

**MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION MEETING OF
THE TEANECK TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
HELD IN THE TEANECK HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM ON
TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 2010**

Mayor Feit called the Open Session Meeting of the Teaneck Township Council to order at 8:04 p.m., and asked all those present to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: C. Gussen, DM. Parker, C. Honis, C. Katz, Mayor Feit.

Absent: C. Hameeduddin, C. Toffler.

Also Present. S. Turitz, Ferrara, Turitz, Harraka & Goldberg Esqs.; W. Broughton, Township Manager; K. Ragone, Senior Clerk; C. Loschiavo, Senior Clerk, I. Abbasi, Executive Assistant.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by Resolution 322-09, setting the 2010 meeting dates and the April 23, 2010 Sunshine Notice amending 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.

Mayor Feit indicated that the School Board Budget had not been received from the Auditor at that time; therefore it was not on the Agenda for this meeting. The Mayor informed all present that the following items were discussed in Closed Session: the purchase of 640 River Road; litigation cases; and COAH.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Teaneck Library Board - 20th Literary Celebration/Homer Exhibit.

Mayor Feit and DM. Parker made the presentation to the Library Board recipient, congratulating them on their accomplishments and commending them on all they do for the residents of the Township.

2. Fair Trade Committee.

The presentation was conducted by Mr. Bruce Prince and Mr. Dennis Klein. Packets holding self-explanatory information regarding this presentation were distributed to Council, the Manager and the Township Attorney. The gentlemen gave a broad presentation explaining what the committee represents. They feel the project will bring the Township together. The

advantage of fair trade will enable residents to patronize facilities, even in tough economic times. Mr. Prince and Mr. Klein requested the Council to consider passing the resolution which was included in the packet. The program is already acquiring media attention and is currently in place in fifteen states. They have Kosher certification and are well received by FDU and other religious groups. It was also explained that the message of the Fair Trade Committee is to promote positive change.

Mayor Feit indicated that the Township has its own constraints but is willing to work as a partner in this endeavor.

C. Gussen stated that there is in fact an equal choice and Council should take this into consideration.

Mayor Feit suggested listing this item on the up-coming Agenda and Council concurred.

3. TVAC

Mayor Feit, Councilmember Katz and Angelae Wilkerson presented the following awards to the members of TVAC:

Meritorious Service - Captain Michael Rothschild, 2nd Lt. Natan Safran, Steve Boak, Allison Levin, Benjy Spiro, Daniel Bral, Jeremy Epstein, Lt. Ariel Douek, Vito LaVilla, Adam Schussel, and Andy Rudin.

CPR Save - Jaime Elkin, Lt. Ariel Douek, President Daniel Senter, Lt. Gerald Drasheff, Yitzi Horowitz, Benjy Spiro, Adam Baer, Roxanne Rauch, Freda Ready, Jessina Martina, and Brendan Tracey.

2500 Calls - Steve Boak.

Angelae Wilkerson and TVAC presented Mayor Feit, who is a lifetime member, with a 20-Year of Service Award.

Mayor Feit spoke about the sincere dedication of the Teaneck Volunteer Ambulance Corps. and how they performed their duties with the utmost professionalism on a strictly volunteer basis.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

Mrs. Loschiavo read the following Ordinance by title only.

ORDINANCE 4181 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 33-24, ZONE DISTRICT REQUIREMENTS, OF ARTICLE 5 ZONING, OF CHAPTER 33 DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, AND CHAPTER 11 BUILDINGS OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF TEANECK, RESPECTING TEMPORARY STORAGE AND REFUSE CONTAINERS.

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

NONE.

Mayor Feit inquired whether any member of the Council had any comments respecting this ordinance prior to opening the public hearing.

NONE.

There being no further persons wishing to speak concerning said ordinance, Mayor Feit declared that the public hearings on this ordinance was now closed.

C. Gussen moved to pass Ordinance 4181 on second and final reading and adopt. The Township Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to advertise same according to law. Seconded by Mayor Feit.

Mayor Feit called on Mrs. Loschiavo for a roll-call vote.

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

Opposed: None.

Absent: C. Hameeduddin, C. Toffler.

Mayor Feit declared that said ordinance was duly adopted.

Mayor Feit read Resolution #102-10 into the record.

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

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.

Dr. Alex Rashin - 543 Sagamore Avenue, taking notes on the failed school board budget; made suggestions which may assist in cutting the school budget for example, having students conduct fundraisers, cleaning the class at the end of the day, which would possibly alleviate the need for so many custodians, etc.; suggested that the system needs a shake-up; feels it is irresponsible to rush a decision regarding the budget.

John McGilchrist - 124 Stuyvesant Road, commended Council on their decision to hire William Broughton as the Township Manager; feels Mr. Broughton brings tremendous leadership to the

Township, his performance has been outstanding; if the Township had him sooner, a great deal of litigation could have been avoided.

Karen Langford - 129 Circle Drive, stated that the winter was very difficult, referred to the two unfortunate deaths that occurred within the Township due to one of the storms; congratulated the Department of Public Works for their hard work during these storms and attributed their quick, exemplary work to the leadership of William Broughton.

C.J. Levin - Student, Teaneck High School, discussed how sports within the school system effect the lives of the students; sports help students excel in their studies; also assists the student in preparing for the real world; hopes Council will take these facts into consideration when voting on the budget.

Issac Rappaport - Freshman, Teaneck High School, discussed how the budget is an "investment" within the community; feels that a good education may prevent students from getting involved in a life of crime.

Genevieve Maiberger - 89 Bogert Street, very proud to be a resident during this past extreme winter; commended the Council on their quick response to residents in need; was very impressed with the Manager coming out to the neighborhoods to actually see what was taking place; feels the DPW, fire departments and police department did a stellar job throughout the night going from block to block within the Township assisting those in need.

Mayor Feit thanked Rich Muller and Ron Goodman for assisting with the recording of the meeting.

Rochelle Rudnick - 352 Van Buren Avenue, discussed the budget and feels it is time to rethink reduction of transportation to save instructional fees; education is far more important than transportation.

Danielle Thompson - 2220 Voorhees Street, student of Ben Franklin Middle School who addressed Council regarding the budget indicating the classes are extremely overcrowded and the possibility of cutting extracurricular activities would be detrimental to the students.

Robert O'Neill - 292 Hemlock Terrace, discussed the defeated school budget audit completed by Mr. Ferraioli; pay-to-play ordinance; alleged political contributions to Ferraioli and funding for the audit; also discussed neighboring townships' introduced budgets; expressed condolences for fallen dispatcher, Leon Dozier.

Kaitlin Richards - 464 Kipp Street, explained how she feels about the Township; feels the residents should come to some of the games and events within the Township; wants the residents to get involved so they can get a true impression of the students so they will not be misrepresented.

Emily Rosenblum - 851 Club Road, the Township should conduct more events which enable the town to come together; feels there is a great divide that should be addressed - brainstorming should enable Council to come up with ideas for such events.

Joan Davis - 976 Alpine Drive, indicated she had some concerns, COAH being one of them; feels they are being discussed behind closed doors, when it used to be done with the Planning Board; feels it is unclear and therefore should be a public matter; DPW - how many jobs of the seventeen empty slots are going to be filled, there is a great need for the DPW jobs to be filled, does not want DPW privatized; does not want to go into debt for infrastructure projects; was sorry to learn of the passing of Dispatcher Dozier.

Helen Eikowitz - 458 Reese Avenue, not a public speaker but is a firm believer in a good, strong public school system; discussed the economics within the country; would like good decisions to be made as far as the school budget is concerned; is counting on the Council and the Township to come up with a solution that will not hurt the education or the tax payers.

Keith Reiman - 278 Churchill Road, is a school administrator in another school system in New Jersey; explained how they kept within the four percent property tax increase, it was difficult but it was accomplished; a freeze on salaries saved jobs within that community; cutting money to the school budget does not mean quality of education has to be cut; poor decisions by the Teaneck School Board is scoring below that of other school districts.

Council took a five minute break at 9:15 p.m. to change the tape.

Council reconvened at 9:23 p.m.

C. Katz recognized former Councilmember J. Kates was in attendance.

The following individuals conveyed to Council their ideas on how to improve the school system as well as how to move forward with the budget as well as prevent tax increases:

Aaron Rothstein - 728 Washburn Street
Aaron Campbell - 1445 Teaneck Road
Peter Collabro - 585 Martense Avenue
Chuck Powers - 1374 Academy Lane
Howard Rose - 575 Northumberland Road
Fernando (Untelligible) 67 Dorman Avenue
Sam Foreman - 262 Grayson Place
Linda Harrison - 563 Terhune Street
Toby Ellen - 1266 Pennington Road

There being no further persons wishing to speak at that time, Mayor Feit declared that the public comment portion of the meeting was now closed.

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

Mayor Feit indicated that the meeting provided a good feel for both sides of the issue; Council received the budget from the auditor and they were looking it over, explaining Council's plan and recommendations; discussed the issue on neighborhood schools; EID partnership is for the common good; affordable housing does come up in open session once a formal decision is made.

C. Gussen expressed his feeling that when the Governor took office, there was a mess to contend with and instead of handling the situation responsibly, he sent it to each school board and expected each district to come up with solutions on their own; feels the Governor dodged a bullet and wants everyone else to fix his mess; this is a struggle for everyone.

DM. Parker was in agreement with C. Gussen; congratulated the students on being so articulate in their speaking during the Council Meetings; discussed plans and struggles of Council during this difficult time.

C. Honis stated that she is an educator who wants to inspire the students; articulation at the meetings is indicative that the educators are doing their jobs for the students; the students are the future, therefore Council must be more creative in spending, that is why the auditor was hired.

C. Katz received many compliments on the behavior and articulation from the students during the last two meetings; echoed the new leadership comments regarding the two storms; and commended the Township Manager on a job well done.

BILL LIST

Mrs. Loschiavo read the amount of the Bill List into the record. (\$ 4,158,149.16)

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.

RESOLUTIONS

- 93-10. Ratify Payments - CFO - March 2010.
- 94-10. Authorize Appointment to the Site Plan Review Advisory Board.
- 95-10. Authorize Issuance of Emergency Purchase Order - M. Ingannamorte & Son.
- 96-10. Authorize Issuance of Purchase Order - Bobcat of New Jersey.
- 97-10. Authorize Issuance of Emergency Purchase Orders - Various.
- 98-10. Authorize Refund of 2008 and 2009 taxes - Block 1803, Lot 32.
- 99-10. Authorize Refund of 2009 and 2010 tax overpayments - Various.
- 100-10. Confirm Submission of Click It or Ticket 2010 Mobilization Grant.

101-10. Designate an \$18,921,411 Bond Anticipation Note as a Qualified Tax-Exempt Obligation.

102-10. Authorize Council to Co-Sponsor Community Fair at Votee Park in June, 2010.

C. Honis 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. Seconded by DM. Parker.

Mayor Feit called on Mrs. Loschiavo for a roll-call vote.

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

Opposed: None.

Absent: C. Hameeduddin, C. Toffler.

Abstained: C. Gussen - (Item 158015), C. Katz - (Bill List).

Mayor Feit declared said items are passed.

MISCELLANEOUS

NONE.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Alarm System Ordinance.

Township Attorney suggested holding this item for future discussion in that the Police Department are looking into certain issues which require further evaluation.

2. Council Action Items.

Cable.

Township Manager indicated they are still working on the broadcasting of Council Meetings, have been in touch with Cable.

Personnel Director.

Township Manager informed Council they are still in the process of conducting second interviews, and the process should be coming to an end shortly.

Lightning Detection System.

Mr. Broughton indicated that the DPW will be installing the system as well as the remote-control lighting system at Votee Park within the next couple of weeks.

Drainage Engineering Study.

Township Manager informed Council that a proposal has been made by an Engineering Company who can handle the entire engineering project for Votee Park. Should have a proposal in the next few days.

NEW BUSINESS

NONE.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Teaneck Public Library - Request to Respond to Resolution 10-02.

Mayor Feit requested this item to be listed on the next Agenda. Council concurred.

2. Bergen County Division of Emergency Management - Countywide Emergency Notification System.

Township Manager request this item be relisted.

Council concurred.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - COUNCIL LIAISONS

C. Gussen discussed attending a Freeholder's Meeting where a Resolution for the \$435,000 for the purchase of 640 River Road was on the Agenda. Freeholder's passed the Resolution.

COUNCIL-LISTED ITEMS

1. Park Lighting Policies and Procedures - C. Gussen.

Discussed the lights being on at Votee Park when the park was not in use. The Township Manager agreed to look into the matter.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Reported the passing of Dispatcher Leon Dozier, a 17 year veteran of the Teaneck Police Department. Gave the details of the services.

2. I have provisionally promoted Colleen Loschiavo to the position of Senior Clerk effective April 15, 2010.

3. I have provisionally appointed Issa Ahmad Abbasi to the position of Executive Assistant effective April 19, 2010.

4. Discussed the new website.

5. Discussed the employee manual, which will be presented soon.

6. Ward Plaza - hope to be starting work on June 1st.

7. The Boat Dock - discussed plans for the boathouse.

8. The structure on the top of the Municipal Building, the cupola, weather permitting, will begin painting and restoring the structure next week.

9. Library HVAC system - contract has been awarded and the vendor will give suggestions on how to proceed.

10. Old PHQ - in the process of working with an environmental remediation company for the building.

11. Chiller project at municipal building is moving forward.

12. Ardsley Court, repaving and drainage and Tryon Avenue, repaving - hope to have a bid opening in May and start the project in June.

13. Stop sign on Frank W. Burr Boulevard - a Councilmember requested the Manager inquire whether or not a Stop sign is in fact located there and it is affirmative, the Stop sign is still there.

14. Elm Avenue and Beverly Road - received the new design for the markings for the new intersection.

15. Shared Services - discussed state freezing monies for shared services and his plan for handling this within different venues.

C. Katz suggested painting the front of the old Police Headquarters. Also requested the Manager look into the possibility of the Board of Education allowing some of the police vehicles be parked in their lot so there would be additional parking in this lot for residents who use the library or the municipal building.

Mr. Broughton stated that he will look into the above requests.

TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY'S REPORT

1. 640 River Road.

Township Attorney discussed the process involved for the above item.

ADJOURNMENT

C. Gussen moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 10:30 p.m. Seconded by C. Katz.

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

Opposed: None.

Absent: C. Hameeduddin, C. Toffler.