

THE SPECIAL MEETING of the Mayor and Council was called to order by Mayor Larson at 2:00pm at the Borough Hall, on 10 East 7th Street. He stated that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act by posting a copy of the notice of this meeting on the bulletin board in the Borough Hall on, January 31, 2012 and by transmitting a copy of the notice to the Beach Haven Times and Asbury Park Press, newspapers designated by Mayor and Council on January 6, 2012, to receive such notice, and by filing a copy of the notice with the Borough Clerk on, January 31, 2012.

ROLL CALL: SPARK, MIKULETZKY, SHARPLESS, REYNOLDS, BOSSI, WARR
ABSENT: NONE

ALSO PRESENT: MAYOR LARSON, GAIL WETMORE, KATHY FLANAGAN, CFO, JAIMIE WIRKOWSKI, ASST. TREASURER AND EDWARD SULECKI, SUPT DPW/WS

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

THE CLERK stated the minutes of the meeting are being recorded and will be on file in the office of the clerk.

George Warr said we need more information on the FSA. Kat explained that the AFLAC lady is not here and all we need to know is in the packets she gave out. Dave Bossi thinks it is ridiculous. He suggested we fund it for almost nothing. In 2012 the maximum contribution will be \$2500.00. We are not setting it at that. You are not allowed to set a minimum. Kat wanted to see \$1000.00. If no one wants it we pay nothing but if only one person wants it we have to do it. There was a great deal of discussion regarding same. Kat said she elected not to offer dependent care. You can not say no - we must put it in place. There is a \$50.00 fee each month by the town. There will be an open enrollment each year. If no one signs up there will be no liability to the town. Dave said this hurts everybody. There is no minimum that we can put it. George said we do the absolutely minimum that we have to do according to the law. Dave said lets set it to \$1000.00. Mike wants to set it at \$250.00. We are just throwing away money all the time was what Mike said. Let's pick a number and move on - \$250.00 will be the amount. Kat will speak with AFLAC if they will support us for that low figure.

Kat said all had gotten last week a water/sewer budget. Brian was here and all the numbers are in. It is a preliminary budget. Everything was spelled out with all the handouts she presented. Most of the numbers stayed the same, some changed slightly. Revenues - we were 8 and a half percent more. Which is not a lot at all. Construction fees down, Court of course, it goes down more each year. She mentioned the grants we received at the end of last year. Council wondered why we can not have an item that goes to the town on each court case. Like a surcharge of some sort. Can we make one up to reimburse the Borough for all these costs. Gail will check with Terry Brady if this is possible. Kat explained why we need to have some surplus.

Mike asked how much surplus we generated. Kat had a five year analysis that everyone went over. You need some surplus. One of the largest chunks of our budget is police. Garbage is another large one. The Police went up 2% and will go up another 2% next year. Interest is a little elevated. We do have some ordinances that need to be funded. We don't have the judgements because we reserved it. Mayor asked about the Capital Projects. He said the deck on the old Borough Hall is terrible. He asked Ed what he thought. It gets power washed every year. We must do it. Dave asked why we put new doors on the front of Post Office and Old Borough Hall. They needed to be replaced. Ed explained why he needs a new truck with a plow. We sold 4 of our old trucks at auction. Gail brought up the bathroom situation in the Post Office. Public Works can put in a new sink and fix the floor. In two years we can apply for Block Grant and do a complete redo.

Ed explained what he plans to do. Dottie asked about the guy who would do improvements to the Lifeguard House if we bought the materials. Don knows this guy. What about the Landscape guy? We need to know how much money is needed. Mayor said he had some really good old appliances because he just did a redo of his kitchen. He also has three vanities for a bathroom. Ed said the biggest problem in the kitchen is the floor. It is asbestos so it would have to be encapsulated. Scott said fiber glass it. After much discussion Kat said she would keep the \$20,000 in the general capital budget and it can be used for many different projects. Ed said the shower can be fixed with an insert. We need electric for the Lifeguard House. They do not have gas. Ed said the cabinets are OK. The floor must be fixed. And the floor in the Girl's bathroom. That \$20,000 is already in the budget.

Kat did a health benefit comparison. She said the employee contribution is up 29% as of July 1st. It is a hefty increase to the employees. With the budget like it is it is a 1.1% increase from last year. George Warr said that is really a 1.1% for 2 years because we were flat last year. Things that went down were outside of CAP. Bill has to review the final budget. Dave said we should cut out the money for beach walks because she is getting money from block grant this year.

George Warr said he has no problem with this budget. Dottie said every body in their household has been cutting. Brenda commented on what Mt. Laurel does for a budget. Back to the water sewer budget. Kat said there is an increase in the Water Sewer budget. We have to do the water tower this year. Mike said don't forget the Township's part. Mayor asked about the water tower and wondered if there are any new technologies as opposed to Water Towers. Ed said it would be a wash. It was last painted over ten years ago.

Kat said the Governor's budget address should be next week. If he changes something regarding state aid we will be looking to rethink the budget figures. She hopes we can introduce it before the next meeting. March 9 is the introduce date. We have to have another meeting to award the Ban's anyway. It was decided to have the Special meeting on the 28th of March at 2:00pm. We will call George Warr and he will be at the meeting by phone. Mike Spark is not sure if he will be back from Florida that day or the 27th. Scott Sharpless will be away.

Mayor wanted to speak about weddings on the beach and also weddings in the Gazebo. After much discussion it was decided to charge \$250.00 per event. Beach rules will apply when using the beach. Also we need to change the fees for certified copies of Vital Records. She would like \$25.00 for first and \$5.00 for each additional. Gail will speak to Terry Brady regarding same. The 16th street Ordinance in on the Agenda for tomorrow's meeting.

Scott updated everyone on the Gazebo. Jacque Richard is going to build it at no cost to the town. A friend of Scott's is going to do the concrete. Mike asked why not pilings? Frank Little said to do the tubes. He also showed pictures of the ramp he would like to see at 29th Street. It does not replace the ramp that is already there. It is past that. We will probably do it for next year. It is in front of the existing walkway. It will require brushing off. Sand will cover it. Gail suggested everyone go and look at the one by the church in Loveladies.

The meeting tomorrow is at 4:30pm caucus and 5:00 regular meeting. Kat said she needs to know what they want her to do with wages and salaries. The Union Contract is already set. When can the Finance Committee meet? George suggested Wednesday. Mike Spark he would rather do it on Thursday when it is raining. It will be at George's house at 10:00am. Again the Special meeting is February 28th at 2:00pm.

Dottie discussed the placement of beach fencing with Ed Sulecki. She is not in favor of how they are doing it. Ed said he has been doing it for almost 30 years and feels what we are doing is the best way.

Kat explained the changes in the contributions for health benefits. It is based on salary and percentage of the premium. It is a state formula. Of course council will pay significantly less because of their salary. There is also an increase in pension contributions for the employees. Mike asked if our money set aside for sick day payout is ok and he was told it is in there.

Dottie finally found somebody who will make the signs for the beach Mats. She said they will cost \$5.00 each. Dave questioned the actual cost, i.e. labor, other wood, etc. He felt it may come to \$10.00 each. Jaimie mentioned that some people donated for more than one walkway. There were several ways of mounting them that might be used. We will find the best way.

There being no other business on a motion by Spark the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED: _____

**GAIL J. WETMORE
MUNICIPAL CLERK**