

March 23, 2010 - Open Session Minutes



Meeting Minutes - Council Minutes

MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION MEETING OF

THE TEANECK TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

HELD IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON

TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2010

Mayor Feit called the Open Session Meeting of the Teaneck Township Council to order at 8:07 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, 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.

A moment of silence was held for the two residents who were struck by a tree on Jefferson Avenue.

Mr. Broughton reported on the March 13th storm and acknowledged the various departments and contractors for their response to this matter. This was the worst storm to affect PSE&G, which took long to reconstruct their network. The Police Department handled 803 911-calls, the Fire Department had over 400 storm related responses, the Building Department conducted over 124 inspections, and the Health Department conducted over 200 visits for food establishments. Mr. Broughton is still evaluating the damage and recommended a consolidated emergency services location and enhanced website. He thanked the clerical staff for answering the phones.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Promotions:

Mr. Broughton and DPW Superintendent Wilson presented the promotion of Mr. Arahill as the Assistant Superintendent of Public Works and Mr. Cassidy as Tree Supervisor.

Mr. Broughton and Chief Montgomery presented the promotions of the following personnel in the Fire Department as a result of the restructuring of the department: Deputy Chiefs Verley and Slockett; Battalion Chiefs Browning, Draney, Meyer, and Berchtold; Captains Smith, Weiss, Zabiersky, Paratore, and Kearns; Lieutenants Burchell, Browne, Murray, Pigoncelli, Dixon, and Chambers.

2. Teaneck Rowing Club - Removable Floating Dock.

Mr. Medioli provided a synopsis of the Teaneck Rowing Club's program and how the Department of Environmental Protection is in favor of a removable floating dock. Andreas Park was selected for its many tennis courts, accessibility, and how a boating was part of the Master Plan for this location. He also mentioned that the PPRAB is in support of this concept.

Mr. Broughton advised that he reviewed the site with the Township Engineer and determined there is enough room for boats to be hung. The area is going to be repaired because there is a drainage pipe located there. Council discussed potential security concerns. The consensus of Council was to move forward with this matter conceptually and directed Mr. Broughton to collect more information.

Mayor Feit explained that the professional relationship is being severed because deadlines needed to be met and weren't. He thanked Mr. McGilloway for his time and effort.

C. Toffler expressed her appreciation for Mr. McGilloway's efforts, wants to fulfill payment to the vendor, and stated that she requested from Mr. Broughton and Mr. Turitz the scope for Phase II, but hasn't received anything in order to determine where the problem lies.

Mayor Feit referred the request from the Rowing Club to Mr. Broughton.

C. Katz stated that the banner policy should be revisited as it is a valuable tool to sports organizations. C. Gussen stated that the Manager should work with the Attorney to have a policy ready for the next meeting in the form of an ordinance for the spring season sports.

C. Toffler stated that she and C. Katz reviewed the various forms of government that exist in New Jersey and that the Council-Manager form of government is probably the best of the not so good options that exist.

Mr. Turitz concurred that professional management is the best form of government for Teaneck.

Mayor Feit explained that if anyone needs an immediate response to any concerns, Council and the Manager are always available by e-mail or phone. Mr. Turitz explained the history of the time limit that arose from prior litigation.

Mr. Turitz explained that the Manager determined to place legal payments directly on the bill list, details of legal bills are open to the public for review upon request and that legal bills are no different than any other bill.

C. Toffler recommended fixing the Carriage House and reviewed the positive and negative aspects of the floating dock.

Mr. Turitz clarified that if Council seeks to move forward there needs to be operating agreement between the Rowing Club and the Township. Council authorized Mr. Turitz and Mr. Broughton to move forward on this matter.

C. Gussen apologized for using the term bus aide at a prior meeting.

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.

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. RA #1266 - Carnival - DARE New Jersey Inc.

RAFFLES

MINUTES

January 12, 2010 Open Session Minutes.

RESOLUTIONS

65-10. Authorize Issuance of Purchase Order - Cargill, Inc - Rock Salt.

66-10. Authorize Legal Compensation - Harold Ritvo, Esq.

67-10. Award Professional Services Contract - Phillips Preiss Grygiel LLC - COAH 3rd Round.

68-10. Authorize Person-to-Person Plenary Retail Consumption License Transfer - Wine Maven, Inc.

69-10. Authorize Submission of Grant - 2009 Business Stimulus Fund Grant.

70-10. Award Contract - SCS Contracting - Tennis Court Reconstruction at Terhune Park.

71-10. Ratify Payments - February 2010.

72-10. Approve 2009 Budget Account Transfers.

73-10. Authorize Refund of 2009 Tax Overpayments - Various.

74-10. Authorize Refund of 2006, 2007, and 2008 Taxes - 1560 Teaneck Rd Realty.

75-10. Authorize and Approve a Personnel Settlement to be Filed in Superior Court - Bergen County - L-2206-09.

76-10. Award Contract - Blue Stripe Management, Inc. - Rodda Center Cleaning Services.

77-10. Approve Carnival - DARE New Jersey, Inc.

78-10. Authorize Ferrara, Turitz, Harraka, & Goldberg P.C. to Represent the Township of Teaneck in Care One at Teaneck, LLC vs. Teaneck Board of Adjustment and Township of Teaneck, Docket. No. C-339-09.

BILL LIST

Ms. Evelina read the amount of the Bill List into the record. (\$ 4,653,988.29) Mayor Feit called on Ms. Evelina for a roll-call vote.

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 #79-10. Seconded by DM. Parker.

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

Opposed: None.

Absent: C. Katz (at time of vote).

Abstained: C. Gussen (Bill List), DM. Parker (Check # 157556), Mayor Feit (Check # 157560 and February 9, 2010 Open Session Minutes)

C. Gussen moved Resolution #79-10 - Confirming Manager's Recommendation and Action in Terminating the Consulting Contract with Qualis Group, LLC.

C. Gussen stated that if the website had been completed, much of the problems encountered during the storm could have been avoided; deadlines were not met, therefore the payment should not be paid. The majority of Council concurred.

Seconded by C. Honis.

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

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

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

Abstained: C. Toffler.

Mayor Feit declared said items are passed.

MISCELLANEOUS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Council Action Items.

C. Gussen reported that the Cedar Lane Management Group is planning and managing this year's Farmer's Market. He asked what was left of the TEDC and stated that it was essential for the Manager and Attorney to sit with the CLMG Chair to find out what is going on with the Farmer's Market as the group needs clarity on the roles, responsibilities and functions.

Mr. Turitz confirmed that the false alarm fee ordinance is currently being drafted and will be listed for Council review in April, updated Council on pending research by bond counsel regarding the Charter School, reported that the TEDC is in the process of being dissolved, the Labor Education Session will be scheduled after the municipal election, and after consulting with the Auditor recommends against changing the budget to a fiscal year.

Council decided that the following items be removed from the list: poll workers, executive assistant, Andreas Park tennis court, and rent control/property tax base.

NEW BUSINESS

C. Katz requested that the Manager resume the quarterly joint Council/State Legislators meeting.

C. Katz asked if it can be determined if other towns have a policy where residents are allowed to take care of some of the pruning with an approved vendor. Council concurred with this idea and instructed staff to have the Clerk contact neighboring municipalities such as Englewood regarding this matter.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Environmental Commission - Approval to Submit Annual Report to ANJEC.

Council did not express any objections.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - COUNCIL LIAISONS

C. Gussen described the Teaneck Sports Hall of Fame and that the group meets every Thursday in the 3rd Floor of the Teaneck High School Student Center.

Mayor Feit reported that the Community Relations Advisory Board will seek nominations for the Matthew Feldman award through the Suburbanite and the chairperson will write a letter to the editor endorsing the clean campaign resolution recently adopted by Council.

Mayor Feit also stated that Council interviewed residents for the Site Plan Review Board and Council authorized that Eric Oustacher and Zafir Iqbal be listed for appointments to the SPRAB at the next Council meeting.

COUNCIL-LISTED ITEMS

DM. Parker reported that the Social Services Fair will be held on April 14th at Eugene Field school.

None.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Storm Damage Report.

Mr. Broughton reported that the Townwide debris cleanup will begin at Area 1 on Monday, March 29th and residents must put all items at the curb on Sunday, March 28th.

Mr. Broughton reported that the traffic study was completed to determine if a traffic signal should be placed at Tryon and Hargraves but did not meet state and federal requirements. Staff is still working on reducing speed and may install a guardrail at the corner of Rensaleer.

3. 2010 Municipal Budget.

Mr. Broughton reported that the State issued allocations for each town and is working with the CFO on the figures. The budget will be introduced at the April 13th meeting.

4. Library HVAC System.

Mr. Broughton stated that the system can be repaired by issuing a purchase order. DM. Parker will advise Mr. McCue to that he can report back to the Library Board.

TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY'S REPORT

2. Tryon Avenue.

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Feit moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:44 p.m. Seconded by C. Gussen.

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

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

No one had any comments.

Ms. Evelina read Resolution #78-10 - Authorize Ferrara, Turitz, Harraka, & Goldberg P.C. to Represent the Township of Teaneck in Care One at Teaneck, LLC vs. Teaneck Board of Adjustment and Township of Teaneck, Docket. No. C-339-09 into the record.

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.

Jordan Wouk - PPRAB/HRGAB - expressed his support for rowing in the Hackensack River and expressed concern about cost implications of the tennis court.

Ken Hoffman - 956 Phelps Road - expressed his gratitude for the response after the storm, believed the dock was a great idea, and asked if the banner policy was updated.

Joan Davis - 976 Alpine Drive - expressed opposition to commercializing fields, claimed that Council is using low interest rates as a factor for going into debt, personnel should be hired as opposed to contractors, hopes new Council will regulate the meeting dates, expressed opposition to the artificial turf project, and stated that global warming must be recognized as nature is confused.

Helen Schlereth - 578 Tilden Avenue - corrected C. Gussen on terminology he used at the last Council meeting about bus aides.

Howard Rose - 575 Northumberland Road - stated that the bulk of the municipal taxes are for safety and security which is money well spent, believed that rowing is a wonderful opportunity for residents, and thanked staff for their emergency response.

Jack Aaker - requested that Council move quickly on the request from the Rowing Club because the team wants to start practicing by the spring.

Ron Costello - 229 Shepard Avenue - expressed his gratitude towards the staff.

Robert O'Neill - 292 Hemlock Terrace - requested status on committee established in February 2009, questioned why there is no exchange with Council during the 5 minute session and asked where are the resolutions authorizing legal payments.

James Kinloch - 73 Shepard Avenue - thanked DPW for a job well done.

Patrick McGilloway - Qualis Group - explained why the website didn't come together and wants to see Teaneck succeed with the website.

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.

January 21, 2010 Budget Meeting Minutes.

January 26, 2010 Open Session Minutes (C. Katz - absent).

January 27, 2010 Budget Meeting Minutes (C. Gussen, C. Katz - absent).

February 9, 2010 Open Session Minutes (Mayor Feit - absent).

February 23, 2010 Open Session Minutes