

MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF HAMBURG HELD ON APRIL 18, 2011 AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 16 WALLKILL AVE., HAMBURG, NJ

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Marino called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and opened with a salute to the flag.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Marino requested a roll call:

Councilmember Barr	Councilmember Sena
Councilmember Kelly	Councilmember Oehler
Councilmember Krasnomowitz	Councilmember Law
Mayor Marino	

Also Present: Doreen Schott

STATEMENT OF CERTIFICATION:

Clerk advised:

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided to the public and the press January 06, 2011 by delivering to the press and posting at the Municipal Building a copy of the "Annual Notice of Meetings" pursuant the provisions of the "Open Public Meetings Act".

2. MUNICIPAL BUDGET - DISCUSSION

Motion by Councilmember Krasnomowitz, second by Councilmember Law to open the meeting to Chief Financial Officer Amy Maronpot and Mr. Bill Schroeder of Nisivoccia and Company. As continued from last month's meeting Mr. Bill Schroeder and Amy Maronpot present the Mayor and Council with an analysis showing a cost summery with regards to a Water and Sewer Rate increase. The summary gives three scenarios; a 5%, 10% and 15%. The 5% increase would add an additional \$9.18 to a resident's quarterly billing and would realize an increase of estimated revenue of \$52, 917.10. A 10% increase would be an additional \$18.35 to a residents quarterly bill and would realize an increase of estimated revenue of \$105,834.29 and lastly a 15% increase would mean a quarterly increase to a residents bill of \$27.53 with an estimated increase of revenue in the amount \$158,751.30. Mr. Schroeder advises again that his fear is that if we do not become pro active now we may find ourselves down the road having to do a much greater increase in the future to close the anticipated \$216,000.00 gap he foresees. Mayor advises that we may also in the future have another user to the system which would definitely help but that at present no plans are finalized. The mayor and council agree that now is the time to take action but wish it did not have to happen as they had always hoped that once the bond was paid there would be no need to increase however, they did not take into account two big factors which is a 25% increase to the town from the Sussex County Municipal Authority and the fact that in the past years the borough has done an extraordinary amount of repairs and maintenance to the sewer system which was needed but does come at a cost to our reserve. Mr. Schroeder advises that should the town go with the 5% increase it would be for 3 consecutive years where the 10 and 15 % increase would be a time increase. Mayor and Council agree to the 5% increase over a 3 year period since it gives way to look at the matter

each year as our situation may change in the next two years (such as a new user contributing to the system) whereby the need to further increase would not be necessary. It is also noted that even if the borough went with the greater increases we would still be lower than surrounding towns and take into account that in the last 20 years the borough has not had one increase to the rates but has two times lowered the rates by \$20.00. Mayor advises that we are presently implementing water meter replacements to those which are broken and cannot be read so the future readings will be a more accurate reading vs. an estimated reading.

Attorney advises that an ordinance will be done amending chapter 164 Water and 201 Sewer to reflect an increase of 5% and noted that the senior citizen discount of \$15.00 to the sewer bill will still apply to those who qualify.

Mayor and Council discuss with the auditor the need for the borough to have some type of credit card which can be used only by designated people. The card would only be used as a form of holding hotel reservations when booking members of the governing body to different functions. Mr. Schroeder advises that the problem with this is that there has to be internal controls over whom as access to the card or it could lead to problems.

Motion by Councilmember Krasnomowitz, second by Councilmember Barr to authorize a credit card in the name of the Borough of Hamburg with a maximum amount of \$3,000.00 and it is only authorized to be used by the Clerk Doreen Schott and CFO Amy Maronpot. All members present in favor

Mayor advised that there are issues with our tax maps that need to be resolved prior to the revaluation taking place. John Ruschke is working on that.

Motion by Councilmember Barr, second by Councilmember Krasnomowitz to close to Bill Schroeder and Amy Maronpot. All members present in favor.

Motion by Councilmember Krasnomowitz, second by Councilmember Law to open the meeting to DPW Foreman Mike Schneider.

Councilmember Chris Kelly advises the water tanks are showing signs of rust and are in need of painting but prior to painting a type of mud slide occurred around the water tanks which has to be removed first. Mike Schneider presently has estimates from Mountain view Landscaping to do the work of removing the mud slide in the amount of \$840.00. He advises that with the correct machine he would be able to complete clearing the outside of the tank so it can be painted. Councilmember Barr advises that he will contact the school to see if we can borrow the machine they have which would fit in that area. Along with this work there will eventually be inside tank work that needs to be done, however at this time and at the recommendation of the BPW and Jerry Kastner they are putting in place a 5 year plan for the tank to include inside maintenance and inspections, outside maintenance and inspections. Doing it over a span of 5 years would satisfy the State DEP and spread the cost out to the borough.

Mayor and Council briefly discuss the recreation fields and what may be needed in the future such as another bleacher and different flag poles. There is presently \$99,000.00 left in the bond and \$55,000.00 left in park maintenance fund.

Mike Schneider and Councilmember Law will go to the area and report back. Motion by Councilmember Law, second by Councilmember Kelly to close the meeting to Mike Schneider. All members present in favor.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution #2011 -18 – Recreation Committee Use – Shoprite Account Card

Councilmember Oehler explains that this will allow the chair of the recreation committee to purchase items which will be directly charged to recreation vs. the borough account we have with ShopRite for other purchases.

Motion by Councilmember Oehler, second by Councilmember Law to authorize resolution # 2011-18.

Upon Roll Call

Ayes: Barr, Krasnomowitz, Law, Oehler, Sena
 Nays: None
 Abstain: Kelly
 Absent: None

Resolution # 2011-19 – Recreation Committee Use – Walmart Account Card

Motion by Councilmember Law, second by Oehler to authorize resolution # 2011-19.

Upon Roll Call

Ayes: Barr, Krasnomowitz, Law, Oehler, Sena
 Nays: None
 Abstain: Kelly
 Absent: None

PERSONNEL PRACTICES OF THE BOROUGH OF HAMBURG

Mayor Marino discusses the Personnel Policy of the Borough of Hamburg. He would like to make amendment where a contract employee (Zoning Officer, Tax Assessor and Fire Official) gets 6 hours of sick time in the case of illness which would equate to 3 days. If more time is used then the employee would either go on disability or receive no pay.

FERRELL GAS

Mayor advises that a Memorandum of Agreement has been executed between Ferrell Gas and the Borough of Hamburg which outlines guidelines that need to be followed to help eliminate future incidents involving public safety.

EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION:

Attorney Clemack will offer the following resolution to enter into executive session later.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hamburg find it necessary to enter into executive session for the reasons hereafter cited:

1. Personnel – Tax Assessor (rice notice was issued)
2. Personnel - Fire Official (rice notice was issued)
3. Police – Grievance

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:14012(b) of the Open Public Meetings Act provided for matters of this

nature to be discussed in closed session; and

WHEREAS, the minutes of the closed session be taken and made available to the Public as provided by law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council advises the public that formal action may be taken this evening on the matters discussed in closed session or on other matter.

Motion by Councilmember Krasnomowitz, second by Councilmember Law to enter into executive session. All members present in favor.

Motion by Councilmember Kelly, second by Councilmember Law to come out of executive session. All members present in favor

Councilmember Oehler advises that there are two members interested in joining the recreation board but we are waiting for background checks. Motion by Councilmember Oehler, second by Councilmember to authorize membership to the recreation board for George Endres and Mary Stanly as soon as the background check comes back providing there are no issues. All members present in favor.

PUBLIC PORTION:

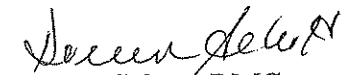
Motion by Councilman Barr, second by Councilman Oehler to open the meeting to the public for any questions or comments they might have with regard to the good and welfare of the Borough. Hearing no comment from the public a motion was made to close the meeting to the public. All members present in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Kelly, second by Councilmember Oehler to adjourn the meeting. All members are in favor.

Date approved: 5/2/11

Date Released: 5/2/11


Doreen Schott, RMC
Municipal Clerk