

BOROUGH OF PARK RIDGE
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
WORK SESSION

July 27, 2010
8:43 P.M.

Present: Council members; Hopper, Viola, Maughan, Maguire, Council President Kane and Mayor Ruschman

Absent: Councilmember Misciagna

Also Present: Robert Mancinelli, Borough Attorney
Helene Fall, Administrator
Colleen Ennis, CFO
Kelley O'Donnell, Borough Clerk

Mayor Ruschman read the compliance statement earlier as required by the Open Public Meeting Act, P.L. 1975, Chapter 231.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- **Volunteer of the Year Nomination**
 - Non-elected official
 - **Councilmember Hopper nominates Joan Valas**
 - All present agree

- **Excess Sewer Charges**
 - Report from Bill Beattie, Director of Operations
 - Used Montvale as model
 - Council President Kane alright with commercial and industrial
 - Questioned if the Borough had used the right threshold
 - Councilmember Maguire is not in favor of charging residential
 - Ms. Fall stated that class could be removed
 - Councilmember Maughan stated that the residential users could be put on notice
 - Effected 5-10 users
 - Could raise the threshold to 170,000 – 175,000
 - Council President Kane recommends going out immediately for commercial and industrial
 - Ease in on residential
 - Subcommittee discussed enacting the excess sewer charge this year
 - Councilmember Maguire recommends going slow
 - Don't want to discourage small businesses
 - Discussion on deferring until 2011
 - Ms. Ennis stated money taken in this year could be taken as MRNA and put into surplus
 - Discussion on raising threshold to eliminate many residential

- Councilmember Viola would like to see the threshold raised
 - General consensus to raise threshold
 - Notice to be given to those residential customers that may be affected
- Property owners could buy a separate meter for their irrigation systems to track usage
 - This does not go into the sewer
- Council agrees to put residents on notice
- **Council asked for clarification on which the 141 residential users are**

- **UCC - Public Building Exemption to Fees**
 - Council agrees to not charge fee to Board of Education

- **Bergen County Open Space Trust Fund – 3rd Street Bikeway**
 - Notice received for next round of grants
 - Councilmember Maguire suggests coming to an Open Space meeting
 - Council discussion on 3rd Street Bikeway application
 - Letters of support needed
 - Previous application did not provide for a barrier separating bikeway from roadway
 - Councilmember Maguire can discuss with Open Space Committee
 - State application due 08/13
 - Council President Kane inquired about the footbridge on Mill Pond
 - Councilmember Maguire stated that he did not think the Open Space Committee felt that strongly about the 3rd Street Application
 - **Council agrees to not submit 3rd Street Application at this time**
 - **County Open Space Trust Fund application to be the same as ANJEC – Footbridge and Davies Field**
 - Council discussion on Rock Avenue DOT grant application
 - Council President Kane asked Councilmember Maguire if the Open Space Committee prioritized
 - Council discussion on different types of projects

BOROUGH ENGINEER REPORT

- **NJDOT Local Aid Grant Application FY 2011**
 - Will apply for Rock Avenue

- **5th Street – Neal Frazza**
 - Spoke with Ms. Mancuso, Brooker Engineering
 - They are working on the plan now; Ms. Mancuso has not seen the 5th Street plan yet
 - Ms. Mancuso stated that some of the problems with Echo Brook flooding were caused by the vegetative debris which clogged the culvert
 - Boulder in the spillway should be moved
 - 1926 bridge – repaired in 1976 approx

- Repair work reduced opening
- Upgrade of culvert and drainage study of brook
- Mr. Frazza distributed photos to those present
- **Ms. Fall and Ms. Mancuso will meet with project engineer and contact Mr. Frazza**
 - Discussion on curbing, underground springs
 - Curbing done at Midland Avenue has caused more flooding at field; upper driveway (behind scoreboard)
- **2010 Road Improvement Program**
 - Currently working with DLS – contractor
 - Pre Con meeting held on 7/22
 - Anticipated start date end of August
 - Letters will be sent to residents
 - Will meet with Jim Hespe, Shade Tree Committee to discuss tree removals
 - Could gap curbs around trees
- **Leroy Place/Sixth Street**
 - Drainage improvements – have gone back and forth with the County on approvals
 - Working on Temporary Construction Easements with Rob Mancinelli
 - Names on plans and current addresses
 - 3 on north side of Leroy Place
 - As appears on tax records
 - **Ms. Fall will provide to Mr. Mancinelli**
- Rob Mancinelli advised Eve Mancuso that Lyn Beer, Land Use Administrator needed input from her on the **Prusha subdivision**
- Asked Ms. Mancuso to copy him on the letter

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- **Resolution disillusionment of Teterboro**
 - Council not in favor of a resolution
- Council discussion of the **Borough Engineer's attendance at meetings**. Status report received monthly
 - Council agrees to invite Borough Engineer if matters need to be discussed
 - Council should alert Mayor Ruschman, Council President Kane of Ms. Fall if they wish Ms. Mancuso in attendance
- **FY 2011 BC Community Development Block Grant**
 - Bathrooms at Sulak and Colony
 - Sulak Bridge access include fencing
 - Joe Bruno, AIA has offered to prepare estimate for grant application at no charge
 - Wishes to be awarded contract if Borough is awarded grant

- Ms. Fall also advised that work may need to be done at Library bathroom and exit to reading garden
- **Train Station**
 - Waiting to hear from NJ Transit
 - Mike Richie and Jim Feury to meet with NJ Transit next Thursday to discuss signal cabinet
 - Mayor Ruschman asked about the rubber matting by the rails in roadway, similar to other towns
 - NJ Transit advised they are no longer doing this
 - NJ Transit will fill pot holes
 - Discussion on site clearing
- **Senior Van**
 - Request received from mayor Fyfe to use Senior Van on 9/11
 - All present agree
- **CIMA Group – Ribbon cutting 8/27**
 - Asked if they could use “old” Post Office lot for parking for event
 - Need COLI and Hold Harmless
 - All present agree
- **Reassessment**
 - Appraisal Systems quote received for reassessment
 - Bob Campora, CTA filed paperwork with the County
 - The Record has made an inquiry
 - Council discussion on quote
 - Would need to fund
 - Discussion on Bears Nest analysis provided by Bob Campora
 - Recent sales
 - Council discussion on reassessment of neighborhood only or entire town
 - Councilmember Viola agrees to move ahead with reassessment
 - Councilmember Maguire agrees to reassessment
 - Council President Kane agrees to reassessment
 - Councilmember Hopper agrees to reassessment
 - Councilmember Maughan agrees to reassessment
 - Ms. Fall stated that it is a multi step process
 - Borough can take up to 5 years to repay
 - Councilmember Maguire asked what additional expenses the Borough would incur besides the \$95,000
 - Ms. Fall recommends the emergency resolution have extra money included

BOROUGH CLERK REPORT

- **Flags on Park Avenue**
 - Joe Bruno contacted me this morning with regard to the placement of the flags on Park Avenue for the holidays. He and Ken Dutcher had discussed it and think it is

a great opportunity for the scouts. They have a COLI on file with the Borough. There is always a minimum of 2 adults supervising the activities. They would prepare a calendar of the holidays & make arrangements to pick up the flags & drop off. I will coordinate with Bill Beattie.

- **Women's Equality Resolution**

- August 26, 2010 marks the 90th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th amendment, guaranteeing women's right to vote. NJ Dept. of Comm. Affairs sent a sample resolution celebrating Women's Equality, I would like to include on the 8/10 consent agenda. Mayor and Council agree and asked Clerk to read at 8/10 meeting.

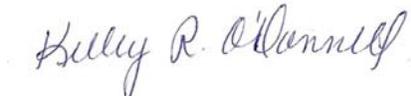
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT

- Distributed June revenue report to those present
 - Ms. Fall suggested adding % of variance
 - Tax collection added
 - Councilmember Maughan asked where the Borough was year to date
 - Host community fees – delay in payments
 - Potential shortfalls in revenue
 - Hotel tax – Ms. Ennis thinks we will fall a little short this year
 - Host Community Fees – lowest check ever received
 - Councilmember Maughan asked for a one page summary
 - 2-3 defecits
 - 2-3 better than expected

Councilmember Viola advised those present that the firehouse needed to repair 4 windows and there were vehicle repairs that were needed
Spending freeze except for essentials

Work Session adjourned to Closed Session 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



**Kelley R. O'Donnell, RMC
Borough Clerk**