

APRIL 1, 2014

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 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: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Haynes, Councilman Kidd, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner.

Mayor Hamilton opened the floor to the public.

Bernadette Harvey, 259 West Washington Street, discussed the potholes as she has called several times and they have patched the potholes but it is still a hole and there is black gravel everywhere.

Mayor Hamilton stated he will have the Public Works Foreman review the potholes and bring a report back to Council.

Councilman Haynes stated the reason the patch is coming out of the hole is because the Public Works is using a cold patch instead of a hot mix. The asphalt plants are down due to the winter months but they will be coming back soon.

Barry Corradetti, 1820 Overbrook Avenue, Neighborhood Watch Association, discussed the "Window Watch Program" and asked for Council's assistance in getting the word out about the program.

Mayor Hamilton stated the Borough could post it on the website.

Charlotte Dansby, 1655 Swedesboro Avenue questioned if there was any update on the water situation.

Mayor Hamilton stated Water and Sewer Superintendent Daly is still working with Solvay Solexis regarding the water but Councilman Haynes will give an update.

Councilman Haynes stated there was a meeting with NJDEP last week and there was an in depth discussion regarding the findings of the report. This week the Borough will be adding a new chemical feed system to Wells 8 & 9 and will be putting them on line at the end of the week. There have been discussions with NJDEP and other agencies regarding a filtering system for Well 7.

Water and Sewer Superintendent Daly stated hopefully the Borough can put the new wells on line this week.

Al Capree, 720 Beacon Avenue, questioned the status of the flooding issue.

Mayor Hamilton stated the Engineer has spoken with him and there isn't any blockage and there isn't anything going on at this time.

Mr. Capree stated he has been coming to the meetings since 2011 requesting help.

Councilman Haynes spoke with Mr. Capree when they jetted and cleaned the lines and Gloucester County brought a machine to do that and the lines are clear.

Mayor Hamilton stated there aren't any restrictions in the line.

Mr. Capree stated he doesn't know what to do as he has mold, etc. and he isn't receiving any help.

Mayor Hamilton stated he didn't say the Borough would do nothing but the Engineers have changed and will get the new Engineers to review.

Councilman Haynes stated it has been looked at.

Councilman Stevenson stated it has to be found out what is the issue, the problem and how long has it been a problem?

Councilman Haynes stated it isn't a water and sewer issue but it is a street and highway issue as it is water runoff.

Borough Foreman Tinder stated it is a tidal area and the water comes back through the pipes.

Mayor Hamilton suggested getting the Engineer to look at it and see how it can be fixed and get the drains cleaned out again.

Leslie Brown, 720 Beacon Avenue, stated in 1979 it was stated there was something wrong with the pitch of the pipes.

Solicitor Angelini stated no one is advising Mayor and Council of the problem.

Councilman Haynes stated there was a report from Bill Fleming of Churchill Engineers.

Mayor Hamilton stated the Borough will get a report from T&M Associates.

Administrator/CFO Ruggeri stated she will contact T&M tomorrow.

Lourdes Fletcher, 424 Summit Avenue, questioned what happens to the monies when the Refinery is fined and is there a way for residents to find out about the fines.

Councilman Haynes stated he believes the fines are posted but the Borough may or may not know.

Ms. Fletcher felt the Borough should benefit from the fines.

Councilman Giampola stated disbursements at the refinery are connected to NJDEP and the fines are assessed through NJDEP. There are times when the fine is large enough to give back to the community which is how the Borough received the funding for the Early Warning System on the roof of the Municipal Building and were able to demolish the buildings by the park.

Evans Lavard, 9 West Adams Street, stated he is tired of the drug deals that are going on in his neighborhood. He has called the Police Department and had to wait ten (10) minutes on the telephone answering questions.

Mayor Hamilton stated this will be looked into.

There wasn't any further public participation.

Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to close the floor to the public at 7:35 p.m. All were in favor of the motion.

Minutes of a Special Meeting held on January 14, 2014 at 4:30 p.m. Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to receive, file and adopt the above minutes. All were in favor of the minutes.

Minutes of a Work Session Meeting held on March 18, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to receive, file and adopt the above minutes. All were in favor of the motion except Councilman Haynes abstained.

**R. #75.14: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF BILLS OUT OF THE 2014 TEMPORARY BUDGET.** Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to pay all bills properly signed and adopt R. #75.14. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola (abstained on all fire department bills), Councilman Haynes, Councilman Kidd, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**R. #76.14: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR ALLOWANCE OF DISABILITY DEDUCTIONS.** Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to adopt R. #76.14. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Haynes, Councilman Kidd, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**R. #77.14: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR DISALLOWANCE OF DISABILITY DEDUCTIONS.**

**R. #78.14: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR DISALLOWANCE OF DISABILITY DEDUCTIONS.**

**R. #79.14: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR DISALLOWANCE OF SENIOR DEDUCTIONS.**

**R. #80.14: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR DISALLOWANCE OF SENIOR CITIZENS DEDUCTIONS.**

**R. #81.14: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR DISALLOWANCE OF SENIOR DEDUCTIONS**

**R. #82.14: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE CANCELLATION OF CERTAIN BALANCES ON WATER AND SEWER ACCOUNTS.**

**R. #83.14: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE CANCELLATION OF CERTAIN BALANCES ON WATER AND SEWER ACCOUNTS.**

**R. #84.14: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE CANCELLATION OF CERTAIN BALANCES ON WATER AND SEWER ACCOUNTS.**

Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to adopt R. # 77.14 to R. #84.14. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Haynes, Councilman Kidd, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. Motion carried.

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

Memo from Marc Kamp, Chairman, Environmental Commission, requesting Resolution regarding a "Green Team". Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Stevenson seconded to receive and file the memo. All were in favor of the motion.

**R. #85.14: RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE GREEN TEAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO.** Councilman Giovannitti moved and Councilman Stevenson seconded to adopt R. #85.14. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Haynes, Councilman Kidd, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Received the following tax appeals:

1536 Delaware Street – Block 126 Lot 19  
260-262 Greenwich Avenue – Block 27 Lot 16  
340 Beacon Avenue – Block 13 Lot 11  
372 West Washington Street – Block 83 Lot 13  
334 Nassau Avenue – Block 35 Lot 9  
25 West Monroe Street – Block 58 Lot 7.03  
Mantua Avenue – Block 1.06 Lot 18  
Mantua Avenue – Block 1.12 Lot 97  
Mantua Avenue – Block 10 Lot 1  
West Broad Street – Block 91 Lot 28  
3 East Broad Street – Block 94 Lot 17  
West Broad Street – Block 56.02 Lot 4  
Mantua Creek – Block 1.01 Lot 2  
449 Billings Avenue – Block 14 Lot 25

Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Stevenson seconded to receive and file the appeals. All were in favor of the motion.

Letter from Tax Collector Barbara A. Sockwell regarding statement of Uncollectable Taxes. Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Stevenson seconded to receive and file the letter. All were in favor of the motion.

Administrator's Report:

Administrator/CFO Ruggeri discussed the Gill Memorial Library Project. She is working with Dr. Quint to determine what is the actual dollar amount for the additional funding because at the last meeting Council approved an additional \$200,000. When she started calculating the numbers, something did not add up. She is in the process of going through the numbers with Dr. Quint and the Auditor to make sure that \$200,000 is enough to add to the project. She will have an answer at the next meeting.

Administrator/CFO Ruggeri stated she has given Council a proposal regarding the roof of the Municipal Building. The proposal came in rather high so it was decided to pull it apart. The first thing that needs to be accomplished is the removal of bats. There is a short time frame to remove them which is two (2) weeks in April. The original estimated cost was about \$10,000. She had three (3) contractors come out to look at the job and she received a quote from Critter Control in the amount of \$3,650.00. She would need the approval to approve the quote and move forward with the job.

Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Stevenson seconded to approve the quote to Critter Control in the amount of \$3,650.00 to remove the bats from the ceiling of the Municipal Building. All were in favor of the motion.

Police Chief's Report:

Memo from Chief Chris T. Wachter regarding resignation of SLEO II Police Officer. Councilman Haynes moved and Council President Giovannitti seconded to receive, file the memo and send a thank you letter for his time served with the Department. All were in favor of the motion.

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

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Construction and Licensing Committee: Councilman Giampola, Chairman:

Councilman Giampola stated the Code Official is out doing a vacant property/land survey throughout the town to find out what is vacant and what the Borough owns so the Borough can keep on top of getting grass cut come spring time. The properties that the Borough has that are vacant and the Borough takes care of

the grass is larger than most landscaping companies and the Borough only has a handful of guys that are doing it. He asked everyone to please be patient with the Borough. The Borough is reactive to it and the Borough is working on it. The Borough is doing as the best it can with trying to patch potholes, cut grass, clean streets, etc. If there is an issue with a property near someone with high grass, he asked them to please contact the Construction Office. There is a form to be completed, fill it out and returned to Diane and she will give it to the Code Official and move it forward to whatever channel it needs to go. The Code Office is also looking to make some adjustments to the Landlord Licensing Ordinance to try to include businesses in that landlord licensing process. It will give the Borough a little bit more say over the license of their building and what they can use it for.

Public Property Committee/Community Betterment Committee: Councilwoman Turner, Chair:

Councilwoman Turner thanked Councilman Giampola for his report as it also relates to Community Betterment and the Committee is working on improving the community.

Councilwoman Turner thanked Borough Foreman Tinder and the Department for getting the fields ready for all the spring sports.

Councilwoman Turner announced the following events:

April 12<sup>th</sup> – Little League Parade will be at 10:00 a.m. to commence at the Paulsboro Fire House and end at the Damminger Complex.

April 19<sup>th</sup> – Easter Egg Hunt at Fort Billings Park at 10:00 a.m.

April 26<sup>th</sup> – Paulsboro Day Committee's Chinese Auction and Souvenir Book.

April 26<sup>th</sup> – Organizing the Gloucester County Clean Community Program for litter pick up throughout the town and they are looking for volunteers, groups and organizations to help and to meet at the Borough Hall at 9:00 a.m. to get gloves, bags and equipment together to clean up the streets.

Councilwoman Turner further stated NuStar is going to be at the Damminger Complex fields this weekend with their staff and equipment and they will be cleaning up at the Complex. They do this every year.

Mayor Hamilton corrected Councilwoman Turner and stated the Clean Up event on April 26<sup>th</sup> that is coming from the Gloucester County Clean Communities Program will be meeting at the Paulsboro Fire House at 8:00 a.m. to get equipment and to take pictures. It will include three (3) communities (Paulsboro, Gibbstown

and Logan). There will be a benefit at the end for anyone who is involved in the Clean Up.

Public Safety Committee: Councilman Stevenson, Chairman:

Councilman Stevenson stated hopefully the kids can put away their snow sleds and spring is coming so everyone will see kids on skateboards, bicycles, etc. and asked the residents to please be mindful of this when driving down the streets.

Councilman Stevenson stated it is time to change the batteries in smoke and CO detectors or test them.

Councilman Stevenson asked Chief Wachter to give an explanation of Captain Marino's prestigious appointment to the training.

Chief Wachter explained that Captain Marino is attending the FBI National Law Enforcement Academy in Quantico, VA Spring (April) 2014. It is a ten (10) week program and he will be living on the base for that time period. It is very prestigious in the law enforcement profession. Only 1% of all law enforcement officers in the United States ever get this opportunity to attend. He is very proud of him. The FBI pays for everything, training, etc.

Councilman Stevenson stated everyone in the town, especially the Governing Body is very proud of his appointment to that.

Finance Committee/School Board Liaison: Councilman Kidd, Chairman:

Councilman Kidd discussed posting and advertising the Tax Collector's position.

Councilman Kidd moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to advertise and post the Tax Collector's position. All were in favor of the motion.

Councilman Kidd stated through the New Jersey State League of Municipalities there is a Grant Resource Center and he would like the Borough to register for it at a cost of \$95.00.

Councilman Kidd moved and Council President Giovannitti seconded to register for the Grant Resource Center through the New Jersey State League of Municipalities at a cost of \$95.00. All were in favor of the motion.

Councilman Kidd stated he will get with the Borough Clerk and report back to Council.

Utilities Committee: Councilman Haynes, Chairman:

Councilman Haynes reported that T-Mobile has moved their antennas to the new water tower and removed their equipment from the old water tower and from the ground. The new antenna installation on the new tower will be inspected this week and weather permitting, the Borough is currently working with Caldwell to schedule demolition of the old water tower.

Street and Highway Committee: Council President Giovannitti, Chairman:

Council President Giovannitti commended Water and Sewer Superintendent Daly and Councilman Haynes for their excellent follow up on the water situation. They are making some progress and he is confident with the diligent work that all are doing to get this corrected. This problem has now entered into other towns and they are looking to Paulsboro as the lead on how to handle it.

Council President Giovannitti also thanked the Fire Department for inviting the Mayor and Council to their installation dinner as it was an honor to be there for all the dedications and Councilman Stevenson received a real nice award.

Council President Giovannitti reported on the Street and Highway Committee meetings. They are preparing to discuss where the Department is going, on Department needs with equipment because the Budget is still in play and as issues go. He doesn't want to say the Department wants to purchase this or buy that. They are looking as a variety of areas and hopefully by the Work Session meeting he will be able to give more information. There was a sinkhole on Beacon Avenue that was corrected and completed. He hoped, by the Work Session Meeting, he would be able to move forward on some of the streets that weren't completed last year. The Department will be meeting with the Engineer and working with South State to get the parking lot and the few streets that were mentioned. He further congratulated Vinnie Palladino who resigned to get a full time job. He also stated the Department has been a little down with injuries, a gentleman with a shoulder injury who has been at work but is limited and one worker who fell and hurt his back but is back to work. The Borough will be advertising for part-time employees down the road so be mindful of the postings that are coming out. He also thanked Councilwoman Turner for following up with her last Community Betterment Meeting and Borough Foreman Tinder and the Department as there is a lot of work that they have done down at the Little League Field. They will follow up with Mrs. Harvey regarding the potholes.

Mayor Hamilton thanked the residents for coming to the meeting and the main topic on tonight's meeting from the residents was the roads and potholes. He informed the residents that the Council has not turned a deaf ear and they will be addressed but the residents have to work with Council to give them a little time as

the potholes will not be addressed in one (1) day, two (2) days or maybe not even one (1) week but they will be out working the best that they can to try to fill these potholes in the areas. It was a bad winter. He asked the residents that if they see any pothole that was missed to please call #423-1500 and it will be passed onto the Highway Department. He also reported on the flooding issue, the Engineers will be sent out once receive approval from the Administrator/CFO Ruggeri. The Engineer was out there before but the Engineer has changed. The Engineer will go out to find out what the problem is, whether it is the Borough's problem or the residents but the Borough won't know until the Engineer comes back with their report. He asked the residents to bear with Mayor and Council and work with them because the best is yet to come and all that has to be done is work together.

Mayor Hamilton appointed Fire Chief/Councilman Giampola as the Emergency Management Coordinator and Chief Wachter and Michael Licciardello as Deputy Emergency Management Coordinators.

Mayor Hamilton thanked the Fire Department for inviting Mayor and Council to the installation dinner.

There wasn't any further Borough business.

Councilman Stevenson moved and Councilman Haynes seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 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 April 1, 2014 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