

BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG

MINUTES

JUNE 14, 2012 - 7:30 P.M.

MAYOR'S STATEMENT: Mayor Gerald Mobus called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM and made the following statement: Under the provisions of N.J.S.A.10:4-6 et seq., notice of the time and place of this meeting was given by way of annual notice to the Courier News, Echoes Sentinel, and Star Ledger, and posted at Borough Hall.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG and a MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN, SERVING HOME AND ABROAD

ROLL CALL

Joren [P] Black [P] Franklin [A] Pote [P] Nehls [P] Cassidy [A]

Also present were Administrator Tom Atkins, Attorney Albert Cruz, CFO William Hance, and Clerk Michelle DeRocco.

There were 6 members of the public present.

Mayor Mobus deviated from the agenda order and called forward Justin Bowman.

Council President and Police Commissioner Debra Joren read the following resolution into the minutes and moved for its adoption: (copy attached)

R3: Police Department Appointment - Justin A. Bowman / Probationary Police Officer

Councilman Black seconded the motion and upon roll call the vote was as follows: Joren, Black, Pote, Nehls, "aye."

Mayor Mobus administered the Oath of Office to Justin while his grandfather, Albert Getz, held the Bible.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

1. Administration & Finance - In Councilman Franklin's absence, Administrator Atkins reported CFO Bill Hance was moving forward with the Borough's 501-3(c) application and was making progress. He also reported the Borough did receive \$20,800. from FEMA for Hurricane Irene, and believes more money may be coming. In regard to the October snow storm, Mr. Atkins said that FEMA has not yet begun the review process, but Emergency Management Coordinator Gary Greves has asked everyone to assemble facts and figures.

2. Police - Council President Joren noted the increase in the figures reported on the Activity Report, and said the Department is back to full strength with the addition of the new officer. She said Chief Wenzel will be attending the Chief's conference in Atlantic City. She commended Officer Sherif Zaiton, for his recent recognition by MADD who honored him for his outstanding record of DUI arrests - 7 for this year.

3. Public Works - Councilman Nehls announced the appointment of 2 summer laborers in the Department of Public Works on tonight's agenda, and said the Borough is in the process to hire one full time employee. He reminded all of Saturday's "secure shred" event, and said styrofoam in addition to scrap metal, will also be collected.

4. Buildings and Grounds; Recreation - No report was presented.

5. Public Affairs -

Open Space: No report was presented.

Environmental: No report was presented.

Board of Health: No report was presented.

6. Fire - Councilman Black had nothing to report.

7. Laws/Ordinances - Councilman Pote attended the Historical Committee's meeting last evening and reported the Committee continues to organize their materials. He said the Stomber family continues to assist the members as the materials and artifacts are being brought in. Councilman Pote said that he and Mayor Mobus met with a member of the Historical Committee to discuss a potential Eagle Scout project, and also noted that the Committee appreciates the assistance CFO Bill Hance is providing to obtain a 501 3(c) account. Councilman Pote said he met with the Library Study Committee and discussed his 28 "questions and answers" that he prepared for the upcoming special workshop meeting on June 18th. He thanked the Laws and Ordinance Committee for working to revise the Dog Ordinance, and update the Personnel Manual with the revision on the use of Borough vehicles.

REPORTS - OTHER:

8. Engineer - No report was presented.

9. Police Chief - No report was presented.

10. Fire Department - No report was presented.

11. Rescue Squad - President Don Monetti reported May was an extremely busy month for the Squad for both calls and events. He said they provided medical command for the Triathlon in addition to attending both the Borough's Memorial Day picnic and Warren's Memorial Day parade. He said they conducted tours for students and Boy Scouts. He proudly announced that cadet member, Noah Monetti, was presented with Overlook Hospital's Outstanding EMS Award. He thanked the Echoes-Sentinel reporter Denis Kelly for the great article on the Squad's volunteers. Statistics for the month included 51 total calls, 12 mutual aid calls given, 0 mutual aid calls needed, and top responders were Adam Wexler, Charles Pivnichny and Logan Taylor. President Monetti invited all to attend the annual softball game against the Fire Department to be held at Ost Field at 11:00 am on Saturday, June 23rd.

12. Attorney - Mr. Cruz had nothing to report.

13. Clerk - Mrs. DeRocco referred to Resolution R8 on tonight's agenda and thanked the Governing Body for this appointment, and said she is looking forward to the assistance in the Office that MaryAnn will be able to provide, and welcomed MaryAnn as Deputy Clerk.

14. Administrator - Mr. Atkins reported 2 RFP's for the COAH mandate were received and opened as advertised, one from RPM in Montclair and one from Homeless Solutions in Morristown, and said they would be evaluated early next week, and a recommendation will be given to the Governing Body. He also thanked Engineer Tom Herits for attending the East Drive site visit on June 6th, which was attended by 6 or 7 potential developers.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING OF 2012 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

R1A: Amendment to 2012 Budget

Councilman Pote read R1A (copy attached) and moved for its adoption. Councilman Black seconded the motion and upon roll call the vote was as follows: Joren, Black, Pote, Nehls, "aye."

R1B: Determining Budget to be Read by Title

Councilman Pote read R1B (copy attached) and moved for its adoption. Councilman Black seconded the motion and upon roll call the vote was as follows: Joren, Black, Pote, Nehls, "aye."

R1C: Adoption of 2012 Municipal Budget

Councilman Pote called for a Public Hearing of the 2012 Municipal budget and asked the Clerk to produce an affidavit of publication. Councilman Pote made a motion to open the Public Hearing on the 2012 Municipal Budget, Councilman Black seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting was open to the public for any questions or comments on the proposed 2012 Municipal Budget.

With no one from the public desiring to be heard, Councilman Pote made a motion to close the Public Hearing on the 2012 Municipal Budget.

Councilman Pote moved for the adoption of the 2012 Municipal Budget and Councilman Black seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Joren, Black, Pote, Nehls, "aye." The 2012 Municipal Budget was adopted.

Mayor Mobus thanked the Administrative and Finance Committee for their efforts in putting together this budget, and commended Administrator Tom Atkins and CFO Bill Hance for their diligence.

A Public Hearing on Proposed Ordinance OR:12/07 entitled "**An Ordinance to amend the Code of the Borough of Watchung CH. 5-12-12.76 et. seq., thereof and to fix and determine minimum and maximum salaries and compensation to be paid to certain employees.**" was held. Councilman Pote moved a public hearing be held with a second by Councilman Nehls and upon roll call the vote was as follows: Joren, Black, Pote, Nehls, "aye."

With no one from the public desiring to be heard, Councilman Pote closed the public hearing and moved the following resolution:

R2:06/14/12 Adoption of OR:12/07 - Min-Max Salary

Councilman Nehls seconded the motion and upon roll call the vote was as follows: Joren, Black, Pote, Nehls, "aye."

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NEW BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA: The Consent Agenda items listed below were unanimously accepted, following a motion by Councilwoman Joren, a second by Councilman Black and upon roll call as follows: Joren, Black, Pote, Nehls, "aye".

Approval of the following Council minutes:
May 24, 2012
April 12, April 23, and April 26, 2012 Executive Sessions

Acknowledging Receipt of the following Borough Reports:
Building Department Report - May, 2012
Police Activity Report - May, 2012

Acknowledging Receipt of the following Correspondence:

- #29 - MiddleEarth 6/1/12 Thanking the Borough for support and cooperation during their annual Frank "Nap" Torpey Memorial "Hills of Somerset" County road race on May 26th which successfully ran through many towns including Watchung c: M & C., TEA, TW
- #30 - Pam Lewis 6/1/12 Letter of resignation as a member of the Traffic & Beautification Commission c: M & C, TEA, SF
- #31 - Township of Monroe 6/4/12 Resolution in support of fair distribution of State Aid for Education c: M & C, TEA, AC
- #32 - Joe Pennacchio, Senator 5/30/12 Requesting support of S-302, Transparency in Government Act that would identify State spending on the State's website c: M & C, TEA

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CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS: The Consent Agenda items listed below, with the exception of R3 addressed at the beginning of this agenda, were unanimously accepted, following a motion by Councilwoman Joren, a second by Councilman Black and upon roll call as follows: Joren, Black, Pote, Nehls, "aye."

- R3:06/14/12 Police Department Appointment - Justin A. Bowman / Probationary Police Officer
- R4: Authorize Clerk to Issue Raffle License - Sisters of Mercy of the Americas
- R5: Authorize Liquor License Renewals
- R6: Amending the Borough Code/Personnel Policy - Use of Borough Equipment and Vehicles
- R7: Waive Chapter 2-25.10 of the Borough Code - Roger Tucker
- R8: Appointment of Deputy Clerk - MaryAnn Hance / Effective July 1, 2012

- R9: Appointment of Fire Department Members - Riccardo Taglietti, Michael R. Disch
- R10: Authorize Borough's Application for 501 c(3) Non-Profit Status / Watchung Community Foundation
- R11: Purchases Over \$2,000. - Atlantic Tactical
- R12: Supporting A2950/S2011, Extension Deadline to Commit Housing Trust Funds
- R13: Authorize Appointment to Public Works / Two (2) Seasonal Laborers - John Malchow Zach Wied

Mayor Mobus, regarding R8, commented that MaryAnn Hance has been a dedicated and hard working employee of the Borough for 9 years, and commended her on this appointment as Deputy Clerk.

Councilman Nehls, regarding R10, congratulated CFO Bill Hance for his efforts in moving to obtain the 501 c(3) on behalf of the Borough.

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NON-CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS AND RESOLUTIONS: Items listed below will be individually addressed and acted upon accordingly. Council reserves the right to refer an item to Committee for further review and discussion.

Proposed Ordinance OR:12/08 entitled **“AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER X, TITLED “ANIMAL CONTROL”, OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG BY AMENDING ARTICLE I, TITLED “DOGS.”** was introduced. Councilman Pote moved the ordinance be given its first reading. So ordered Councilman Pote moved the ordinance be adopted on first reading and the Clerk be directed to publish the ordinance and notice of public hearing.

R14:06/14/12 Introduction of OR:12/08 - Amend Code - Animal Control

The motion was seconded by Councilman Nehls and upon roll call the vote was as follows: Black, Franklin, Pote, Nehls, Cassidy, “aye”. Public Hearing to be held on June 28, 2012.

~~R15: Authorize Rights of Way Use Agreement Fibertech~~ PULLED

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PUBLIC PORTION

Charles Neiss, Dogwood Lane and Board of Education member, questioned the quantities in regard to the RFP for the construction of multiple units on East Drive, and Administrator Atkins explained that the RFP called for the construction of 20 units and possibly an additional 20 in the future.

John Malchow, Mountain Boulevard and Board of Education member, said he was newly appointed to the Board of Education and looked forward to working with the Governing Body in the future. He said he understood the Council's decision to suspend the summer park program and asked, as a former Counselor and participant, that this program is reconsidered next year.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned to the call of the Chair and to the next scheduled Council meeting to be held on June 28, 2012 at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle DeRocco, RMC
Clerk