

BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG

MINUTES

DECEMBER 27, 2010 - 7:30 P.M.

MAYOR'S STATEMENT: Mayor Albert Ellis called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM and made the following statement: Under the provisions of N.J.S.A.10:4-6 et seq., notice of the time and place of this meeting was given by way of annual notice to the Courier News, Echoes Sentinel, and Star Ledger, and posted at Borough Hall.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG and a MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR OUR TROOPS

ROLL CALL

Mobus [P] Black [P] Franklin [P] Joren [P] Pote [P] Nehls [P]

Also present were Administrator/Clerk Laureen Fellin, Attorney Albert Cruz, and Deputy Clerk Michelle DeRocco.

There were 2 members of the public present.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

1. Administration & Finance - Councilman Franklin reported the Administrative and Finance Committee has completed review of the RFP's received for professional services. He said the revision to the Personnel Policy should be completed after the holidays.

2. Police - Councilman Mobus advised all were in receipt of the Police Activity report and thanked Albert Ellis for the last 8 years of assistance he provided to him personally during his time on the Council.

3. Public Works - Councilman Nehls thanked the Public Works crew, noting the wonderful job that had been done during the blizzard event on December 26th. He reported the Mason dump truck is in need of repairs, however, is hopeful that we can get another year out of it. He thanked Al Ellis for his guidance over the years.

4. Buildings and Public Affairs

Buildings - Councilman Pote complimented the Public Works Department on a great job during the blizzard. He announced the Historical Committee will meet in January, and the Library Advisory Committee is eager to meet with the architect.

Public Affairs - Councilman Nehls said there is no new news to report pertaining to Middle-Brook, however, he said Branchburg has been talking to Kevin Sumner of Middle-Brook.

5. Fire - Councilman Black reported the Fire Department responded to over 300 calls this year, and noted that some members spent the night at the Fire House to be on call and ready for any emergencies that may have needed their assistance during the blizzard. He commended and thanked Al Ellis for the last 8 years that he has served as Mayor.

6. Laws/Ordinances, and Recreation - Councilwoman Joren thanked Mayor Ellis for giving her the opportunity to chair the Laws and Ordinance Committee for the last 6 years, and announced the Recreation Commission is scheduled to meet in January.

REPORTS - OTHER:

7. Engineer - No report presented.

8. Police Chief - No report presented.

9. Fire Department - No report presented.

10. Rescue Squad - No report presented.

11. Attorney - Mr. Cruz had nothing to report, but thanked Mayor Ellis for his help and guidance over the past 8 years.

12. Administrator - Mrs. Fellin advised that she is continuing dialogue with CBA Industries, advising

the implementation of a weekly town clean-up of unwanted papers thrown in driveways. She advised that Public Works will be monitoring its effectiveness. Mrs. Fellin thanked Mayor Ellis for his years of service.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Public Hearing on Proposed Ordinance OR:10-19 entitled "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 6-2.10 OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG TITLED, "DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS, DESTRUCTIVE DEVICES, WEAPONS OR CAPS PROHIBITED; DISCHARGE OF BOWS AND ARROWS RESTRICTED" BY (I) AMENDING THE TITLE OF THE SECTION TO REMOVE THE WORDS "DISCHARGE OF BOWS AND ARROWS RESTRICTED"; AND INSERTING "BOW AND ARROW HUNTING PROHIBITED"; (II) PROHIBITING ALL BOW AND ARROW HUNTING WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG; AND (III) ADDING NEW SECTION 6-2.10.1 TITLED, "COMMUNITY DEER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM." Councilman Pote moved a public hearing be held with a second by Councilman Black and unanimously carried on roll call.

Wayne Otto, Sunlit Drive, asked if this Ordinance will eliminate all bow and arrow hunting and Mayor Ellis responded that it would, for the immediate future.

With no one else from the public desiring to be heard, Councilwoman Pote moved the public hearing be closed, the ordinance be adopted, and the Clerk be directed to publish the notice of adoption. Councilman Franklin seconded the motion, and upon roll call the vote was as follows: Mobus, Black, Franklin, Pote, Nehls, "yes"; Joren, "no".

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NEW BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA: The Consent Agenda listed below was unanimously accepted on roll call following a motion by Councilman Mobus and a second by Councilman Franklin.

Approval of the following Council minutes:
December 9, 2010

Approval of the following Borough Reports:
Tax Collector - November, 2010
Police Activity - November, 2010
Building Department - November, 2010
Historical Committee - Minutes of October 13, 2010
Recreation Commission - Minutes of November 3, 2010
Planning Board - Minutes of November 30, 2010
Administrator's Report - 2011 RFP's for Professional Services

#102 - Township of Berkeley Heights 1/10/10 Notice of two zoning ordinances - #16-2010 and #17-2010, revisions to Land Use applications checklist and design standard checklist
c: M & C, LBF, TH, DS

#103- NJ DEP 12/20/10 Notice of Public Hearing on proposed draft sewer service area and map in Somerset County on January 20, 2011 c: M & C, LBF, TH, JB, Post

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CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS: The Consent Agenda listed below, with the exception of R2, was unanimously accepted on roll call following a motion by Councilman Mobus and a second by Councilman Franklin.

Mayor Ellis asked that R2 be pulled from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration. Mayor Ellis read R2 into the minutes, and thanked former Councilperson Wayne Otto for instigating the recognition of Mrs. Mannheimer's generosity. Resolution R2 was introduced by Councilman Mobus, seconded by Councilman Black, and upon roll call vote, unanimously adopted.

- R2: Honoring Trudy Mannheimer - Annual Donations to Emergency Services
- R3: Authorize Release of Performance Guarantees - Oakwood Road East Subdivision
- R4: Authorize Stipulation of Settlement - 80 Knollwood Drive
- R5: Authorize rejection of all Proposals received/Authorize Rebid - Renovations to the Texier House
- R6: Authorizing the execution of agreement for the services of James F. Hurley Insurance Agency Corp. as Professional Risk Management Consultants
- R7: Calling on State Legislature to Exempt the Reserve for Uncollected Taxes from

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NON-CONSENT AGENDA: Items listed below will be individually addressed and acted upon accordingly. Council reserves the right to refer an item to Committee for further review and discussion.

#104 - Madhu Goyal, Managing Director, CGRS Real Estate Holdings, LLC 12/21/10 Request for waiver of interest and penalty fees for past due taxes - 40 Stirling Road

Mrs. Fellin explained that this request has been explained by the Tax Collector and after discussion it was the consensus of the Governing Body to refer this request to the Administration and Finance Committee.

=====NON-CO
ONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS - The resolutions listed below, were adopted on roll call with offering and seconding as follows:

R1:12/27/10 Adoption of OR:10/19 - Pote
Franklin

Amendment to Code - Sec. 6-2.10 / Prohibits Bow
Hunting, Creates a Community Deer Management
Program to be operated by the Borough, Allows Deer
Culling Rules and Regulations to be Adopted by
Resolution

Upon roll call vote: Mobus, Black, Franklin, Pote, Nehls, "yes;" Joren, "no."

R8: Authorize Borough's Deer Management Plan Franklin Mobus

Upon roll call vote: Mobus, Black, Franklin, Pote, Nehls, "yes;" Joren, "no."

R9: Payment of Bills Franklin Mobus

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PUBLIC PORTION

Kim Otto, Sunlit Drive, asked if the improvements to the Library will need a vote to move forward and Mayor Ellis explained that it would come before the residents in a referendum. Councilman Pote said it is the intention of the Committee to have a preliminary design for resident review prior to the referendum. Mayor Ellis added that a fund raising effort will be needed.

Wayne Otto, Sunlit Drive, advised that Peapack-Gladstone was in a similar situation with their new Library and after raising funds, the Governing Body halted the project, then were faced with the task of returning the funds. Mr. Otto thanked Mayor Ellis for his service to the Borough, and commented that he has seen more transparency throughout the Borough. Mr. Otto said he believes the tossing of unwanted publications on people's driveways is violation of the Borough's ordinance and should be handled in the Municipal Court. Mrs. Fellin explained that years ago when this was brought up there was litigation that ended in the paper's favor, and at a cost to the Borough. She asked Mr. Otto to give CBA Industries the opportunity to rectify the situation before making a court matter. Mr. Cruz explained that the Borough needs to give CBA Industries the opportunity to remedy the situation before entering into costly litigation.

Mayor Ellis thanked his colleagues on the Council for their kind words and said it has been his pleasure to serve the Borough.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM to the call of the Chair and to the next scheduled meeting, the Reorganization Meeting which will be held at 12:00 Noon on January 1, 2011 at the Valley View School Auditorium, and then the next regular Council meeting scheduled for January 13, 2011 at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted: Re-

chelle DeRocco, RMC
uty Clerk

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