

**BOROUGH OF BLOOMSBURY  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 28, 2011**

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council was held on June 28, 2011 at Borough Hall, 91 Brunswick Avenue, Bloomsbury, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by the reading of the Sunshine Law by Mayor, Mark Peck.

As required by the Open Public Meetings Act of 1975, adequate notice of this meeting was provided on January 13, 2011 by the Publication of said notice in the Hunterdon County Democrat and the posting of said notice in the Municipal Building on the same date.

<b>ROLL CALL:</b>	Chris James	Martha Tersigni
	Vicky Papics	Eric Weger - absent
	Steven Shelton	Mark Peck, Mayor
		William Edleston, Esq.

**FLAG SALUTE**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mrs. Tersigni moved Council approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of May 24, 2011; seconded by Mr. Shelton. All ayes. Motion Carried.

Mrs. Tersigni moved Council approve the Special Meeting Minutes of June 9, 2011; seconded by Mrs. Papics. All ayes. Motion Carried

**TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORTS**

Mrs. Papics moved Council accept the Tax Collector's Monthly Report dated May 31, 2011; seconded by Mrs. Tersigni.

ROLL CALL VOTE: James-aye; Papics-aye; Shelton-aye; Tersigni-aye.  
Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF BILL LIST**

Mrs. Tersigni moved Council approved the Bill List of June 28, 2011; seconded by Mr. James.

ROLL CALL VOTE: James-aye; Papics-aye except for payroll; Shelton-aye; Tersigni-aye.  
Motion carried.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT**

Council reviewed the Code Enforcement Report dated June 16, 2011. Discussion followed.

Mrs. Papics stated that the stop sign at the corner of Main and East Streets is obstructed by a shrub from the adjacent property. Mr. Creveling stated that he was going to contact the property owners but that Mrs. Tersigni had felt it was more of a public safety issue.

Mayor Peck asked if Mr. Creveling had driven through town with the Clerk looking for encroachment issues as requested at the May meeting. Mr. Creveling stated he had not, but he did not believe that School Street was as bad as reported. Discussion followed.

Council discussed drafting a general letter with spaces to be filled in, for Ordinance which has been violated, the penalty for the same, etc. Mayor Peck will work with Mr. Creveling to draft the letter.

### **CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Francisco presented the following report on behalf of the Clerk:

The Clerk created a new Recycling and Garbage guidelines flyer which is available for the public.

Clean Up Day is scheduled for July 23, 2011 and Council volunteers are needed. Mayor Peck, Mrs. Tersigni and Mrs. Papics stated that they will help again this year.

The Clerk requested permission to attend the League of Municipalities Conference in November which will cost approximately \$300 for registration and hotel and Mr. Francisco verified the money is available in the Clerk's Budget. Council approved the same.

The Clerk has been working on the Editorial Analysis provided by General Code and will be meeting with the Mayor on Thursday for further review.

The Clerk will be meeting with Donna Surdich, Court Administrator to go over the Borough Ordinances which the Court has on file, on Thursday as well. Mayor Peck stated that the Prosecutor is retiring effective the end of the month and Bethlehem handles filling the position.

The Clerk asked that the Mayor bring up the topic of compliance with the insurance inspection recommendations regarding the Borough Park. Mayor Peck explained that this includes adding about 12" of mulch under the stationary play structure, the use zone must be expanded under the swings, that rubber mats to installed beneath the swings and then add 9" - 12" of mulch to that area as well.

Mayor Peck stated that he would like to have the Clerk order sufficient mats and mulch. Discussion followed. Mrs. Tersigni stated that she does not feel we have the time or resources to dig out the use zone and that mulch should be ordered and the swings raised as needed.

Mr. Shelton moved Council authorize the Clerk to order sufficient mats and mulch for under he swings and that any additional mulch will be used under the stationary equipment for a cost not to exceed \$1,000; seconded by Mr. James.

ROLL CALL VOTE: James-aye; Papics-aye; Shelton-aye; Tersigni-aye. Motion carried.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*V. Papics*

### **Board of Education-**

- Mrs. Papics stated the School Board meeting was re-scheduled to tonight so she is unable to attend.

*C. James:*

### **Newsletter-**

- Mr. James stated that he would like to put something in the next newsletter asking that people who want to receive it electronically sign up for the same to reduce the mailing cost. He also asked if Council is interested in reducing the number of publications per year. He stated that it is difficult to get submissions in on time. Discussion followed.

### **Environmental Commission-**

- Mr. James reported that Project Porch Light was a great success.

*S. Shelton:*

### **Recreation-**

- Mr. Shelton stated that Recreation conducted interviews for Summer Recreation Counselors.
- Mr. Shelton reported that the last Movie Night was canceled due to weather and will be held in the upcoming weeks.

*M. Tersigni:*

### **Planning Board -**

- Mrs. Tersigni stated that the public hearing was held for a Fawn Run property that needed variances to put in a deck and approval was granted.
- A resolution will be written for the Board to approve the As Build Plans and grant Final Site Plan Approval to Brown's Hunterdon Mack and their Bond then released.
- The Sub-Committee will focus on consideration of a Solar Farm Ordinance after consulting with the Planner.

- The Highlands Council have approved our Plan Conformance and the Board will be receiving additional information from them in the next few weeks.

### **Borough Park -**

- Mrs. Tersigni reported that there is a dead tree at the Borough Park near the snack shack. Mayor Peck will ask the Clerk to solicit quotes to have the tree removed or see if the DPW staff can do it.
- Mrs. Tersigni stated that Mill grass was mowed on the street side only and she does not want the public to think that the appearance of the lawn around the Mill is acceptable because she does not think that it is. She questioned if it is still our responsibility to maintain the property. Mr. Edleston stated that it is still our property and therefore it is.
- Mrs. Tersigni asked if two functioning bathrooms at the Borough Park for Summer Recreation are required or not, but last time she checked only one door would open. Mr. James asked when she last checked as right after the last Council meeting, he fixed the door. Mr. James reported that everything was working, but he spoke to Chris Smith and they decided to replace both toilets, and Recreation has agreed to pay for the same.

### ***M.Peck:***

### **BLOOMSBURY MILL-**

- Mayor Peck reported that the permits have been obtained and they are now working on the architectural design and he is hopeful that work will begin this fall.

### **COUNCIL VACANCY-**

- Mayor Peck stated that he will appoint Richard Petri to fill the vacant seat on Council at the July Meeting.

### **STATE POLICE REPORT**

No report.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

### **PUBLIC HEARING - 2011 BUDGET**

Mr. Schroder stated that following the public hearing, if it is Councils pleasure, they can move to a vote to adopt the budget.

Mayor Peck stated that there was lengthy discussion last month, and asked Council if there was any comment before the public hearing was opened. Mayor Peck stated that the Salary Resolution with a variety of options will be addressed as well.

Mr. James moved Council open the Public Hearing; seconded by Mr. Shelton. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Peck asked the record reflect there is one member of the public in attendance.

Ilse Goshen, 69 Main Street stated that she feels it is a lot to spend \$60,000 on the Fire Company. She asked why we spend 25% of the utilities at the Fire House. Mayor Peck stated that that has been questioned frequently in the recent past and that there is no rent increase again this year. Mrs. Goshen stated that is a lot of money, especially when the Rescue Squad only gets \$25,000. Mayor Peck said for the record we are basically maintaining what has been and that it is difficult to radically change things.

Mrs. Goshen asked if the Borough got any control of the siren for that \$60,000. Mayor Peck stated that the siren had been going off pretty early and that maybe Cherryville didn't get the memo regarding the times the siren is permitted to sound. Discussion followed.

Mrs. Tersigni moved Council close the Public Hearing; seconded by Mr. James. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. Shelton moved Council adopt the 2011 Budget; seconded by Mrs. Papics.

ROLL CALL VOTE: James-aye; Papics-aye; Shelton-aye; Tersigni-aye. Motion carried.

### **TREES - LETTER TO PROPERTY OWNERS**

Mayor Peck asked if there was any update to the status of the letters to property owners regarding the removal of trees. None received.

### **ROUTE 579 BRIDGE**

Mayor Peck reported that the State found safety issues with the Bridge during a recent inspection and they have proposed to close the Bridge for about a week following the July 4th Holiday, in order to make repairs.

Mayor Peck stated that he is very concerned about the proposed detour plans they offered and has asked the Borough Engineer to review the same. Discussion followed.

### **ALARM ORDINANCE**

Council discussed the sample alarm ordinance provided by the NJSP. No action will be taken at this time.

### **POINT PARK**

Mr. James stated that he noticed work began at the Point Park on the Eagle Scout project and it looks great.

**RAILROAD WATER RUN OFF**

Mr. James asked if there was an update regarding the Railroad water run off issue that was presented to Council by a North Street resident last month. Mayor Peck reported that when he spoke to the Clerk a week ago, she advised that none of the requested information or pictures had been received from the property owner.

Mrs. Tersigni stated that this person received a reduction in their property taxes because the problem, so can't we compel this evidence be provided to us so it can be cured and we can get our ratables back where they should be. Mayor Peck stated that trying to compel it would cost more than the return. He stated that if you get a reduction based on a condition you claim is affecting your property and that condition is abated, then you should be restored to the original rate.

The Clerk will discuss this with the Tax Assessor and Attorney and provide Council with an update at the July Council meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**2011 SALARY RESOLUTION**

Mayor Peck stated that the Salary Resolutions presented show options for 0%, 1%, 1.5%, & 2% increases for Council's consideration.

Mr. Shelton moved Council adopt Resolution 20-11 with a 0% increase for 2011; seconded by Mr. James.

ROLL CALL VOTE: James-aye, Papics-abstain; Shelton-aye; Tersigni-aye. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION # 40-11 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING IN REM FORECLOSURE PROCEEDINGS**

Council discussed Resolution #40-11.

Mayor Peck, Mr. James and Mrs. Papics and the Clerk will form a sub-committee to look into North Street properties.

Mrs. Papics moved Resolution # 40-11 be tabled until the July meeting; seconded by Mr. James. All ayes. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION # 41-11 - BLOOMSBURY HOSE COMPANY LIQUOR LICENSE 2011**

**WHEREAS**, the Bloomsbury Hose Company is the holder of a liquor license which is to expire June 30, 2011,

**WHEREAS**, the appropriate application forms and renewal fees have been submitted to the Borough Clerk; and

**WHEREAS**, there appear to be no reasons to deny renewal of the aforesaid liquor license,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council as follows:

1. The liquor license of the Bloomsbury Hose Company No. 1 be and the same is hereby extended for the one-year period beginning July 1, 2011 and terminating June 30, 2012.
2. Nothing herein shall be construed as relieving the license holder to the obligation to fully comply with all state and municipal regulations relating to the license holder.

Mr. Shelton moved Council adopt Resolution # 41-11; seconded by Mr. James.  
ROLL CALL VOTE: James-aye; Papics-aye; Shelton-aye; Tersigni-aye. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION # 42-11 - LIEN REDEMPTION**

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Collector of the Borough of Bloomsbury has advised the Committee that the following properties have been redeemed and the money due thereon paid to the Borough of Bloomsbury Tax Collector;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Common Council of the Borough of Bloomsbury this 28th day of June 2011 that refunds are made to the certificate holder as noted:

CERTIFICATE HOLDER	BLOCK/LOT	CERT #	AMOUNT
Borough of Bloomsbury	21/20	09-02	\$12,589.78

Mrs. Papics moved Council adopt Resolution # 42-11; seconded by Mr. James.  
ROLL CALL VOTE: James-aye; Papics-aye; Shelton-aye; Tersigni-aye. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION # 43-11 - BLOOMSBURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTO OFF-PREMISE 50/50 RAFFLE**

**WHEREAS**, the Bloomsbury Elementary School PTO is the licensee on the application to conduct an Off-Premise 50/50 Raffle to be held at the Bloomsbury Elementary School, 20 Main Street, Bloomsbury, NJ on September 24 & 25, 2011 from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM; and

**WHEREAS**, the appropriate application forms and fees have been submitted to the Borough Clerk; and

**WHEREAS**, there appear to be no reasons to deny the aforesaid off-premise 50/50 raffle and draw raffle,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council as follows:

1. The off-premise 50/50 raffle and draw raffle application is approved contingent to the Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission approving said application.

Mrs. Papics moved Council adopt Resolution # 43-11; seconded by Mr. Shelton.

ROLL CALL VOTE: James-aye; Papics-aye; Shelton-aye; Tersigni-aye. Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Council reviewed correspondence.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comment.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Weger; seconded by Mrs. Tersigni. All ayes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa A. Burd, RMC  
Borough Clerk/Administrator