

APRIL 16, 2013
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PAULSBORO, N.J.
-
6:00 P.M.
-
SPECIAL MEETING

Council Chamber:

Mayor Hamilton presided at the Special Meeting of Council held on the above date and place.

Mayor Hamilton called the Special Meeting to order.

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

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

Mayor Hamilton opened the floor to the public.

There wasn't any public participation.

This Special Meeting was scheduled to hold a Liquor License Hearing in regards to Benny's on the Rail.

Solicitor Angelini gave the oath to Laura Gilmore, Owner, John F. Vassallo, Jr., Attorney and Shawn Jackson, Security as they provided testimony.

Solicitor Angelini stated there were several violations which occurred between January 18th and March 19th, 2013 resulting in charges against Benny's on the Rail. One violation was that there wasn't a door man working as required by the license restrictions and three incidents of shots being fired.

Mr. Vassallo stated the statute requires five days' notice of charges and they weren't served the charges. He feels it is unfair to hold this hearing without knowing what charges have been filed.

Miss Gilmore stated she received a certified letter in the mail regarding complaints and the Special Meeting. She went to court in February for charges she received in January. There were 22 new charges and they were all settled in Court.

Captain Marino stated those were charges related to underage drinking which were resolved in Court. These are issues relating to nuisances. He also felt it was an unfair

advantage if Miss Gilmore was not provided with the charges.

Miss Gilmore stated she has the court recording and it states she is to be notified in 24 hours of any and all charges.

Solicitor Angelini stated he wasn't aware Miss Gilmore was not served with the charges and to be fair, Council can have the matter relisted.

Mr. Vassallo stated they are willing to talk with the Police Department regarding the incidents that they have no control over.

Solicitor Angelini questioned if Council wanted to discuss this matter further.

Chief Wachter stated the problems are escalating.

Mr. Vassallo stated they are willing to sit down with Council and the Police Department to find out what can be done.

Shawn Jackson, security for the bar, stated he has two (2) security officers at the doors at the bar and they are there for three (3) hours from 11:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. The shootings have taken place off the property of the bar. They make sure there aren't any fights in the bar. He was told to call the Police but he has little cooperation.

Solicitor Angelini requested a consensus on whether to discuss this matter further. He would get the discovery and contact Prosecutor John Alice.

Consensus of Council was to reschedule the hearing before the next Work Session Meeting at 6:00 p.m. except Stevenson opposed as he wished to discuss this matter tonight.

Giampola moved and Giovannitti seconded to schedule a Special Meeting on Tuesday, May 21, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. to hold the Liquor License hearing. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Giampola, Haynes, Kidd, Stevenson, Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

There wasn't any further Borough business for the Special Meeting.

Giovannitti moved and Giampola seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 p.m. All were in favor of the motion.

This is a brief summary of the Special Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Paulsboro held on April 16, 2013 and should not be considered a verbatim transcript of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy A. VanScoy, RMC/CMC
Borough Clerk

W. Jeffery Hamilton, Mayor