

MAY 5, 2009

PAULSBORO, N.J.

7:00 P.M.

REGULAR MEETING

Council Chamber:

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

Mayor Burzichelli recited "Harry Truman's Prayer" as the opening prayer.

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

Mayor Burzichelli called the meeting to order.

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

Members present were: Haynes, Giovannitti, Hamilton, Kidd, Tedeski. Absent: Morina as he was excused.

Mayor Burzichelli presented four proclamations for Teachers of the Year to the following:

Karen Dutton, Margaret La Due, Mary Harris who were present for the presentation and another one to James Savidge who was not present but received the honor of Teacher of the Year as well as District Teacher of the Year.

Mayor Burzichelli stated the Mayor and Council will also recognize Jack Suiter on 50 years of membership with the Paulsboro Volunteer Fire Association if he attends this meeting. If not then the proclamation will be presented to Mr. Suiter at the next Regular Meeting.

Mayor Burzichelli opened the floor to the public.

Shirley Chandler, 1014 Spruce Street, questioned when the street sweeper will be out.

Borough Foreman Tinder stated it has been out but right now it is cleaning out storm drains.

Mayor Burzichelli stated when the sweeper is done the drains; the sweeper will be out

again.

Mrs. Chandler also questioned if the curfew is being enforced.

Mayor Burzichelli stated the siren is being worked on and once it is fixed the siren will again blow to inform the children at 10:00 p.m. to be off the streets.

Joyceline Gaines, 231 West Washington Street, stated she wanted to comment on some positive issues such as she congratulated Mayor Burzichelli on receiving two (2) honors, commended the Police Department for keeping her property together while she was away and getting the street light fixed. She also commended the Street and Highway Department who were very swift in taking care of the properties at 227 and 221 West Washington Street. She then commented on the negative which was that 232 West Washington Street's grass was up to 28" to 36".

Larry Sheffield, 1658 Swedesboro Avenue, re-addressed the abandoned house on Swedesboro Avenue. He had pictures to show Mayor and Council.

Mayor Burzichelli stated the issue is the Borough doesn't know who the owner is.

Mr. Sheffield questioned if there was any way to get the ground leveled. He also asked if in the interim if the Borough could weedwack the property.

Mayor Burzichelli stated he did not have an answer for Mr. Sheffield until the Borough finds out who to send notices to and it might be possible to have the Street and Highway Department weedwack it sometime.

Mozelle Dansby, 1655 Swedesboro Avenue, stated he lives across the street from the abandoned house and it creates rodents, kids running around there and it is an eyesore. It is a drain on the neighboring properties. He stated that speeding is still a problem on Swedesboro Avenue and asked if something could be done to slow the traffic. He also stated that the people are riding in the back of the Paulsboro Gardens. They are coming and going and dumping their trash. He suggested the owner place a berm of dirt there so that people cannot access the property.

Barry Corradetti, 1820 Overbrook Avenue, thanked Councilman Hamilton for his assistance through the County for the equipment and his help during the clean up for "Make a difference day". He was happy to read that there won't be any tax increase. He questioned if there was a revenue increase as the Mayor has been talking since January about a tax increase.

Mayor Burzichelli stated no, but there were other reasons for no increase in taxes such as the Borough joined an Employee Health Insurance Fund called HIF which is like a JIF which was a considerable savings. There were three (3) members of the Borough who retired and the Borough replaced them with two part time people with no benefits. The Borough did

not have to set aside as much money for tax appeals for the experts. The Borough received the same amount of State Aid as last year but next year the Borough will have to make the down payment for the ExxonMobil appeal.

Mr. Corradetti discussed a public curfew not just for the children to get everyone off the streets. There are crowds of people on Washington and Spruce Streets.

Mayor Burzichelli stated people have a right to congregate, to socialize, but they cannot be disruptive. The Borough is pursuing and working on this matter.

Mr. Corradetti stated he does see the Police Department out and they disperse them but he felt it needed to be addressed by the Governing Body by an ordinance. He stated Mayor and Council needed to find a better way.

Ann Good, 1101 Spruce Street, commended Mr. Corradetti and Councilman Hamilton for cleaning up the area. She felt her area is a forgotten area because she hasn't seen the street sweeper. She questioned the rules for people walking their dogs.

Mayor Burzichelli stated her area is not forgotten and the Borough's Ordinance states that the dog owners cannot let their dogs do their "business" without cleaning up after them.

Ms. Good further discussed the pothole on that street as well as the noise and the kids harassing her. A Police Officer came but said he couldn't do anything about it. The majority of the kids are not from her area but from everywhere else in town. This is not the first time she has been complaining about the kids.

Joyceline Gaines agreed with Mr. Sheffield regarding the quality of life. She is embarrassed to have visitors due to the environment. It has improved a little bit. They gather at 3:30 and at 7:30 to 8:00 at 234 to 252 West Washington Street. The volume of noise is high. The block between Spruce and Delaware Street is a disgrace and they gather at Wally's which is very hard to see around them to see if a car is coming.

Patrick Schubert, 117 East Washington Street, questioned Council President Haynes on the status of the Port Project.

Mayor Burzichelli stated Council President Haynes would not be giving that report but he would. The cost is probably around \$20 million dollars and the project is working toward final design and groundbreaking. There will be physical movement on the project possibly in 30-45 days. The County will build the overpass then the Port construction will begin. Hopefully it is perfectly timed for when the economy starts back.

Marvin Hamilton, Jr., 913 South Chestnut Street, stated it is embarrassing but the Mayor is doing everything he can to help bring back the climate.

There wasn't any further public participation.

Minutes of a Regular Meeting held on April 7, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. Haynes moved and Hamilton seconded to receive, file and adopt the above minutes. All were in favor of the motion.

**R. #85.09: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE BILLS OUT OF THE 2009 TEMPORARY BUDGET.** Haynes moved and Hamilton seconded to pay all bills properly signed and adopt R. #85.09. Roll call: Ayes: Haynes, Giovannitti, Hamilton, Kidd, Tedeski. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

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

### **SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING:**

**O. #03.09: ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14).** Haynes moved and Hamilton seconded to open the meeting to the public. All were in favor of the motion.

Barry Corradetti, 1820 Overbrook Avenue, asked the Mayor to explain this Ordinance.

Mayor Burzichelli stated this Ordinance is sort of confusing and he explained the ordinance as best as he could.

There wasn't any further public participation.

Haynes moved and Hamilton seconded to close the meeting to the public. All were in favor of the motion.

Haynes moved and Hamilton seconded to adopt O. #03.09 on second and final reading. Roll call: Ayes: Haynes, Giovannitti, Hamilton, Kidd, Tedeski. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Received Tax Appeals from the following:

William T. & Marguerite A. Walsh – Block 13 Lot 3 – 308 Beacon Avenue  
James A. Sabetta – Block 5 Lot 26 – 341 Beacon Avenue

Haynes moved and Hamilton seconded to receive, file the tax appeals and turn them over to the Solicitor. All were in favor of the motion.

Letter from Willie Carroll, Post Commander, George D. Patton, Jr., Post 678, Inc., requesting wreath donation for the Memorial Day Service. Haynes moved and Hamilton seconded to receive, file the letter, grant their request and notify the proper departments of the service. All were in favor of the motion.

Letter from William G. Dressel, Jr., New Jersey State League of Municipalities, regarding Mandates Relief Binding Arbitration Reform.

Letter from William G. Dressel, Jr., New Jersey State League of Municipalities, regarding Vehicle-Washing Requirements under Municipal Stormwater Permits.

Haynes moved and Hamilton seconded to receive and file the above two letters. All were in favor of the motion.

Received Amusement Games Applications from the following (all inspections have been done):

Alibi Inn	Frank's Pub
Fiorile's Bar & Liquor Store	George Patton VFW Post #678
Paulsboro Elk's Lodge	Woodbury Moose Lodge 2585

Haynes moved and Hamilton seconded to receive, file and approve the above Amusement Games Licenses. All were in favor of the motion except Haynes abstained on the Woodbury Moose Lodge.

Letter from Willie Carroll, George D. Patton, Jr., Post 678, Inc., requesting permission to sell their Buddy Poppies at the intersection of Broad and Commerce Streets during the four weekends prior to Memorial Day. Haynes moved and Hamilton seconded to receive, file the letter, grant permission and notify the proper departments. All were in favor of the motion.

Memo from Paul A. Forlenza, TRICOJIF, regarding Quarterly Loss Ratio Snapshot. Haynes moved and Hamilton seconded to receive and file the memo. All were in favor of the motion.

Letter from Judy Mackenzie, Guardian Angels School PTA, regarding Walk-a-thon on Friday, May 29, 2009. Haynes moved and Hamilton seconded to receive, file the letter, grant permission and notify the proper departments. All were in favor of the motion.

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

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

Councilwoman Tedeski commended Neighborhood Watch Committee for their clean up and she appreciated their efforts.

Councilwoman Tedeski stated the improvements to the entrance way to Fort Billings Park such as seed, a new sign, asphalt, fencing and gates are under way.

Councilwoman Tedeski stated she has talked with the Supervisor at the Gloucester County Times regarding the “Advertiser” and she asked to have it stopped being delivered. The Supervisor stated that it would be a violation of the freedom of speech act but that he would try to improve the service. She will be in constant contact with him.

Councilwoman Tedeski stated the Crime Free Housing Committee meets every three (3) weeks which discusses rental properties. They are working on changing the wording in the Landlord Licensing Ordinance. She asked everyone to be patient and to keep up what they are doing.

Councilman Kidd stated he has had brush sitting at his curb for about a month. He refuses to call it in. He further stated that it is not that employees aren’t doing their job but it’s because they are on special projects. The special projects have to stop.

Councilman Kidd is upset that Department Head meetings have stopped.

Councilwoman Tedeski questioned what special projects Councilman Kidd was referring to.

Councilman Kidd stated anything Council does to pull the Street and Highway Department from their normal jobs.

Councilman Kidd questioned the Swedesboro Avenue property.

Mayor Burzichelli stated it is a gray area and he is going to check with the Tax Collector to see who is paying the taxes or if there are any liens on the property.

Councilman Kidd discussed the trash that is being thrown around. He suggested forgetting the fines and make them go out there and clean it up. It is called community service. Someone is using the trash cans as they are full by Saturday. He stated the trash cans have to be dumped.

Councilman Giovannitti thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He thanked Borough Foreman Tinder and the Street and Highway Department for doing those special projects. The men sometimes get pulled from their normal jobs but the Borough is getting a lot for less. The work they do is excellent. Also, if someone sees something it is their duty to contact the Administrator. He again thanked the Street and Highway Department and he is not letting Councilman Kidd say what he says.

Mayor Burzichelli stated Council was not having this discussion.

Councilman Giovannitti thanked Code Official Hogle and Solicitor Pierson. He also thanked Councilman Hamilton for working with recycling.

Councilman Giovannitti again thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Councilman Hamilton thanked the recipients for the Teachers of the Year and for coming to the meeting. He stated one (1) name stood out and that was Mr. Savidge for his 33 years as a teacher. He thanked Mr. Savidge.

Councilman Hamilton thanked Barry Corradetti and the Town Watch group for cleaning up from Broad to Delaware Streets, and Delaware Street and one block each way from Delaware Street. He hoped to send a message to the parents and children to pick up their trash.

Councilman Hamilton stated that everyone needs to get the cans and bottles picked up because it will tear up the street sweeper.

Council President Haynes stated the contractors are on site at the plant and they conducted two (2) pilot tests. The results will be received within four (4) to five (5) weeks. Once the Borough receives the results then construction can begin.

Council President Haynes thanked Barry Corradetti and the Town Watch Committee for what they do. Everyone should have more community involvement as well as himself. He agreed regarding the trash and he does drive around late at night and sees what they see. The Council is trying and working to alleviate problems but it is an ongoing process. There aren't any clear answers but he does have Paulsboro Pride. Everyone has to keep "plugging away".

Councilman Hamilton congratulated Town Watch as the former Chief of Police, Ken Ridinger, also came out to help.

Mayor Burzichelli thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and felt the public portion was a very good discussion.

Haynes moved and Hamilton seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 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 May 5, 2009 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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John J. Burzichelli, Mayor

