

**JANUARY 15, 2013**

**PAULSBORO, N.J.**

**7:00 P.M.**

**WORK SESSION MEETING**

Council Chamber:

Mayor Hamilton presided at a Work Session Meeting of Council held on the above date and place.

Members present were: Giovannitti, Giampola, Haynes, Kidd, Stevenson, Turner.

Mayor Hamilton called the meeting to order.

Borough Clerk VanScoy read the opening statement regarding the Open Public Meetings Act.

Mayor Hamilton called for a moment of silence in remembrance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Mayor Hamilton asked all those present to join in the salute to the flag, which was conducted by Borough Clerk VanScoy.

Mayor Hamilton opened the floor to the public.

Eldora Wright, 1012 DeVault Avenue, questioned what Mayor and Council has done for the safety of the residents since the vinyl chloride spill.

Mayor Hamilton stated discussions are being held to set up a way to notify the community such as the early warning system and the reverse 911 (Global Connect).

Councilman Giampola stated community events will be set up to register people for Global Connect. He has spoken with a Company called Red Zone who also installs early warning systems. He further stated the Borough will ask Conrail for help to install a system and add a system to the schools but the important thing is to get people signed up for Global Connect.

Mrs. Wright also questioned if the residents will get the results from the survey that was conducted by the Center for Diseases Control.

Councilman Giampola stated each survey participant was given an ID number and she could contact the CDC by the reference number to obtain the results.

Mrs. Wright questioned the rumor that Conrail is giving \$500.00 to each individual that was exposed to the vinyl chloride.

Mayor Hamilton stated he has heard that as well and she can call the Conrail information center or go to the office.

Councilman Giampola stated the telephone number is 856-599-1657 to set up an appointment. He informed the residents to contact the Borough Hall for the telephone number. Conrail is not taking any walk ins but can call the phone number to schedule an appointment.

Councilman Kidd stated he heard this on the street and wondered when Mayor and Council was going to be informed. He further stated at the last meeting of the GAPCAP, shelter in place and reverse 911 was discussed. He suggested getting in touch with the industry to aid the Borough. The GAPCAP has been trying to do this for the last three (3) to four (4) years. The Borough should communicate with the GAPCAP and it highly upsets him. He felt the Governing Body should sit down and discuss this.

Mozelle Dansby, 1655 Swedesboro Avenue, stated he agreed with Councilman Kidd and felt everyone has to come together and the division had to cease. He further felt that Gloucester County is the most prejudice County ever and he believed in treating everybody right. He further stated everyone has to realize Mayor Hamilton won the election and not bash Mayor Hamilton down.

Cheryl Chandler, 1014 Spruce Street, stated she has an issue with 28 Jefferson Street as they are having church services that start around 10:00 or 11:00 p.m. and doesn't get over until 2:00 or 3:00 a.m. She asked if something could be done as after church they are talking loudly and the kids are running all over. This happens every Friday and Saturday nights.

Karen Armistead, 108 West Washington Street, stated she has seen drug dealings on Washington Street and questioned how this activity could go on a block from the Police Department. She is still seeing people hanging on the corners. She asked what is going to be done about this problem. She is concerned about how the town looks as other small towns look beautiful. She further stated the paving on Washington Street hasn't been done since she was a little girl. She trusts the Mayor and Council are going to take care of the whole town. The town doesn't even have a supermarket. She will have to keep coming to the meetings to let Mayor and Council know that she is not happy with the way Paulsboro is going. There is trash all over and she is ashamed to say she is from Paulsboro.

Mayor Hamilton suggested Mrs. Armistead meet with the Chief and the Captain regarding the drug dealing. The Borough is working on getting a street sweeper for the streets to be cleaned and swept. The Committees are coming together and will be looking at the abandoned homes. The Borough is working on bringing back Paulsboro.

Larry Sheffield, 1615 Swedesboro Avenue, stated everyone has to work together and communication is important. Information is key to going forward but felt some positive things are being done especially with this situation and it is Conrail that is “piece mailing” information.

Mayor Hamilton stated he will try to get Conrail to put in the newspaper regarding what is going on and also post it on the Borough’s website.

Mr. Sheffield informed everyone to be mindful of what they are signing with Conrail.

Rhonda Sharper, 1690 Swedesboro Avenue, discussed the redevelopment of the Plaza and speeding on Swedesboro Avenue. She suggested installing speed humps.

Councilman Stevenson stated discussions were held regarding three (3) or four (4) way stop signs instead of speed humps. Council will attempt the signs first and then review speed humps if that doesn’t work.

Mayor Hamilton stated the planners for the Plaza is coming up with a plan, then they will bring it to the Land Use Board and then to the Governing Body this month.

Marvin Hamilton, 913 Chestnut Street, questioned when the Borough will get to working on the roads on this part of town such as Hoffman Avenue. He picks up trash early in the morning and he is getting tired of Council not helping Mayor Hamilton. He felt if Council wasn’t going to help to get off Council but they have to get together.

Lynn Teal, 1538 Paul Avenue, stated “if the head isn’t right then the body isn’t working”. Her concern is for the children. She further stated Mayor and Council have to get together and then the whole community would be behind them.

There wasn’t any further public participation.

Minutes of a Work Session Meeting held on December 17, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. Giovannitti moved and Giampola seconded to receive, file and approve the above minutes. All were in favor of the motion.

**R. #41.13: RESOLUTION ADOPTING A TEMPORARY BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2013.** Giovannitti moved and Giampola seconded to adopt R. #41.13. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Giampola, Haynes, Kidd, Stevenson, Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**R. #42.13: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE BILLS OUT OF THE 2012 RESERVE ACCOUNTS.** Giovannitti moved and Haynes seconded to pay all bills properly signed and adopt R. #41.13. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Giampola (abstained on all fire bills), Haynes, Kidd, Stevenson, Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**R. #43.13: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF BILLS OUT OF THE 2013 TEMPORARY BUDGET.** Giovannitti moved and Haynes seconded to pay all bills properly signed and adopt R. #41.12. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Giampola (abstained on all fire bills), Haynes, Kidd, Stevenson, Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**R. #44.13: RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO APPOINTING CLAIMS COORDINATOR FOR THE GLOUCESTER, SALEM AND CUMBERLAND COUNTIES MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FIND.** Giovannitti moved and Haynes seconded to adopt R. #44.13. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Giampola, Haynes, Kidd, Stevenson, Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Item #10 to discuss the appointment of Alternate Fund Commissioner for the JIF was tabled until the February meeting.

Item #11 to discuss the Economic Development Coordinator and Zoning Officer positions will be held towards the end of the meeting.

Council President Giovannitti thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and gave a report on the Street and Highway Committee meeting which included a discussion regarding upgrading the two (2) employees that started in April of last year. This move will be discussed during the Budget process. It was discussed regarding the recycling truck that has been fixed but to keep an eye out as it leaks. If anyone sees any broken glass on the street, to contact the Borough. Borough Foreman Tinder and Mr. Virden are inspecting the streets to come up with criteria and then meet with the Engineer to discuss how the Borough would pay for the streets as most streets have been fixed through grants. He is working with Borough Foreman Tinder in sprucing up the Borough Hall to make it the "White House". He is looking into a part-time employee or a janitorial service for the Borough Hall. There is a proposal from Greenwich Township to clean the Borough's storm drains at a cost of +/- \$10,000 but the Borough is waiting until Budget time. He would like to advertise for some part-time employees in February and as the Budget process moves forward, the Borough will look to bond some streets.

Councilman Kidd stated residents have to realize the budget is most important. The Borough may not have the money to clean the storm drains. He felt the Borough should have been reaching out for money or grants for Thomson Avenue.

Council President Giovannitti stated it should be bonded and they will meet in February to work on it.

Councilman Giampola turned over the discussion regarding Council manic Committee Appointments to Council President Giovannitti.

Council President Giovannitti stated there were four (4) changes to be made to the list of Council manic Committee appointments which are as follows:

1. Councilwoman Turner will chair the Community Betterment Committee
2. Councilman Giampola will chair the Construction and Licensing Committee
3. Councilman Stevenson will be a member of the Construction and Licensing Committee
4. Councilwoman Turner will be a member of the School Board Liaison Committee

Stevenson moved and Giampola seconded to approve the above Committee appointments.

Councilman Kidd questioned the motion by stating these moves should have been done at the Reorganization Meeting. Council shouldn't pass things at one meeting and then change it at the next meeting. He said to leave everything the same for one (1) year and work together.

Councilman Stevenson agreed with Councilman Kidd to keep everything the same but it was changed at the Reorganization Meeting. He would like to keep Construction and Licensing and Public Safety Committees.

Councilwoman Turner agreed with Councilmen Kidd and Stevenson. She is a new member but Council is voting on things and then rescinding or changing it. She is confused. She questioned if this was a "man contest". She is happy to have Community Betterment. She knows Council wants to work together and do the best job for the residents.

Councilman Haynes stated his understanding is that the list that was submitted at the Reorganization Meeting was not the list that was read. He further stated if that is the case this is why this is being discussed.

Councilman Giampola stated Councilwoman Turner is more community betterment oriented and she has already been doing this.

Roll call on the above motion: Ayes: Giovannitti, Giampola, Haynes, Stevenson, Turner. Nays: Kidd. **Motion carried.**

Councilman Giampola discussed raising the ABC License Fees. The Borough is the second lowest municipality in the County.

#### **INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING:**

**O. #01.13: ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO AMENDING CHAPTER 6, ARTICLE 1, SECTION 6-2 & 6-5, "ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES" OF THE BOROUGH CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO.** Giampola moved and Stevenson seconded to adopt O. #01.13 on introduction and first reading and schedule the second reading and public hearing on February 5, 2013.

Councilman Kidd questioned the motion by stating that Council should look at all fees these establishments pay and he would like to see everything. He felt this should be discussed at a work session meeting as some of these establishments are barely hanging on. Council needs to look at the whole picture and they should reach out to the establishments.

Council President Giovannitti felt it would be a good idea to have the Committee review and bring back in February.

Councilman Giampola stated he was okay with whatever Council wanted to do but Council keeps asking the Police Department to do more with less.

Councilman Haynes felt Council should have an open discussion on this matter and then vote on it.

Giampola moved to withdraw his motion and Kidd seconded. All were in favor of the motion.

Councilman Kidd turned the discussion regarding the Ambulance Building over to the Solicitor to discuss.

Solicitor Angelini stated his understanding is the Ambulance Association is no longer using the Ambulance Building and under the Ordinance, the building would revert back to

the Borough. He recommended sending a letter to the Ambulance Association informing them that the deed would revert back to the Borough.

Kidd moved and Turner seconded to authorize the Solicitor to send a letter to the Ambulance Association informing them the deed will be reverted back to the Borough. All were in favor of the motion.

Councilman Kidd turned the discussion regarding the amendment to Landlord Licensing Ordinance over to the Solicitor to discuss.

Solicitor Angelini stated his understanding is that former Administrator Salvatore had asked his associate, Jeff Daniels, to review the Borough's Landlord licensing Ordinance. It has been reviewed and there is case law regarding Pemberton's ordinance which is based on the Borough's Ordinance. He further stated he felt the Borough's ordinance would withstand any challenge.

Kidd moved and Turner seconded to go along with the Solicitor's recommendations regarding the Borough's Landlord Licensing Ordinance. All were in favor of the motion.

Council President Giovannitti advised the Council to work through the Mayor or himself when putting items on the Agenda. There should be more information as some items may go through Committees.

Councilman Kidd stated he did make the Agenda deadline to put this matter on the Agenda.

Councilman Haynes stated he wanted to clear the air as this is exactly what everyone has been talking about regarding not communicating. There hasn't been any open discussion and Council is voting blind. Council needs to get back to open discussions before voting and asked everyone to take a breather.

Councilman Kidd stated this is not the first time the ordinance has been mentioned. The whole community has been talking about the ordinance and now the Code Office and the Police Department can go after the Landlords.

Solicitor Angelini stated the Landlord Licensing Ordinance is enforceable.

Solicitor Angelini stated the In Rem Foreclosures are moving along. They are giving notice to the property owners and will move on them immediately.

Police Chief's Report:

Memo from Chief Chris Wachter regarding recommendation of Promotion to next Level Patrolman. Giovannitti moved and Stevenson seconded to receive and file the memo. All were in favor of the motion.

**R. # 45.13: RESOLUTION PROMOTING THOMAS GIORGIANNI TO THE APPOINTMENT OF PATROLMAN SECOND CLASS IN THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT.** Giovannitti moved and Stevenson seconded to adopt R. #45.13. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Giampola, Haynes, Kidd, Stevenson, Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Memo from Chief Chris Wachter regarding recommendation to Re-Appoint Crossing Guard R. Samuels. Giovannitti moved and Stevenson seconded to receive and file the memo. All were in favor of the motion.

**R. #46.13: RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO RE-APPOINTING SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD FOR THE YEAR 2013.** Giovannitti moved and Stevenson seconded to adopt R. #46.13. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Giampola, Haynes, Kidd, Stevenson, Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Memo from Chief Chris Wachter requesting to begin negotiations for a Memorandum of Understanding. Giovannitti moved and Stevenson seconded to receive and file the memo. All were in favor of the motion.

Chief Wachter stated he would like to engage in negotiations for a Memorandum of Understanding of the Police Department Administration. He is asking to have an open discussion to prepare a framework of the agreement.

Giovannitti moved and Stevenson seconded to place the above item on the Agenda for Executive Session at the Work Session Meeting in February. All were in favor of the motion.

Chief Wachter discussed the Conrail Train Derailment. From November 30<sup>th</sup> to December 19<sup>th</sup>, the Police Department had 867 hours of overtime which Conrail has reimbursed \$55,000 and they are waiting on the remainder. The Police cars were used 998 hours and the Police Department billed \$16.25 per hour per car which was recouped. There was one car damaged and Conrail paid for the repairs. He is getting \$16,000 reimbursement from Conrail. He would like to engage with the new CFO to see what the Department can get from the \$16,000 for the cars. The Borough is lucky it has a Borough Mechanic. He would like to sit down with the CFO to discuss adding to the fleet. He also stated Conrail has hired Police Officers for security at their Information Center on Mantua Avenue.

Chief Wachter stated the Class I and Class II Officer Programs are up and running. They filled a niche during the derailment and he thanked Mayor and Council for supporting these programs. He is exploring more uses for the Class I Officers such as conducting a dog census to see how many dogs are in this town, how many dogs are registered and have their shots. He will have this for the February agenda and the Code Office will quarterback this issue.

Chief Wachter reported on some special projects such as the three (3) or four (4) way stop signs to also include Thomson Avenue as it may slow down traffic and it warrants discussion. He also talked about upgrading the traffic signs as some signs are not readable and there are a lot of signs that need to be upgraded.

Chief Wachter also reported on the list of known vacant properties. The Department checks on these properties and the Code Office and Borough Foreman Tinder have a program that if they unable to identify an owner or manager, they have the lower level of the building boarded up.

Chief Wachter stated he has changed the monthly report as it would no longer list arrests but it will have categories for the arrest. He will have a breakdown for the February Work Session. If Council wanted to change anything on the report to let him know.

Chief Wachter stated he is working with Borough Foreman Tinder regarding the fuel consumption of the cars and the Department hasn't switched over to Pro Phoenix dispatch as there are issues with the car computers but the license plate readers are up and running and he will update everyone at the Work Session Meeting in February.

Councilman Kidd questioned if the Policemen at the Conrail Information Center would

affect the winter sports.

Chief Wachter stated he is cognizant of the fatigue on the officers and is working with the Officers.

Council President Giovannitti stated the Conrail Informational Center has been very calm and orderly. There are a lot of people but it is orderly and more organized. He felt it was doing well and the people are well behaved. He questioned the status regarding drug dealing.

Chief Wachter stated he couldn't divulge any information as it is very active and they have some things they are going to be doing in 2013.

Council President Giovannitti questioned the Chief regarding school security.

Chief Wachter stated there will be funding for security and he is confident the Department will meet any challenge. There have been discussions on the County and State levels.

Councilman Giampola congratulated the Police Department on the citation they received for their outstanding efforts during the train derailment.

Mayor Hamilton stated Pat Miller has resigned from the Environmental Commission and she will be replaced by Beth Crane to fill the unexpired term.

Giovannitti moved and Giampola seconded to recess the meeting at 8:52 p.m. All were in favor of the motion.

Mayor and Council reconvened the meeting at 9:02 p.m.

Councilman Haynes gave a statement regarding the comments some residents have made regarding particular people on Council undermining the Mayor and he felt it was not true. Mayor and Council have their disagreements but they would not make Mayor Hamilton look bad as they are a team. It is not intentional as it is just a difference of opinion. He has reached out to both the Mayor and Council President but one hand may be reaching out a little further than the other but it is not any particular Councilperson.

Councilman Stevenson stated for people to say Council is undermining the Mayor isn't true but Council can disagree. The Governing Body needs to do a better job but it is not racist or against women if they disagree.

Council President Giovannitti stated he agreed with Councilman Stevenson as Council doesn't always agree. He is not having people talk about him and he is not having it about being prejudice or racist. He lives and works in Paulsboro. He wants the Committees to work and he agrees communication is necessary but he is committed.

Mayor Hamilton stated the Governing Body is working together. This is the first 15 days of the year and there is a lot going on. The Governing Body has to come together as one.

Councilman Kidd stated it is all part of being an elected official and informed everyone that the residents are Mayor and Council's bosses.

Mayor Hamilton stated he did not hear it was prejudice but everyone has to move forward as a group. He thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Mayor and Council discussed the Economic Development Coordinator position.

Economic Development Coordinator Marc Kamp provided a job description and an overview of what he does on a daily basis which doesn't include his volunteer positions. He presented an RCA (Regional Contribution Agreement) Program report showing the projects that have been completed and a timeline to finish the rest of the projects. He felt he could complete everything by August 2, 2013. He is asking Council to appoint him until the end of July for the opportunity to complete the projects.

Councilman Stevenson stated he had a nice long talk with Marc. He didn't know why Marc's salary was being paid out of the Borough and not from the funds. He questioned how long Marc thought it would take to finish the 14 homes.

Marc stated he should have them done by the end of July unless there are contingencies and he could be finished by the end of the year.

Councilman Stevenson questioned if \$50,000 was in the budget.

Chief Finance Officer Ruggeri stated it should be.

Councilman Stevenson felt there should be an Economic Development Plan and the position needs to go to a separate person.

Councilman Giampola stated he is looking at the numbers and feels the same was as Councilman Stevenson as he hasn't seen a clear economic development plan and questioned what the long term goal is for businesses.

Marc stated his position should have been titled as RCA Administrator. He has tried to have Economic Development meetings and maybe had one.

Council President Giovannitti questioned if Marc felt he would be completed by August 1<sup>st</sup>.

Marc stated yes.

Councilman Kidd stated he felt the RCA Grant program from Woolwich and East Greenwich was blood money anyway. Marc's salary should have been taken out of the RCA/NPP programs as it had a built in salary. He further stated that the Economic Development Coordinator and committee was the Mayor's appointment. He stated he never voted for Marc until the last couple of years but Council is not looking at what he does for the Land Use Board as he is the liaison between the Engineer and the Secretary. He also stated when Marc was sick where was everyone who could have helped him.

Marc stated he agreed with Councilman Kidd regarding the RCA Program and felt it was morally wrong but the concept for the Borough was an excellent program.

Councilman Haynes stated when Marc said he had one meeting; he probably wasn't exaggerating as it was very hard to get together with the previous administration.

Councilman Kidd stated there were issues with the previous NPP Coordinator.

Marc stated the first 1 ½ years he had to clean up the NPP program as he found \$100,000 worth of invoices which he had to claim reimbursement.

Council further discussed this position and some felt the position would end August 1<sup>st</sup> but would like to be able to revisit it in May to ascertain the position once they receive a status report from Marc.

Councilman Kidd didn't feel there should be a time limit.

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**R. #32.13: RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO APPOINTING MARC KAMP AS THE PAULSBORO ECONOMIC AND NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR.** Giovannitti moved and Stevenson seconded to adopt R. #32.13. This appointment will expire on August 1<sup>st</sup> with the stipulation that the Mayor and Council would review the status of projects being completed and ascertain the expiration of the position in May 2013. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Giampola, Haynes, Stevenson. Nays: Kidd, Turner. Motion carried.

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Councilman Giovannitti stated the Construction and Licensing Committee will meet to discuss the Zoning Officer position and bring it back the Mayor and Council at the Work Session Meeting in February.

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There wasn't any further Borough business.

Haynes moved and Stevenson seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m. All were in favor of the motion.

This is a brief summary of the Work Session Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Paulsboro held on January 15, 2013 and should not be considered a verbatim transcript of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kathy A. VanScoy, RMC/CMC  
Borough Clerk

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W. Jeffery Hamilton, Mayor