

Public Meeting
May 7th, 2014

Meeting was opened by Theresa Branella at 6:00pm. Those present were J. McCleary, P. MacAdams, and J. Granstrom. Absent were J. Meehan, M. Mevoli, and G. Gilbert. The Solicitor was Timothy Higgins, Esq..

This Meeting was advertised in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, and complies with all the laws therein.

Committee Reports:

Motion – J. Granstrom
2nd – P. MacAdams
All in favor: Carried.

Engineer's Report: By Greg Fusco, Kei Engineering

Item #1: Open Space Round 15 Application for pedestrian improvements along Timber Boulevard was due on March 31st. The application was submitted.

Item #3, 4: Year 34, 35, & 36 CDBG money will be used for sidewalk replacement throughout the borough. We receive DOT funding for Community Road. We are going to combine the DOT project with the CDBG and bid them together.

Item #5: The railroad crossing project is ready to go this summer. We are still waiting for Conrail to finish their Engineering work before the project can begin. Mayor asked the clerk to reach out to our PSEG or Assemblymen to expedite this process.

Item #7: The DOT announced their street project. We were awarded the street improvement along Community Road, we can bid our sidewalk project within the DOT grant as stated in Item 3 and 4 of the report.

Item #8: The replacement of fire house and water plant roof is completed. We are going to do our final inspections before we release their final voucher.

Item #13: USDA project application is fully completed. We have received approval on both applications. We have to sign the letter of intent within the next two weeks. Mayor and solicitor should setup and time and place to sign and review the documents.

Everyone thanked G. Fusco for his time.

Open to Public:

Nothing Noted from Public.

New Business:

Resolutions:

90-14 Authorize Contract with International Fireworks mfg. for Fireworks Display
Motion – J. McCleary

2nd – J. Granstrom
All in Favor: Carried.

91-14 Authorize Mayor to Sign Letter of Intent for USDA Loan
Motion – J. McCleary
2nd – P. MacAdams
All in Favor: Carried.

Open to Council:

J. Granstrom expressed his concern over the vandalism that is occurring on our playgrounds and ball fields. We have to replace broken window at the stand along the Legion field. He suggest looking into video cameras to look over the site. The chief of police said he got a new 4 camera dvr system for a good price late last year. J. Granstrom asked to get prices. He also stated that they are going to place a new door on the stand with the broken windows. It appears that the doors do not lock properly. He said this should be taken care of in the near future. He also asked to revisit speed bumps in select areas. He feels traffic is going to fast down streets where kids are present. He continued to say that it may be an insurance issue or plowing issue. The solicitor said that as long as signs are posted about the speed bumps, you should be covered under insurance.

J. McCleary ask about how to see updated Facebook post on the website. The clerk said he will ask the designer of the site. She also asked if we could shut down our old website for police and the borough. The clerk said he would see what needs to be done, in order to put a permanent link to our new website from the old sites.

Mayor Branella asked everyone to go through our project list and update accordingly. She wants to revisit some of the projects. After review, the project to remain on our list are recycle info night, development at end of Paris Avenue, rain barrels, vacating Murray Road and Christiana Street, water tower advertisement, Adopt a plot, marketing plan for Brooklawn, sustainable jersey, USDA Project, Circle Project, walkway along waterfront, and possible purchase of Brooklawn Flower Shop. The Mayor asked everyone to get back to working on these projects. The clerk said you can edit these document with the list and post them on the google drive to show progress. Mayor asked the clerk to reach Out to our code enforcement officer to setup a meeting. She wants to get back to property maintenance throughout the borough.

The clerk explained the impact of taking the USDA loan for our infrastructure. With future budget issues, this will be a tough sell to our resident. He suggested a plan to educate the residents. The clerk explained that we need to increase our surplus this year. The ideas to think about are shared service, selling of assets, selling of borough homes, water tower billboard, and increasing user fees. Our options are limited to increase revenue. Council said they would discuss in great detail at the next worksession. The clerk explained that the sprint/Nextel lease will not be renewed after this year. This is going to cause a shortfall in revenue of \$16,000 in water. This will be in addition to our budget issues. The clerk explained to everyone about the annual financial disclosure statements. The state revamped the online process, so it should be easier than last year. The clerk provided them with all their information, individually.

Motion to Adjourn – P. MacAdams
2nd – J. McCleary
All in favor: Adjourned.

Ryan Giles
Borough Clerk