

SOUTH BOUND BROOK BOROUGH COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council held March 9, 2010 at Council Chambers, 12 Main Street, South Bound Brook, NJ 08880.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM with a reading of the Open Public Meetings Law Statement by Mayor Terry Warrelmann, the Pledge of Allegiance and an Invocation by the Borough Clerk.

Roll Call:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Mayor Terry Warrelmann | (Present) |
| Council President Dennis Quinlan | (Present) |
| Councilperson Tom Ormosi | (Present) |
| Councilperson Caryl Shoffner | (Present) |
| Councilperson Tony Godleski | (Present) |
| Councilperson Peter Dykes | (Present) |
| Councilperson Harold Kildow | (Present) |

Attending:

| | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Borough Attorney: | William Cooper |
| Borough Engineer: | Tom Herits |
| Police Dept. Rep: | Lt. Jeff Titus |

Approval of the Minutes:

- **Motion** by Councilperson Godleski for approval of the February Meetings Minutes, seconded by Councilperson Shoffner, discussion, all in favor, all ayes.

Mayor's Report:

- Resolution – Will be read during the Agenda portion of the meeting.
- Reported on trip to Trenton to attend the Mayor's Legislative Day Event. The Mayor was accompanied by Council President Quinlan and Borough Clerk Kazar. The Governor spoke about the State Budget and it looks like we will probably lose some aid. We will have to work through it and hopefully we will be able to weather this storm. There are several bills pending referring to retirement and employees benefits. The legislators are looking for input from the towns either pro or con.

Council Reports:

Public Works/Historical Commission (Councilperson Quinlan):

- Spoke about Resolution supporting the Middle Brook Regional Health Commission. A couple of towns are talking about pulling out of the Commission and the remaining towns will not be able to absorb the increase costs. Kevin Sumner has revisited the Commission Budget and made some additional cuts. These cuts will result in some reduction of services. We have been a member of the Commission for almost 40 years. Two of our local Board of Health Members serves on the Commission. The Commission has served us very well through the years.

Public Safety – Police Department/Rescue Squad (Councilperson Ormosi):

- Police Department Monthly Reports (January & February) submitted. Will make a copy for Council members.
- Still working on negotiations with the PBA.

Finance (Councilperson Godleski):

- Claims Voucher Resolution – Payment of the Bills – **Motion** by Councilperson Godleski for Claims Voucher Resolution in the amount of \$553,398.58, seconded by Councilperson Quinlan, discussion. Councilperson Godleski informed the Council that \$460,000.00 was the Board of Education bill. Roll call vote taken, all ayes.
- Transfer Resolution – **Motion** by Councilperson Godleski for Transfer Resolution in the amount of \$7,291.65, seconded by Councilperson Quinlan, discussion. Councilperson Shoffner had questions about excess funds. These funds were from 2009 budget. She also asked about the \$1,500.00 funding for the Handicap Park at the County. We only paid half last year because we entered late. Roll call vote taken, all ayes.
- **Motion** by Councilperson Godleski for Resolution Urging the Elimination of the 4% Cap on Local Tax Levy, seconded by Councilperson Ormosi, discussion. Councilperson Dykes spoke about an article about this in the League of Municipalities magazine. He said this would have more of an effect on smaller Towns and Boroughs. All in favor, all ayes.
- Councilperson Godleski informed the Council that we may have to raise taxes this year because of the decrease in State Aid. He urged all departments to be stingy and only spend on what is necessary.

Public Safety – Fire Department (Councilperson Dykes):

- Fire Department Monthly Report for February submitted. Total alarms answered, 5; 28.1 man hrs. answering alarms; 3.5 man hrs. maintenance of trucks and equipment; 3.5 man hrs. for department training; 9.2 man hrs. Board of Engineers Meeting; 22 man hrs. for Captain's Administrative Duties. Total man hrs. for February 116.2.
- Letter from SBB Fire Department – The Board of Engineers recommends that at least

30 complete sets of Turn-Out Gear be purchased this year to replace the gear that is or is to become obsolete.

Personnel/Board of Education (Councilperson Kildow):

- No Report.

Recreation (Councilperson Shoffner):

- The Easter Program will be presented on March 23rd. The expenses have been cut back. Since the program was moved to the evening on a weekday, the attendance has been much better.
- There are four basketball games left. 2 on Thursday and 2 on Friday.
- Flyer has been sent out for Spring Soccer and Softball.
- On Back To School Night Recreation Sports Committee would like to set up a table to recruit coaches for the various sports they sponsor.
- Teen Night will be on March 24th no Teen Night on March 17th.
- Election of Officers - Recreation Sports – Dan Duh, President (2 yrs.); Rob Hasson, Vice President (3 yrs.); and Michelle Duh, Secretary. Other members terms are as follows: Donna Piazzolla, (2 yrs.), Libby Seller (1 yr). There are two open seats for 1 yr. to be filled by the vote for the suggested 2 appointments tonight.
- Easter Egg Hunt will be held on April 3rd. It will be limited to 8 yrs. old and down. There will be two sections – one for 5 and above and one for 5 and below. The event will be held at Memorial Park.
- Clothing Collection Box is located in the Parking Lot at the Firehouse on Edgewood Terrace. The boxes are for clothes, shoes and books. The Fire Company will receive \$150.00 if the Box is used. The proceeds will go for disaster relief in Haiti and other places.
- Councilperson asked the cost of the Easter Program. Councilperson Shoffner thought the cost was \$700.00.

At this time the Mayor spoke about Open Space Grants. He had spoken to the Mayor of Franklin Township about the open space behind Charlotte Place. He will continue to pursue keeping this land as open space for parks, sports fields or a walking track for seniors.

Resolution:

- Mayor read Resolution for Reform in Arbitration – this resolution urges the Legislature to make reforms in the Arbitration process – **Motion** by Councilperson Quinlan for approval of Resolution for Reform in Arbitration, seconded by Councilperson Kildow, discussion. Councilperson Quinlan commented that a Federal Mediator has shown up at the Public Works negotiations. He works out of Iselin but lives in Pennsylvania. This Resolution addresses that residency requirement. Councilperson Dykes would like a copy so he can read it before voting on it. He can

abstain from voting. Roll call vote taken, 5 ayes and 1 abstention (Councilperson Dykes).

Borough Attorney Report:

- Spoke about Borough Clerk using the Borough Attorney when an OPRA request comes in that may need legal attention. Those OPRA requests that do not need advice are handled by the Borough Clerk. A recent OPRA request by Mr. Verry for a copy of a Legal complaint that came to the Borough the week of March 1-8 was clearly an abuse of the law. The complaint was filed by Mr. Verry. He was asking for a copy of a complaint he himself filed.
- Other items on the Agenda for discussion.

Borough Engineer Report:

- The contractor has ordered the lighting standards for the Canal Crossing Lighting. They are coming from California and take a little time to get here.
- The D.O.T. projects (Jerome and Howard Avenues) talked about using the Capital Fund Balance and Capital Improvement Fund to put an Ordinance together to fund this project directly without any bonding. Borough Engineer will bring an estimate to the next meeting.
Resolution – **Motion** by Councilperson Quinlan requesting the NJDOT to combine the allotments for Jerome and Howard Avenues into one contract for public bidding, be it further resolved that the Borough Engineer will forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Division of Local Aid, District 3 Office, seconded by Councilperson Ormosi, discussion. Councilperson Shoffner asked if we should be doing road projects when the economic situation is so bad and we are asking people to cut spending. Councilperson Ormosi explained that most of the money is grant money that if we don't do the project we will lose that money. The Borough would be responsible for \$50,000.00. Councilperson Kildow asked if the block curbing was cheaper than regular curbing and sidewalks. Pricing is around the same plus it is easier to maintain. Roll call vote taken, 5 ayes and 1 abstention (Councilperson Shoffner).
- The Staat's House – authorizing the contractor to do the asbestos removal.
- Alley Way between Prospect and Clinton Streets – Former Engineer gave plans for dry well that had been put in. It has become overgrown and needs to be cleaned out. When the weather improves we can do this and see if it helps with the drainage problem.

Borough Clerk Report:

- Looking to replace copying machines in the Tax Office and the Clerk's Office but because of the budget situation we will not be purchasing that equipment for a while.
- Borough Clerk needs to be designated as a Public Agency Compliance Officer for the State of New Jersey for contracts compliance. State was in and looked at our contract and bidding projects. We passed all the requirements. They did not have Borough Clerk listed as the Compliance Officer. **Motion** by Councilperson Quinlan to designate Donald Kazar

as P.A.C.O. for South Bound Brook, seconded by Councilperson Ormosi, all in favor, all ayes.

- HUD Grants were filed with Somerset County Community Development – they are the same as what was filed last year. The sidewalk along Memorial Park; Basketball Court resurfacing at Maple Avenue Park and Playground Equipment for Maple Avenue Park. The grants were submitted and the presentations are in May.
- Councilperson Shoffner asked about the \$15,000.00 Recreation Grant. It is usually offered in March. Neither the Mayor or the Borough Clerk has received information on that.

Motion by Councilperson Quinlan to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Councilperson Ormosi, all in favor, all ayes.

Kathy Conner – Louis Avenue

- Asked if more than the 5% will be cut from the department's budgets. Nothing has been decided yet. The 5% cut was last year's figure. Councilperson Godleski said he is waiting on two figures – one is the Auditor's and the second is Governor Christie's.
- Asked about the 4% CAP. Big towns already get exemptions from the 4% CAP – small towns should be able to do the same, even though they don't want to go above the CAP.
- Asked where the Easter Egg Hunt was going to take place. It will be at Memorial Park.
- Asked about the overtime hrs. in the Police Department. Overtime in January was \$545.11 in February it was \$4,834.81. It was explained that there was one court in January two in February, There was vacation and sick time.

Maria Caemmerer – 12 Main St.

- Asked Councilperson Quinlan if he had talked about paper and plastic leaf bags. He didn't have a Committee Meeting yet to discuss this issue. The State is pushing the towns to go with the paper bags and she said that she would support that with her Clean Communities Grant as much as she could.
- She asked Councilperson Godleski why we are told to stop spending when the Borough is still putting on programs i.e. Community Day, Fall Harvest, The Holiday Programs. Councilperson Godleski said he is not asking departments to stop spending but to be frugal in their spending.

Motion by Councilperson Quinlan to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Councilperson Ormosi, all in favor, all ayes.

Agenda:

Battle of Bound Brook Discussion and Approvals:

- **Motion** by Councilperson Quinlan for approval of the requests for the Battle of Bound Brook on April 9th, 10th and 11th i.e. firing of weapons, drinking from open containers, closing of some streets and the Queens Bridge, seconded by Councilperson Ormosi, any further discussion, all in favor, all ayes.

Borough of South Bound Brook

March 9, 2010

Page 5

Bike Race Discussion:

- Tabled.

Municipal Alliance Grant:

- **Motion** by Councilperson Godleski authorizing the Mayor and Borough Clerk to sign the Municipal Alliance Contract for 2010 with Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders in the amount of \$15,123.00 with a 75% match from the Borough and a 25% match to be raised by the Municipal Alliance Committee seconded by Councilperson Quinlan, discussion. Councilperson Godleski mentioned that this was standard every year. Roll call vote taken, all ayes.

Professional Services Contract – Historical:

- **Motion** by Councilperson Quinlan to approve the contract with Historic Building Architects in the amount not to exceed \$4,000.00, seconded by Councilperson Ormosi, discussion. Councilperson Quinlan informed the Council that he is trying to schedule a meeting with Catherine Goulet and Historic Building Architects to close out some of the questions with the State Historic Trust. Councilperson Shoffner asked if the expenditures should be reimbursed or will be reimbursed. This is one of the reasons a meeting is being set up. Roll call vote taken, all ayes.

Ordinance 2010-002 Motor Vehicle Ordinance:

- Tabled.

Ordinance 2010-001 Bond Ordinance (Fanaro Property) - (Second Reading):

- **Motion** by Councilperson Godleski for approval of Ordinance 2010-001 Bond Ordinance, seconded by Councilperson Shoffner.
Motion by Councilperson Godleski to open the meeting for public hearing on this Ordinance, seconded by Councilperson Quinlan, all in favor, all ayes.
Kathy Conner – Louis Avenue asked if they (Fanaros) will get the full amount. No. The total includes the amount owed plus the interest on the judgment amount plus the cost of the Ordinance. It is paid by Matzel and Mumford.
Motion by Councilperson Ormosi to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilperson Quinlan, all in favor, all ayes.
Discussion. Roll call vote taken, all ayes.

Recreation (Sports) Committee Appointments:

- **Motion** by Councilperson Shoffner to approve the appointments of Kathy Conner and Chris Kelly to the Recreation Sports Committee, seconded by Councilperson Peter Dykes, all in favor, all ayes.

Rocky Hill Contract Renewal:

- **Motion** by Councilperson Ormosi for approval of the Rocky Hill Shared Service Agreement, seconded by Councilperson Quinlan, discussion. Councilperson Shoffner asked about the termination process for the agreement. She also wanted to know if something happened to an officer on patrol in Rocky Hill would the Borough's insurance cover it and if there happened to be a complaint against an officer would the Borough Attorney handle it. Yes to both. She does not feel this Agreement benefits South Bound Brook. Roll call vote taken, 5 ayes, 1 nay (Councilperson Shoffner).

Earth Day Events:

- **Motion** by Councilperson Quinlan to approve the Earth Day Events – Document Shredding in the parking lot at the School on April 24th from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM and the electronic equipment drop off at the School Parking Lot date and time to be announced, seconded Councilperson Ormosi, discussion. Councilperson Shoffner asked that it be made clear that if time is up for shedding people should bring their papers home. All in favor, all ayes.

Motion by Councilperson Shoffner to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Councilperson Ormosi, all in favor, all ayes.

Marie Scannell – Barber Blvd.

- Asked about the Municipal Alliance Grant. She wanted to know who benefits from this Grant. Both South Bound Brook and Bound Brook youth benefit. The Grant money is used to educate about alcohol and drugs as well as provide some recreational activities.

Lt. Jeff Titus – SBB Police

- Asked Councilperson Quinlan for the times he would need the streets closed for the Battle of Bound Brook. The Little League Parade will take place after the Battle of Bound Brook moves into Bound Brook. Lt. Titus will have all the times before the event.

Motion by Councilperson Quinlan to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Councilperson Ormosi, all in favor, all ayes.

At this time Councilperson Godleski pointed out that the Consolidated Municipal Property Tax Relief Aid (COMPTRA) is located on Page 5 of the Budget.

Adjournment:

- Having completed the peoples' business a **Motion** to adjourn was made by

Councilperson Quinlan, seconded by Councilperson Godleski, all in favor, all ayes.
Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald E. Kazar, Borough Clerk