

Council

Meeting

November 1, 2010

Minutes of a Council Meeting of the Borough Council held at 7:30 P.M. on Monday, November 1, 2010, in the Council Chamber, Hillsdale, New Jersey.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Arnowitz who also led the Salute to the Flag.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING

Borough Clerk Sandt stated, "This is a Meeting of the Hillsdale Borough Council on this 1st day of November 2010. Notice of the time and place of this meeting has been provided to The Review, Pascack Press, The Record and Community Life; a copy was posted on the bulletin board outside of this meeting room and provided to any interested parties.

Please notify the Municipal Clerk for any disability requirements necessary for attendance at Mayor and Council meetings. The fire exits are located through the double doors to your left. Please silence all cell phones and pagers.

ROLL CALL:

Borough Clerk Sandt called the roll those present being as follows: Councilmembers DeJoseph, Frank, Giancarlo, Hanlon, Schiavone and Weinstein. Also in attendance Attorney Randall, Engineer Statile, Police Chief Stalter, Lieutenant Niego.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: On motion by Councilmember Hanlon, seconded by Councilmember Giancarlo, the minutes of the Council Meeting of October 13, 2010, were approved as presented.

PROCLAMATION:

Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. JEN & ART HASKINS, ROVER & CLOVER COMMITTEE, REQUESTING

PERMISSION FOR THE ANNUAL 5K RUN AND DOG WALK FOR SUNDAY,
3/20/11.

Received, filed and approved on motion by Councilmember Weinstein, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon, and unanimously carried.

Councilmember Hanlon said additionally, correspondence not received by the entire Council, a recommendations was made by Councilmember DeJoseph to use the Methodist Church for our flu clinic and it has been noted for the past number of years attendance has been diminishing because of the availability of flu clinics. Because there is so much flu vaccine available, it was recommended that the Methodist Church not be used, however, it is very limited where the flu clinic can be held.

It was the recommendation of the Board of Health that Councilmember Hanlon, as Liaison, receive the letter. They are an autonomous board, they are very cooperative, and they do an outstanding job.

Mayor Arnowitz recommended that Councilmember Hanlon discuss this with the Board of Health and notify the Council of the various options they might recommend.

DISCUSSION:

1) Clean Energy Direct Install Proposal.

Councilmember DeJoseph said the Community Development Energy Block Grant provided \$20,000 to municipalities. We reviewed our buildings with Bill Franklin and the total cost of the projects, Fire Department, Ambulance, Library and Stonybrook building was \$148,000 worth of upgrades. New Jersey Clean Energy Incentive would cover \$88,000 and the Borough's contribution would be \$39,000. Mr. Franklin is preparing the application and we are looking into funding for Stonybrook and the Library.

Last spring we received \$60,000 for a program through PSE&G as a result of stimulus money to update our light bulbs, light sensors, etc. We want to complete lighting upgrades for all buildings. We went through a vendor as well as Bill Franklin who maintains the units; some units were 15 years old and this was a win-win for the Borough. This is a total project for all the buildings and we will received about \$60,000 and upgrades for out of pocket for the Borough would amount to \$7,000. \$20,000 will be for Stonybrook and roughly \$20,000 for the Library. This must be completed by the end of the year. The application for this grant has to be submitted this year. There is the option for emergency authorization.

Councilmember Weinstein did not believe there is any additional funding from Stonybrook available this year.

Councilmember Giancarlo said because the payback in some cases is 30% and in some cases 80%, it behooves us to borrow money just because the stimulus is paying up to 50%. The rebate goes away at the end of this year.

Councilmember DeJoseph said it is roughly \$20,000 for each department.

Engineer Statile said we should fill out the application. We should not worry about the other things until later.

Councilmember DeJoseph said replacement of pumps and motors are all included.

2) Planning Board Consistency Review for Proposed Ordinance.

Councilmember Giancarlo said the Planning Board requested for additional time to review the Sign Ordinance. They did not add too much to the ordinance.

Engineer Statile said the most important point is the Planning Board found the ordinance to be consistent with the Master Plan. Their most important duty is send a letter to the Mayor and Council indicating the ordinance is consistent with the Master Plan. A comment they made was the concern they had to comply 60 days after the adoption of the ordinance. The Board felt that should be 120 or 180 days.

Councilmember Giancarlo said they felt 60 days was an unfair burden to put up expensive signs.

Councilmember Schiavone said in the ordinance, the overhead sign, the one main sign for their business, if it is non-conforming, that would not have to come down or be changed. What this is targeting all the ancillary signs, etc. So, the intent is not to change their overhead signs; there are other times for that to be done such as new businesses coming in, etc., or if they apply for any kind of construction. That was very fair on our part to do that; she is fine with 120 days. They cannot add non-conforming signs; this is specifically addressing signs that already exist.

Engineer Statile said the Planning Board wanted to better define the word Signs Temporary. What defines a temporary sign. Perhaps you want to limit temporary signs in windows, presently it talks about temporary signs in windows.

Councilmember Schiavone said some of the vendors like having those signs out front. She did not believe we should be so strict. Sandwich signs are not offensive, some temporary signs are cute for

the month they are put out.

Mayor Arnowitz said the Council feels the sandwich signs be allowed.

Councilmember Weinstein said banners stay up for a longer period of time sponsoring an event and there have been complaints.

Engineer Statile said the Planning Board would like additional time so they can send their recommendations to the Council.

Councilmember Giancarlo said the Planning Board attorney indicated that some of the particular items that we are pointing to might be better moved into our general ordinances, otherwise, everyone is grandfathered.

Engineer Statile said the only way you can get grandfathered is that you can prove that at one point in time you were permitted the signs.

Attorney Randall said it has to predate the adoption of any ordinance.

Mayor Arnowitz said this is referred to the Planning Board for further review.

GENERAL PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Arnowitz opened the meeting to the public and invited comment from the audience.

Seeing no one, the public portion of the meeting was closed.

RESOLUTIONS: (Consent Agenda)

Mayor Arnowitz read the Consent Agenda of Resolutions.

10140 Endorsing Community Development Project for New Concepts for Living was introduced by Councilmember DeJoseph, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

10141 Authorizing Settlement of a Tax Appeal for the Property Located at 63 Pascack Road was introduced by Councilmember Weinstein, seconded by Councilmember Schiavone.

10142 Authorize Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate, 8 Stockton Street, was introduced by Councilmember Weinstein, seconded by Councilmember Schiavone.

10143 Performance bond Reduction for Block 1206, Lot 10, was introduced by Councilmember Weinstein, seconded by Councilmember Schiavone.

10144 Bergen County Grant Agreement for Borough Hall Improvements was introduced by Councilmember Weinstein, seconded by Councilmember Schiavone.

10145 Authorize Rejection of All Bids for Cell Tower at Wierimus Road was introduced by Councilmember Weinstein, seconded by Councilmember Schiavone.

10146 Authorize Borough Clerk to Re-Advertize Bid Proposal for New Cell Tower at Block 201, Lot 1, was introduced by Councilmember Weinstein, seconded by Councilmember Schiavone.

10147 Authorizing State Contract Purchase, F450 (Amending) was introduced by Councilmember Weinstein, seconded by Councilmember Schiavone.

Councilmember Giancarlo requested 10140 Endorsing Community Development Project for New Concepts for Living be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Motion by Councilmember DeJoseph, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers DeJoseph, Frank, Hanlon, Schiavone and Weinstein

Nays: None

Abstain: Councilmember Giancarlo

Mayor Arnowitz said the Council will vote on Resolutions 10141 through 10147.

Motion to approve all Resolutions was made by Councilmember Weinstein, seconded by Councilmember Schiavone.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers DeJoseph, Frank, Giancarlo, Hanlon, Schiavone and Weinstein

Nays: None

SEE COPIES OF THE AFORESAID ORIGINAL RESOLUTIONS AFFIXED HERETO)

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Board of Health month report for June through and including October 2010.

Motion to receive and file was made by Councilmember Hanlon, seconded by Councilmember Giancarlo, and unanimously carried.

Councilmember Hanlon said this week residents will receive the new licenses for dogs and cats. A rabies clinic will be held on November 10 at the DPW.

(SEE COPY OF THE AFORESAID REPORT AFFIXED HERETO)

LAST GO ROUND

Police Chief Stalter said the Ragamuffin Parade went well, there was not much on cabbage night despite some concerns from residents.

With regard to the fugitive from Virginia, he said residents should be encouraged to call the Police Department when something is not right. This was a resident, someone was soliciting, and the fugitive was wanted for weapons possessions out of Virginia. He encouraged the public to call, even on little things, which this was, someone knocking on their door.

He does have a few minor parking ordinance adjustments that he wants to review. Detective Sergeant Farrell retired effective December 1st and he would like to discuss that with the committee. The reverse 9-1-1 went out for the non-changing trash pickup. If anyone complained that they did not receive this notice, he asked that they provide their name and phone number. The system is not perfect and we wish to keep it as updated as possible.

He attended a meeting regarding the Borough receiving credit cards. We felt this meeting was with a vendor and there are many more vendors. If the Borough wishes to form a committee investigate it, there were concerns. It would be great for the police department especially if we get someone after hours on a warrant and they can pay for bail on a credit card.

Councilmember DeJoseph said we are reviewing the fee and fine schedules for all departments.

Mayor Arnowitz was not certain that Tom Farrell had sufficient years to honor him at a Council Meeting.

Chief Stalter said he had over 20 years.

Mayor Arnowitz said his name will be included on the list of retirees. He felt we have to honor the people who gave us their

time.

Borough Engineer Statile said we took bids on the cell tower across the street; there were two bidders - New Cingular Wireless for \$36,000 and Metro PCS was \$35,000. Both companies provided conditions on their bid.

Mayor Arnowitz said one of the engineers said they did not feel it was feasible to put an extension on that tower.

Engineer Statile said another condition was that the Borough be additional insured on the liability policy. The insurance could be a problem.

Mayor Arnowitz said he did not want our communications equipment messed with in any way. Someone would have to work out details and how they would be accomplished.

Attorney Randall believed we would have the details worked out by the next meeting.

Statile said Wierimus Lane is almost completed and we are waiting to put on the color coating. We have some problems with restoration work and we are meeting with Public Service on that problem.

Mayor Arnowitz said we are going to utilize funds from their bond to correct the problem. The Borough Attorney will have to take action. This would affect their ratings when they go out for other projects. If they are not going to be cooperative, he would have the attorney write a letter to Public Service indicating we will utilize our options under the Bond Laws to correct the problem because there is standing water and we are concerned about the safety issue.

Statile said under the provisions of the bond, we are going to authorize our own contract. He said in New Jersey, there is the Office of Local Government Assistance apparently helps towns out to get DEP permits. We can get permits to get work rectified. They are an advocate on the other side of the table; the public would have to pay for everything. We were actually able to get a permit reversed because of this department.

Councilmember DeJoseph said next week there will be further discussion on fees from all departments. We will need recommendations from all departments as well as capital requests for next year. Next year will be a very difficult year.

Councilmember Schiavone said other municipalities charge a fee to

homeowners who rent their property. We don't have this in order for them to rent their property. She asked the Council for consideration that anyone who rents their home should have submit request for annual inspections that the Borough would make for safety.

Mayor Arnowitz said this could be presented to Keith Durie for consideration. He thought it was a good idea. We inspect apartments when there is a change and we charge a fee.

Statile said a landlord would register with the town. That is a state requirement and submitted to the Clerk every year.

Councilmember Weinstein said we have an enormous facility at the second floor of the fire house and it is used for special events. That could be a better utilized facility, such as vaccinations, etc., and other senior functions, and this is something the fire committee could keep in mind.

Mayor Arnowitz said the problem with the building across the street, the Borough owns the property but the second floor was built by the Fire Department with their own dollars. The Fire Department has 24 hour activities and if we were to hold a flu clinic or senior luncheons it could create a safety hazard. People tend to congregate in the parking lot, tend to walk slowly and in the case of an emergency, time is of the essence. The Ambulance Corps needs to get out quickly and both they and the Fire Department share the parking lot. The Fire Department does not use the second floor for anything non-firematic and they do not rent the second floor.

Councilmember Weinstein said the second floor has terrific facilities and is huge. He suggested pursuing the request again. Perhaps a representation from the Council could meet with the Fire Department to initiate conversations.

Councilmember Weinstein said tomorrow is election day and urged everyone to vote.

Councilmember Frank said the American Legion has a program where they are requesting local residents to write letters and send cards to the local troops. The letters can be dropped off at the Borough Hall, Post Office or Library. The due date is November 27. A list of the people deployed will be available along with a box where the letters may be deposited. It is also available on the website which is americanlegionpost162.org.

Councilmember Giancarlo congratulated the Green Team for a certified community, Hillsdale has been certified as a Green Community. An award later this month will be presented at Atlantic

City and he thanked them for their hard work.

He thanked Councilmember DeJoseph for saving \$4000 on the truck (Resolution 10147). We are still looking into solar for the town and possibly we might have more information soon. He asked everyone to vote on election day.

Councilmember Hanlon reminded the citizens that there will be a van available for different things, movies at the Library, luncheons, Tuesday hot lunch Bingo. If they will not be used, they could be cancelled. The van is not just for seniors, we are picking up handicapped and disabled. The van is available Tuesdays and Wednesdays starting at 9AM and ending about 2PM. Flyers are available at the Borough Hall showing all the different activities for seniors.

Mayor Arnowitz asked the Borough Clerk for a date in which the Council can honor individuals. He said we had some problems with the garbage contract, some circumstances with the State precluded us from going from two to one garbage pickup. As soon as this can be implemented, the residents will be notified. Residents with a legitimate handicapped situation and can't get the garbage to the curb should contact the DPW and they will be put on a list so that backyard garbage pickup can be continued.

We cut back the hours at the recycling center which saved us \$26,000 in overtime costs. It is open the first and third Saturday of the month. If there is a storm we do have the ability to open the recycling center for that weekend to collect the debris.

He would like opinions from the public with regard to the Council meeting at the table below in the Chamber. It is only one meeting a month as the public meeting will be held above.

The high school is being approached by various cell tower companies to erect a tower on their property. We have considered Stonybrook and Centennial Field and we should pursue that. There is considerable revenue.

He congratulated the Recreation Commission on the Ragamuffin Parade and it was a great success. He thanked the police reserves who handled it quite well.

The Council will make a decision this evening regarding the Christmas Party for employees and volunteers. He would like this done at the fire house and not at a restaurant. He would like a decision this evening and a date. The Council was in favor of going forward with this event. Friday December 10 was suggested, however, it may change to Friday, December 17. Mayor Arnowitz said we must be sure that all Boards, Positions and Volunteers are

invited; our Liaisons. We should also ask for responses because we are dealing with a large number of people. Mayor Arnowitz said he will work that out.

Revaluation

Mayor Arnowitz instructed the Borough Clerk to put the Revaluation on the Agenda for the next meeting as he wants to get an update from the Administrator. CFO Henderson was unaware that we approved, last month, to go ahead with the Revaluation.

DeNorchia Dinner

Mayor Arnowitz said we should all attend this dinner.

Councilmember DeJoseph suggested each Councilmember pay for their dinner. Councilmember Weinstein said the Mayor in his official capacity should not pay for his dinner but the remaining Councilmembers should pay for their own dinner.

Motion

Councilmember Hanlon made a motion that the Mayor's fee for this affair be paid for by the borough and the Councilmembers pay their own way, seconded by Councilmember Weinstein.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Giancarlo, Hanlon, Schiavone, Weinstein,
And Frank

Nays: Councilmember DeJoseph

Councilmember DeJoseph said electronic recycling and shredding day will be held November 20 at the DPW from 8AM to 12PM. The dumpster will be there for a couple of days before and after. This is the third Saturday of November.

CLOSED SESSION

A motion to go to Closed Session was made by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon, and unanimously carried.

OPEN SESSION

A motion to go to Open Session was made by Councilmember Weinstein, seconded by Councilmember Giancarlo, and unanimously carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Hanlon, seconded by Councilmember Giancarlo, and unanimously carried.

11-1-10

Robert P. Sandt, RMC
Borough Clerk

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

Robert P. Sandt, RMC
Borough Clerk