

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF HAMBURG HELD ON OCTOBER 17, 2022 AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 16 WALLKILL AVE., HAMBURG, NJ

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Marino called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG:

STATEMENT OF CERTIFICATION:

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided to the public and the press January 9, 2022 by delivering to the New Jersey Herald and the Sunday Herald and posting at the Municipal Building a copy of the "Annual Notice of Meetings" pursuant the provisions of the "Open Public Meetings Act".

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Marino requested a roll call:

Mayor Marino

Councilmember Krasnomowitz Councilmember Law

Councilmember Oehler Councilmember Burd

Councilmember Sena Councilmember Haig

Also Present: Doreen Schott

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 2022-91- Termination of duties; Public Safety Officer / Mayor and Council Liaison.

Councilmember Krasnomowitz advises that this is a clarification to all the duties held by Mr. Postorino

Motion by Councilmember Krasnomowitz, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to approve resolution 2022-91.

Roll Call:

Ayes Krasnomowitz, Oehler, Burd, Law, Haig

Nays Sena

Abstain none

Absent none

Resolution 2022-92 Acting Supervisor – Department of Public Works.

Mayor Marino confirms that the employee is aware this title is supervisory with no overtime.

Motion by Councilmember Haig, seconded by Councilmember Law to approve resolution 2022-92.

Discussion: Councilmember Sena asks who was involved in the discussion as he was not.

Councilmember Krasnomowitz advises himself, Councilmember Haig, Councilmember Law and the clerk. Councilmember Krasnomowitz advises that this includes the water reading duties and that the employee will be cross training all members of his department. Councilmember Sena would like to see the resolution state that there is a probation period, he feels this salary is high.

Mayor advises that the town lost one full time employee plus a part time employee so positions need to be filled. Councilmember Sena confirms that the employee knows this position is no longer part of the union.

Roll Call:

Ayes Krasnomowitz, Oehler, Burd, Law, Haig
 Nays Sena
 Abstain none
 Absent none

Resolution 2022-93 DPW Laborer Salary-Lead.

Councilmember Krasnomowitz advises that the lead employee resigned in October leaving a vacancy. It was recommended that Mr. Snyder should be put into that position. DPW negotiations will be coming up and salaries need to be addressed. The salaries for these increases are covered by the two existing vacancies.

Discussion: Councilmember Krasnomowitz recommends changing the wording in the resolution from “Stipend” to “Lead”

Motion by Councilmember Krasnomowitz, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to amend the resolution to say “Lead” where it now says “Stipend” and to approve resolution 2022-93

Roll Call:

Ayes Krasnomowitz, Oehler, Burd, Law, Haig Sena
 Nays none
 Abstain none
 Absent none

Resolution 2022-94 DPW Laborer Salary-Mechanic

Councilmember Krasnomowitz advises that employee Wayne Poyer is a certified licensed mechanic. In the past year approximately \$9,000. was spent on repairs for the DPW and PD. Much of this can be performed in house.

Motion by Councilmember Krasnomowitz, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to approve resolution 2022-94

Discussion: Councilmember Sena reminds that contracts negotiations are coming up. Also, the benefit package the borough offers must be considered when discussing salaries. Councilmember Krasnomowitz advises that your best asset are employees and you need to keep them. Noted that these increases are the same salary as the two positions vacated.

Roll Call

Ayes Krasnomowitz, Oehler, Burd, Law, Haig, Sena
 Nays none
 Abstain none
 Absent none

Mayor

Quarry Road Pump Station Improvements (NJEIT Loan 04) – Rejection of Bid

Be it resolved that the bid for Quarry Road Pump Station Improvements in the amount of \$700,000.00 submitted by CMS Construction of Plainfield, NJ is hereby rejected on the grounds that the bid exceeds the allocated budget.

Be it further resolved that any deposit received shall be returned to the bidder.

Motion by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Krasnomowitz to approve the resolution.

Roll Call

Ayes Krasnomowitz, Oehler, Burd, Law, Haig, Sena
 Nays None

Abstain None
 Absent None

Councilmember Krasnomowitz advises that this is a priority to get completed, new bid documents are to be re-worded from previous.

Mayor discusses that notification has been given that one police officer will be retiring at the end of the year which could be a savings of approximately \$150,000 if the town considers staying at 9 officers. Negotiations for the chief salary will be taking place and should be reasonable. Savings from that money may hold budget increases for the next several years.

CR Krasnomowitz

Councilmember discusses the issue of police vehicles and with the time it takes now to receive any new vehicles we may not only need to order 1 but 2 vehicles. Presently the cost of repair to keep the present 2 vehicles on the road is a major concern. Mayor discusses that the road department vehicle is still not in, money for that is already in the budget. There is additional money in the budget which could be used for a vehicle, also keep in mind the money received from the federal government (165,000) is earmarked for water sewer.

Mayor Marino advises that comments that are said are not to be considered in any way an attack on anyone, the past few months there have been some hard feelings, but the council has to work together. All want the council and town to thrive. He reminds that this council has a lot of experience together; sometimes there may be changes that all do not agree with. Time to work together and keep all lines of communication open.

CR Haig

Councilmember advised that interviews were held for the full-time laborer position advertised and applicant Max Simsic is recommended for hire. Background check was completed. Salary per contract would be \$15.00 per hour to start with a 2.00 per hour increase after probation (6 months). Effective date would be November 1, 2022 unless two weeks' notice is not required from existing employer then employment would be immediate.

Motion by Councilmember Haig, seconded by Councilmember Krasnomowitz to approve the hire of Max Simsic at a starting salary of 15.00 per hour. Start date November 1, 2022 or immediate if notice is not necessary.

Roll Call

Ayes Krasnomowitz, Oehler, Burd, Law, Haig, Sena
 Nays none
 Abstain none
 Absent none

Councilmember Haig advises there was another applicant who is very qualified but is requesting a salary of \$21.00 per hour. Mayor advises that we cannot start a new employee above existing position. Councilmember Sena suggests offering \$19.00 per hour. Councilmember Haig further advises that speaking with Mr. Yanish, that he at this time will not fill the part time position vacated by Mr. Babcock and will revisit.

CR Sena

Mayor and Council are in receipt of a resignation letter from Fred Babcock.

Motion by Councilmember Sena, seconded by Councilmember Law to accept with regret
 All councilmembers present in favor.

PUBLIC PORTION :

Motion by Councilmember Krasnomowitz, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to open the meeting to the public. All members present in favor.

Hearing no comments from the public

Motion by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to close the meeting to the public. All councilmembers present in favor.

Motion by councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to enter into Executive Session. All councilmembers present in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION:

Attorney Clemack offered the following resolution to enter into executive session later this evening. WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hamburg find it necessary to enter into executive session for the reasons hereafter cited:

**Collective Bargaining – Teamsters 125
Discipline Matter - Police**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:14012(b) of the Open Public Meetings Act provided for matters of this nature to be discussed in executive session; and

WHEREAS, the minutes of the executive session shall be taken and made available to the Public upon conclusion of the matter and provided that the privacy rights of the person will not be violated; and;

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council may take formal action on the matter discussed in executive session or any others matters when it returns from the executive session.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and Council enters into executive based upon the foregoing.

Motion by Councilmember Krasnomowitz, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to return to regular session. All councilmembers present in favor.

Road Department Committee

Motion by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Law to have the following councilmembers serve on the DPW Negotiation Committee; Councilmember Krasnomowitz, Councilmember Sena, Councilmember Haig.

All councilmembers present in favor.

Police Department Committee

Motion by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Law to have the following councilmembers serve on the Police Negotiation Committee; Councilmember Krasnomowitz, Councilmember Law, Councilmember Burd

All councilmembers present in favor.

Clerk is advised to send a copy of each contract to committee members. DPW committee meeting will be held on October 26, 2022 6:30 pm.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Councilmember Law, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to adjourn the meeting. At 7:45 pm. All councilmembers present in favor.

Date approved 11-7-2022

Date released 11-7-2022

Doreen Schott
Doreen Schott, RMC
Municipal Clerk