

**JULY 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 Rev. Norwood Cuff of Campbell AME Church.

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 Kidd, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Absent: Councilman Haynes.

Mayor Hamilton opened the floor to the public, asked anyone speaking to give their name and address and reminded everyone there was a five (5) minute time limit.

Theodore Holloway, 333 West Adams Street, commended Mayor and Council on getting information out to the residents regarding the water.

Mr. Holloway questioned when the Borough was going to have their next street evaluation as the last one was done in 2013. He felt Hofmann Avenue should be listed on the evaluation.

Council President Giovannitti stated the Mayor will address his question as he is the Chair and everything should be going through the Chair.

Mayor Hamilton stated the Borough will get with the Engineers and will work on the evaluation.

Mr. Holloway stated the vacant properties need to be assessed and addressed. He questioned if any Landlord has been fined or held accountable as Paulsboro is getting to look like Salem such as the property at 1108 Penn Line Street.

Councilman Giampola stated the vacant properties are being addressed and there is a process. These things do not happen overnight. They are building a list of properties where the grass that needs cutting and the Borough is only a five (5) man crew with three (3) Part time employees. They are trying to keep up on the grass cutting. There are 170 properties and Mike Ruffalo is on top of this but there is a process.

Anthony Kline, 579 North Delaware Street, discussed the flooding on his property. He heard from an employee of the Borough that the little road was paved and curbing put up. He hoped the Borough thought about the runoff and how it affects everything. The Borough is doing everything other than dealing with the flooding and no one has contacted him.

Mayor Hamilton stated the Borough will address this matter.

Mr. Kline stated it is ridiculous as the Borough is going to make him do things that will cost him money that he doesn't have.

Mayor Hamilton stated he thought this matter had been addressed but he will look into it and speak with the Engineer.

Mr. Kline questioned if anything was going to be done with Delaware Street from the railroad tracks to the river as the road is really bad.

Mayor Hamilton stated they are working on Delaware Street from Billingsport Road to the Park at this time.

Laura McKay, Benny's on the Rail, discussed the liquor license renewal for Benny's on the Rail that is on the Agenda and asked to hold this until she has spoken with her Attorney.

Solicitor Angelini suggested tabling this matter until the next meeting on July 15, 2014.

Chief Wachter stated she was notified of his recommended conditions and has to have time to digest.

Cheryl Chandler, 1014 Spruce Street stated the Church near her conducts services from Friday through Saturday night until 5:00 to 6:00 a.m.

Solicitor Angelini stated the Police or the Code Office should contact the Church to discuss their hours of service and the noise.

Chief Wachter stated the Borough has to make sure they are not infringing on anyone's rights but he will speak directly with the Pastor himself to try to tone down the noise.

Edgar Degothseir, 524 Mantua Avenue, stated there is a manhole cover that needs repair on Mantua Avenue. He discussed the property taxes and he insists on paying his fair share but the Borough can afford to put money into the Port. He also complained about the truck traffic and suggested putting speed traps on Mantua Avenue.

Mayor Hamilton stated the Borough is not putting any money into the Port; the Borough receives monies from the Port. Furthermore, the Borough cannot control the school and county taxes but the Borough taxes went up \$2.2 cents as it took some money out of surplus.

Mr. Degothseir further stated the Police Department was extremely helpful when he went to get a handgun permit.

Michael Pidliskey, 572 Billings Avenue, asked why the Borough was picking on the Crossing Guards and cutting their pay.

Mayor Hamilton stated the Crossing Guards did not have any cut in pay at this time.

Chief Wachter stated he would speak with Mr. Pidliskey privately.

There wasn't any further public participation.

Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Stevenson seconded to close the floor to the public at 7:27 p.m. All were in favor of the motion.

**PROCLAMATIONS:** Phil Zimm - Retired  
Barbara Sockwell – Retiree

Mayor Hamilton presented a Proclamation to Phil Zimm, Retired Construction Official, on his many years of service to the Borough of Paulsboro.

Mayor Hamilton also presented a Proclamation to Barbara Sockwell, Retiring Tax Collector, on her many years of service to the Borough.

Mr. Zimm thanked Mayor and Council for the Proclamation and stated Paulsboro has been good to him. He commended Mayor and Council on making Paulsboro better.

Mrs. Sockwell also thanked the Mayor and Council for the Proclamation as well as their support.

Minutes of a Special Meeting held on May 13, 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 motion.

**R. #130.14: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF BILLS OUT OF THE 2014 BUDGET.** Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to pay all bills properly signed and adopt R. #130.14. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Kidd, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**R. #131.14: RESOLUTION RESCINDING A PRIOR RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE CANCELLATION OF CERTAIN BALANCES ON A WATER AND SEWER ACCOUNT.** Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to adopt R. #131.14. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Kidd, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**R. #132.14: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE CANCELLATION OF CERTAIN BALANCES ON WATER AND SEWER ACCOUNTS.** Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to adopt R. #132.14. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Kidd, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**R. #133.14: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A TOLLING/FOREBEARANCE AGREEMENT WITH PSE&G.** (Current agreement expires on July 28, 2014.) Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to adopt R. #133.14. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Kidd, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**R. #134.14: RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO REJECTING ALL BIDS FOR THE SENIOR CITIZEN BUILDING RENOVATIONS UNTILIZING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUNDS AND NEGOTIATING SAID CONTRACT, WITHIN STATE GUIDELINES TO COMPLETE PROJECT.** Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to adopt R. #134.14. Roll call: Ayes: Council President

Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Kidd, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**R. #135.14: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE RENEWAL OF A PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION WITH BROAD PACKAGE PRIVILEGE LICENSE #0814-32-010-004 BILLINGSPORT SPIRITS, INC. T/A BENNY'S ON THE RAIL.** Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to hold this Resolution until the July Work Session Meeting on July 15, 2014. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. Motion carried.

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

Memo from Chief Chris T. Wachter regarding SLEO II hiring recommendation. Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to receive and file the memo. All were in favor of the motion.

**R. #136.14: RESOLUTION APPOINTING SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS (SLEO) CLASS II FOR THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT.** Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to adopt R. #136.14. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Memo from Chief Chris T. Wachter regarding promotion to next level Patrolman. Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to receive and file the memo. All were in favor of the motion.

**R. #137.14: RESOLUTION PROMOTING JAMES GENTILE TO THE APPOINTMENT OF PATROLMAN THIRD CLASS IN THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT.** Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to adopt R. #137.14. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Administrator's Report:

Administrator/CFO Ruggeri stated she would like to go into Executive Session to discuss with Attorney Bradley Campbell pending litigation involving Solvay Solexis.

**R. #138.14: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR AN EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSORO.** Council President Giovannitti moved and

Councilman Stevenson seconded to adopt R. #138.14. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Kidd, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Mayor Hamilton stated the Borough workers are collecting brush around town and they have gone down every street. There will be a cleanup on Saturday on Broad and Delaware Streets to the Railroad Tracks which include NuStar volunteers. They are trying to keep the main entrances into Paulsboro clean and will be getting a street sweeper to come sweep these streets.

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

Mayor Hamilton asked Mr. Sierocinski to come forward to meet the Mayor and Council as he was just appointed a SLEO II Officer for the Police Department. Mr. Sierocinski retired one (1) year ago from the Collingswood Police Department.

Mr. Sierocinski introduced himself and thanked Mayor and Council for the appointment.

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

Councilman Kidd stated it was great having the two (2) retired employees on board but the Borough will be starting out fresh again. He hoped when an employee gives six (6) to eight (8) months' notice that the Borough does not wait to hire someone for the position as it makes the flow a lot easier for the Borough and the residents.

Councilman Kidd stated the Finance Committee has had a couple of meetings and he is hoping to post another job opening.

Construction and Licensing Committee: Councilman Giampola, Chairman:

Councilman Giampola discussed the hiring of a Rental Inspector and he recommended Frank Turton.

Councilman Kidd questioned Mr. Turton's training.

Councilman Giampola stated he has construction background but the other two (2) applicants did not have any.

Councilwoman Turner questioned if he will have to go to school.

Councilman Giampola stated he will be field trained by Mike Ruffalo but he will be going to classes in the fall.

**R. #139.14: RESOLUTION APPOINTING A PART TIME RENTAL PROPERTY INSPECTOR FOR THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO.** Councilman Giampola moved and Council President Giovannitti seconded to adopt R. #139.14. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Stevenson. Nays: Councilman Kidd, Councilwoman Turner. **Motion carried.**

Councilman Giampola discussed the Construction Official's position as the Construction Official retired yesterday and he has spoken with East Greenwich Township and Greenwich Township regarding a Shared Service. He recommended a Shared Service Agreement with East Greenwich Township for Construction Official services. The Borough will receive 10% of fees collected by East Greenwich Township.

**R. #140.14: RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO AND THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST GREENWICH FOR CONSTRUCTION OFFICIAL SERVICES.** Councilman Giampola moved and Councilman Stevenson seconded to adopt R. #140.14.

Solicitor Angelini stated he would like to look at the Agreement.

Councilman Kidd felt there was a conflict to enter into this agreement as the Construction Official's son works for the Borough's engineering firm.

Solicitor Angelini stated for the record he disagreed and did not think it was a conflict as the Construction Official is not part of the Company.

Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: Councilman Kidd. **Motion carried.**

Councilman Giampola wished everyone a Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

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

Councilwoman Turner stated she is excited about tomorrow's date, 7/02, as the Borough will be addressing the monument by landscaping, etc. She thanked the Administrator for moving this project along.

Councilwoman Turner stated the first preliminary site meeting of the Damminger Complex will take place tomorrow at 3:00 p.m. at the Complex. She is looking forward to working with everyone and to share ideas. If anyone has any input, ideas, etc. to let her know.

Councilwoman Turner reminded Mayor and Council to turn off the lights and lock up the Conference Room when they are done using it as she has found the room unlocked and the lights on.

Councilwoman Turner stated there will be a new posting on the website regarding the street sweeper. The street sweeper will sweep Broad Street and Delaware Street at 6:00 a.m. on July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Councilwoman Turner reminded everyone regarding the July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade and stated there isn't any rain date.

Councilwoman Turner discussed a project she would like to see take place which involved hanging framed art and photos at the Administration Building in the Court room and hallways. She is requesting permission.

Councilwoman Turner moved and Council President Giovannitti seconded to allow Councilwoman Turner to move forward with the above project. All were in favor of the motion.

Councilwoman Turner wished everyone a Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday.

Councilman Stevenson stated the new bridge is being worked on and they will be taking the old pilings out. The project will take six (6) to eight (8) months to complete.

Councilman Stevenson informed everyone to have a safe holiday and summer.

Council President Giovannitti wished everyone a Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July and reminded everyone of the parade and to stop at the Sons of Italy. There will be signs posted on lawns regarding the parade.

Council President Giovannitti congratulated Captain Vern Marino on graduating from the National Academy in Quantico, VA.

Council President Giovannitti reminded everyone that white goods and e-waste will be collected on Friday, July 11<sup>th</sup> instead of the first Friday as it is a holiday.

Mayor Hamilton congratulated Phil Zimm and Barbara Sockwell on their retirements and thanked them for the services. He also congratulated Captain Marino on his graduation from the National Academy in Quantico, VA.

Mayor Hamilton also reminded everyone regarding the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade that will start at 10:00 a.m. at the Paulsboro Plaza.

Mayor Hamilton thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and he thanked the Departments for their hard work.

Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Stevenson seconded to go into Executive Session. All were in favor of the motion.

Mayor and Council recessed at 8:15 p.m.

Mayor and Council convened in Executive Session at 8:25 p.m.

Mayor and Council reconvened the public meeting at 8:48 p.m.

There wasn't any further Borough business.

Councilman Stevenson moved and Council President Giovannitti seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 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 July 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