



Borough of Swedesboro Council Meeting
Swedesboro, NJ 08085

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES of April 6, 2009
Approved on April 20, 2009

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

Mayor asked for a roll call of Council.

Mrs. Hale moved to approve the minutes of 3/16/09, regular, 3/20/09, special, seconded by Mr. Ayers. Vote all yes.

Mayor reported that a lot of interesting and positive things are happening in the Borough and went over the following projects:

- Police sharing with Woolwich study completed.
- RCA Program – 1 completed 1 underway, 1 out to bid next week and 8 applicants who meeting the criteria and are being processed.
- Pursuing a company to add cell antennas on water tower, in turn the money received for that would be used for various projects in Public Works.
- Getting quotes for radio read water meters.
- Establish a new water storage facility and replace Well #2
- Library expansion.
- Replace sidewalks throughout town.
- Teamster's contract should be signed by next week.
- Sign is up at the gas station on Glen Echo and Kings Hwy. to let all know that it is open during construction.
- Manhole problem is back and the County Engineer is looking into it.

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

No one spoke.

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

Clerk read the following correspondence received:

Clerk went over Raffle applications.

Mr. Flaherty moved to approve the raffle applications, seconded by Mr. Casella. Vote all yes.

Letter regarding parking lots on Block 3, Lot 20.



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Notice from the State that the Borough will receive \$4000 for the Clean Communities Grant

Request from Tanya to attend Tax Collectors/Treasurers Seminar.

Mr. Casella moved to approve the request to attend the Tax Collector/Treasurers Seminar in May, seconded by Mrs. Hale. Vote all yes.

Letter from St. Joes asking permission to old St. Alfio procession.

Mr. Casella moved to approve the request to hold the procession on May 3, 2009, seconded by Mrs. Hale. Vote all yes.

Clerk went over correspondence received from JIF regarding Rights and Duties of a Volunteer in Local Government training which should be completed by 5/10. Mr. Casella expressed concern of forcing volunteers to go above what is asked of them. Mayor asked that copies be made of the DVD to give to the Boards to watch at home and then sign off that they watched it. Mayor asked that a TV be purchased with safety money with a DVD player included. Mayor suggested giving each Council liaison to the Boards a copy of the DVD to give to their Boards to watch. Mayor also suggested to check with Councilman Weeks to see if additional copies can be made.

Resignation letter from Gretchen Kunkle from Shade Tree Com.

Mrs. Hale moved to accept her resignation with regret, seconded by Mr. Casella. Vote all yes.

Public Notice for Block 21, Lots 5 & 6

It was stated that the Construction Official has deemed the properties unsafe and no one from the public offered any information regarding the owners or survivors.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance – Mr. Flaherty that the Bond preparation is almost completed. Mayor stated that there will be money in the bond to include purchasing properties downtown and also will apply for grants or Block Grant money to replace sidewalks throughout town.

Police – Mr. Casella reported that the Little League parade ran smoothly and that Ptl. Borden notified residents that the street would be closed.

Mr. Casella stated that St. Joes received approval from the County to close Kings Hwy. for the St. Alfio procession on 5/3/09. Deacon Garozzo will do the Stations of the Cross and an officer will lead that and if no one available the Chief will do it.

Mr. Casella reported that Ptl. Michener is back to work but that Lt. Kemp and Ptl. Weber are still out.



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Mr. Casella informed all that by adopting the resolution regarding the Police study tonight it does not mean that the towns are merging tonight it is just part of the process. Mayor stated that there may be a special meeting on April 20, 2009 with Woolwich if we proceed that far by then.

Economic Development – Mrs. Hale reported that they met with the local businesses and went over goals and will meet with the Planning Board on 4/13/09 and the next Economic Dev. meeting will be on 4/23/09.

Mrs. Hale stated that the Outdoor Garden Show will be held on Kings Hwy. this year from Church St. to Dunn Dr. and asked for Police assistance.

Garbage & Recycling – Mayor stated that he spoke to Mark Fruits to ask for help with recycling and a representative from Recyclebank will attend a meeting to update us on recycling and ways to increase recycling.

Parks & Recreation – Mr. Flaherty reported that the Egg Hunt will be on 4/11/09 at 11 AM at Locke Ave. Park.

Library expansion is all in place to proceed once bonding is in place.

Environmental Com. – Mr. Ayers stated that the grant was submitted to have an Environmental resource Study done.

Mayor stated that there is money available to be used for recreation and would like to see maybe pocket parks or a town garden.

Mayor stated that the news from Kingsway Regional High School is that they are asking the voters to pass a question in the budget in regarding to approving extra curricular activities. Swedesboro/Woolwich School Dist. the preliminary numbers are that taxes for an average assessed home in Swedesboro would see a \$260 increase due to bonds coming due for school construction.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Casella thanked Mayor for having sign placed to notify all that the gas station at Kings Hwy. and Glen Echo is open for business during construction of the bridge.

Mr. Casella stated that the curbing is cracking in the 1800 block of Kings Hwy. and asked that the Borough Engineer be informed.

Mr. Casella asked that since a variance is required to open a business in town if the process could be made easier for the applicant and our Engineer should know if there is



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an easier process. Mayor stated that we do have professionals who want to help and that they will sit down to discuss an accelerated process. Mayor stated that just because a property is deemed commercial it does not mean that the next person who comes in does not have to make an application for approval. They can't do whatever they want. Mr. Casella stated that he is concerned that the process will escalate in the future. Mayor stated that it is a definite adjustment and it must be followed. Mayor stated that they will go back and make sure a few businesses have had inspections and if they saw the Zoning Official. They will have to come into conformance and compliance and if they don't comply they can't operate.

Mrs. Hale reported that the Blues Jam is sold out.

Mrs. Hale stated that she has a copy of the clothing bin ordinance that Washington Twp. was adopting and she is going to review it and see how it can conform to Swedesboro.

Mrs. Hale reported that she noticed and received complaints about the Blue Book and Advertiser papers laying in the street and littering our streets. Mayor suggested that she get a copy and see if there is a phone number to call.

Mrs. Hales asked the status of the motion detector lights and the times on the heat/air controls. Mayor asked that Mr. Simmerman to do an inventory and see what's needed and put figures together.

RESOLUTIONS

- Clerk read the following resolution: (NJ Rail Plan-Salem Cty. Short Line)
Mr. Casella moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Ayers. Roll Call Vote- Gahrs, Weeks absent, all others yes.
- Clerk read the following resolution: (Auth. Mayor sign Shared Service Agree.- wash facility-Clayton)
Mr. Flaherty moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll Call Vote- Gahrs, Weeks absent, all others yes.
- Clerk read the following resolution: (Appt. Tax Assessor)
Mr. Ayers moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Casella. Roll Call Vote – Gahrs, Weeks absent, all others yes.
- Clerk read the following resolution: (Cancel Taxes-Blk. 48, Lot 26.06)
Mrs. Hale moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Ayers. Roll Call Vote – Gahrs, Weeks absent, all others yes.
- Clerk read the following resolution: (Oppose Munic.Alliance to Human Services.)
Mr. Casella moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Roll Call Vote- Gahrs, Weeks absent, all others yes.
- Clerk read the following resolution: (R-56-2009 -Shade Tree-Support S-2503 & A-2872 tabled)



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- Clerk read the following resolution: (Temp. Cur. Budget)
Mr. Flaherty moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll Call Vote- Gahrs, Weeks absent, all others yes.
- Clerk read the following resolution: (Temp. W & S Budget)
Mr. Casella moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Ayers. Roll Call Vote- Gahrs, Weeks absent, all others yes.
- Clerk read the following resolution: (BAN \$700,000)
Mr. Casella moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Roll Call Vote- Gahrs, Weeks, absent, all others yes.
- Clerk read the following resolution: (Tonnage Grant)
Mr. Flaherty moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll Call Vote- Gahrs, Weeks absent, all others yes.
- Clerk read the following resolution: (Appt. Coleman-Dep. Tax Coll.)
Mr. Flaherty moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Casella. Roll Call Gahrs, Weeks, absent, all others yes.
- Clerk read the following resolution: (Participate in NJSHBP)
Mrs. Hale moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Ayers. Roll Call Vote- Gahrs, Weeks absent, all others yes.

PUBLIC HEARING

ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SWEDESBORO EMDNING CHAPTER 62 OF THE SWEDESBORO CODE ENTITLED "ANIMALS"

Mr. Casella moved to open the public hearing on the above ordinance, seconded by Mr. Ayers. Vote all yes.

Helen Fromm, Weatherby Ave. asked the number of dogs allowed per residence. Clerk stated three.

Elaine Edwards, Auburn Ave. asked if the ordinance limited other animals. Clerk stated no.

Mr. Casella moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Mr. Ayers. Vote all yes.

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

ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SWEDESBORO AMENDING CHAPTER 21 OF THE SWEDESBORO CODE ENTITLED "LAND USE PROCEDURES"

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

No one spoke for or against the ordinance.



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Mr. Casella moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Vote all yes.

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

ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SWEDESBORO AMENDING CHAPTER 95
OF THE SWEDESBORO CODE ENTITLED “RENTAL PROPERTY – FEES”

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

No one from the public spoke for or against the ordinance.

Mr. Casella moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Mr. Ayers. Vote all yes.

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

Mrs. Hale moved to approve sick pay benefits for Carl Bagby for 3/24/09, and Mike Sparks for 3/31/09, seconded Mr. Casella. Vote all yes.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Hale stated that she contacted Property Maintenance for the Verizon Bldg. and sent pictures to clean up the property.

Mrs. Hale stated that there are several issues that the Borough needs to look into:
trash out early
leaving cans out after trash pick up
clothes lines with clothes hanging on a front porch.

Mayor stated that trash was the Police responsibility and they should get one warning and then a ticket. Clerk suggested that they call her office and she will keep a list of residences that have the trash out early and have a notice put at their door.

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Helen Fromm, Weatherby Ave. asked if it states in the ordinance that about leaving trash cans out after they are emptied. Clerk stated yes it is in the ordinance.



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Lucille Stewart, Richardson Ave. requested the Police for last Sunday for the program at Trinity Church and they were not there. Mr. Casella stated that he saw them there at 3 PM and he'll speak to the Chief.

Ms. Stewart stated that she agrees with Mrs. Hale about the trash out early and the laundry on the front porch.

Mayor stated that he felt it would not take long for word to spread and they need to abide by the rules.

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

Clerk read the following resolution: (Closed Session)

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

Mayor adjourned to closed session at 8:40 PM.

After returning from closed session, Mrs. Hale motioned to approve sick pay benefits for William Dupper Jr. for 3/26, 3/27/09, seconded by Mr. Ayers. Vote all yes.

Clerk read the following resolution: (Auth .submission of joint study reg. Police services)

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

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

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

Mayor adjourned the meeting at 9:05 PM.

Dolores M. Connors
Borough Clerk