

**BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG**

**MINUTES**

**JANUARY 13, 2011 - 7:30 P.M.**

**MAYOR'S STATEMENT:** Mayor Gerald Mobus called the meeting to order at 7:50 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**

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

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

There were 12 members of the public present.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

R1:1/13/11 Honoring 1st Lt. Aaron Raymar - Establishing Flag Football League in Iraq

This meeting began with a special presentation of Resolution R1, honoring former resident 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Aaron Raymar, for establishing a flag football league in Iraq, positively affecting the lives of many service men and women while they are so far away from home.

Councilman Franklin read R1, and presented it to 1st Lt. Raymar who was present with his family. 1st Lt. Raymar thanked the Mayor and Council for the resolution, and also thanked them for having a moment of silence for the troops at the beginning of each meeting, saying there are still 50,000 men and women stationed in Iraq and Afghanistan who still need our support as they continue to face dangerous situations.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Assessment Commissioners Report and Recommendation:  
Skyline Drive/Johnston Drive Sanitary Sewer System Project

Attorney Cruz advised all present of the protocol of the Public Hearing, and Consulting Engineer L.T. Purcell was present and provided an outline of the project. The meeting was open to the public and Jackie Shreero, Skyline Drive, questioned if her particular property can be sewerred, and Mr. Cruz advised that the property she was inquiring of – 2 Skyline Drive, was not a part of this project, therefore, advised Mrs. Shreero to contact the Engineering Department with her request. No other members of the public desired to be heard.

Councilwoman Joren moved the adoption of R2, authorizing the adoption of the Assessment Commission's report and authorizing a Special Assessment to the benefiting properties. Councilman Nehls seconded the motion and upon roll call vote the vote was as follows: Joren, Black, Franklin, Pote, Nehls, "yes."

R2:1/13/11 Resolution authorizing the adoption of the report of the Assessment Commission for the Skyline Drive/Johnston Drive Area Sanitary Sewer System recommending a Special

Councilwoman Joren moved the adoption of R3, authorizing Assessment Commission compensation. Councilman Pote recused himself from the following vote: Councilman Nehls seconded the motion and upon roll call vote the vote was as follows: Joren, Black, Franklin, Nehls, "yes."

R3: Authorize Assessment Commission Compensation - Skyline Drive/Johnston Drive

Mr. Cruz thanked the Assessment Commissioner for their time, Councilman Pote thanked Mr. Cruz, Mr. Purcell, and the Commissioners for moving this along so quickly.

Karen Cassidy was given the Oath of Office by Mayor Mobus. Ms. Cassidy will serve as Council member, filling the unexpired term of Gerald Mobus. Ms. Cassidy was unanimously selected at a Special meeting held earlier this day at 7:00 P.M. upon a recommendation by the Watchung Republican Committee and interviews by the Governing Body. Councilwoman Cassidy took her seat at the dais.

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

1. Administration & Finance - Councilman Franklin said the tentative 2011 budget will be ready by Monday, however, it is too early to report on, as it will contain ball park figures.

2. Police - Councilwoman Joren reported she met with Chief Wenzel and was present as the Department held interviews to fill an open position, noting that it is a very interesting process.

3. Public Works - Councilman Nehls said Public Works has been tending to above average snow falls this season, and read a letter from resident Elaine Stringer commending the Department for a job well done. He said the Committee met this morning and the budget was discussed, noting another truck is in need of servicing and may not make it through the year.

4. Buildings and Public Affairs

Buildings - No report was presented.

Public Affairs - Councilman Nehls reported good news in that Bound Brook has decided to keep the services of Middle-Brook for another year.

5. Fire - Councilman Black had no formal report, however, reported the Fire Department was very busy over New Year's.

6. Laws/Ordinances, and Recreation - Councilman Pote reported the Laws and Ordinance meeting scheduled for this week had to be cancelled due to the snow. He thanked Council President Joren for bringing him up to speed on the Committee and said he will do the same for Councilwoman Cassidy.

**REPORTS - OTHER:**

7. Engineer - No report was presented.

8. Police Chief - Chief Wenzel welcomed Council President Joren as the new Police Commissioner, and spoke of a case recently solved pertaining to two burglaries that took place over New Years weekend, where fortunately the suspects were caught while being apprehended in Sayreville, on the same street where one of Watchung's officers resides.

9. Fire Department - No report was presented.

10. Rescue Squad - No report was presented.

11. Attorney - Mr. Cruz had nothing to report.

12. Administrator - Administrator Fellin announced CBA Industries is scheduled to begin the unsolicited litter pick up this week and noted they estimate that it will be 2 or 3 weeks before they complete the entire town. She reported a film maker has been authorized to make a short 10-minute film at the Police facility on Saturday, and that resident and Rutgers student Monica Schmeide has offered to intern at the Borough and will begin next week, until she leaves to study abroad.

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**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**  
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**NEW BUSINESS**  
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**CONSENT AGENDA:** The Consent Agenda listed below was adopted following a motion by Councilwoman Joren and a second by Councilman Nehls, and upon roll call the vote was as follows: Joren, Black, Franklin, Pote, Nehls, "yes"; Cassidy, "abstain."

Approval of the following Council minutes:  
December 9, 27, 2010 - Executive Session  
December 22, 2010 - Special Meeting,  
December 27, 2010  
January 1, 2011 - Reorganization Meeting

Approval of the following Borough Reports:  
Finance Department - Revenue Report, November 2010  
Building Department - December, 2010

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**CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:** The Consent Agenda listed below, with the exception of R6, was adopted following a motion by Councilwoman Joren and a second by Councilman Nehls, and upon roll call the vote was as follows: Joren, Black, Franklin, Pote, Nehls, "yes"; Cassidy, "abstain."

R4:1/13/11 Appointments - OEM, Planning Board, Traffic and Beautification / Cina, Mobus, Ellis,

R5: Authorize Continuation of Employee Financial Incentive Program - Health Benefit  
Councilman Nehls asked that R6 be removed for separate consideration. Councilman Nehls moved for the adoption of R6. The motion was seconded by Councilman Franklin, and upon roll call the vote was as follows: Black, Franklin, Pote, Nehls, "yes;" Joren, Cassidy, "abstain."

R6: Award of Professional Services Contracts - Borough Attorney, Auditor, Bond Counsel,  
Prosecutor, Borough Engineer, Planning Board  
Engineer, Board of Adjustment Engineer

R7 Authorize Final Payment for Accumulated Employee Benefits - E. Michael Sugalski

R8: Authorize Clerk to Issue Raffle License - Children's Tumor Foundation

R9: Appointment to Fire Department - Allen-Michael Smith

R10: Authorize Clerk to Advertise for Bids - Renovations to the Texier House

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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.

#1 - Zhaohui Xie/Shi-Min Qian, 140 Hill Hollow Road 12/22/10 Letter requesting a change in their house number, due to religious reasons c: M & C, LBF, EK

Mrs. Fellin explained this request has been discussed with and referred to the Tax Assessor.

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**ON-CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS -** The resolution listed below, was adopted and upon roll call the vote was as follows: Black, Franklin, Pote, Nehls, "yes;" Joren, "no;" Cassidy, "abstain." on roll call with offering and seconding as follows:

R11: Authorize Amendment to Borough's Community Based Deer Management Program  
lin Rules and Regulations Pote Frank-  
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**PUBLIC PORTION**

None

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**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:54 P.M. to the Call of the Chair and the next scheduled meeting to be held at 7:30 P.M. on Thursday, January 27, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle DeRocco, RMC  
Deputy Clerk