

FEBRUARY 7, 2012

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.

Regina James, 28 New Street, recited the "Our Father" prayer as the opening prayer.

Mayor Hamilton asked all those present to join in the salute to the flag, 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, Haynes, Kidd, Morina, Stevenson, Tedeski. Absent: None.

1. Swearing In: Gary C. Stevenson, Councilman
Thomas Giorgianni, Patrolman

Assemblyman Burzichelli officiated the Swearing In of Gary C. Stevenson as Councilman.

Councilman Stevenson stated he was nervous and shaken. He thanked his family for being present to support him as well as Assemblyman Burzichelli, fellow firefighters and his friends. He stated his political philosophy is that he doesn't believe in being politically correct. He further stated it was an honor to serve on Council.

Gloucester County Sheriff Morina officiated the Swearing In of Patrolman Thomas Giorgianni.

Patrolman Giorgianni thanked the Mayor and Council and the residents for this opportunity.

Proclamation: Wayne Wurtz
Black History Month

Mayor Hamilton asked the family of Wayne Wurtz to come forward to present a proclamation in honor of Wayne Wurtz for serving on the Land Use Board and has passed away.

Leon Manchester, Chairman of the Land Use Board, also presented a proclamation to the family of Wayne Wurtz.

Mayor Hamilton read the proclamation for Black History Month.

Mayor Hamilton opened the floor to the public.

Benny Mento, 204 Billingsport Road, thanked Mayor and Council for the selection process for filling the vacancy on Council. He felt it was a more open door process.

Glenn Roemmich, Emergency Management Coordinator met with several individuals in regards to the Emergency Siren System. It is going to be installed the first week of March and there were two issues to be resolved. One issue is where the main box would be placed and the second issue is the need for a dedicated phone line.

Mr. Roemmich asked everyone to pray for two firefighters from Mantua who assisted in a fire and were hurt.

Leonard Lombardo, Nassau Avenue, stated he went to the meeting regarding the Water Tower Project. He is protesting the manner in which the tower is going to be built. He questioned if it would be fair to say that his property is being damaged and polluted.

Administrator Salvatore stated no.

Mr. Lombardo further stated the grade and elevation of property is higher and a contributing factor as the water is bypassing the Borough's property and running onto his property and he is asking for a solution.

Mayor Hamilton stated he couldn't answer that but he will get more answers from the Engineering Group. He asked if Mr. Lombardo has spoken with the Engineers for this project?

Mr. Lombardo stated yes he had. It seems when the playground was constructed ten years ago, it raised the level higher and then when Billingsport Road was improved it raised it higher again. The water is all going onto his property.

Mozelle Dansby, Swedesboro Avenue, congratulated Mayor Hamilton and the two other Councilpersons for winning the election. He stated he has been out here before and hoped he could get things done. He again discussed the property next to Mr. Sheffield's. He is getting ready to call the TV stations to get them involved. He further stated Councilman

Haynes came out but still nothing has been done as there are animals living in the house. He also discussed the truck traffic on Swedesboro Avenue. He asked to have signs put up as there shouldn't be any truck traffic on Swedesboro Avenue as the street is not equipped. He discussed the drug problem that is all over town. He stated by the time he calls it in to dispatch, the person is gone. He felt something was needed to be able to call the police directly. He again asked about the Manor that borders his property. He has to go out and clean it up all the time and he has been complaining about this.

Councilman Haynes stated he met with the Manager of the Manor last Wednesday and they stated they do not own the property. He stated he would review it to see who the property owner was and make them put something up.

Mr. Dansby questioned who handles C.O.'s.

Mayor Hamilton stated the Code Office handles certificates of occupancy (C.O.).

Mr. Dansby stated people are moving in at all hours of the night without a C.O.

Mayor Hamilton stated he will have the Code Office look into it and asked Mr. Dansby to speak with Chief Wachter and Captain Marino as well.

Mr. Dansby discussed pitbulls as something has to be done. The pitbulls do not have any tags and are supposed to be on a leash. There are three (3) pitbulls who are next door to him and the dogs are going to bite someone, hopefully it wasn't him.

Regina James, 21 East New Street, she is proud that Councilman Stevenson is on Council. The firefighters' dedication needs to be recognized and a stronger alliance needs to be between the Mayor and Council and the Fire Department. She asked the Mayor and Council to please take to heart when reviewing funding for the Fire Department.

Anthony Kline, 579 North Delaware Street, discussed the Water Tower Project. He also spoke with the Engineers. His property floods bad which he has brought to Mayor and Council's attention. He stated when the Borough installs the tower he will videotape it. The water is really bad and it is a concern.

Mayor Hamilton stated it is a concern for Mayor and Council as well.

Mr. Kline stated that the Borough does come out and clean the storm drains pretty faithfully.

There wasn't any further public participation.

Minutes of the Swearing In Ceremony held on January 1, 2012 at 12:30 p.m. Giovannitti moved and Haynes seconded to receive, file and adopt the above minutes. All were in favor of the motion.

Minutes of the Reorganization and First Regular Meeting held on January 3, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. Giovannitti moved and Haynes seconded to receive, file and adopt the above minutes. All were in favor of the motion.

Minutes of a Work Session Meeting held on January 17, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. Giovannitti moved and Haynes seconded to receive, file and adopt the above minutes. All were in favor of the motion.

Minutes of a Special Meeting held on January 23, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. Giovannitti moved and Haynes seconded to receive, file and adopt the above minutes. All were in favor of the motion.

R. #45.12: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE BILLS OUT OF THE 2011 RESERVE ACCOUNTS. Giovannitti moved and Haynes seconded to pay all bills properly signed and adopt R. #45.12. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Haynes, Kidd, Morina, Stevenson, Tedeski. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

R. #46.12: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE BILLS OUT OF THE 2012 TEMPORARY BUDGET. Giovannitti moved and Haynes seconded to pay all bills properly signed and adopt R. #46.12. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Haynes, Kidd, Morina, Stevenson, Tedeski. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Administrator Salvatore requested the following bills are added to the above Resolution:

1. P.O. #40811 – Robert Petro
2. P.O. #40812 – Robert Petro
3. P.O. #41282 – Robert Petro
4. P.O. #41282 – Robert Petro
5. P. O. #41284 – Robert Petro
6. P.O. #40831 – Sickels & Associates

Giovannitti moved and Haynes seconded to add the above purchase orders to R. #46.12. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Haynes, Kidd, Morina, Stevenson, Tedeski. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

R. #47.12: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR DISALLOWANCE OF A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN. Giovannitti moved and Haynes seconded to adopt R. #47.12. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Haynes, Kidd, Morina, Stevenson, Tedeski. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

R. #48.12: RESOLUTION APPROVING THE OPENING OF A BANK ACCOUNT FOR THE ACCUMULATED ABSENCES ACCOUNT FOR THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO. Giovannitti moved and Haynes seconded to adopt R. #48.12. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Haynes, Kidd, Morina, Stevenson, Tedeski. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

R. #49.12: RESOLUTION APPROVING THE OPENING OF A BANK ACCOUNT FOR THE UNIFORM FIRE SAFETY ACT PENALTY MONIES ACCOUNT FOR THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO. Giovannitti moved and Haynes seconded to adopt R. #49.12. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Haynes, Kidd, Morina, Stevenson, Tedeski. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

R. #50.12: RESOLUTION APPROVING THE OPENING OF A BANK ACCOUNT FOR THE POLICE FORFEITURE FEDERAL ACCOUNT FOR THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO. Giovannitti moved and Haynes seconded to adopt R. #50.12. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Haynes, Kidd, Morina, Stevenson, Tedeski. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

R. #51.12: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR STATE FY 2011 LIBRARY AID. Giovannitti moved and Haynes seconded to adopt R. #51.11. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Haynes, Kidd, Morina, Stevenson, Tedeski. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

R. #52.12: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF 2011 RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT BY THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO. Giovannitti moved and Haynes seconded to adopt R. #52.12. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Haynes, Kidd, Morina, Stevenson, Tedeski. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

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

Councilman Kidd questioned why there weren't any reports from the Code Office. He further stated he is not trying to be smart but the Department Head should be present at the meeting.

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING:

O. #01.12: ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ACQUISITION OF LAND LOCATED WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO AND EXECUTION OF ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS. Giovannitti moved and Haynes seconded to adopt O. #01.12 on introduction and first reading and schedule the second reading and public hearing on February 21, 2012. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Haynes, Morina, Stevenson, Tedeski. Nays: Kidd. **Motion carried.**

Memo from Administrator Salvatore regarding Tax Maps. Giovannitti moved and Haynes seconded to receive and file the memo. All were in favor of the motion.

Memo from Mary Beth Monroe, Gloucester County Alliance Coordinator, regarding Resolution of Support for continued funding through Municipal Alliance. Giovannitti moved and Haynes seconded to receive and file the memo. All were in favor of the motion.

R. #53.12: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, SUPPORTING ORIGINAL LEGISLATION CREATING THE MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE PROGRAM UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENTS. Giovannitti moved and Haynes seconded to adopt R. #53.12. Roll call: Ayes: Giovannitti, Haynes, Kidd, Morina, Stevenson, Tedeski. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

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

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilman Stevenson stated he was officially sworn in two (2) weeks ago and during the last two (2) weeks he has had a chance to talk to most of the Department Heads and get to know their departments and responsibilities better. It gives him a better idea on what is being done presently and how some improvements can be made in the future. He wanted the Department Heads to know that he will not be a stranger.

Councilman Stevenson stated he has done some walking around the town and took on the task at looking at a few issues that need to be addressed. The first issue would be what he calls the "Leaning Tower of Paulsboro". The house is located on Berkley Road and he felt that not only is it an eyesore for anyone coming into or leaving Paulsboro but it is a "death trap" waiting to happen. It has been condemned and felt it should be torn down or a fence placed around the property. He felt it was too much of a liability and the longer the Borough waits, something will happen.

Solicitor Angelini stated the Construction Official inspects the property and photos taken. The building can be taken down but the Borough has to follow the proper steps.

Councilman Haynes stated Councilman Stevenson was discussing two (2) different properties. There is one on Swedesboro Avenue and the one on Berkley Road.

Administrator Salvatore stated the one on Swedesboro Avenue has been sent for review to the Solicitor's Office.

Solicitor Angelini stated this was the first he was hearing of it and will get right on it.

Councilman Stevenson discussed Thomson Avenue as the street is a disgrace. There has been long term, possible 50 + years, of flooding. He would like to see an expert analysis done to see what is going on. The street is being torn up and the Borough needs to look at it, work on it and fix it.

Councilman Stevenson discussed the Borough Garage and there are eight (8) junk cars and old equipment stored there. The Borough can't ask residents to maintain their properties if the Borough can't maintain theirs. He would like to see the vehicles and equipment hauled out. He apologized if he was stepping on anyones toes but the Mayor

hasn't put him on any councilmanic committees yet.

Councilman Stevenson stated he has talked with the Code Official and questioned how complaints are tracked. He will work with the Code Official regarding this matter.

Councilman Morina congratulated Councilman Stevenson on his seat on Council. He will be getting the Crime Free Housing Committee started again and if there are any concerns to contact himself or Borough Clerk VanScoy to inform as to what properties are a concern.

Councilman Morina stated the Town Watch group is back in force and meets the third Thursday of each month at St. James Church.

Councilman Morina also stated he is involved in a lot of recreation and looking to the Spring to get the kids outside.

Councilman Morina suggested if anyone has an issue with wild animals such as raccoons, skunks, etc. to contact the Gloucester County Animal Control.

Councilman Morina requested an update on the Post Office.

Council President Giovannitti stated Mayor and Council received a letter from Senator Menendez' office saying the Post Office will reopen but they are working on the flooding.

Councilman Morina stated but the carriers would not be back.

Mayor Hamilton stated the Borough is looking to keep the Post Office like it was. He further stated that when the Borough receives any correspondence it will let the residents know.

Councilman Morina stated he is excited and happy to see the expansion of the library. He further stated the School is having a session for kids who want to be involved in Politics or social work. He thanked everyone for their support and asked everyone to wish him luck tomorrow night at the wrestling match.

Councilwoman Tedeski congratulated Councilman Stevenson for his appointment as a Councilperson.

Councilwoman Tedeski stated she has come to a major decision and announced her resignation as a Councilperson. Her time and energy these past few months have been going towards being a caregiver to people closest to her and during their illnesses and now her mom is in the hospital with complications regarding her gall bladder, her liver and a little bit of her heart is out of rhythm and will be in the hospital for at least 10 more days. She feels she will not be able to carry out her duties as a Councilperson going into this new year and if she can't do something with her whole heart and her whole soul then she doesn't feel she would be doing a justice to this town or to herself or to the people that she works with

especially those that she serves. She does this with mixed emotion and she has enjoyed the past 11 years. She feels she has served this community to the best of her ability. She is leaving with no regrets or hard feelings or discord between anybody especially those that she works with. She would be leaving with a full grateful heart for many, many great memories and a great experience that she will never forget. She has made a lot of new friends and they will continue to be her friends. She looks forward to new opportunities in a volunteer capacity when and if she can help out at any time in the future. She wasn't able to be at the Special Meeting that interviewed the three (3) Council candidates because she was at a viewing for a very close family friend but in looking over the resumes of the three (3) candidates, they were all very good choices and she would have had a really hard time picking one if she was at the meeting. She is glad Gary got it as he is a very big asset to this Council and she is sorry she will not be able to work with him in this capacity but she will be here for him for whatever he needs and he can "pick her brain" whenever he wants. The one that really impressed her the most was Jennifer Turner and with her expertise and experience in working in the medical profession at Cooper Hospital, her technology and communication skills along with her background in leadership with many different organizations and various people managing skills really stood out for her because those characteristics play a major role as a Councilperson and it is a tough job. People don't know until they sit on Council and try to help everybody that is coming to you with all these problems. There are limited resources and limited money to do it. It makes the job very tough and the more qualifications one has, the better one will be able to adjust to all those different jobs and rules that has to be done sitting on Council. She further stated that having a family member that was just in Cooper Hospital last month, she knows what a well run team of staff members they are. They were welcoming and the atmosphere was unbelievable for a hospital. She was very, very impressed by it and when she saw all that on Ms. Turner's resume, she felt if Ms. Turner was a part of that team then she definitely would be an asset to this team, in her opinion. She hoped the rest of Mayor and Council would consider Ms. Turner as her successor and become the fourth councilwoman for the Borough of Paulsboro and the first African-American Councilwoman of the Borough of Paulsboro. With that being said, she just feels that this is the right thing for her to do at this time for herself and also the Borough. She didn't know how to say goodbye or how to end this speech. Again, she thanked all that she worked with and she is sorry she wouldn't be able to work with Mayor Hamilton more but like she said in another capacity she will be here and everyone will always be a part of her in her life. She is not going anywhere but just can't be here in this capacity at this time in this seat.

Mayor Hamilton stated he hoped Councilwoman Tedeski would stay until someone has been appointed.

Councilman Kidd congratulated Councilman Stevenson and spoke regarding Councilwoman Tedeski as he has enjoyed working with her but family always comes first.

Councilman Kidd questioned if the Borough had applied for any CDBG grants.

Administrator Salvatore stated he wasn't sure but probably the Borough did apply. It

would have been through Marc Kamp of the Economic and Neighborhood Development Office.

Councilman Kidd stated he will try to get together with the Finance Committee and the Chief Financial Officer. He has in the past asked each Department Head to submit something to him in the way their department could save money but they always tell him what they need instead.

Councilman Kidd stated he met with the Emergency Management Coordinator regarding the Emergency Siren and felt maybe the Borough can install the phone line in house.

Councilman Kidd discussed the Engineer who has prepared the tax maps and if they would still be the engineers to finish the maps.

Councilman Kidd stated he has seen activity at the Post Office which was a positive for the Borough.

Councilman Kidd stated he voted no on O. #01.12 which has to do with the land for the Paul House. The Borough has spent \$300,000 and the money has to be looked at closely. He doesn't like eminent domain of property. He personally understands this is for the kids but it is the wrong time to do this project when the Borough is also doing two (2) major water projects.

Councilman Kidd stated another major issue is the sewer line on Adams Street but "you can't get blood from a turnip".

Mayor Hamilton stated Remington and Vernick Engineers is going to be on this case until the tax maps are completed.

Councilman Haynes congratulated Councilman Stevenson aboard as a Councilperson.

Councilman Haynes informed Councilwoman Tedeski that she has to do the best for herself and it is not an easy decision but he wished her the best. If she ever needed him he is available to her.

Councilman Haynes stated Council needed to give Administrator Salvatore authority to advertise for the vacant position in the Water and Sewer Department and felt the advertisement should request that all individuals with the appropriate licenses be preferred.

Giovannitti moved and Tedeski seconded to authorize Administrator Salvatore to advertise for a position in the Water and Sewer Department requesting that licenses are preferred. All were in favor of the motion.

Councilman Haynes reported the Water Treatment Plant project is on schedule. Completion will be in May. There were complaints regarding vibrations and the Water and

Sewer Superintendent ironed it out with the residents.

Councilman Haynes stated construction on the Water Tower project will start within next week. It will be brought on line mid November.

Council President Giovannitti thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He stated Jeanne Giampola and Richard Gatewood would be on top of the Post Office issue. He also stated the Borough is holding two (2) shredding events which one is in May and the second one is in October.

Council President Giovannitti stated he will be meeting with the Street and Highway Department regarding the street sweeper and he thanked Borough Foreman Tinder.

Council President Giovannitti stated he would like to have Phil Zimm look into the two (2) properties that were discussed and report back to Mayor and Council at the February Work Session Meeting.

Giovannitti moved and Haynes seconded to authorize Phil Zimm to review the two (2) properties and report back to Mayor and Council for the February Work Session Meeting. All were in favor of the motion.

Council President Giovannitti stated that Department Heads should be held accountable and he asked them to step up.

Council President Giovannitti stated he will miss Councilwoman Tedeski dearly. He asked for a moment of silence for Bill Miller and Robert Blum.

At this time, a moment of silence was held.

Council President Giovannitti congratulated Alex Silvestro for playing in the Super Bowl.

Mayor Hamilton congratulated Councilman Stevenson and welcomed him aboard. He stated he will miss Councilwoman Tedeski but that she has to be with her family first and it would be the right time to step down.

Mayor Hamilton thanked Emergency Management Coordinator Roemmich for initiating the Emergency Siren System project as well as Valero for funding it.

Mayor Hamilton stated Tax Assessor Robyn Glocker-Hammond will be at the Work Session Meeting to discuss the tax maps.

Mayor Hamilton asked Councilman Morina if the School was interested in getting a community garden.

Councilman Morina stated the school has a greenhouse on the Capitol Street side of the school.

Mayor Hamilton stated there are lots of concerns and the Borough needs the community's eyes and ears and they need to call if they see anything suspicious.

Administrator Salvatore reported that the Borough may have to increase the water and sewer rates. He is working with Triad Associates to see if monies could be absorbed through prior grants to help with the cost of the emergency issue. He will report more at the next Work Session Meeting.

There wasn't any further Borough business.

Haynes moved and Stevenson seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 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 February 7, 2012 and should not be considered a verbatim transcript of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy A. VanScoy, RMC/CMC
Borough Clerk

W. Jeffery Hamilton, Mayor