

The following is a new feature to our website. Following each meeting, the Clerk's Office will post a short synopsis of the highlights for the convenience of residents who may be interested. This should not, in any way, shape or form be used as the official minutes of the meeting.

*Meeting in Review
2/10/05*

******Councilman Franklin said the Administration and Finance Committee is still looking into options for the employee dental plan, and he will be surveying other municipalities and may possibly consider a partnership with another town.

******Councilman Black spoke about the speed limits in and around the circle and reported that the County is in support of lowering the speed limit going into the circle off Valley Road only, and this would be from 40 m.p.h. to 35 m.p.h.

******Councilman Mobus said the Public Works Committee is still interviewing engineering firms, however, he noted that our Engineering Department is very much up and running, thanks to our Administrator, Laureen Fellin, and the special efforts of Engineer Arlene McCoy and Maria Fittapaldi who are doing an excellent job.

******Councilman Harding said he is still working out the details on the Pancake Breakfast and will announce the details when they are finalized. He reported that the Environmental Commission met last week and they continue their quest to save trees in the Borough. In regard to the Fire Department, Councilman Harding said there were 27 calls during the month of January which included 1 structural fire that did minimal damage as a result of the quick response of our members. He said the annual Joint Emergency Services Installation Dinner was held last Saturday and it was a very nice event.

******Councilman Pote said he met with Administrator Fellin to get a better understanding of the inventory of the buildings and grounds and the status and needs of each and will be examining the possible uses for unused space. In regard to the Rescue Squad, he said he attended a meeting and met with the members to discuss their future needs. He announced that the Rescue Squad said they would be pleased to participate in the upcoming Pancake Breakfast. Councilman Pote said he also discussed the Rescue Squad's relationship with Atlantic Ambulance and will be making an effort to get a contract to solidify expectations. In regard to the Historical Committee, he said that although they have yet to have a meeting due to illnesses, they have submitted a schedule for their meetings.

******Councilwoman Joren said the Recreation Committee's winter programs were in full swing and noted that the ice rink is open and can be used when the green flag is up. She said the Committee has begun to work on the summer programs as well. She also announced that Joe Gatti has resigned as a member of the Recreation Committee. In regard to the Laws and Ordinances Committee, Councilwoman Joren said they are still working on the proposed Fence Ordinance and are waiting to review the revision to the Land Use Ordinance. She said the Committee is hoping to have the recodification of the Board of Health codes done this year and Ms. Joren said she received correspondence from Fire Prevention Official Gary Greves regarding amendments to the Fire Prevention Code.

******Administrator Fellin said she attended a JIF meeting this morning and reported that they will reimburse Watchung for the costs covering the Rutgers Safety

Clinic which our recreation coaches were required to attend. Mrs. Fellin also announced that the Borough is scheduled to receive a safety award of approximately \$1800. and recognized the efforts of our Safety Committee, Charles Gunther, Victoria Rousseau and Captain Sean Whelan, for their pro-active approach to employee safety.

**Mayor Ellis said he had a visit from a 4th grade boy scout troop yesterday and he enjoyed speaking to them about the history of the Borough and the functions of local government. He said he was going to be meeting with Congressman Mike Ferguson to discuss outstanding grant money. Mayor Ellis said he has received good news from the DEP that we are still contenders for the dam restoration loan for the Best Lake Dam which is contingent upon the passage of legislation.

The following Official Business was acted on:

- A Resolution authorizing Professional Service Agreements for the Borough's Planning Board Consultants and Board of Adjustment Consultants was passed
- A Resolution authorizing Professional Service Agreements for the Borough Attorney, Planning Board Attorney, Borough Auditor, and Bond Counsel was passed
- A Resolution appointing Robert A. Pittenger, Jr. as an employee in the Department of Public Works, was approved
- A Resolution authorizing submission of the Borough's 2005 Tonnage Grant application was approved
- A Resolution authorizing a Professional Services Contract to Community Action Services for an Accessory Apartment Program, required to implement the Substantive Certification Agreement with COAH was approved
- A Resolution authorizing the Borough Attorney to file 2005 Tax Appeals and Petitions on behalf of the Borough was passed
- A Professional Services Agreement was approved for L. T. Purcell for the design of sanitary sewerage facilities extensions for various locations was approved

The meeting was opened to the public and one resident spoke about the speed limits and signage in and around the circle, along with commenting on other issues that were reported on this evening.