

**FEBRUARY 17, 2015**

**PAULSBORO. N.J.**

**7:00 P.M.**

**WORK SESSION MEETING**

Council Chamber:

Mayor Hamilton presided at a Work Session Meeting of Council held on the above date and place.

Members present were: Council President Kidd, Councilman Giovannitti, Councilman Haynes, Councilman Holloway, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner.

Mayor Hamilton called the meeting to order.

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

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 and to silence all electronic devices

Barry Corradetti, 1820 Overbrook Avenue, discussed the Resolution to ban electronic devices at Council Meetings. The Resolution was modeled after the County Freeholders Resolution and that County Resolution was done due to Freeholders texting each other during the meeting. He felt turning off electronic devices was not a good way to go but suggested putting electronic devices on vibrate or silent.

Mayor Hamilton thanked Mr. Corradetti for coming to the meeting.

Solicitor Angelini stated the resolution was tabled at the last meeting and it is not on the agenda for tonight.

Mr. Corradetti felt the Mayor was overstepping his authority and further stated it was fine to ask everyone to put their devices on vibrate or silent.

Solicitor Angelini stated any Governing Body has a reasonable discretion to conduct meetings. Mr. Corradetti's concerns were noted.

Evan Lavard, 9 West Adams Street, stated the Borough needs to look into doing something about the corner store as there is trash and parking issues. The corner should be painted a bright yellow. He has spoken with the store owner who looks but does nothing. The Police Department needs to step up as the drugs are getting worse. He asked if something could be done.

Mayor Hamilton stated his concerns will be taken into consideration.

There wasn't any further public participation.

Council President Kidd moved and Councilman Stevenson seconded to close the floor to the public at 7:08 p.m. All were in favor of the motion.

**R. #59.15: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS IN THE 2014 BUDGET RESERVE ACCOUNTS.** Council President Kidd moved and Councilman Giovannitti seconded to adopt R. #59.15. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Kidd, Councilman Giovannitti, Councilman Haynes, Councilman Holloway, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**R. #60.15: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF BILLS OUT OF THE 2015 TEMPORARY BUDGET.** Council President Kidd moved and Councilman Giovannitti seconded to pay all bills properly signed and adopt R. #60.15. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Kidd, Councilman Giovannitti, Councilman Haynes, Councilman Holloway, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**R. #61.15: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR STATE FY 2014 LIBRARY AID.** Council President Kidd moved and Councilman Giovannitti seconded to adopt R. #61.15. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Kidd, Councilman Giovannitti, Councilman Haynes, Councilman Holloway, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**R. #62.15: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF THE PERFORMANCE BOND AND REQUIRING MAINTENANCE BOND BY LANDBERG CONSTRUCTION, LLC FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF BILLINGS AVENUE – PHASE V PROJECT IN THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO.** Council President Kidd moved and Councilman Giovannitti seconded to adopt R. #62.15. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Kidd, Councilman Giovannitti, Councilman Haynes, Councilman Holloway, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**R. #63.15: RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO APPOINTING WILLIAM J. GOLDEN AS MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE.** Council President Kidd moved and Councilman Giovannitti seconded to adopt R. #63.15.

Solicitor Angelini corrected the term of the appointment as it is three (3) years and should end in 2018 not 2017.

Borough Clerk VanScoy stated she will make the correction.

Roll call: Ayes: Council President Kidd, Councilman Giovannitti, Councilman Haynes, Councilman Holloway, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner.  
Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**R. #64.15: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 IN CONNECTION WITH THE PAULSBORO WATER TOWER PROJECT IN THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO.** Council President Kidd moved and Councilman Stevenson seconded to adopt R. #64.15. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Kidd, Councilman Giovannitti, Councilman Haynes, Councilman Holloway, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**R. #65.15: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO.** Council President Kidd moved and Councilman Giovannitti seconded to adopt R. #65.15. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Kidd, Councilman Giovannitti, Councilman Haynes, Councilman Holloway, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

The following items will be discussed in Executive Session:

1. Discussion regarding pending litigation in reference to the Cameli Project.
2. Discussion regarding personnel in reference to the AFSCME Contract.
3. Discussion regarding personnel in reference to the Water and Sewer Department Positions.

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

**O. #01.15: AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO AMENDING CHAPTER 45A: PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND RECREATIONAL AREAS OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO.** Council President Kidd moved and Councilman Giovannitti seconded to open the floor to the public. All were in favor of the motion.

Councilwoman Turner questioned if the Ordinance includes the application process for the use of the Park and the smoke free areas.

Solicitor Angelini answered yes.

Kelly McLaughlin, Tobacco Free New Jersey South, stated she recognizes the Borough's efforts in banning smoking at the Parks and Playgrounds in order to protect the kids and the families from second hand smoke. She also stated it has been a pleasure working with the Borough especially Councilwoman Turner. The "No Smoking" signs are still available and she will have them personalized for the Borough.

Mayor Hamilton suggested Ms. McLaughlin speak with the Borough Clerk regarding the signs.

There wasn't any further public participation.

Council President Kidd moved and Councilman Holloway seconded to close the floor to the public. All were in favor of the motion.

Council President Kidd moved and Councilman Giovannitti seconded to adopt O. #01.15 on second and final reading. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Kidd, Councilman Giovannitti, Councilman Haynes, Councilman Holloway, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

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

**O. #02.15: AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO AMENDING CHAPTER 51: POLICE DEPARTMENT OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO.** Council President Kidd moved and Councilman Giovannitti seconded to open the floor to the public. All were in favor of the motion.

Solicitor Angelini explained that this Ordinance allows the Council to appoint a Deputy Chief for the Police Department.

There wasn't any public participation.

Council President Kidd moved and Councilman Giovannitti seconded to close the floor to the public. All were in favor of the motion.

Council President Kidd moved and Councilman Giovannitti seconded to adopt O. #02.15 on second and final reading. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Kidd, Councilman Giovannitti, Councilman Haynes, Councilman Holloway, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**R. #55.15: RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF VERNON MARINO AS DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT.** Council President Kidd moved and Councilman Giovannitti

seconded to adopt R. #55.15. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Kidd, Councilman Giovannitti, Councilman Holloway, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. Abstained: Councilman Haynes. **Motion carried.**

Solicitor Angelini stated Council authorized a contract with then Captain Marino and he requested permission to review the contract and prepare an addendum to the Contract changing Captain to Deputy Chief.

Councilman Stevenson moved and Councilwoman Turner seconded to authorize Solicitor Angelini to review the Captain's contract and make the necessary change to Deputy Chief.

Councilman Kidd questioned changing the contract again once Deputy Chief Marino becomes the Chief.

Councilman Haynes questioned why the Contract had to have a title and not just the name.

Solicitor Angelini agreed and will change the contract to just the name and no title.

All were in favor of the above motion.

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

George D. Patton VFW Post 678  
Alibi Inn  
Benny's on the Rail  
Frank's Pub  
The Office Bar & Grill

Riverside Inn  
Woodbury Moose Lodge #2585  
Rocking Stone  
Greater Paulsboro Lodge #575

Council President Kidd moved and Councilman Giovannitti seconded to receive, file and approve the amusement games licenses. All were in favor of the motion except Councilman Haynes abstained on the Riverside Inn and the Woodbury Moose Lodge.

Petition from Joseph La Maina and Philip Li Volsi regarding 908 North Delaware Street, Block 66 Lot 8.

Administrator Ruggeri explained that 908 North Delaware Street has a storefront and two (2) apartments and the owner is asking for forgiveness for some taxes that are overdue. The property was sold at tax sale in October 2010 and there

is a lien on the property. The owner owes \$27,000 in taxes, water and sewer and interest.

Solicitor Angelini stated Council would have to discuss whether they want to abate some or all of the delinquency. He suggested Council discuss among themselves and then move on the matter. Council should also discuss this with the Assessor.

Council President Kidd moved and Councilman Stevenson seconded to receive, file the petition and review the matter as a group. All were in favor of the motion.

Emergency Management Coordinator Alfonso Giampola gave an Emergency Management Report on FEMA's Flood Plan. FEMA will be holding an Open House on March 26<sup>th</sup> at the Paulsboro Fire House for all Gloucester County residents to determine flood zone information as they have remapped the flood zones. FEMA will be present as well as the NJDEP, Gloucester County, Flood Insurance Companies, etc. FEMA is asking residents to bring documentation. March 26<sup>th</sup> starts the 90 day clock and the Borough will have to adopt an Ordinance. FEMA will institute a minimum 18% increase in flood insurance rates. The Borough will have to appoint a Flood Plan Administrator which should be an Engineer who knows elevations. It used to be Jim Sabetta but he does not have certification. He asked the Council to let him know who they appoint.

Mayor Hamilton questioned how a resident would know if they were in a flood zone.

Mr. Giampola stated residents can go to the website, femaregion2.gov or come out to the Open House with documentation.

Councilman Stevenson questioned how else a resident would know if they were in a flood zone.

Mr. Giampola stated they should receive notice from FEMA or their Mortgage Company.

Mr. Giampola again informed everyone that FEMA will be holding an Open House on the new flood maps on March 26<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Paulsboro Fire House.

Linda Pilger, 600 King Street, stated FEMA informed her son that his property was not in a flood zone but he had to get a survey completed to have it taken off his insurance.

Mr. Giampola stated there is a process.

Mr. Giampola also reported the early warning system is fixed and he will need approval for the Hazard Mitigation Plan by mid-summer. He asked to be excused from the rest of the meeting as he has another meeting to attend.

Police Chief's Report:

Memo from Chief Chris T. Wachter regarding resignation of Records Clerk.

Chief Wachter stated he will be coming back to Mayor and Council to fill the position.

Memo from Chief Chris T. Wachter regarding resignation of SLEO II.

Chief Wachter stated SLEO II Reichert has accepted a position in West Deptford. He will discuss filling the vacancy with Mayor and Council in March.

Councilman Haynes moved and Councilman Giovannitti seconded to receive, file the memos and send letter of thanks to the Records Clerk and SLEO II for their services. All were in favor of the motion.

Chief Wachter also stated he will be coming back to Mayor and Council in March to discuss restructuring of the department.

Mayor Hamilton:

**R. #66.15: RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO SUPPORTING, RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE SERVICE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.** Council President Kidd moved and Councilman Holloway seconded to table R. #66.15. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Kidd, Councilman Giovannitti, Councilman Haynes, Councilman Holloway, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Letter from Allen C. Gray regarding resignation from the Land Use Board. Council President Kidd moved and Councilman Giovannitti seconded to receive, file the letter and prepare a Proclamation to be given to Mr. Gray. All were in favor of the motion.

Mayor Hamilton discussed appointments to the Land Use Board and Liaison to the Environmental Commission.

Mayor Hamilton appointed Jacquelin Johnson as Alternate 4 on the Land Use Board. Marc Kamp would move up to Allen Gray's unexpired term and all other Alternate members would also move up.

Mayor Hamilton stated he would have to look into the appointment of the Liaison to the Environmental Commission.

Mayor Hamilton discussed the appointment to the Civil Rights Commission. He re-appointed all current members to the Civil Rights Commission.

Councilman Haynes asked to add the discussion regarding the Water/Sewer Superintendent Position and vacancy in the Water Department to Executive Session.

Councilman Giovannitti gave an update on 1731 Dayton Avenue, Block 121 Lot 33. There was a meeting last week with Administrator Ruggeri and Construction Official Sabetta regarding this property. The property is falling down and the owner has asked for a one (1) month extension to demolish the property.

Councilman Giovannitti stated there is a second house that has a tree growing through the house and that matter is going through the courts but the process is slow.

Councilman Giovannitti stated the Construction Office will be re-activating the Certificate of Occupancy fee for a rental property to move another tenant into their property once one (1) tenant moves out.

Councilman Giovannitti stated the Code Enforcement Officer attended a seminar on abandoned properties and will report at the next meeting.

Councilman Giovannitti also stated he would like to pass a dumpster ordinance for when people move out of their houses and clean them out.

Councilman Stevenson discussed the responsibilities of the Public Safety Committee. He has a couple of questions and would like guidance and clarification regarding the police department under the Public Safety Committee. He has talked with the Chief about recommendations and then emails circulated as to why he was meeting with the Chief as the Police Department falls under the “appropriate authority” of Mayor and Council.

Councilman Haynes set the record straight as to the emails that came from him as he was explaining how “appropriate authority” came about. He gave a brief history and it was felt the Committee should not be meeting with the Police Department. He doesn't have a problem with the Chief meeting with the Public Safety Committee.

Solicitor Angelini stated there is nothing to prevent meeting with the Chief.

Chief Wachter stated he wants to work with a Committee to brainstorm ideas and then bring the matter back to the Governing Body for full review. No decision can be made by the Committee.

Mayor Hamilton understood the Chief could meet with the Committee.

Councilman Haynes stated that is not true under the Attorney General guidelines.

Councilman Giovannitti stated he agreed with Councilman Haynes regarding not having a problem with the Committee meeting with the Chief but Council should look to change the Ordinance.

Solicitor Angelini stated the Council can have a person serve as liaison but the Mayor and Council would act collectively as the “appropriate authority”. It would not be prohibitive for a small committee to meet with the chief. There is nothing that prohibits an individual or a Committee of three (3) to meet with the Chief. Decisions are made by the Mayor and Council.

Councilman Stevenson asked Council to think about the issue and come back at the next Work Session Meeting.

Solicitor Angelini stated Council can think about it but he didn't know if it was prohibitive. He thought it can be done but to let him think about it.

Mayor and Council recessed at 8:30 p.m.

Mayor and Council convened the Executive Session at 8:39 p.m.

Mayor and Council reconvened the Work Session Meeting at 9:12 p.m.

Councilwoman Turner stated the wall in the Conference Room will be white and it will have photos of Council.

Administrator Ruggeri reminded Mayor and Council that at the next Regular Meeting, portraits will be taken and asked the Councilmen to wear suits with jackets.

There wasn't any further Borough business.

Councilman Stevenson moved and Councilman Giovannitti seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:14 p.m. All were in favor of the motion.

This is a brief summary of the Work Session Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Paulsboro held on February 17, 2015 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