

Public meeting
April 16, 2024

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm. Those present were J. Granstrom, P. McConnell, C. MacAdams, S. Ostrom, J. Clotworthy, B. Darrow The Solicitor was Timothy Higgins

Public Notice:

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

Acceptance of Resignation of Council member P. Moses

Motion to accept: J. Clotworthy 2nd S. Ostrom
All In Favor: Carried

Appointment of Council Member: The Camden County Democratic Committee presented the following three names: Bruce Darrow, Kevin Everhart, Christine Houchin

Nomination of Council Member:

Motion: Nomination for Bruce Darrow made by P. McConnell

2nd J. Clotworthy

Roll Call Vote 4-0

Swearing in: Oath of Office

MEETING MINUTES: Regular session held March 18, 2024

Motion to accept: C. MacAdams 2nd J. Clotworthy
All In Favor: Carried Abstain: B. Darrow

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Motion to accept: P. McConnell 2nd S. Ostrom
All In Favor: Carried Abstain: B. Darrow

CORRESPONDENCE: N/A

ENGINEERS REPORT: Greg Fusco stated there was a voucher and change order for the work being done on Lake Drive, a resolution for approval for Camden County Open Space funds for improvements to the Legion Field, and Greg stated bids were received on April 4, 2024 for the improvements for the water treatment plant to address the PFNA water issue. Greg reviewed the bids and a recommendation was made to the governing body to award the project to Clyde L. Lattimer& Son in the amount of \$1,581,900.00

OLD BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE No. 9-2024 – Accepting a Grant of Easement Relative to Certain Property Owned by Francis R. McKinney and Michelle L. McKinney, and Authorizing the Execution of all Documents Necessary to Implement Said Grant of Easement

Motion to Open to the Public By: J. Clotworthy 2nd: C. MacAdams
Motion to Close to the Public By: C. MacAdams 2nd: J. Clotworthy

Adoption:
Motion to Adopt: By: C. MacAdams 2nd: J. Clotworthy
Roll Call Vote: 4-1 Abstain: B. Darrow

NEW BUSINESS:

BUDGET:

RESOLUTION No. 81-2024 – Authorization to Participate in the Budget Self Examination for the Year 2024

Motion to accept: C. MacAdams 2nd P. McConnell
Roll Call Vote: 5-0

RESOLUTION No. 82-2024 – Authorization to Read Municipal Budget by Title Only

Motion to accept: C. MacAdams 2nd J. Clotworthy
Roll Call Vote: 5-0

Adoption of 2024 Municipal Budget:

Motion to Open to the Public By: C. MacAdams 2nd J. Clotworthy
Motion to Close to the Public By: C. MacAdams 2nd S. Ostrom

Adoption:
Motion to Adopt: By: C. MacAdams 2nd J. Clotworthy
Roll Call Vote: 4-1 Abstain: B. Darrow

INTRODUCTION OF BOND ORDINANCE:

First Reading:

ORDINANCE No. 10-2024 – Bond Ordinance Authorizing the Completion of Capital Improvements for the Water Treatment Plant in and for the Borough of Brooklawn Appropriating the Sum of \$1,600,000

Motion to Introduce: By: C. MacAdams 2nd P. McConnell
Roll Call Vote: 5-0

RESOLUTIONS:

CONSENT AGENDA

The items listed below are considered to be routine by the Borough of Brooklawn and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no formal discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, this item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

*(Motion to approve/deny all Resolutions listed under the Consent Agenda by
Roll Call Vote)*

RESOLUTION NO. 83-2024 – Authorizing the Submission of the Application for Round 2024 Camden County Recreation Facility Enhancement Funding for Legion Field Improvements

RESOLUTION NO. 84-2024 – Authorizing Local Support for Indigo Dispensary, LLC for its Class 1 Cannabis Cultivation Businesses and Class 2 Cannabis Manufacturer Businesses License Application to the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission

RESOLUTION NO. 85-2024 – Authorizing Local Support for Authorized Dealers, LLC for its Class 3 Cannabis Wholesale Business License Application to the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission

RESOLUTION NO. 86-2024 - Authorization to Approve Voucher No. 2 and Change Order No. 2 for Work Performed by Landberg Construction, LLC for the Reconstruction and Storm Drainage Improvements to Lake Drive from Second Street Phase 1 to Third Street (no increase or decrease)

RESOLUTION NO. 87-2024 – Authorizing Award of Contract for the Purpose of Construction of a Granulated Activated Carbon Treatment System at the Brooklawn Water Treatment Plant

Motion to accept: C. MacAdams 2nd S. Ostrom
Roll Call Vote: 5-0

END CONSENT AGENDA

CONCLUSION OF NEW BUSINESS:

FIRE APPLICATION:

Acceptance of Fireman's Association Application for Membership:

Robert C. Anderson

Motion to accept: C. MacAdams 2nd J. Clotworthy

All in Favor: Carried

BILLS & VOUCHERS:

List of Bills:

Motion to pay all bills and vouchers that are in order

Motion to accept: C. MacAdams 2nd J. Clotworthy

Roll Call Vote: 5-0

PUBLIC PORTION: (Individuals must state their name and address for the record and respect the five-minute time limit while addressing the Governing Body)

Motion to open: C. MacAdams 2nd J. Clotworthy

All in Favor: Carried

Jim Everett 111 Browing Road commented on the purchase of St. Maurice Church to the Board of Education and then the sale of the church from the BOE to the Borough at a much lower cost and stated the new council member was part of the BOE purchase of the church. Mr. Everett also commented on the Brooklawn Fire Department and questioned the absence of the fire chief and loss of active firemen in the department. Brittany Henry 221 N. Hannevig Ave. inquired about what was meant about applying political pressure to move the water project along quicker. Mayor Granstrom stated there are emails going out on a daily basis to officials which help as well as the media coverage. The question of who will be taking ownership of the water project if the project is not completed in a timely manner was asked. Both council member J. Clotworthy and Mayor Granstrom addressed the question. J. Clotworthy stated he will stay on the project and is very dialed in to the process. Mayor Granstrom stated he is confident the project will be completed as planned. Jennifer Drummonds 322 New Broadway discussed the ongoing water distribution drive and thanked everyone for their support and to everyone that donated and said that we are here to help anyone in need of water. Jim Blymer 20 2nd Street commented on the 47 bridge project and Route 130 bridge project happening at the same time and the inconvenience it causes. Administrator Giles stated it is the NJDOT that plans the projects and that concerns are being addressed to the engineer from NJDOT. Mr. Blymer also commented on other municipalities lawsuits against the companies involved in contaminating the water. Administrator Giles stated the settlement is through the DEP and that Brooklawn is on the list to be included with other municipalities

affected, but stated it is a process that takes time. Andrew Kairis 311 New Broadway commented that at the round table meeting the subject of the parking situation for those using the ball fields was brought up and inquired about the possibility of about signage to address the issue that is affecting residents. Mr. Kairis also inquired about additional costs involved once the water project is completed. Public works superintendent M. Ostrom addressed the question and Administrator Giles added that hopefully money received from the settlement would help with additional costs, including the possibility of future funding that could be placed in reserve to pay any costs. Resident also inquired about a stop sign being placed at Pershing and Chestnut because of the sight line. Joan Everett 111 Browning Road inquired about the safety of using the water. Council member Clotworthy stated it is up to the individual resident and their choice and suggested following the DEP state guidelines and to do what makes the individual comfortable. Carol Cellucci 307 Paris Ave. inquired about a plan to do a temporary fix to the water situation until the water project is complete and asked if that will still will happen. Administrator Giles discussed the financial aspect of borrowing the money to implement a temporary fix. Debbie Mason 206 Fifth St. commented on the decision of the school board to buy the church and stated that council member Darrow should not be called out as one person on the decision and does so much for the youth of Brooklawn. Council member MacAdams stated there were other unknown obstacles that could not be foreseen and to pinpoint one person is unfair and we need to work together as a community. John Krauzowicz 126 New Jersey Road thanked everyone for their efforts and apologized for something he said at the last meeting. Mr. Krauzowicz stated there are no signs in the vicinity of the work being done on Route 130 including flagmen. Mayor Granstrom stated it is a state project and both Mayor and Police Chief Ellis have discussed the need for a state officer to be on site during the construction. Jim Everett 11 Browning Rd. asked if the water is safe to drink then why is bottle water being distributed. Administrator Giles clarified it was never stated the water is safe to drink and that it is the individual decision of the resident. Administrator Ryan Giles stated there have been numerous attempts to have a DEP representative attend meetings and there has been no response. Jim Everett also inquired about the fire committee and fire department and asked about the possibility of bringing in a new fire chief. Council member MacAdams inquired as to why we are discussing a new fire chief if there is not a current vacancy. Council member Darrow stated he has spoke with current fire chief McKinney and stated he has been an incredible asset and stated he would speak with John about his role as chief and would bring his findings to the fire committee.

Brittany Henry 221 N. Hannevig inquired if there is written confirmation if something goes wrong with access to water during the water project. Superintendent M. Ostrom stated we would have immediate access through Bellmawr and the agreement is documented in writing. The resident also asked the question regarding reimbursement to residents with the current lawsuit which was addressed by Council member Clotworthy and it was clarified that the correspondence is through the DEP attorney in Trenton. Public works Superintendent M. Ostrom spoke on the current PFNA sampling and current results.

Motion to close: C. MacAdams 2nd J Clotworthy
All in Favor: Carried

OPEN TO COUNCIL MEMBERS: Council member J. Clotworthy thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. Council member Clotworthy stated he is dialed into the water project and will be sure to see it through along with all of Council and Mayor. J. Clotworthy also stated he would like to see benches at the playground if possible. Council member MacAdams suggested a “friends” bench at the playground and explained the concept. Council president MacAdams stated that all of us working together as a community and having a positive attitude will make our Borough successful.

C. MacAdams stated there are waterfront projects that are being worked on and looks forward to positive changes for the Borough. Council member B. Darrow talked about his length of time in the Borough and discussed the projects he has worked on over many years. Council member S. Ostrom stated she likes engaging with the community and the turn out of residents at our meetings and stated she is there for the residents and wants to hear from our residents and what their needs are. Stacey also discussed the committees she is on and asked everyone to feel free to email her with any concerns. Council member T. McConnell stated she likes the idea of benches in the playground and also talked about the new benches that will be installed. Council member McConnell discussed signs that were recently installed by public works as well as getting a schedule out to the residents regarding the street sweeper. In closing P. McConnell thanked former Council member P. Moses for his years of service and dedication to the Borough of Brooklawn and that he will be missed. Public works superintendent M. Ostrom welcomed new council member Bruce Darrow and thanked all of council for their hard work.

Mayor Granstrom stated we have a great team and are in need a new council member which is being worked on. Mayor acknowledged the passing of Administrator Giles father in law. Mayor thanked former council member P. Moses for his service to Brooklawn and thanked Council member S. Ostrom for the research she has shared with everyone. Mayor thanked everyone for attending and stated the next meeting will be held at the Community Center. Administrator Giles welcomed new Council member Bruce Darrow and stated he has been instrumental to the Borough of the years. Administrator Giles discussed the 100 year celebration and upcoming fireworks display and discussed other upcoming events but that with the water situation being the focus, we have trimmed back on the events for this year.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Resolution No. 88-2024 - Authorizing Executive Session to Discuss Personnel Matters

Motion C. MacAdams 2nd J. Clotworthy
All in favor: Carried

Resolution No. 89-2024 – Authorization to Appoint Council Member Bruce Darrow as Class 3 Member of the Planning and Zoning through December 31, 2024

Motion to accept: C. MacAdams 2nd J. Clotworthy
Roll Call Vote: 5-0

MEETING ADJOURNMENT:

Motion P. McConnell 2nd J. Clotworthy
All in favor: Carried

Next regular meeting scheduled for Monday, May 20, 2024