the resignation letter from Robert and Mindy Kunkle. Mrs. Gage motioned to accept their resignation from Parks & Recreation Commission with regrets, seconded by Mr. Casella. Vote all yes.

Mr. Casella asked that a Thank You letter be sent to them for all their help.

Mr. Dryden went over the recycling report for November.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance – Mayor reported that the committee would meet with our CFO to begin the budget process for 2009.

Fire – Mr. Casella reported that there have still been no leaks with the roof at the firehouse.

Police – Mr. Casella reported that 2 officers were injured in an altercation and the suspect was apprehended.

Mr. Casella stated that a parent complained that there was no crossing guard on the corner of Bridgeport and Kings Hwy. and those children needed to be crossed there. A



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guard was placed there and they reported that no children crossed. Mr. Casella stated that they are looking into the matter.

Mayor reported that he met with the Prosecutor and Mayor Chila and the purpose was to update with Pros. Dalton what was going on with the police issues in town, merging of Police with Woolwich etc. He had some great suggestions. Mayor stated they will get together and get an analysis from the Div. of Criminal Justice regarding numbers to have a dual force. Mayor stated that he met with Chief Dupper and brought him up to date and to put rumors to rest.

Mr. Casella stated that he met with Chief and officers and told them what is going on.

Economic Development – Mr. Weeks stated that they are in the process of solidifying their Mission Statement, goals and objectives. They are surveying the businesses and asking what they envision the downtown should be and will bring these to Council with recommendations.

Mr. Weeks reported that the Blues Fest will be in April, 2009 with the information on the web site and a grant was received to pay most of the advertising.

Mr. Weeks stated that another grant was received to do a Walking Tour with brochures of Historical Sites and places of local interest. Mayor stated that it will draw in new visitors.

Trash & Recycling – Mr. Dryden asked Mr. Weeks if he heard anything from Casworth. Mr. Weeks reported that he spoke to Casworth and they will meet regarding concerns and get a monthly report and coordinate with Reyclbank.

Mrs. Gage asked if the recycling credits can be donated to the school. Mr. Weeks stated yes but the school has to set up to receive the credits.

Shade Tree – Mrs. Gage stated that the resignation of Grover Price is to be put on hold that he has decided not to resign.

Planning & Zoning - Mayor reported that they will have a special meeting on 12/18/08 at 6PM with Council to adopt resolutions to be in compliance with COAH regulations.

Parks & Recreation – Mrs. Gage stated that the Board will need 2 new members in January.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Weeks reported that the Italian program is still in the process at the local schools.



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Gloucester County Library Commission put in writing that they will share the cost of expanding our Library up to \$40,000 a year for 10 years.

RESOLUTIONS

- Clerk read the following resolution: (Release bond for Blk.2, lot 20 & 21, Edwards)
Mr. Dryden moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Roll Call Vote- Flaherty, Hale absent, all others yes.
- Clerk read the following resolution: (Over the Limit, Under Arrest 2009 Year End Crackdown)
Mr. Casella moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Roll Call Vote- Flaherty, Hale absent, all others yes.
- Clerk read the following resolution: (Approve Corrective Action Plan for the 2007 Audit and 2007 Solid waste District Audit.
Mr. Dryden moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Roll Call Vote- Flaherty, Hale absent, all others yes.
- Clerk read the following resolution; (Release Perf. Bond for Blk.48, Lots 24.01 & 26 TLAM)
Mr. Weeks moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Casella. Roll Call Vote- Flaherty, Hale absent, all others yes.
- Clerk read the following resolution: (Refund Tax overpayment)
Mr. Dryden moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Roll Call Vote – Flaherty, Hale absent, all others yes.
- Clerk read the following resolution; (Cancel 2008 taxes under \$5, overpayments under \$5 and transfer overpayments)
Mr. Dryden moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Roll Call Vote- Flaherty, Hale absent, all others yes.
- Clerk read the following resolution: (Cancel outstanding checks)
Mrs. Gage moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Dryden. Roll Call Vote- Flaherty, Hale absent, all others yes.
- Clerk read the following resolution: (transfers current fund)
Mr. Casella moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Roll Call Vote- Flaherty, Hale absent, all others yes.



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- Clerk read the following resolution: (Emer. Approp. – Police S & W \$21,000)
Mr. Weeks moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Casella. Roll Call Vote- Flaherty, Hale absent, all others yes.
- Clerk read the following resolution: (Release Perf. Bond Blk 48, Lot 8 – Westrum)
Mr. Dryden moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Gage. Roll Call Vote- Flaherty, Hale absent, all others yes.

ORDINANCES

Public Hearing

Public hearing was held on the following ordinance: AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE THE POSITION OF MUNICIPAL HOUSING LIAISON FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADMINISTERING SWEDESBORO BOROUGH'S AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THE FAIR HOUSING ACT.

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

No one spoke.

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

Mr. Weeks moved to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Mr. Dryden. Roll Call Vote- Flaherty, Hale absent, all others yes.

Public Hearing

Public hearing was held on the following ordinance: AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SWEDESBORO DETERMING REGULATIONS FOR FENCES AND WALLS.

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

Elaine Edwards, Auburn Ave. asked if this applies to existing fences or just too new fences. Mayor stated that only to new fences.

Lucille Stewart, Richardson Ave. asked where they can be placed on the property. Mr. Casella stated only on your own property and if your neighbor's fence is on your property it must be removed.

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

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



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Introduction

Clerk read the following ordinance: AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FEE ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SWEDESBORO

Mr. Weeks moved to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Mr. Casella. Roll Call Vote- Flaherty, Hale absent, all others yes.

Mr. Casella stated that he did not think that you can introduce an ordinance in one year and adopt the next year. Clerk to check out since COAH Solicitor stated that it could be adopted the next year.

Clerk read the following resolution: (Appr. Municipal Housing Liaison – Fromm)

Mr. Dryden moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Week. Roll Call Vote- Flaherty, Hale absent, all others yes.

Mrs. Gage moved to approve sick pay benefits for Mike Sparks for 12/3/08 and Angelina Michener for 12/4/08, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Vote all yes.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Casella stated that construction is beginning on 1200 block of Kings Hwy. and there is a fence around the sit on the sidewalk and pedestrians can't walk. Mayor to contact the owner.

Mr. Weeks stated that he is still working on the amendments for the peddler's ordinance.

Mr. Dryden stated that this was his last meeting and it has been an honor to serve the community and that this last year has been tough regarding his parents health, business increased etc. He stated he was proud to serve under Dave Azzari, Hank Payne, Council Pres. who was the Councils first black Councilman and Darlene Gage the first woman to service on Council. He said he was proud to serve at the turning point and there are big changes for the town. He said that while there will always be change but we should not forget those who came before us. We may disagree but we are all working towards bettering the community. Mr. Dryden thanked all.

Mrs. Gage added her sentiments were the same as Mr. Dryden's and it has been an honor and privilege to serve.

Mayor stated that on behalf of the Borough and Council thanked them for service to town and wishes all the best and good luck going forward.

Mr. Casella stated that Swedesboro is a better town due to both of their service.



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Mr. Weeks thanks them for all they have done and wished them luck and good health.

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

Lucille Stewart, Richardson Ave. stated that Hank Payne was the first black to serve on Council and Darlene Gage was the first woman and that in the last 5-10 years have accomplished a lot.

Elaine Edwards, Auburn Ave. stated that sometimes Council are actors but in the end they are serving the town. Things have been accomplished and a lot of progress has been made and that they sacrifice their home and family.

Mrs. Edwards reminded Council of Martin Luther King program in January and that they have started planning the program and that 2009 is a historic year. They will meet on Thursday, 11 AM at Dr. Blairs house. Mr. Dryden stated that he has attended the program the last two years and it is a great program.

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

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

Clerk read the following resolution: (Closed Session)

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

Mayor adjourned to closed session at 8:04 PM.

After returning from closed session, Mrs. Gage motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Dryden. Vote all yes.

Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:20 PM.

Dolores M. Connors
Borough Clerk