

MARCH 4, 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.

Barry Corradetti, 1820 Overbrook Avenue, stated he brought forth at previous meetings to ask the Mayor and Council to reconsider the five (5) minute time limit to speak at the meetings. He questioned if there have been any talks to reconsider the time limit.

Mayor Hamilton stated Council has talked and he has spoken with other towns. It was felt that the Borough has the most time to speak.

Mr. Corradetti felt that five (5) minutes isn't long enough and he wished Mayor and Council would reconsider the time limit as it is not fair to the residents.

There wasn't any further public participation.

Councilman President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to close the floor to the public at 7:06 p.m. All were in favor of the motion.

Minutes of a Regular Meeting held on February 4, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to receive, file and approve the above minutes. All were in favor of the motion.

Minutes of a Special Meeting held on February 11, 2014 at 5:00 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.

Minutes of a Work Session Meeting held on February 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.

R. #61.14: 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. #61.14. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola (Councilman Giampola has a standing abstention on all fire department related bills), Councilman Haynes, Councilman Kidd, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

R. #62.14: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE CANCELLATION OF CERTAIN BALANCES ON WATER AND SEWER ACCOUNTS. Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to adopt R. #62.14. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Haynes, Councilman Kidd, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

R. #63.14: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE CANCELLATION OF CERTAIN BALANCES ON WATER AND SEWER ACCOUNTS. Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to adopt R. #63.14. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Haynes, Councilman Kidd, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

R. #64.14: RESOLUTION ENTERING INTO A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GLOUCESTER COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY AND THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO REGARDING USAGE OF CERTAIN STAGE UNITS. (This Resolution allows the Borough to utilize a small stage through Gloucester County for use at the Paulsboro Day Event). Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to adopt R. #64.14. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Kidd, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. Abstained: Councilman Haynes. **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.

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

Letter from New Jersey State League of Municipalities regarding Legislative Action needed on Arbitration Cap. Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Stevenson seconded to receive and file the letter. All were in favor of the motion.

R. #65.14: RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO CALLING ON THE LEGISLATURE TO MAKE PERMANENT THE 2% CAP ON INTEREST ARBITRATION AWARDS. Councilman Giampola moved and Council President Giovannitti seconded to adopt R. #65.14. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Haynes, Councilman Kidd, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Administrator's Report:

Administrator/CFO Ruggeri stated she has given everyone a copy of the proposal from T&M Associates for the Municipal Building Roof Improvement, Interior Ceiling Improvements and Bat Eviction. She had T&M look at the roof and they found a bat and mouse infestation. She felt the cost is a lot more than she anticipated and she will work with T&M Associates to try to reduce the price.

Administrator/CFO Ruggeri discussed the purchase of the Police Vehicle that was discussed at a previous meeting. The money to purchase the vehicle will come out of the 2013 Budget. She has received a quote through a State Contract for a 2013 Dodge Charger in the amount of \$22,813.00. She would like to receive approval to move forward with the purchase.

Councilman Haynes questioned if the money is in the 2013 budget to equip the vehicle as well.

Administrator/CFO Ruggeri stated yes the monies are in the budget.

R. #66.14: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) 2013 DODGE CHARGER PURSUIT FROM WINNER FORD OF CHERRY HILL IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE CONTRACT NO. 82927 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,813.00. Councilman Stevenson moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to adopt R. #66.14. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Haynes, Councilman Kidd, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Administrator/CFO Ruggeri informed Council that the Borough has acquired 25 properties through In Rem Tax Foreclosure. She has turned the properties over to Code Officer Mike Ruffalo to review and he will bring the review back to the Council.

Administrator/CFO Ruggeri stated she has received a resignation letter from Joan Lutz who is resigning from the Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator position.

Councilman Giampola and Councilman Stevenson seconded to accept the resignation. All were in favor of the motion.

Councilman Haynes moved and Council President Giovannitti seconded to send a thank you letter to Ms. Lutz for her time and service. All were in favor of the motion.

Administrator/CFO Ruggeri stated she also received a letter of retirement from Tax Collector Barbara Sockwell effective August 1, 2014 after 25 years of service.

Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to accept the retirement and send a thank you letter for her time and service. All were in favor of the motion.

Administrator/CFO Ruggeri stated the Borough has until August to complete the Senior Citizen project and T&M Associates met with NJDOT on the Streetscape Project and she is waiting on a proposal to fix the project. This project had to be closed out in January but she wrote a letter requesting an extension of time.

Administrator/CFO Ruggeri requested an Executive Session to discuss Union Contract Negotiations and the Chemical Feed System Contractual matter.

R. #67.14: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY. Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Stevenson seconded to adopt R. #67.14. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Haynes, Councilman Kidd, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Police Chief's Report:

Chief Wachter thanked Mayor and Council for their approval to purchase the police car.

OLD BUSINESS:

R. #37.14: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH COUNCIL TO AWARD A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES PURSUANT TO THE FAIR AND OPEN PROCESS FOR THE YEAR 2014 FOR SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR TAX APPEALS FOR THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO.

1. DeCotiis, Fitzpatrick & Cole, LLP
2. Long Marmero & Associates, LLP

Solicitor Angelini stated the Borough is under contract with the County Office of Assessment who would be handling any new appeals. Council tabled this Resolution from a previous meeting. He didn't feel there was a need for this Resolution and he suggested removing the table.

Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Stevenson seconded to remove the table for R. #37.14 as there isn't a need for the Resolution. All were in favor of the motion.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:

Construction and Licensing Committee: Councilman Giampola, Chairman:

Councilman Giampola stated the new employee is doing really well in the Construction Office.

Councilman Giampola stated the intersection of Spruce and Broad Streets has been closed due to the façade of the building falling down. They have fixed the façade and will be removing the blocking of the street. It will be open to traffic but may have to block it again to put a lift there to replace some bricks.

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

Councilwoman Turner thanked Administrator/CFO Ruggeri for continuing her efforts on sprucing up the Municipal Building, working with the Committees and Departments and also sprucing up the fields.

Councilwoman Turner stated the Little League is having their Opening Day on April 12th, 2014. The Library expansion will be breaking ground sometime in March and this improvement is not using any taxpayer monies. The Little League is having signups tonight above the concession stand. The Paulsboro Day Committee is holding a Chinese Auction on April 26th at the Paulsboro Fire House. The Paulsboro Day Committee is having a souvenir booklet for Paulsboro Day that will be held on September 6th. The Borough is holding a free Rabies Clinic on Saturday, March 8th from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Borough Garage. The Easter Egg Hunt will be held on the 2nd or 3rd Saturday in April at Fort Billings Park at 10:00 a.m. The Borough will be holding the 4th of July Parade and to contact her if anyone knows of any bands or organizations that would like to participate. She also encouraged everyone to visit the Borough's website. The Police Department is holding "Coffee with a Cop" on Saturday, March 15th at McDonald's.

Mayor Hamilton stated he has talked with Dr. Quint, Superintendent at the High School and they are willing to help out with using the High School's Library during renovations to the Gill Memorial Library.

Administrator/CFO Ruggeri stated the Library is having personnel issues and they are down to one employee which is Violet Valentin. The Library will be placing an advertisement in the newspaper for more help.

Public Safety Committee: Councilman Stevenson, Chairman:

Councilman Stevenson stated Council needed to brainstorm within themselves before the next Work Session and he kind of agrees with Mr. Corradetti regarding the time limit. He suggested Council get their ideas to the Mayor and the Mayor controls the meeting.

Mayor Hamilton stated the Borough follows "Roberts Rules of Order".

Solicitor Angelini stated the Council has discretion and can give leeway to residents who wish to speak. The reason the time limit was enacted was because people would speak for at least 45 minutes to an hour.

Councilman Stevenson stated he, as a resident, had a meeting with Conrail regarding the bridge. They are six to eight weeks behind and the bridge should be in place by the end of November and opened in March or April 2015.

Councilman Kidd discussed getting the budget together.

Administrator/CFO Ruggeri stated she just received the State Aid numbers and will be moving as soon as possible to finish up the budget. She will be having a Finance Committee meeting.

Councilman Kidd discussed items being removed from the Agenda. There were discussions back and forth regarding an item he wanted on the agenda. He was going to ask the Solicitor about this as it involved him.

Councilman Kidd also discussed mileage for employees going to school. He stated it is still 23 cents a mile and it hasn't increased.

Utilities Committee: Councilman Haynes, Chairman:

Councilman Haynes stated he asked the Water and Sewer Engineer to come to this meeting to give a brief update on the Chemical Feed System.

Water and Sewer Engineer Biermann stated the items for the Chemical Feed System came in today and they will be finishing the installation by the end of this week. The Borough will be working with NJDEP to do the sampling of the water.

Councilman Haynes asked for an estimate as to when the treatment plant would be on line.

Water and Sewer Engineer Biermann stated about two and a half weeks.

Councilman Haynes hoped the kinks are worked out before it is put on line.

Street and Highway Committee: Council President Giovannitti, Chairman:

Council President Giovannitti stated he had a meeting today to address the issues on the Little League field and thanked everyone for meeting. He thanked Borough Foreman Tinder, the Street and Highway and Water and Sewer Department for removing the snow. He will be having a meeting soon with the Street and Highway Committee regarding spring projects.

Council President Giovannitti thanked Mayor Hamilton and he will be having a meeting with Dr. Quint and Mayor Hamilton regarding the incident with Phillipsburg. He thanked Councilman Kidd for articulating the effect of the picture. He felt everyone handled the matter really well.

Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilwoman Turner seconded to send a letter to the Principal and the Superintendent on the handling of the incident as it was handled well. All were in favor of the motion.

Councilman Haynes questioned the procedure for the removal of items from the Agenda.

Borough Clerk VanScoy explained that Council adopted a policy by Resolution in 2009. Council submits their items for the Agenda and the Mayor and Council President decides what stays on or comes off the Agenda. If they can't agree on what stays or comes off the Agenda, then the Borough Clerk is to conduct a poll of the Council.

Mayor Hamilton discussed a Resolution to force NJDEP to regulate PFNAs and PFCs. He felt it should be sent to the 24 municipalities in Gloucester County to ask them to pass the Resolution as well.

R. #68.14: RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO URGING THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION TO SET SAFE LEVELS FOR PERFLUORINATED COMPOUNDS (PFCs) IN DRINKING WATER. Councilman Giampola moved and Council President Giovannitti seconded to adopt R. #68.14.

Councilman Haynes stated he thought the NJDEP was on the verge of coming out with some guidance.

Solicitor Angelini suggested also sending the Resolution to Senator Sweeney, Assemblyman Burzichelli, Assemblywoman Riley and the Gloucester County Freeholders.

Councilman Kidd stated what worries him is that NJDEP is still researching the limit.

Roll call to adopt R. #68.14: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Haynes, Councilman Kidd, Councilman Stevenson, Councilwoman Turner. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Hamilton stated that NuStar has been bought out by Axeon.

Mayor Hamilton appointed Daniel Sharper as the Alternate member on the Land Use Board. He also has received a resignation letter from James Sharper from the Land Use Board.

Mayor Hamilton stated he will discuss appointing an Emergency Management Coordinator at the next Work Session Meeting.

Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Stevenson seconded to go into Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. All were in favor of the motion.

The general nature of the subject to be discussed at said closed meeting shall be to discuss Union Contract Negotiations and the Chemical Feed System Contractual matter.

Mayor and Council opened the meeting to the public at 8:42 p.m.

Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Stevenson seconded to authorize the Water and Sewer Engineer to settle the matter with Hungerford and Terry. All were in favor of the motion.

There wasn't any further Borough business.

Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman Stevenson seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 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 March 4, 2014 and should not be considered a verbatim transcript of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy A. VanScoy, RMC/CMC
Borough Clerk

W. Jeffery Hamilton, Mayor