



Borough of Swedesboro Council Meeting
Swedesboro, NJ 08085

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES of JUNE 21, 2010
Approved on JULY 6, 2010

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

A moment of silent prayer was followed by a flag salute.

Mayor advised that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Mayor asked for a roll call vote of Council, Mr. Weeks absent, all others present.

Mr. Ayers moved to approve the minutes of 6/7/2010, seconded by Mr. Casella. Vote all yes, Mr. Weeks absent.

Mr. Weeks arrived at 7:10 p.m.

No opening comments were made by the Mayor.

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

Nicole Sparks Watts-Franklin Street-Read a letter to Mayor and Council requesting that future billing be canceled on her property located on Franklin Street. As a result of the meters being replaced it was discovered that they have a significant leak. They had someone come out and give them an estimate to fix the problem, which was approximately \$4,000.00 since they do not have the money they asked Public works to disconnect the meter. During their conversation they also stated that they have renters in this location until the 1st of July. They have the property up for sale at this time and do not feel that they will recover their losses. They are requesting that all future billing for this property be canceled. They are also asking approval for the upcoming water bill since they anticipate a large bill due to the leak being separated. Mrs. Watts outlined the water billing on this property.

Mayor Fromm commented that he had no idea what she was talking about and would have liked additional information. The clerk commented that Mr. & Mrs. Watts spoke with Dolores and that they are requesting that future bills be canceled.

Mayor Fromm asked if the leak is still leaking and Mrs. Watts stated that there were multiple breaks as it is an old line and that the only thing they could do was run another line.

Mayor Fromm does not know the details, but to say that we would just allow a water line to continue to run into the ground is not an option.



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Mrs. Watts stated that the water was turned off, but they were told that they would still incur a bill of \$186.00 a quarter and really does not want a bill if there is no rental of property.

Mayor Fromm stated that if there is water hooked up to the building and the water is terminated and the account is terminated then there would be a reconnection fee. We are losing a lot of water right now all throughout town and it is not acceptable to allow water to flow into the ground. Mayor Fromm will get further details and address the issue.

Mr. Casella asked if this was the house behind the greenhouses.

Mr. Watts outlined the history of the property and the greenhouses and feels that he is paying high water bills on this particular property.

Sal's came out and gave him two options, running a new line, which would cost over \$4500.00 or just turn the meter off. Chuck from the water department came over and got a temporary approval to shut the meter off, but everything is still connected to the street. Mr. Watts came up to the borough and found out that there is a minimum water fee whether the meter is used or not. He states that they will not be using the meter, because of the leaks. Since they are not getting the new line through they are still going to have the minimum water bill of \$186.00 per quarter. They are asking them to waive the fee since the meter will no longer be in use. They are selling this piece of property and if the new owner would like to keep that building they would have to run a water line and get approval and pay a new connection. The rental will not be active anymore and will be vacant until somebody runs the lines.

Mayor Fromm asked if this was the church and they stated that this is for the property out back. Mayor asked if Chuck turned off the meter or the water and if the water was still running through the line. Mr. Watts feels that the meter was turned off, but is not sure.

Mayor Fromm stated that the water has to be turned off, not the meter. Mr. Watts states that the meter is not active and therefore they must have turned it off.

Mayor Fromm will get all the information and reiterated that the water cannot be running through. Mr. Watts stated Chuck is aware of the problem.

Mr. Watts emphasized that he does not want to pay the water bill and was told by the borough office that as long as you have access to the water, the minimum fee has to be paid and he is asking for this fee to be waived until something is decided down the road if the water lines are going to be replaced.

Mr. Casella asked when Mr. Simmerman came out and Mr. Watts stated that he came a week ago Friday and again went over how they discovered the leak and that Sal's came out. Mr. Watts stated that they came out on Monday to turn it off.



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Mr. Gahrs asked if anyone was living at the property and Mr. Watts stated that they are moving out next week. Mrs. Gahrs asked if they have water and Mr. Watts stated that they have temporary approval to use a temporary hose so that they had water until they moved out.

He is concerned about the huge water bill. Mr. Casella asked if the pipe runs from the house to the same building where water is now coming from, but Mr. Watts states it is coming from the house to the street. Mr. Watts stated that they are using a regular hose and are connecting it to the faucet. The temporary line is hooked up from the Church to that building.

Mrs. Gahrs asked if he was able to determine where the leak was i.e. the cottage or the old flower shop. Mr. Watts stated that he could not determine where the leak was and the only option was to disconnect the whole thing and run a new water line.

Mr. Zappala asked if there were separate shut offs for the properties. Mr. Watts stated that there was a shut off in front of the large building for that water line and that is the line that is old and it runs to the bungalow and the old flower shop. Mr. Zappala asked if this is the one that is shut off and Mr. Watts stated that it was and that he has a meter in his house and a meter in the new building that all have their own separate shut off.

Mayor Fromm stated that he will get with Chuck Simmerman tomorrow and will find out what is going on and the process to terminate an account vs. waiving the fees.

The clerk stated that normally when a house is vacant or no longer has rentals that they do still get the minimum bill because they do have access to the water.

Mayor Fromm does feel that there is a disconnect process and reconnect fee when a new owner comes in.

Mr. Watts stated that for one reason or another there should be a way to disconnect and Mayor Fromm stated that we are only responsible from the water main to the curb and we turn it off at the curb.

Further information will be gathered and they will be contacted. Mayor Fromm asked for their number to be added to the letter.

Mrs. Hale did bring to their attention that drinking water should not be run through a hose and if that is the case it is not environmentally safe.

Veronica Morris-123 Church Street-Brought in a letter in regards to the Outreach Ministry wanting to have a block party for their bible study in an effort to bring the community together and to involve the youth of Swedesboro/Woolwich.



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They want to block off Richardson Avenue and a part of Second Street between the hours of 12:00 and 5:00 on 8/21/10, Saturday, rain date of 8/28/10.

Mayor Fromm stated that we do have the letter and asked what portion of Second Street they are talking about closing, just around the church. Mayor Fromm stated that they will take it up when they go back into the regular meeting and discuss amongst council.

Sharon Young-member of the U.A.M.E. Church-@ a year ago they had a candidates night at the church with Senator Sweeney, Mayor, and some members of Council and it was mentioned that they might be able to get a sign identifying the church and providing direction for people coming to the Church. She believes the First Baptist Church has a sign in the town and was told that there would be no problem with that and was wondering if that has been acted upon or if they have to do anything.

Mayor Fromm asked if someone said the sign would be provided or the sign would be hung. Ms. Young stated that it was her understanding that it would be both and that it would not be a problem. Mayor stated that he would double back and find out how we do that. He did not know that we would provide the sign. He will get back to her because he is not sure if the County stated they would do the sign and asked where the sign would be i.e. along the highway. Mrs. Young stated that the sign is on Auburn Avenue for the Baptist Church and would like the sign on the main artery.

Mr. Weeks stated that it would be like the sign for St. Joseph's. Mayor will look into it and get back to her.

Elaine Edwards-636 Auburn Avenue-Last meeting asked if they were planning on going into closed session and mentioned a subject be brought up during their discussion.

Mayor Fromm stated that after they come out of closed session they will be able to talk more about that property.

Mr. Weeks moved to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Mrs. Hale.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Angelo Falciani addressed to Mr. Schmid requesting that he not issue a summons for his property at Block 29, Lot 4 as they are in contact with Woolwich to obtain the permits for the work to be done on this property. Mr. Sabetta advised him that no permits were needed and Mr. Falciani states that the work is in progress.

Mayor Fromm asked if this was for their information and the Clerk stated that Mr. Schmid asked for Mayor and Council to make the decision to waive this property from the summons process based on this information.



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Mayor Fromm stated that it is his opinion that this would be no, but will say that if there is something going on and the summons process begins it would be the court to give the extension.

After a discussion regarding the situation Mr. Zappala asked how they are to act on this and Mayor Fromm stated that he believes Bob Schmid is asking for them to pursue a summons to get the property into code and in compliance with our rental property ordinance and building codes in general.

Mrs. Hale states that it appears as though someone is interested in buying the property and demolishing the property, which would make the repairs unnecessary, but how do they know the next person who purchases the building will demolish it. She understands that the owner does not want to make repairs on a building that is going to be demolished, but we also do not want people renting to be in there not safe and also do not know when the building will be sold.

Mayor Fromm stated that there are people living in substandard conditions while people are negotiating to sell. Mr. Ayers indicated that is what the court is there to sort out. Other properties that we had in violation gave their explanation and the Judge decides if they are making a good faith effort and he will put the time frame as to what happens.

Mayor and Council inadvertently did not receive the second page of the letter from Mr. Falciani and the clerk did read the information provided.

It was asked some of the violations of this property and the clerk stated that some had to do with windows.

Mr. Zappala did not feel that they could act on this and Mrs. Hale agreed. It was decided that the Court should do it. If they were to okay this they could open themselves up to a lot of problems.

Mayor Fromm asked for a motion to let the process move forward with rental inspection ordinance. It was decided that a motion need not be made and that Borough Council is not acting on this request.

The Letter from St. Paul's was reviewed and commented on. Mr. Weeks advised that they would need police approval and insurance approval. Mayor Fromm did not know if we needed insurance approval, but we would have to run it past the police department.

We would have to come up with a detour plan and the only thing about the particular location is that it is a tricky detour plan, but thinks that it is manageable. Mayor stated that the request should be granted conditioned on coordinating it with the police department.



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Mayor Fromm stated that we have a standing offer from the Deptford Fire Police, which is run by a former employee Ron Borden who will come and do traffic control for free so we do not have to incur overtime cost. Mayor will set them up with the information and that they would be more than happy to help with anything.

Mayor asked for a motion to grant this request to get the road closed for the block party.

Mrs. Gahrs asked if the residents would be notified that are involved in that area if they have any problem with the road being closed and their accessibility to their homes.

Mayor Fromm stated that there are only about six homes probably at the most and the organization was asked to make sure that they coordinate with the neighbors. The event is far enough way to get everything together. Mrs. Morris stated that she did speak with the Woolwich Twp. Police in person to verify the procedure and was told that whatever the decision was from Mayor and Council that they would be fine with it and will work with them when necessary. Mayor Fromm stated that this is a little easier since most of the time it is on a County Road, but this is on a borough road and we can control this easier.

Mr. Zappala moved to grant the request for the St. Paul's Church Block party, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Mrs. Gahrs asked if we are waiving the requirement for insurance, but Mayor Fromm did not feel that we had people get insurance before for our streets. Mayor Fromm stated that we would get information regarding the insurance. Mayor Fromm asked that the organization work with us as we go forward dealing with the police, neighbors, insurance, and detour. Vote all yes.

Veronica Morris provided the clerk with her contact information and Mr. Casella thanked her for the plenty of notice.

REPORTS

The only reports that were provided today were from the Woolwich Fire Company.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance- Nothing to report.

Public Works- The County has been fixing the manholes, the one around Botto's is fixed and they are working their way through the town. The project is almost 100% completed on Franklin Street last week fixing the drainage problem that was washing out the back behind a couple of residents. There is also another issue regarding sewer and drainage that we are trying to address along with it. They started to review the drawings to get started on the fix with the issues on Thompson Avenue. The Engineer and Chuck Simmerman are working on that. Turner and Mayhew are going out to bid this week and will be completely redone hopefully in late July or August.



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Work is progressing on getting ready to do the water tower project and they are planning for that to start the third week of July and they will be done by mid October.

Mayor Fromm stated that included in their package tonight is a project getting ready to install a new drinking water well and the first part is something that was used last year to get estimates together for the bonding that was needed. This will be the exploratory bore hole that requires drilling down the depth of the well so that when the big well is drilled a lot of money is saved. This is anticipated to be started in three weeks once the purchase order is made to the consultant we will then go immediately after that for a bid package for the actual well installation for a much larger well.

Public Safety Mr. Casella would like to reach out to the chief with the summer here Locke Avenue is getting heavy traffic both up and down Locke and he will ask for the electronic speed adaptors on Locke Avenue.

Economic Development- Mrs. Hale stated that the next meeting is this Thursday at 7:00 p.m., which will be a working meeting to file a new grant application TE21 for the Streetscape. They are taking the grant that was used last time and freshen it up and get new letters from the Business' that have invested a lot of money. They will include the DVD that was recently done for Swedesboro and feels that they have a better shot at getting some money to do the streetscape.

Clean Communities- Mrs. Hale stated so far this year there have been three clean ups, Trinity Square and Cemetery, Lake Narraticon Park, and just recently Second Street all the way down the railroad tracks to Broad. Clean Communities sent 45 6th graders on a trip on a schooner down the River and it went out to where the Ocean and tributaries meet and they learned about the Delaware Estuary and they learned about pollutions, etc. Two adult teachers and the principal went with them and then the kids came back and they had to put on an assembly for the rest of the 6th graders to tell them what they learned and how they can help in the future with recycling.

Mrs. Hale wanted to reach out to the Mayor about getting in touch with the Delaware Estuary and ask if somebody could come next year and talk to the kids about horse crabs and the red knots. Mrs. Hale also reached out to Mr. Ayers and Mr. Weeks to contact recycle bank to see if they could come in and give a presentation to the kids. Mrs. Hale has a contact at Valero and Kathy Mulholland at the other refineries to have them come in and talk to kids especially in light of the oil spill outlining what is involved in the clean up, etc. Mrs. Hale is trying to make it a little more detailed next year for the kids. The Church group left, but Mrs. Hale wanted to ask them if they wanted to participate in the clean up.



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Fire-

Mrs. Gahrs reviewed the report from the Fire Calls and is making note that this is the report for May, but comparing April to May the calls were up for Logan by 11 calls, Swedesboro up by 6 calls, and the alarm calls are also up. The alarms seem to be on the increase. Mrs. Gahrs also announced that Woolwich Twp. on their last meeting introduced an ordinance to explore the process of billing people's insurance company for fire calls and accident calls. Mrs. Gahrs talked with Jane DiBella and they did introduce the ordinance and they are doing a request for proposal for billing services. They did talk to their solicitor and are meeting with their auditor to discuss how this will interact with us and let us know how to introduce the ordinance for our part and once the details are worked out the information will be provided to us.

Garbage and Recycling- Mr. Weeks announced that there will be a committee meeting tomorrow to discuss the interlocal with several of the surrounding communities who have been asking us to join their garbage collection services and recycling services. We will also be putting together the bid specs to go out later in the summer to invite collection companies to bid for pick up. The contract expires 12/31 and it is time to start looking to see what else is out there.

Street Lighting and Celebration- Mrs. Hale asked that Mr. Weeks put a notice on the website for residents to report any overhead street lights that are out to Boro Hall and that they need to have the numbers on the pole. Mr. Weeks did state that this information is already on the website.

Mrs. Hale stated that the next celebration will be Swedesboro/Woolwich day on 9/25/10 and Mrs. Fromm can let everyone know when the first meeting is.

Parks and Recreation- Movie night is scheduled for this Friday night and Mr. Zappala advised everyone to check the website for the information on all of their activities. Mr. Zappala pointed out there is a Swedesboro/Woolwich night at the Riversharks on Friday, 7/31/10. This is a fun inexpensive venue.

Planning Board- Mr. Zappala stated that a meeting was held last week.

Board of Health- Mr. Casella reported that since the last meeting he received a called from County Senior Services and thanks to Mr. Weeks we were able to get up on our website, as well as having a poster placed in the lobby for the fans for Senior's program. The County had two venues set up one in Franklinville and one in West Deptford. Anyone that knows of any seniors that may need a fan they are welcome to call the County Senior Services. There are still some available. Mr. Casella did try to have a venue here in Swedesboro, but because of lack of fans this could not be done.

Board of health meeting is scheduled at the end of this month.



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Mr. Weeks asked for a contact number for Senior Services and Mr. Casella stated that the information is on the website and the memo is still at Borough Hall.

Mayor Fromm stated that Mr. Ayers came up with a suggestion after the last meeting that if this is something where there is a lot of paper work perhaps we could just check with True Value to see what it would cost to buy 25-30 fans. Mayor Fromm asked that we look into it to see if it is something we can afford i.e. a basic box fan or little turbo fans so that we could run our own program, because in reality for someone to go to Franklinville or West Deptford the chances will be small unless there is some way we can do it and pick them up. It might be just as cheap to buy a few fans.

Mr. Casella asked if we could use money from Clean Communities and Mrs. Hale stated that this would not be through clean communities.

Environmental/Shade Tree- Environmental has their environmental resources inventory underway, but did not meet this month, however, they are keeping up with the requirements.

Shade Tree had a meeting to make sure they are moving forward with the grant for the hazardous tree removal and they are in the process of taking quotes for the work for the 10-11 trees that are going to be taken down with the grant money. The original target was June and he is expecting something to happen in late June or early July depending on the how fast the vendor is able to take the work.

Mayor Fromm stated that it is not a bid process just getting quotes so they should be able to turn that around very quick.

Mr. Casella asked Mr. Ayers asked if they were hearing complaints from residents that the roots are wrapping around the water pipes. Mr. Casella stated that a couple of residents contacted Mr. Simmerman and Mr. Casella is wondering if this is something that will have to be looked at throughout town.

Mr. Ayers asked if these trees were recently planted because he has not heard anything about it. Mr. Casella stated that these are older trees. Mr. Simmerman has gone out and looked at these trees and in most cases the lines have to be cleaned out and after talking with Mr. Simmerman they could be in serious trouble within the next year if roots are wrapping around pipes. Mr. Ayers will pass this information along and Shade Tree is in the process of coming up with the five year plan including planting the right tree in the right spot and he is sure that there are some trees that are less invasive than others and that may be part of it. Mr. Ayers stated that it might be worth looking into where the lines are at.

Mr. Zappala asked if they were water or sewer lines. Mr. Casella stated that it was water lines. Mayor Fromm stated that it was the terracotta lines being crushed by the roots.



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School Board- Mr. Zappala stated that the next meeting for S/W is on the 12th, which is a work meeting and the August 19th meeting was canceled. The next regular meeting is the 16th of September. Mr. Zappala has not heard anything from Kingsway.

Mr. Zappala asked the Mayor if he has correspondence on the budget. Mayor Fromm stated that he does not have correspondence, but does have information that was passed onto him Saturday. Mr. Zappala has not seen anything on the budget. Mayor Fromm stated that it was reported to him unofficially and asked everyone to recall that they approved a resolution calling for a reduction in the Swedesboro/Woolwich District Budget of &755,000.00, but the School Board decided to appeal that. It went to the County Superintendent who then reviews it and makes a recommendation to the Commissioners Office in Trenton and much to the Mayor's unhappiness is the recommendation that he is going to call for a reduction in our budget cut from around &755,000.00 to \$400,000, which will obviously mean an impact on the school tax for the local district. If in fact it goes to Trenton Mayor Fromm was told today that there is a meeting on Wednesday with the County Superintendent and the Commissioner's Office at which time we will see whether the Commissioner and the Governor stick to their guns and say they are not going to except appeals to the reduction, but we will probably know on Thursday or Friday.

Mr. Casella asked if this would add to the \$755,000, but Mayor Fromm stated that they are going to reduce the reduction from &755,000 down to \$400,000 therefore they will be adding back \$250,000 into the budget.

Mr. Casella asked if the County Commissioner makes this recommendation he then has to send it to the State for their final approval or if the County Commissioner makes this can he stop right there. Mayor Fromm states that he has to go up and present his case to the Commissioner.

Mrs. Hale asked if we get a chance to appeal it anymore and Mayor Fromm stated that he understands whatever they say that is it. Mayor Fromm stated that he would hope as a group that if in fact that does happen that they all are together in voicing their displeasure because they started off with a much higher number and Mr. Zappala said they did not want to decimate the system, but felt that they had to act.

Mr. Casella asked if there was a reason for the cut and Mayor Fromm stated that he was told that the report was sent, but we have not gotten it yet. He was told that the cut was based on a salary freeze for both the teachers and the administration and all the employees, but since the teachers did not take the cut the County Superintendent in the interest of the academic programs thought that cut would require too many programs or teachers to be eliminated. Mr. Zappala stated that in essence the administrators are still going to be frozen, but the teachers will not.



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Mayor Fromm stated that was unfair and that if they were going to make cuts it should be a fair cut and find other cuts other than one small group of people taking the hit while others do not get affected in any way. It is out of our hands.

Mayor Fromm stated that today he heard from Regina Agea who came down and visited us last month who went on our behalf to the Commissioner and the State Treasurer and she actually had somewhat positive news today saying that they do not really expect that there is much they can do at this point because all of the budgets have been approved and it would be very hard for any politicians to go back and take money away and they do not see much happening this year, but she said the Commissioner as soon as she mentioned Swedesboro/Woolwich knew every aspect about it because we also called a meeting with him and met with him in Glassboro about three weeks ago. He knew every part of our problem that was summarized and what they promised is that they are going to change the funding formula so that districts like ours that are below adequacy as far as funding and also has high growth areas will in fact recognize the formula and modify next year going forward. Not great news for this year, but encouraging for next year. Mayor Fromm states that Regina is the State Treasurer's Chief of staff and is working with the Department of Finance, Treasury and the Department of Education on our behalf. It is appreciated what she is doing and the next step will be when the new County Commissioner or superintendent is named, when the next Kingsway Superintendent is named and the next Swedesboro/Woolwich District Superintendent is named she will set up a meeting with the Deputy Commissioner of the BOE, the Borough and the Township sometime in the fall when they start the budget process. Short term not much will happen, but long term the efforts will pay off.

Census- Nothing to report.

Reassessment- Mrs. Gahrs stated that the assessor is in the field.

The clerk addressed Mayor and Council on issues from the last meeting. The signs at Church and Second Street were going up and will be covered. At the last meeting it was brought up about getting information to St. Joseph's and asked how council wanted to proceed with that. Mrs. Gahrs stated that she called the rectory and left a message for the secretary to put the information in the Church Bulletin.

Mr. Casella asked if there was a target date to remove the cover. Mayor Fromm stated that there is no date, but we are going to get them up and covered so people will see them. They are talking about putting a sign up that they are coming and when comfortable will release the cover when everything is in place. Mr. Casella asked if we should do that by motion and Mayor stated that we have to back it up with changing the ordinance ultimately, but don't have to go through the process like we used to.

The signs will be up and covered for at least a few weeks so that we can go through the process. Striping will be done for the signage down Church Street to calm the traffic.



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Mrs. Gahrs asked if this would cause a back up onto Kings Highway or will they not be stopped long enough to cause a problem.

Mayor Fromm stated that he got input from Chief Marino and it will be something that has to be monitored and something will have to be worked through.

The sand castle was removed. Mr. Simmerman got the company that removed the trees around the tank to give him an estimate to look at the trees and they came up with about five trees that they thought were of concern. The quote was for \$3100.00. Mayor Fromm asked Mr. Simmerman to check with CFO to see if it is something that is in the budget. He will go through the process of getting a couple of prices. The clerk spoke with Mr. Simmerman about the County Wash Program and Mr. Simmerman stated that they never used this facility but knew it was an option. Everyday washing of the cars they really do not do, but Mr. Simmerman stated that Woolwich has a program set up through the Car Wash in Swedesboro where they give discounts for washing. Mr. Simmerman also stated that for salt removal they are to some degree allowed to use our water. Trees around the tower have been removed. The sign in front of Boro Hall, Mr. Simmerman stated that he does have signs that state 15 minute parking between the hours of 8:00 and 5:00 and he wanted to know if that was okay to put up or something more specific.

Mayor Fromm stated that he just needs to put up a new post with the same sign that was there that say 15 minute parking as there is nothing wrong with the sign, just the post was mangled. Mayor did ask that they repair the whole or replace the sign.

The clerk brought up the street sweeper and Mr. Simmerman provided her with a print out basically following the leaf pick up schedule.

Mr. Weeks stated the purpose of the schedule is to clean the streets so that people know that on a particular day they can move their car. Same for the storm drain cleaning a specific schedule is needed.

Clerk is going to forward this information onto Mr. Simmerman in an e-mail asking to get in touch with Mr. Weeks and Mayor Fromm specifically to address this issue.

Mr. Bagby is looking into signs throughout the town as part of the Safety program and a list was prepared and there are a lot of them. He is going to go back and put them in order as to what he felt were the most important. He will get an estimate on all, but find out what was the most pertinent and then go from there.

Mrs. Hale asked if she could receive a copy of the list of signs and the clerk stated that this would not be a problem and will obtain that information from Mr. Bagby.

The property on Richardson Avenue is underway two quotes were received and Mr. Streeter will be doing that project. His paperwork is in.



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Mayor Fromm asked Mr. Conklin if he was here tonight to give a report and Mr. Conklin stated that he is here for the resolution to apply for the Rural Housing Services Grant. It was advertised in the paper that this be open to the public and that the community have participation. This is required as part of the grant application.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Casella asked Mayor Fromm if he was able to speak with the solicitor in regards to the issue that was discussed at the last meeting pertaining to the lot between the Cheega Funeral Home and Swedes Inn.

Mayor Fromm stated that he did not because he was out of town for almost two weeks, but he will call the Solicitor tomorrow.

Mr. Casella asked if the flag pole has been replaced and Mayor Fromm stated that options are still being looked into. Mr. Zappala has somebody checking on some prices for internal controls and he will forward that information to Mr. Simmerman.

Mr. Weeks reminded everyone that we do have a link for people to join the Borough's email list from our website and to date five people have joined. Hopefully as people realize it is out there we will get more e-mails and we can start sending e-mails to residents about different things that are talked about.

Mrs. Gahrs reminded everyone about the bicycle rodeo scheduled for tomorrow evening from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at the Walter Hill School. If anyone knows any children please remind them to come out to the event and asked anyone who wanted to help to please come out.

Mrs. Hale asked in regards to the street sweeper to ask Mr. Simmerman to clean the corner of Second and Broad as this has been a mess since the snow storm.

Mrs. Hale asked Mrs. Gahrs if there is anything going on with the Fire Grant. In the paper it was announced that Wenonah was awarded a grant for their Fire Company.

Mrs. Gahrs stated normally this was done in November and was not aware of this.

Mrs. Hale asked if we moved forward with the application and Mrs. Gahrs stated that not everything was in place for that particular grant because of additional information they need to get, but they will be prepared for the next go around.

RESOLUTIONS



Borough of Swedesboro Council Meeting
Swedesboro, NJ 08085

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES of JUNE 21, 2010
Approved on JULY 6, 2010

Clerk read the following resolution (R-76-10-Resolution to apply for Rural Housing Services Grant) Mayor asked Mr. Conklin to explain the program. Mr. Conklin stated that it is through the US Department of Agriculture, which is money set aside to award municipalities, nonprofits and religious organizations for housing and rehab programs. Mr. Conklin went on to say that they have spent the \$250,000 through the regional contribution agreement and as a result some people were turned away and some of the homes that were completed have work that is left undone. Mr. Conklin stated it is a two phase program, one is to go back and finish something's that were not complete and the rest of the money would be for new applicants owner occupied housing rehabilitation and rental rehabilitation. Mr. Conklin stated that for the rental units the owner has to agree to rent it too low to moderate income families and have their rents dictated to them. The maximum award is \$100,000.

Mr. Casella asked for the current applicants if this is another application process that has to be gone through and Mr. Conklin did state there was an application process and he would be able to walk them through it. Mr. Conklin stated that is for very low and low income, where the original program was low to moderate.

Mr. Casella stated that this was a good program that helped the residents in town and thanked Mr. Conklin for being at the helm of this and responding to the residents in need.

Mayor Fromm officially announced Mr. Conklin as our COAH coordinator and recognized him as the force behind us spending the money in the best possible way and reiterated that Ron has been a great asset to the town.

Mayor stated that it was a great program and significant changes were done to the homes.

Mrs. Hale asked if the rental units counted towards the number of units that we are obligated under COAH and Mr. Conklin states that it does count and discussed a little bit more about the landlords and what they contribute. Mrs. Hale asked who keeps tabs on the landlords and Mr. Conklin stated that it is something he would handle.

Mr. Casella asked if he spoke with Bob Schmid and Mr. Conklin stated that if they got the grant they would contact him and stated that it is going to be difficult to get because we are going against the County for the money.

Mayor Fromm asked the public if they had any questions regarding this resolution and Helen Fromm asked further questions about the rental process and Mr. Conklin stated that with the fair housing rules rental properties cannot be excluded.

Mr. Weeks moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Zappala. Roll Call Vote-all yes.



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COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES of JUNE 21, 2010
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Clerk read the following resolution (R-77-2010 Renewal of Liquor License) Mr. Weeks moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Gahrs. Roll Call Vote, all yes, Mr. Casella abstained.

Clerk read the following resolution (R-78-Release of Performance Guarantee) Mr. Weeks moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Gahrs. Roll Call Vote-all yes.

Clerk read the following resolution (R-79-2010 Closed Session) Mr. Weeks moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll Call Vote- All yes.

Clerk read the following resolution (R-80-2010- PDM program) Mr. Weeks asked if this had the final changes that Mr. Voight requested and clerk stated that it was. Mr. Weeks moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Casella. Roll Call Vote-All yes.

Clerk read the following resolution (R-81-2010 Award Contract to MWH America's Inc. for water well test). Mr. Weeks moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Ayers. Prior to the roll call Mayor Fromm asked that John Jengo who is the person appointed by the Borough as the hydro geologist be added to the resolution. Roll Call Vote- All yes with the changes made.

No sick pay benefits were presented.

Mayor advised that we would be going into a brief closed session and when we come out that New Business will be discussed.

A motion was made by Mr. Weeks to go into closed session, seconded by Mr. Casella. Vote all yes.

After coming out of open session Mayor Fromm reported to Mrs. Edwards regarding the property she was referring to Swedesboro Publishing, and Mrs. Edwards stated that this was not the building she was referring to. Mayor Fromm thought her question was in regards to the Borough pursuing the Swedesboro Publishing Building and Mayor Fromm stated that we are not pursuing that building any more. They rejected the offer because there was some contamination found in the back of the building and we were not able to reach an agreement with the owner on how it would be cleaned up and the amount reduced from the sale price. As of right know it is public information since it was reported to DEP and it is now their responsibility to clean it up.

Mayor Fromm asked Mrs. Edwards if she was talking about the water bill for Richardson Avenue School and informed her that we are trying to find a classification for a building in our existing ordinance that is not a school or residence for a historic building or a building that has no usage or limited usage. Mayor stated that this would apply to a couple of buildings in town and he is talking with the Solicitor trying to find the proper way and present it to council.



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COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES of JUNE 21, 2010
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Mr. Casella asked if this was anything the State would do as far as historical landmarks. Mrs. Edwards stated that she would look into how other towns that have historical schools are charged and if there is a rate. Mrs. Edwards questioned whether they were exempt as a historical school.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Hale brought up the Wal-Mart Grant that Joan Adams had brought to her attention, but in order to apply she needs to know whether we are a sustainable New Jersey Town and are we certified as such.

Nobody really knew the answer to this. Mr. Weeks stated that we had a certification about five years ago, but that was for historical.

Mrs. Hale got word from the New Jersey Historical Trust that there is 10.2 million dollars available for grants and what we can apply for is signage, etc. The grant is for the preparation, plans and studies used to approve site maintenance and interpretation. We can also apply for capital grants ranging from \$50,000 to 750,000.00 and it can be used for repairs, restoration and rehabilitation of historical resources.

Mayor Fromm asked to include bronze stories around town and Mrs. Hale stated that this was what was there and that she would like to replace the ones that we did have and get new ones for other sites around town. The Company is called Erie Landmark in Pennsylvania who does these signs. A local resident Ben Carlton did a book on the famous people who were buried in cemeteries here in Swedesboro and we could use that money to publish the book. Swedesboro is important in the State and county, as well as the United States. The grant could be used for Historical significance.

Mrs. Hale attended a meeting on June 16th for the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and it is another grant that we can apply for up to \$5,000. We need the matching funds. This is to bring the arts into town and Elaine Edwards will be applying for the summer program that she runs called Destiny Stars. Mrs. Hale would also like to use the grant money to enhance and expand on the Blues Festival.

The Jazz festival meeting will be held on Thursday 7/1/2010. They are cross marketing with other towns such as Pitman, Woodbury, Woolwich, etc.

Mrs. Hale stated that there is an issue with Ducks at the Lake during the busiest time in the morning. Mrs. Hale asked for a sign for Duck Crossing. Mrs. Gahrs commented that there may be something that could be looked into to defer them such as a noise or something.

Mrs. Hale asked for Trash bags at the railroad tracks to be picked up.



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COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES of JUNE 21, 2010
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Mrs. Hale stated that curbs around town including Second and Broad Street have been broken for two years, as well as a huge chunk out in front of Donald Fanslau's house. Mrs. Hale asked who is responsible for fixing the curb because something needs to be done.

Mrs. Hale noted a sink hole in the St. Joseph's school lot in the front at the playground and the church was contacted, but nothing has been done. It is big enough for someone to step in and hurt their ankle. Mrs. Hale asked if the Borough can ask them to fix it. It is near the enclosed playground and is a safety hazard to the children.

Mayor Fromm asked the clerk to contact the preschool people and tell them there is a safety hazard out front and asked Dan or Carl to address the issue.

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

Carol Gahrs-110 Thompson-Asked if there was any update on the library expansion project and when this will be happening.

Mayor Fromm stated that they are going through the permit process and there was an issue in the basement that was taken care of, an issue that was left off the plans for radon control, but the big issue is going through the construction office and getting the permits lined up. Mayor stated that it is on schedule and will be started within the next 2-3 weeks. There were a couple of issues, but nothing of real significance and he does get reports from the engineer who is running the project. The original completion date is still the target date.

Carol asked who the council rep to the library was as nobody this year is assigned and asked if there was a council rep planned for the library due to the important issues.

Mayor asked not in an official capacity because of his involvement that Dave Flaherty represent us somewhat with the library, but the Mayor is the liaison with the library. Mayor does ask Mr. Flaherty to attend meetings in his absence.

Helen Fromm-402 Weatherby-asked about the radio reads and asked when residents could expect a mailing of the water bills. The clerk responded that hopefully by the end of the week.

Helen Fromm also asked about the signs around town specifically she did notice in the Walter Hill School horseshoe a bad sign.

S/W Day is pursuing municipal alliance money and there could be up to \$3,000.00 available. Committees are being put together. Bicycle rodeo flyers were handed out during closed session promoting the event.



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Lucille Stewart-Richardson Avenue questioned about the Church that was here how far would the streets be blocked and felt that they would only do the event on Richardson Avenue. She stated that this is the same date they are having their annual barbeque and feels that Second Street should not be closed.

Mayor Fromm stated that the details would be worked out.

Mr. Zappala moved to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Vote all yes.

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

Mr. Zappala moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Vote all yes.

Mayor adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Tanya L. Goodwin, RMC