

*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*

*06/23/11*

**\*\*Councilman Franklin** said CFO Bill Hance has scheduled a little seminar on "bonding" for the Administrative and Finance Committee for this Saturday morning. In regard to the Administrator's position, he said they are on home stretch in the interview process and believes a decision should be made soon.

**\*\*Councilwoman Joren** announced Chief Wenzel, Lt. Cina, and Lt. Egansko attended an "expo" in Atlantic City, where they met and spoke with software experts who have agreed to come and train employees, CAD and E-ticket vendors, and representatives from "Lawmen" who have agreed to exchange the current duty holsters for the ones that the department preferred. Councilwoman Joren said after 6 days of bear sightings, it was reported a bear was shot and killed in Union. She said the Department of Fish and Wildlife will only assist if the bear has been in a tree for a certain length of time, and suggested the consideration of the purchase of a stun gun for this purpose. She advised residents to be aware of their surroundings.

**\*\*Councilman Nehls** read the monthly report for Public Works and said the Department responded to 64 service calls. He announced the completion of the 2011 bulk pick-up program, and reported John Fellin donated 10 hours of volunteer service to the Department to fulfill a requirement for college. He said community service people continue to wash the police vehicles on the weekend. Mayor Mobus asked about the catch basins on Somerset Street and Councilman Nehls advised that the County is ordering new ones. In regard to Public Affairs, Councilman Nehls said the Board of Health is discussing the codification of their ordinances, and have requested the deletion of the proposed gold binders, reducing the quote by \$430.00. He reported the Open Space Committee met and discussed the Ness property and Camp Endeavor. He personally thanked Chief Wenzel and the Police Department for providing a tour of the station to the Bayberry School third grade class.

**\*\*Councilman Black** had nothing new to report.

**\*\*Councilman Pote** noted the introduction of a Bond Ordinance on tonight's agenda and explained that it will be used for the purchase of Fire Department equipment.

**\*\*Councilman Nehls** announced that Engineer Tom Herits was not in attendance this evening, as his daughter is graduating as an Ensign from Officer Development School at Naval Station Newport. He congratulated Tom and his family. In his absence, Councilman Nehls reported the following: improvements to Johnson Drive are now complete; curbing and drainage improvements to the easterly end Ridge Road will be going to bid soon; the Borough received a grant for \$200,000. for the next phase of Johnston Drive; the Borough is in the process of putting together two sanitary sewer projects for lower Valley Drive and easterly Johnston Drive; Public Works will be addressing the drainage problems at the Mobus Field tennis courts; the contractor should be starting the Texier House

renovations shortly after July 1<sup>st</sup>; and the County has advised that improvements to Mountain Boulevard are proposed for Spring of 2012.

\*\*Attorney Cruz said he had one item for discussion in Executive Session.

\*\*Mayor Mobus announced that on June 30<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM the Borough will host Congressman Leonard Lance's Town Hall Meeting and invited all to attend.

- A Resolution honouring Dorothy Addario on her recent recognition by the County for "Profiles of Positive Aging" was approved
- Resolution authorizing the Clerk to issue a raffle license to the Sisters of Mercy of the America's, was approved
- A Resolution authorizing the retirement agreement of Municipal Court Administrator Pamela Steves, was approved
- A Resolution to award a professional service contract to Civil Dynamics for the decommissioning of Ross Pond, was approved
- A Resolution authorizing participation with the State of NJ in the Safe and Secure Communities Program, was approved
- A Resolution authorizing the return of escrow to various recipients, was approved
- A Resolution designating CFO Bill Hance as Certifying Officer, and Assistant Treasurer Jessica Rutishauser as Certifying Supervisor, was approved
- A Resolution appointing Loretta Shpunder as acting Municipal Court Administrator, was approved
- A Resolution appointing Vincent Veglatte and Michael Liesch as seasonal employees in the Department of Public Works, was approved
- A Resolution authorizing the dismissal of a summons and discharge of lien for the property owners of 105 Brookdale Road, was approved
- A Resolution authorizing the Clerk to advertise for bids for the FY2010 Ridge Road Phase II project, and also for the Borough's Janitorial Services was approved

Proposed Bond Ordinance OR:11/11 entitled "BOND ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF EQUIPMENT FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT IN THE BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG, IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY AND APPROPRIATING \$49,625.00 AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$47,144.00 IN BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF." was introduced. A Public Hearing and final adoption is scheduled for July 21, 2011.

A request by Sanjay Gupta to remove eleven (11) dangerous trees located in the Borough's right-of-way and his property at 115 Old Somerset Road, was discussed. Councilman Nehls advised after discussion with Engineer Arlene McCoy that the trees, if removed, could alter the character of the

neighborhood and the Public Works Committee will request that Mr. Gupta provide documentation by a certified tree expert to the danger of these trees.

The meeting was opened to the public and former Mayor Tony Addario, Rock Avenue, asked which side of Mountain Boulevard is the County planning on sidewalks for, and Mayor Mobus said the Planning Board has recommended the north side, and the County has plans for sidewalks on the south side. Mr. Addario said the requirement of homeowners to shovel snow from sidewalks in front of their property is now a factor. Councilman Pote said now is the time to be pro-active with the County, before the plans are finalized. Dorothy Addario, Rock Avenue, reminded all the triathlon will take place this Sunday, and the Rescue Squad is prepared and will be there for any emergencies.