



Borough of Swedesboro Council Meeting
Swedesboro, NJ 08085

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 20, 2010

A regular meeting of the Borough Council was held on December 20, 2010 in Council Chambers with the Honorable Thomas W. Fromm presiding.

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

Mayor Fromm asked for a Roll Call of Council, all members were present.

Mayor Fromm asked for a moment of silent prayer and saluting of the flag.

Mr. Weeks moved to approve the minutes of December 6, 2010, seconded by Mr. Ayers. Vote all yes.

Mayor Fromm had no opening comments.

A letter was received by Joan Adams Esq. on behalf of Templo Faro De Luz addressed to Mayor and Council and members of this organization were present tonight. Mr. William Dunn spoke on behalf of Pastor Juan Mendez. The church needs to pave their driveway for the safety of their members, however, they have very limited funds and no revenue for major projects. Their request at this time from Mayor and Council is to waive the application fee. Mr. Dunn stated that they do try to give back to the community and realize that they need to pay the escrow fees, but cannot afford the application fee.

Mayor Fromm emphasized that they cannot waive the other fees related to this project, but feels that Council could waive the application fee, which is believed to be \$500.00.

All members of Council did agree to waive the fee.

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No one from the audience spoke at this time.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

No other correspondence was on the agenda for tonight's meeting.

REPORTS

Enclosed for review was the construction report.



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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance - The year-to-date budget is in good shape in both the current fund and utility fund.

Public works - Nothing to report.

Public Safety - Mayor Fromm indicated that he did speak with the police department and reported on how many calls they had and the breakdown of the types of calls.

Economic Development - Nothing to report.

Fire -Mrs. Gahrs commented about the washing machine is installed and is working well for the fire company. Mrs. Gahrs also stated that a meeting was held to discuss the pallet ordinance and it was determined that ordinance is safe and is above the State requirement and is strong in covering ourselves and keeps them in compliance.

Mayor Fromm thanked all involved in the meeting, but still feels that the place is a hazard and an eye sore for the community. Mayor Fromm feels that more enforcement is needed to protect the neighborhood. Mayor Fromm also stated the pallet company on Richardson Avenue is also a mess and needs to be addressed.

Mrs. Gahrs asked if he would like a further review and Mayor Fromm stated that we do not need further review of our ordinance, we just need to enforce it.

Mr. Casella did ask Mr. Johnson questions and they did get answers as to the inspection and what they are looking for. Mr. Johnson does do regular inspections and if they are in violation they do get fines.

Further discussions were held on employee safety and their requirements towards their employees i.e. fire extinguisher inspections, inc.

Mayor Fromm did ask if Mr. Johnson could report to us on his extinguisher inspections of the pallet company. Mrs. Hale did also mention that they had to meet OSHA requirements as well.

Mayor Fromm indicated that there could be an issue through the Board of Health if they are not meeting OSHA requirements.

Mr. Casella did indicate that the county would be able inspect our extinguishers as well as they are now certified for fire extinguisher inspections.

Mrs. Gahrs did indicate that the fire billing ordinance was done by Mr. Chell, but that she was contacting the billing company in an effort to get them to change the wording on our contract, attachment A. The wording we will need will not be billing individuals. Once this matter is cleared up we will proceed with the ordinance.



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Garbage/Recycling - Mr. Weeks reported that the brown cans were being distributed throughout town, but they are not to be used until January 6, 2011. Mr. Weeks did bring up a change in the ordinance that allows the Logan Trash Department's truck to go up Franklin a one way street for the purpose of pick up.

Mr. Coles spoke with Mr. Weeks prior to the meeting and requested that he perhaps contact Mr. Chell as Jif is stating that this might not be allowed even though we put it in our ordinance.

Mayor Fromm stated that are towns argument would be that our ordinance supersedes their possible ruling, but if it does turn into a problem we will work through it.

Mayor Fromm thanked everyone who helped with this project. The packets were very informative and the information can also be found on the website.

Street Lighting/Public Celebrations -Mrs. Hale noted that the lights that were reported as out have been taken care of, however, Mrs. Gahrs did state that the light by Trinity Church sometimes is on and sometimes is off. Mrs. Hale stated that when she goes by it is on, but to take down the pole information and report it to borough hall.

Parks & Recreation - Mr. Zappala reported that there was a meeting last week preparing the calendar for 2011. There are several upcoming events. On 12/30/11 there is a bowling party scheduled, 1/14/11 movie night, and 2/18/11 a teen night. The next meeting is on 1/19/11.

Planning Board - Mr. Zappala stated that the next planning board meeting was held and they memorialized the Waterview project and that he brought in the plans in case anyone had any questions. This was Mr. Homan's last meeting and thanked everyone who attended the meeting to wish him well.

Board of Health - Nothing to report.

Census - Nothing to report.

Environmental/Shade Tree - Nothing to report.

School Boards - Mr. Zappala announced that the referendum was defeated for Kingsway. Mr. Zappala reported that approximately 178 residents of Swedesboro voted, which is about 12% of the voters.

REASSESSMENT - Mrs. Gahrs has not heard from Robyn, but has received some complaints from the residents that they were not happy with the appraisal company. They were not getting back to individuals in a timely manner and there was not enough time to schedule from when they received the letter and the 10 days.

Mayor Fromm went over the appeal process in the future and that the appraisal company gave everybody 10 days to respond.



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Mrs. Gahrs stated that not everybody got the letters at the same time and the commercial properties needed more time to respond.

Mayor Fromm stated that the company told him it was going good as compared to other towns.

Library - Mayor Fromm stated the library project is moving forward. It is weatherproofed and progress is being made. No change orders should be needed on construction. Mayor Fromm did state that a change order does need to be done for the engineering services as they had to do a lot of additional work.

Mrs. Hale stated that curbing is done in the driveway.

Mayor Fromm at this time did comment that the sidewalks on Second Street are progressing and the Turner and Mayhew project is on hold due to the weather.

No comments at this point from the clerk.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Zappala stated Mr. Homan was assured that we would do a ceremony to publicly honor his years of service.

RESOLUTIONS

Clerk read the following resolution R-128-10 (Release performance guarantee for Perfect Day Photography) Mr. Weeks motioned to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Gahrs. Roll Call Vote-all yes.

Clerk read the following resolution R-129-10 (Cancel Tax Title Lien) Mr. Weeks motioned to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Casella. Roll Call Vote-all yes.

Clerk read the following resolution R-130-10 (Jif 20th Anniversary) Mr. Casella motioned to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Roll Call Vote-all yes.

Clerk read the following resolution R-131-10 (Transfers in the current fund) Mr. Weeks moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Zappala. Roll Call Vote-all yes.

Clerk read the following resolution R-132-10 (Cancel reserve for Safe Housing Transportation) Mr. Weeks motioned to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll Call Vote-all yes.

Clerk read the following resolution-R-133-10 (Performance Bond release for Swedesboro Square West). Mr. Weeks did question the location of this property he thought that it was the new shopping center and was informed that it was the new town homes. Mr. Weeks motioned to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Ayers. Roll Call Vote-all yes.



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Clerk read the following resolution R-134-10 (Performance bond release for Swedesboro Square East). Mr. Weeks motioned to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Gahrs. Roll Call Vote-all yes.

Clerk read the following resolution R-135-10 (Performance Bond release for Matteo/Edwards, 424-426 Broad Street), Mr. Casella motioned to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Roll Call Vote-all yes.

Clerk read the following resolution R-136-10 (Refund Tax overpayment) Mr. Casella motioned to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Roll Call Vote-all yes.

Clerk read the following resolution R-137-10 (Change order #1 for Federici/Akin for the library expansion project) Mr. Weeks motioned to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll Call Vote-all yes.

Clerk read the following resolution R-138-10 (Award bid for ¾ ton pickup truck with plow to DFFLM, LLC) Mr. Weeks motioned to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll call Vote-all yes.

Clerk read the following resolution R-139-10 by Title only (Authorizing the Mayor to sign grant applications for the energy efficiency program. Mr. Weeks motioned to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Casella. Roll Call Vote-all yes.

ORDINANCES

A public hearing is being held tonight on Ordinance 0-13-10 (prohibiting parking on Waterview Court). Mr. Weeks moved to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Mr. Casella. Vote all yes.

No one spoke for or against the ordinance.

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

A public hearing is being held this evening on Ordinance 0-14-10 (Replacing Chapter 70 of the Swedesboro code entitled "Garbage, Rubbish, and Refuse). Mr. Weeks opened the meeting to the public, seconded by Mr. Zappala. All yes.

No one spoke for or against the ordinance.

Mr. Weeks moved to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Mr. Casella. All yes.

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

No sick pay benefits were presented at this time.



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NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Hale wanted to report that a truck driving on Franklin Street made a left turn in front of Borough Hall going South onto Kings Highway.

Mr. Weeks did indicate that they are permitted to make a left hand turn.

Mrs. Hale also stated that it should be reported that trucks are still speeding on Franklin.

Mrs. Hale asked if reminders can be sent out to business owners and residents on Kings Highway to be careful of what they throw on the pavers for the inclement weather as certain products will destroy the pavers.

Mrs. Hale also thanked public works for having the community service workers sweep up the sidewalks downtown.

Mr. Zappala thanked Mayor Fromm for a nice night out at the Mayor's Dinner and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mr. Ayers asked if ice skating on the Lake is permitted. Mr. Ayers asked if we could look into a place for ice skating. Mrs. Hale stated that the auction company could be a location, but this is not a borough property.

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No one spoke from the audience.

Mr. Weeks moved to close the meeting, seconded by Mr. Casella.

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

Mr. Casella wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

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

Mayor Fromm adjourned the meeting at 8:10 pm.

Tanya Goodwin, Clerk