

MARCH 5, 2013

PAULSBORO, N.J.

7:00 P.M.

REGULAR MEETING

Council Chamber:

Mayor Hamilton presided at the regular meeting of Council held on the above date and place.

The Opening Prayer was given by Mayor Hamilton.

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

Mayor Hamilton called the meeting to order.

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

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

Mayor Hamilton opened the floor to the public.

Davetta Howard, 31 East Broad Street, presented a petition to Mayor and Council on behalf of the Paulsboro Action Committee stating the following:

“As a committee we will act as one voice to stand up for the town of Paulsboro and inform the community of vital information that concerns our safety, and the safety of our town. Therefore we are requesting each residence in the town of Paulsboro be distributed a hard copy of the following:

- Community Emergency Response Procedures
- Shelter-In-Place Guidelines
- Notification System
- Evacuation Plan
- Explanation of the Community Alarms

We are also requesting that Trainings be held for the residents to make sure that they understand these procedures and guidelines. In addition we are requesting Tool Kits (plastic/duct tape) be provided to each residence to use during Shelter-In-Place instances.

We are a committee formed of Paulsboro Citizens that are concerned about the well-being of our community and all those who call Paulsboro, NJ their home. Therefore in the interest of our children who live in a school district that is zoned for walkers we are requesting that Crossing Guards be stationed at the railroad tracks on N. Delaware St., Penn Line Rd., No. Chestnut St. and Mantua Ave. before and after school. We are also requesting that Permanent Air Monitoring Stations be placed in at least four different sections of the town that will monitor our air quality on a 24-hours basis with online linkage and funded by the local industry.

With correspondence from fellow citizens we are voicing the communities concerns to make Paulsboro, NJ a safer environment for everyone. The below signatures are those of residents that are concerned and stand in agreement with the committee and need the above concerns and requests to be adhered to in a timely manner for the safety of our town.”

Mayor Hamilton stated the petition will be taken into consideration and received. It will also be turned over to the Solicitor to determine what parties need to be advised. He thanked the Paulsboro Action Committee for bringing the petition forward.

Ed Dogothsier, 524 Mantua Avenue, requested a moratorium on raising taxes. He has been told from Conrail that the houses have been devalued. The revaluation shows his assessment is going up 20%. By the end of the year he will be bankrupt and his house foreclosed upon. He further stated he has talked with the Tax Collector at the County who was very belligerent and ignorant which he did not accept her behavior. He also stated he believed in paying his taxes as long as they are just and fair.

Mayor Hamilton stated he probably spoke with the Tax Assessor at the County.

Mary Harris, 265 Vanneman Boulevard, discussed the congestion around the Billingsport School. The one problem is the people leave off their children but do not move on for others to leave off their children. The people engage in conversation when they leave off their children. Her husband had to shimmy his way in with the back end sticking out and received a ticket in the mail one and a half 1 ½ weeks later or he has to drive around the school until something opens up. She felt something should be done by the Police Department regarding the congestion and to tell people to move on as she is not going to keep driving around the school.

Mayor Hamilton asked Mrs. Harris to speak with the Police Department to let them know what is going on.

Ronald Victor, 169 McCorkell Avenue, discussed the parking at his house as people park behind his driveway and he is not able to get out.

Mayor Hamilton stated it would be looked into.

There wasn't any further public participation.

Giovannitti moved and Stevenson seconded to close the floor to the public at 7:20 p.m. All were in favor of the motion.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 5, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. Giovannitti moved and Giampola seconded to receive, file and approve the above minutes. All were in favor of the motion.

Minutes of a Work Session Meeting held on February 19, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. Giovannitti moved and Giampola seconded to receive, file and approve the above minutes. All were in favor of the motion.

**R. #60.13: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE BILLS OUT OF THE 2012 RESERVE ACCOUNTS.** Giovannitti moved and Giampola seconded to pay all bills properly signed and adopt R. #60.13. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Giampola (abstained on all fire bills), Kidd, Stevenson, Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**R. #61.13: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE BILLS OUT OF THE 2013 TEMPORARY BUDGET.** Giovannitti moved and Giampola seconded to pay all bills properly signed and adopt R. #61.13. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Giampola (abstained on all fire bills), Kidd, Stevenson, Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**R. #62.13: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE CANCELLATION OF CERTAIN BALANCES ON WATER AND SEWER ACCOUNTS.** Giovannitti moved and Giampola seconded to adopt R. #62.13. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Giampola, Kidd, Stevenson, Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**R. #63.13: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE CANCELLATION OF CERTAIN BALANCES ON WATER AND SEWER ACCOUNTS.** Giovannitti moved and Giampola seconded to adopt R. #63.13. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Giampola, Kidd, Stevenson, Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Summary of reports and copies of minutes of meetings. Giovannitti moved and Giampola seconded to receive and file. All were in favor of the motion.

Letter from Ronald M. Victor, 169 McCorkle Avenue, requesting a handicap parking space. Kidd moved and Giampola seconded to receive, file and turn the letter over to the Police Department for review and recommendation. All were in favor of the motion.

Received 2012 Table of Equalized Valuations as Amended by the Tax Court of New Jersey. Giovannitti moved and Giampola seconded to receive and file the Table. All were in favor of the motion.

Received 2013 Tax Appeal – 216 Greenwich Avenue – Block 27 Lot 4. Giovannitti moved and Giampola seconded to receive all tax appeals, hold them until after the May 1<sup>st</sup> deadline

and then turn them over to the Solicitor's Office. All were in favor of the motion.

Memo from Chief Chris T. Wachter regarding request to re-issue Temporary signage for port project. Giovannitti moved and Stevenson seconded to receive and file the memo. All were in favor of the motion.

**R. #64.13: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TEMPORARY STOP SIGNS FOR THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO.** Giovannitti moved and Giampola seconded to adopt R. #64.13. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Giampola, Kidd, Stevenson, Turner. Nays: None.  
**Motion carried.**

Received Amusement Games License Application from The Office Bar & Grill (all inspections have been completed). Giovannitti moved and Giampola seconded to receive, file and approve the amusement games licenses. All were in favor of the motion.

**OLD BUSINESS:** There wasn't any old business at this time.

### **MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Councilwoman Turner announced the following upcoming events:

1. Free Rabies Clinic on March 9<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Baird Avenue Garage.
2. Gang Awareness Training Seminar on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 4:30 p.m. at the Borough Hall. Flyers will be sent out.
3. Movie night will be held on September 6<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of September 7<sup>th</sup> and the movie to be shown is called "Hotel Transylvania".

Councilwoman Turner congratulated Borough Clerk VanScoy on her 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the Borough of Paulsboro.

Councilman Giampola stated at the last meeting the Mayor had requested a report back on the Zoning. He has met with the Zoning Committee, himself, Councilman Stevenson and Council President Giovannitti and the Committee. They recommended the Zoning position be given to James Sabetta for the Zoning Office which he made a motion to that effect.

Councilman Kidd questioned if this should be discussed in the public or Executive Session.

Solicitor Angelini stated he understands the individual was "rice noticed" according to the Borough Clerk and has requested this matter be discussed in open session.

Councilman Kidd questioned if Council is going to only take one name and vote on it or

does Council have the privilege to present other names.

Solicitor Angelini stated Council can pretty much do whatever is right in respect to that. He doesn't determine the terms as Mr. Kamp has requested this be discussed in the open session, it can be discussed in open.

Councilman Kidd questioned if this is going to be discussed or is Council going to just vote on it.

Council President Giovannitti seconded the motion made by Councilman Giampola.

Councilman Kidd stated he has a question on the motion and asked if other names were going to be presented, if this is a part time position and what are the hours.

Mayor Hamilton stated it would be limited hours and may have to go through an Interlocal Agreement with either East Greenwich or Woolwich Townships.

Councilman Kidd stated if this is going to be a part time position then the Borough would be going backwards instead of forwards and the other thing is if Council is hiring for an open position, any other names someone might want to present should be open to the floor.

Councilman Giampola stated the Zoning Officer is a yearly appointment and Councilman Kidd should know that as he has been here a long time. The position has not been a full time position and he thinks the Construction Office is open five days a week during Borough hours. All the information that needs to be picked up for a Zoning Permit is going to be in that office. The Zoning position has always been part time and this is a yearly appointment by Council and they are making the recommendation of James Sabetta and it was seconded by the Council President. Mr. Kamp has been a holdover since the end of the year. He was not reappointed in January as the Zoning Officer. So all this is an appointment. They have not talked with the Auditor or the Chief Finance Officer about an agreement between Paulsboro and East Greenwich, a shared services agreement. He didn't know if it had to be an interlocal agreement.

Solicitor Angelini stated maybe an interlocal agreement is needed and maybe it isn't.

Councilman Giampola stated Mr. Sabetta is only the Zoning Officer in East Greenwich but he is the Construction Official in Woolwich. He further stated that is why Council needs to talk with Auditor Petroni and the CFO to find out whether or not this is something that is needed but it is his understanding an interlocal agreement is not needed and it may be something that will give the Borough benefit or credit as a shared service with the State. If it is going to benefit the Borough then the Council would go further but right now the Council is trying to move on with the Zoning Officer. He would be the Zoning Officer as Mr. Gaines was, Mr. Hardy was and Marc and it is as part time position.

Mayor Hamilton suggested tabling the motion in order to bring in Mr. Sabetta and he will

tell you that it is better to go with an interlocal agreement. He stated to table this and then bring in Mr. Sabetta to discuss an interlocal agreement.

Councilman Kidd stated point of order he has a question, it was stated he should know because of the Zoning Office and because of the Code Office and the Zoning Officer and the Code Office are two (2) different positions. So in other words, they are telling him that someone from the Code Office is going to act like a Zoning Officer and give the constituents the Zoning Permit.

Councilman Giampola stated they would be given the paperwork to fill out.

Councilman Kidd stated but that is two (2) different departments. In other words, is the Code Office going to take over everything?

Mayor Hamilton stated what Council does is table this and bring Mr. Sabetta in and then move on this interlocal agreement and he can let Council know everything then.

Solicitor Angelini stated with all due respect, the Mayor, there is a motion and a second on that particular vote. Since there is a motion and a second, the Mayor will need to have a motion and a second to table. There should be a vote.

Councilman Kidd stated Councilman Giampola would have to pull his motion.

Council President Giovannitti stated since the beginning of the year the group has met and names were submitted to the Committee. The Committee did meet with Mr. Sabetta and he has a lot of experience. He doesn't think the group wants to wait, they would like to move the name forward and could have Mr. Sabetta come to the Work Session and he could go over his resume, he is from Paulsboro. He wouldn't have a problem if more names were submitted and vote on one (1).

Solicitor Angelini stated the point of the matter is there is a motion and a second on that particular situation. If it is the desire of this Governing Body to bring in more names, the Governing Body can do that. If it is the desire to table it, the Governing Body could do that and to vote to approve that or the Governing Body can move on the motion. It is up to the Governing Body.

Councilwoman Turner questioned how many names were submitted to the Committee as she only heard the one (1) name, she didn't hear of any other names.

Councilman Giampola stated the Committee considered three (3) names which are Marc Kamp, Robert DeAngelo and Jim Sabetta.

Councilman Kidd questioned if Marc's name was submitted.

Councilman Giampola stated he was considered.

Councilwoman Turner questioned how many names were submitted as she only heard one (1) name.

Councilman Giampola stated how many names were considered tonight, one (1).

Councilwoman Turner questioned how many was submitted to the Committee for consideration.

Councilman Giampola stated there was only three (3) that was considered.

Councilman Kidd questioned how many were submitted

Councilman Giampola stated nobody was submitted; the Committee picked the three (3) that they felt was qualified.

Mayor Hamilton stated there is a motion and a second on the floor.

Council President Giovannitti stated so the group knows, at the last meeting they were told to meet as a Committee and submit a name. They were just following up with what they were doing. Personally he would rather continue to go forward and bring him in for the Work Session to ask questions but to keep the motion the way it is.

Mayor Hamilton stated they did submit the name, take that name, bring it forth and act on it and take the name into consideration and move from there.

Councilman Kidd asked for the motion to be repeated to him.

Councilman Giampola stated he made a motion that Council recommend James Sabetta for the Zoning Officer and Council President Giovannitti seconded it.

Councilman Kidd stated now Council is talking about taking it to another meeting.

Solicitor Angelini stated the motion was to recommend him for the position. He further stated to Councilman Giampola "to correct him if he was wrong but his motion was to recommend the person for the position tonight, right".

Councilman Giampola stated "correct".

Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Giampola, Stevenson. Nays: Kidd, Turner. **Motion carried.**

Councilman Stevenson stated as most already heard the Railroad Bridge is closed to everything but train traffic until at least September 2014. That is a tentative date at best. That affects the Fire Department on responding to an emergency either in the creek on the

North side of the Bridge as well as to responding to calls on the Delaware. The Fire Chief and I are working on an alternative plan to handle these emergency calls should they happen. I have talked to the Railroad people about speaking to the Marina owners as well as personal boat slip owners that have been affected, which includes him. They assured him they will be addressing the issue. He further reported that he recently came across a good booklet on recycling that has been put out by the County. It addresses all recycling concerns that a person may have. He will be contacting them on getting some booklets for the Borough. He also stated next month the County will have a Recycle Day where you can bring items, save a few. He will get some of those pamphlets as well.

Councilman Kidd suggested inviting Conrail to a meeting to discuss the status of the railroad bridge. He would like to know what they are going to do as information is coming in piecemeal.

Kidd moved and Turner seconded to invite Conrail to a meeting with Mayor and Council to discuss the status of the railroad bridge. All were in favor of the motion.

Councilman Kidd stated he is hearing rumors about the lack of someone as Administrator.

Solicitor Angelini stated this subject should be discussed in Executive Session.

Councilman Kidd felt the Recreation Commission should be formed again.

Councilman Kidd stated he will get with Chief Wachter and the School to help correct the congestion situation at Billingsport School and the pickup and drop off of children. He would have no problem dragging all parents to the school.

**R. #65.13: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY.** Kidd moved and Stevenson seconded to adopt R. #65.13. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Giampola, Kidd, Stevenson, Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Personnel – Administrator’s position will be discussed in Executive Session.

Council President Giovannitti stated the Land Use Board has done good work regarding the Paulsboro Plaza.

Council President Giovannitti stated the Water and Sewer Engineer and the Borough Engineer have discussed some projects to be done such as the Water Tower painting project. They will be researching grants as well as grants to reconstruct one street.

Council President Giovannitti stated he has met with Mayor Hamilton and Borough Foreman Tinder and the Department has cleaned 140 storm drains and inlets and fixed the

pipe on Elizabeth Avenue. Hopefully the residents will see relief.

Council President Giovannitti stated the Police Department with the help of Borough Foreman Tinder has been replacing stops signs and other signs throughout the town. The Street and Highway Department is also cleaning the embankment at Fort Billings Park. He further stated there will be a document shredding event in May and the Borough also has their own trash and recycling guide.

Council President Giovannitti thanked the Paulsboro Action Committee and also agreed that education is key to safety. He also thanked Mayor Hamilton.

Mayor Hamilton stated the Land Use Board is working diligently on the Plaza project and the Plaza will be coming before the Land Use Board in April to submit their plans. They have stated they are six (6) months behind.

Mayor Hamilton stated he was interviewed by Channel 23 News regarding how businesses are working out and asked about the bridge. He further stated Conrail will not be shutting down the bridge until the new one is built.

Mayor Hamilton thanked the Paulsboro Action Committee for bringing ideas forth. He will also try to submit their concerns to the State Congressmen and Legislature.

Councilman Stevenson informed the Paulsboro Action Committee that he is waiting on a report to come out and the Emergency Operating Plan has to be worked on and once it is, he will have everyone on board. He agreed with everything the Paulsboro Action Committee has requested and he asked to have the telephone number of the Paulsboro Action Committee.

Mayor and Council recessed at 8:00 p.m.

Mayor and Council reconvened in Executive Session at 8:00 p.m.

Mayor and Council discussed the Administrator's position and inviting Auditor Petroni to the next Work Session Meeting to discuss this matter further.

There wasn't any further Borough business.

Giampola moved and Stevenson seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. All were in favor of the motion.

This is a brief summary of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Paulsboro held on March 5, 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