



Borough of Swedesboro Council Meeting  
Swedesboro, NJ 08085

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES of October 5, 2009  
Approved on October 19, 2009

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

Mr. Casella moved to approve the minutes of 9/21/09, regular and closed, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Vote all yes.

Mayor presented Nate Russo and Dr. & Mrs. Kevin Brady with plaques commending them for all they have done to restore buildings in Swedesboro.

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

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Carl Bagby, Safety Coor. gave a brief mid term report on the status of the Boroughs Safety Program.

Mr. Casella thanked him for attending the monthly JIF meetings.

Lucille Stewart, 4 Richardson Ave. asked when asked for a moment of silent prayer it is so brief. Mayor stated that is just to take a moment to think of someone and remember them.

Ms. Stewart stated that she would like to get out of the RecycleBank program. She stated that she recycles a lot of paper and when she called recently to check her credits, she was told that she did not have any. Mayor asked Mr. Weeks to look into this.

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

Mayor went over the letter received from Woolwich Twp. regarding the insulation of the Woolwich Fire Co. Mr. Weeks asked if the estimate of 10,000 – 12,000 was per municipality. Mrs. Gahrs stated yes. Mrs. Hale suggested that they look into solar panels to heat the building. Mayor stated that he will respond to Woolwich that we need a figure and a set figure to what we will commit up to. Mr. Casella stated that he was in favor of the insulation but the roof leaked again this past weekend and would want some guarantee that the roof is fixed. Mayor stated that we will pay our share but we want some input.



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COMMITTEE REPORT

Public Safety – Mr. Casella reported that the Board of Health meeting was cancelled due to the passing of Steve Meddick, Jean Meddicks son.

Mr. Casella stated that Swedesboro/Woolwich Day turned out well and the police were a big help and the officers were very visible. They also assisted during the Wellshire Walk this past weekend.

Mr. Casella stated that there have been incidences on South Ave. regarding children and he will notify Chief Marino

Mr. Casella reported that there are no signs stating a Drug Free Zone near the Margaret Clifford School and they need to be 1000' from site.

Mayor stated that where South Ave. and Horner meet, a stop sign will be placed and also Watch Children signs on both streets.

Economic Development – Mrs. Hale thanked Helen Fromm and all of the Committee for a wonderful Swedesboro/Woolwich Day.

Mrs. Hale reported that the Meet & Greet will be moved to 10/28/09 at the Swedes Inn at 7:00 PM and will pass out flyers to businesses in town and to people who rent businesses and the Jazz Fest will be held on 10/17/09 and tickets are available.

Mrs. Hale reported that the shops at Swedesboro Plaza will be opening soon in addition to the new pharmacy in town. Also Long Lane will be installing solar panels.

Parks & Recreation – Mr. Flaherty stated that Halloween Fun Day will be on 10/31/09 at Locke Ave. Park.

Library – Mr. Flaherty stated that he hopes to go out to bid for the expansion of the Library by the next meeting.

Environmental/Shade Tree – Mr. Ayers reported that our Shade Tree Commission has been selected as a recipient for the 2009 Green Community Achievement Award.

School Boards – Mr. Weeks stated that all the schools had their Back To School Nights and is waiting for an update on the enrollments. Soon they will begin working on their budgets.

Mayor reported that the County has begun repairing the manhole covers and has been assured that they will be completed.



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Mayor stated that there is an issue with the manhole at Lake and Park Ave. and they will also fix the depression on Locke Ave. by Guest.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Casella asked when the overlay of Guest will begin. Mayor stated that they have started to put in the curbs. Mayor asked Borough Engineer, Stan Bitgood to make sure that the residents are notified of the work.

Mr. Weeks stated that the Neighborhood Watch Meeting will be on 10/14/09 at 7:00 PM. They did a clean up on Kings Hwy. and the money received will be used to purchase Neighborhood Watch signs and looking into a reward program for kids following bike safety.

Mrs. Gahrs asked about the 2 hour parking limit on Kings Hwy. and that some of the business owners park their vehicles there all day, which in turn leaves no parking available for their customers. Mayor suggested putting out a friendly reminder about the 2 hour parking limit. Mr. Casella will ask Chief Marino the best way to go about this. Mrs. Gahrs asked if a reminder can also be given to the businesses. Mayor suggested that she email the businesses.

Mayor thanked our Public Works and also Woolwich Public Works for all their support on S/W Day. Also Woolwich Police and the Fire Police. Excellent day and Mayor also thanked Helen Fromm for all her work.

RESOLUTIONS

- Clerk read the following resolution: (Auth. application to NJ DCA for grant - \$90640)  
Mr. Weeks moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Roll Call Vote – all yes.
- Clerk read the follow resolution: (Memorializing sale of BAN - \$484,500)  
Mr. Weeks moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Roll Call Vote – all yes.
- Clerk read the following resolution: (Auth. Perf. Bond Release for 118 Helms Ave.)  
Mr. Flaherty moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll Call Vote- Weeks abstain, all others yes.
- Clerk read the following resolution: (Auth. Perf. Bond release for 170 Franklin)  
Mr. Weeks moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Ayers. Roll Call Vote- all yes.



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ORDINANCES - Public Hearing

Clerk read the following ordinance: ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE O-13-2009 OF THE BOROUGH OF SWEDESBORO, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, NEW JERSEY

Mr. Weeks moved to open the public hearing, seconded by Mr. Flaherty.

No one spoke from the public.

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

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

ORINDANCES - Public Hearing

Clerk read the following ordinance: ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SWEDESBORO AMENDING CHAPTER 118 – TO ESTABLISH FEES FOR ZONING APPLICATIONS AND PERMITS

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

No one spoke from the public.

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

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

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Casella stated that it is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and reported that there is a walk on 10/16 and a fundraiser at the Swedes Inn.

Mrs. Hale stated that there are four teams walking.

Mr. Casella motioned to unanimously support their efforts and cause, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Vote all yes.

Mr. Casella stated that a resident received a summons and asked when this was authorized to take this legal action. Mayor stated that it has been discussed many times with Mr. Cheega prior to reaching this point and approval was given by Council previously.



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Mr. Flaherty reported that they were moving forward with the new water meters.

Mrs. Hale stated that Cathy Goehringer, Neighborhood Watch, was looking into a refurbished sidewalk street sweeper for the downtown area.

Mayor stated that the Borough received notice that they could proceed to demolish the properties on General Harker.

Mayor stated that the Borough is in foreclosure proceedings on the property located at the corner of Kings Hwy. and Horner and wants to get it down with CDBG money. The Borough will see a lot of activity taking down unsafe and dilapidated buildings.

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

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Carol Gahrs, 110 Thompson Ave. asked if the action taken on Cheega was part of the money that was approved to purchase properties. Mayor stated it was part of the downtown development plan and they are following the ordinance and not taking any residential property only vacant property.

Mrs. Gahrs asked if the public is allowed to know what action is being taken. Mayor stated that they are still negotiating with the property owners.

Mike Murray, 423 Weatherby Ave. suggested putting speed bumps in the intersections on the main roads which would eliminate a lot of speeding on the roads. Mayor stated that the issue comes up that they are a problem when it snows and damages equipment. Mayor stated that better than speed bumps is enforcement.

Mr. Murray ask when Phase III of Streetscape to begin.

Mrs. Hale stated that they have applied for discretionary aid.

Lucille Stewart, 4 Richardson Ave. stated that speed bumps on Second St. would be good because there are no stops until Railroad Ave. and it is very dangerous.

Mrs. Stewart asked if there is an ordinance pertaining to abandoned cars, trucks etc. on a person's property. Mayor stated yes our Property Maintenance Officer will check to see if there is a violation of the ordinance.

Mrs. Stewart asked how to dispose of cooking oil. Mr. Weeks to look into it.

Helen Fromm thanked everyone involved in Swedesboro/Woolwich day.

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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. Casella. Vote all yes.

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

Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:16 PM.

Dolores M. Connors  
Borough Clerk