

MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION MEETING OF  
THE TEANECK TOWNSHIP COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2010

Mayor Feit called the Open Session Meeting of the Teaneck Township Council to order at 8:01 p.m., and asked all those present to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: C. Gussen, C. Hameeduddin, DM. Parker, C. Honis, C. Katz, C. Toffler (arrived at 8:05), Mayor Feit.

Absent: None.

Also Present. S. Turitz, Ferrara, Turitz, Harraka & Goldberg Esqs.; W. Broughton, Municipal Manager; J. Evelina, Senior Clerk, C. Loschiavo, Clerk Typist.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by Resolution 322-09, setting the 2010 meeting dates sending a copy to THE RECORD, THE SUBURBANITE, THE BERGEN NEWS/SUN BULLETIN, THE JEWISH STANDARD, and THE COUNTY SEAT, filing a copy in the Township Clerk's Office and posting it on the Municipal Building bulletin board, and the Mayor hereby directs that this statement be included in the minutes.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Proclamation - Community Scholarship Fund of Teaneck.

Mayor Feit presented a proclamation to Carol Otis and Barbara Ostroth of the Community Scholarship Fund of Teaneck. Ms. Otis and Ms. Ostroth stated that any high school student can apply. The application is academically based and awarded to students in the top 3% of their class at their annual ceremony in June.

2. Recycling - Creative Outdoor Advertising.

Bill Schwartz of Creative Outdoor Advertising described the firm's advertising program that includes recycling receptacles. The firm serves 200 municipalities, including Hackensack, Edison, Dumont, Emerson, Bloomfield, and Bergenfield in April 2010. Every aspect of the program is based on the approval of the municipality. It is cost free to the municipality. Creative Outdoor Advertising installs and maintains the structures. In the event of theft, vandalism, or graffiti, the company incurs all the cost. The generated revenue is between \$90 - \$150 per month. The rates are very affordable for the Township merchants.

3. Artificial Turf.

Dr. Kenneth Hoffman described to Council the impact of the muddy fields in Votee Park imposes on participants in youth sports organization. After heavy rains or snow, the fields become a

swamp. The Comprehensive Recreation Master Plan, MOST, and PPRAB all have recommended improvements to the fields. He referenced funding from Green Acres, Bergen County Community Development funds, and MOST. He stressed that the first step is fixing the drainage problem of the fields. However, he believes if the drainage study is done now, the artificial turf can be installed and the fields can be ready for use by September 1, 2010. The Teaneck Junior Soccer League is ready to donate funding to cover a portion of the project cost.

C. Katz raised a question about the donation. Mr. Broughton advised that an account to deposit the donation has not been established until Council makes a determination whether to proceed on this project. Mr. Turitz requested that Mr. Broughton supply him with the information on the donation in order to prepare a resolution accepting the donation.

Township Engineer McKearnin advised that no geological survey had ever been conducted and part of the problem is the soil. The survey would take a few months to complete to determine the type of quality and soil that is underneath the field in order to fix the drainage.

#### PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

Ms. Evelina to read the Ordinances by title only.

ORDINANCE #4178 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 36, ENTITLED "TRAFFIC" OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE. (Purpose: to amend Chapter 36, Article II "Parking", Division 1 "Generally", Section 36-11.2, "Establishment of Restricted On-Street Parking Spaces for Handicapped" to add Tilden Avenue, South side, from a point approximately 25 feet East of the Easterly curblin of River Road and extending 20 East therefrom.)

ORDINANCE #4179 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 4140 ESTABLISHING SALARY RANGES, CLASSIFICATION OF POSITIONS AND DUTIES THEREOF FOR CLASSIFIED AND UNCLASSIFIED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES IN THE TOWNSHIP OF TEANECK RESPECTING THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT.

ORDINANCE #4180 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 4042 ESTABLISHING SALARY RANGES, CLASSIFICATION OF POSITIONS AND DUTIES THEREOF FOR CLASSIFIED AND UNCLASSIFIED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES IN THE TOWNSHIP OF TEANECK RESPECTING THE POSITION OF BATTALION CHIEF IN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Mayor Feit inquired whether any member of the Council has any comments respecting these ordinances prior to opening the public hearing.

Mayor Feit explained that Ordinance #4177, which was heard, but not adopted at the last Council meeting will not be voted on this evening, but may be voted on at the next Council meeting.

Mayor Feit declared that the public hearings on the above ordinances are now open. Any members of the public wishing to be heard on any of said ordinances or to ask questions concerning said ordinances may come forward and state their name and address for the record. Comments or questions shall be limited to five minutes per person.

No one came forward.

There being no further persons wishing to speak concerning said ordinances, Mayor Feit declared that the public hearings on these ordinances are now closed.

C. Gussen moved to pass Ordinance #s 4178 and 4179 on second and final reading and adopt. The Township Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to advertise same according to law. Seconded by C. Katz.

Mayor Feit inquired whether any member of the Council has any comments respecting these ordinances.

Council determine to hold Ordinance #4180 for consideration of adoption for a later date.

There being no further comments, Mayor Feit called on Ms. Evelina for a roll-call vote.

In Favor: C. Gussen, C. Hameeduddin, DM. Parker, C. Honis, C. Katz, C. Toffler, Mayor Feit.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

Mayor Feit declared that said ordinances are duly adopted.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR GOOD AND WELFARE OR PUBLIC INPUT ON ANY MATTERS ON THIS AGENDA

Mayor Feit inquired whether any member of the Council has any comments prior to opening the meeting to any comments from the public.

No one had any comments.

Mayor Feit declared that any members of the public wishing to be heard at this time shall come forward and state their names and addresses for the record. Comments shall be limited to five minutes per person.

George Reskakis - Johnson Avenue - PPRAB Chairperson - the fields at Votee have been discussed for years; the condition of the fields are an embarrassment to the Township and are the worst facilities in Bergen County for athletics.

Ted Volmar - 438 Beverly Road - requested a survey to study the engineering and traffic flow in Beverly Road; asked if Council considered the petition he submitted at a prior Council meeting.

Harry Kissileff - 397 West Englewood Avenue - EC Chairperson - read a statement regarding the Votee Park field project, expressed gratitude that a study will be conducted, and spoke about geese.

Dara Picard - Van Buren Avenue - stated that she spent the last few days reviewing the Green Acres Grant and requested a status on where the Township stands.

Ron Costello - 229 Shepard Avenue - thanked Council for responding to a complaint he registered about signs.

Mildred Tucker - Shepard Avenue - disagrees with the artificial turf project, questioned the shared services project with Bogota, had to call for emergency services and only Englewood responded, and expressed opposition to development in municipalities.

Tasha Morton - Sherwood Avenue - stated that this was her last Council meeting since Councilmembers do not speak up; mentioned all the houses that are up for sale in town because they cannot afford the property taxes; believes all the non-profits should pay taxes since they use services from public works, police, and fire; and feels she cannot afford to live in Teaneck.

Joan Davis - 976 Alpine Drive - requested to revive Teaneck Topics; opposes artificial turf; and stated that Bogota is too small to share services with and Council should focus on sharing with Englewood and Hackensack.

There being no further persons wishing to speak at this time (or the time limit of one hour having expired), the Mayor Feit declared that the public comment portion of the meeting is now closed.

Mayor Feit inquired whether any member of the Council or the Manager wishes to respond to the public comments or whether a member of the Council wishes to remove any item from the Consent Agenda and have a separate discussion thereon.

Mayor Feit responded that the only item with respect to the fields at Votee Park Council will be agreeing on is conducting a drainage study and that Teaneck will work with all neighboring municipalities to share services.

C. Gussen explained that merging with Bogota is a great first step.

Mr. Broughton advised that Governor Christie has frozen all shared services grant funds.

Mr. Turitz informed Council that the state legislature determines who is exempt from taxes.

C. Toffler commended Record reporter Joe Ax for an extraordinary job in reporting from Haiti.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed below are considered to be routine in nature by Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If any discussion is desired by Council, that particular item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

#### RAFFLES

None.

#### MINUTES

None.

#### RESOLUTIONS

44-10. Endorse Bergen County Community Development Block Grant - A Partnership For A Better Tomorrow.

45-10. Award Professional Services Contract - D&H Alternative Risk Solutions -

Township's Workman's Compensation Program & General Liability Insurance.  
46-10. Refund 2009 Tax Overpayments - Chief Financial Officer - Various.  
47-10. Approve Budget Account Transfers - Chief Financial Officer - 2009.  
48-10. Ratify Payments - Chief Financial Officer - January, 2010.  
49-10. Award Contract - RML Construction, Inc. - Swimming Pool Renovations at Votee Park.  
50-10. Authorize Feasibility Study for Shared Police Services with the Borough of Bogota.

#### BILL LIST

Ms. Evelina read the amount of the Bill List into the record. (\$4,427,306.43)

C. Gussen moved to approve the Consent Agenda, including Minutes, Resolutions, and Bill List, and to dispense with the reading of same inasmuch as it has been posted on the bulletin board all day, except Resolution #51-10 - Reject Negative Campaigning and Resolution I -Amend 2010 Council Meeting Schedule - Add March 2, 2010 Budget Meeting.. Seconded by C. ncilmember.

Mayor Feit called on Ms. Evelina for a roll-call vote.

In Favor: C. Gussen, C. Hameeduddin, DM. Parker, C. Honis, C. Katz, C. Toffler, Mayor Feit.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

Abstained: C. Gussen (check 157364), Mayor Feit (check 157310).

C. Honis moved #51-10 - Reject Negative Campaigning. Seconded by DM. Parker.

Mayor Feit called on Ms. Evelina for a roll-call vote.

In Favor: C. Gussen, C. Hameeduddin, DM. Parker, C. Katz, C. Toffler, Mayor Feit.

Opposed: C. Honis.

Absent: None.

Mayor Feit declared said items were passed, with the exception of Resolution I -Amend 2010 Council Meeting Schedule - Add March 2, 2010 Budget Meeting which has been tabled due to scheduling conflicts. Council will coordinate a new budget meeting date with the Clerk.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

C. Toffler referenced an e-mail she received regarding Fair Trade and handed it to the Mr. Broughton for his Executive Assistant to research once he/she is hired.

#### OLD BUSINESS

1. Council Action Items.

Council reviewed the list of action items and determined the following: list further discussion of the website contract for the March 9, 2010 Closed Session, have Mr. Turitz prepare a false alarm fee ordinance on not for profit institutions in Teaneck for further consideration and removed items that were completed by the adoption of recent ordinances and resolutions.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Council nominated and authorized that appointment resolutions be listed for Vincent Napolitano to the Patriotic Observance Advisory Board, John Grande to the Senior Citizens Advisory Board, and Karen Langford to the Library Board. The Clerk will prepare the resolutions appointing these residents to their respective boards for the March 9th Consent Agenda.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Feit reference a letter Council received from a towing contractor regarding reimbursement if a vehicle is towed from a crime scene. Council formed a subcommittee consisting of Mayor Feit, C. Gussen, and C. Toffler to review with Mr. Turitz and Chief Wilson and to propose a solution for the full body to consider.

DM. Parker reported on the Black History Month Celebration on February 27th.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS - COUNCIL LIAISONS

C. Hameeduddin reported that the Senior Citizens Advisory Board discussed the various issues that have been occurring in the Rodda Center and that two vacancies were filled in the Environmental Commission, however the commission has expressed concern regarding the receipt of their meeting packets and education regarding stormwater runoff. Mr. Broughton advised that a portion of Teaneck Topics will be dedicated to educating residents on stormwater runoff.

#### COUNCIL-LISTED ITEMS

1. Proposed Zoning Legislation (S-82 & A-437) - C. Hameeduddin.

C. Hameeduddin requested that Mr. Turitz advise Council on the potential impact of the proposed zoning legislation. Mr. Turitz explained how the proposed legislation will impacts the Board of Adjustment and how many municipalities and the League of Municipalities is opposed to this legislation. Council authorized Mr. Turitz to draft a resolution opposing this legislation for the March 9th Consent Agenda.

#### TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Traffic Study Results - Beverly Road Stop Sign.

Mr. Broughton advised that the police department's survey on this intersection is underway and will report further upon conclusion of the review.

2. P.D. False Alarm Responses/Violations - Update.

Mr. Broughton reported there were 23 calls stemming from Fairleigh Dickinson University: 12 malfunction, 9 unintentional, and 2 malicious. Council requested Mr. Turitz to draft a false alarm

fee ordinance for non-profits and to leave the threshold blank for further discussion, as well as for Mr. Broughton to provide a current estimation on the cost for calls for service.

3. Senior Center Meeting.

Mr. Broughton informed Council that he will conduct an open meeting with all seniors and representatives from the Rodda Center. He will advise Council on details of the meeting once it's scheduled.

4. Snow Removal.

Mr. Broughton commended the Department of Public Works on their performance during the removal of snow during the recent wave of snowstorms.

5. Garden Club.

Mr. Broughton reported that he met with the Garden Club who had proposed a landscaping design for municipal facilities. He will forward the documentation on this matter to Council.

6. Mr. Broughton reported that he has provisionally appointed Mr. Sean Florio to the position of Public Safety Telecommunicator with the Police Department, effective February 22, 2010.

#### TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY'S REPORT

1. Pod Ordinance.

Mr. Turitz reviewed the amendments to the current ordinance regarding these structures, which include a change in the fee structure and the requirement of a deposit that is refundable as long as all rules are followed. Council authorized listing this ordinance for introduction on March 9th.

2. Teaneck - COAH Next Steps.

Mr. Turitz advised Council to continue with the process of obtaining 3rd Round Certification since Governor Christie's freeze on this program is being challenged.

#### ADJOURNMENT

C. Gussen moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 10:40 p.m. Seconded by C. Honis.

In Favor: C. Gussen, C. Hameeduddin, DM. Parker, C. Honis, C. Katz, C. Toffler, Mayor Feit.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None