

**MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION MEETING
OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE
BOROUGH OF SADDLE RIVER
September 8, 2016**

PRESENT: Mayor Kurpis, Council Members: Acaster, Gray (via teleconference), Jensen, Kerner, Salazer, Schulstad, Borough Administrator Shenkler, Municipal Clerk Convertini, Attorney Lafferty

ABSENT:

PRESIDING: Mayor Kurpis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.; Borough Clerk Convertini read the following statement:

PUBLIC NOTICE: "Notice of this meeting in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231 of the laws of 1975, has been given by posting a notice of the scheduled dates of all regular meetings of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Saddle River on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and in the office of the Borough Clerk and by emailing notice thereof to the Herald News and The Record on August 31, 2016, also on the Borough website."

NOTIFICATION OF FIRE EXITS

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

WORK SESSION:

MAYOR KURPIS:

Non-Reimbursable Expenses for Fire Department Lt. Steven Schiavello: Mayor Kurpis stated that this matter has been discussed previously and he would like to come to a final decision. Council Member Acaster stated that he is in receipt of the pertinent documentation regarding this matter and he reviewed it at this time. Council Member Gray stated that he has not received any new documentation to date. Council President Jensen stated that Mr. Schiavello has not suffered an out of pocket loss. Council Member Kerner reiterated that this topic has been addressed several times and she still believes that Mr. Schiavello has not experienced a loss to date.

Council Member Gray reiterated that Mr. Schiavello has provided a substantial amount of information and the Borough must be aware that there is a potential for a lawsuit. Council Member Kerner disagreed and stated that, if this was awarded, a precedent would be set for this to occur in the future.

Attorney Lafferty stated that it is the Council's decision and should a law suit be brought forth, the statute of limitations has expired.

Council Member Kerner stated that the basis for the claims continue to change and she is not in favor of changing the policy as it sets the Borough up for future liability.

All were in agreement that this matter would be tabled.

FAA Noise Abatement Committee: Mayor Kurpis stated that there are meetings held at Teterboro Airport each month and there should be a representative present from Saddle River. Council Members were encouraged to network in order to find interested parties to be on this committee.

Leasing Borough Water: Mayor Kurpis addressed the leasing of Borough water and asked the Council to opine. Council Member Kerner asked why this water could not be made available to residents and it was determined that the United/Suez Water pipes could not be used due to potential contamination. Council President Jensen stated that he would agree to further evaluate this matter but feels that there will be many factors involved, making it quite complicated. Council Member Kerner stated that she is not in favor of this idea. Council Member Gray stated that he sees no downside to looking into this matter further in order to get all the facts.

Resolution to Authorize Teleconferencing into Work Session Meetings: Mayor Kurpis stated that he would like to have this put into writing in the event that a Council Member cannot attend a Work Session Meeting. There will be a resolution on the Consent Agenda of the September 19, 2016 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council. Council Member Kerner stated that she felt all Council Members should be present at all public meetings and did not like the idea. Council Member Gray stated that both teleconferencing and video conferencing have been utilized for years by Fortune 500 companies.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR

Saddle River Grand – Water Booster Pump & Landscaping: Administrator Shenkler stated that many residents in the Saddle River Grand Town home complex are complaining about the lack of adequate water pressure. A booster pump was to be installed during construction and Mayor Kurpis was seeking clarification as to the status of this matter. The developer is currently requesting that the \$150,000 performance bond issued be returned and Mayor Kurpis stated that the booster pump must be installed and any open landscaping items must be completed prior to returning funds.

Mayor Kurpis asked Administrator Shenkler to investigate this further with Borough Engineer Martin Spence and report back to the Mayor and Council prior to the next meeting on September 19, 2016. Residents from the Saddle River Grand are planning to attend this meeting in order to ask for resolution to this matter.

Council Member Kerner stated that she feels that the Borough Administrator and Borough Engineer need to investigate this matter as well as the water main break that took place at the Grand and report back to the Mayor and Council.

Cellular Ground Lease: Administrator Shenkler stated that Landmark Dividend has sent information regarding selling the Borough's ground leases. The Mayor and Council did not wish to pursue this at this time.

Website Update: Council Member Schulstad gave the update on the redesign of the Borough website, stating that a meeting was held prior to this meeting to address this. He further stated that Borough Clerk Convertini will be working with him in order to develop a concise Site Map as a first step.

NJ Transit Bus Stop Designation: Administrator Shenkler stated that the Borough is in receipt of a resolution generated by NJ Transit in order to approve amended bus stop descriptions. This will be part of the Consent Agenda at the September 19, 2016 meeting.

Saddle River Grand Municipal Services Contract: Administrator Shenkler stated that this contract must be executed in order to approve the Borough's reimbursement to the Grand for snow plowing and salting. This service is for the .9 miles of roadway within the Saddle River Grand complex.

Janitorial Services for Borough Buildings: Administrator Shenkler stated that the Borough is going to obtain quotes for cleaning services for all Borough Buildings. The contract is being reviewed by the Borough Attorney.

Borough Hall Repairs: Administrator Shenkler stated that he is in receipt of two quotes for the Borough Hall repairs; a resolution will be in the Consent Agenda to award this contract to the lowest bidder. Council Member Kerner stated that she would like Administrator Shenkler to prioritize projects in order to streamline the process and budget for projects moving forward.

Resident Marilyn Goldfischer stated that she would like to donate a dehumidifier to the Borough Hall as there is an odor of mold. The Mayor and Council discussed this in detail at this time.

Petty Cash Fund: Administrator Shenkler stated that two existing Petty Cash funds must be rescinding and a Petty Cash Fund must be established for the Municipal Clerk. There will be two resolutions on the Consent Agenda reflecting these changes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bishop House Committee: Council Member Salazer stated that John Lasalandra will be leaving the committee and Vincent Blehl will be replacing him.

Mayor Kurpis stated that he walked the property and assessed the landscaping, tree work and dwelling repairs necessary. This was discussed in detail at this time.

Seamless Docs: Council President Jensen stated that this company provides a platform to manage forms and documents. After careful review and consideration, it was determined that this company does not provide a product that the Borough could currently utilize. He further stated that he feels that the Borough needs to assess their document or software solution needs and proceed accordingly.

Council Member Kerner stated that it is important to have basic forms that residents need accessible electronically.

Council President Jensen asked if the Borough has decided on any software that must be obtained in order to remain compliant with OPRA.

Council President Jensen addressed the Borough email vendor and the inability to support certain types of email access. This was discussed in detail.

Council Member Schulstad addressed the need for better communication between the Administrator and members of the Council.

Ordinance Review Committee: Council Member Schulstad stated that the deer fencing ordinance is currently being drafted and it will be ready for the September 19, 2016 meeting. The parameters of the ordinance, including the permitted location of the subject fence, were discussed in detail.

Wildlife Management: Council Member Schulstad stated that the committee needs to examine whether a viable non-lethal solution exists for Saddle River. The referendum was discussed and it was decided that information regarding this referendum would be included in the upcoming newsletter.

Information and Transparency: Council Member Schulstad stated that a request was made by a resident to obtain information about reducing the speed limits on County roads. Administrator Shenkler stated that the County has denied the Borough's request to reduce speed limits; the Borough will supply additional information in order for the County to reconsider this matter. Council Member Kerner stated that the adoption of a Scenic Overlay Ordinance could assist in protecting Borough roadways and perhaps facilitate the reduction of speed limits on County roads. Council Member Acaster stated that greater speed limit enforcement should be considered.

Finance Update: Council Member Kerner gave a detailed outline of the 2017 Proposed Budget Time Table. Additionally, she suggested that the remainder of the Finance Committee meetings be noticed through the end of 2016. A potential bond issue will be addressed at the Mayor and Council meeting on September 19, 2016 and Council Member Kerner asked the Council to provide all the necessary information they would need to make an informed decision. Mayor Kurpis stated that interest rates are an important consideration and he would like to roll the BANS into bonds. Council President Jensen stated that, in a fiscal crisis, the BANS are a higher risk alternative. This process was discussed in detail.

RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED SESSION

At this time, a resolution was read to go into Closed Session.

Resolution # 160-16 Offered by Council President Jensen
Second by Council Member Kerner

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Unanimous

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn was made and seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Joy C. Convertini
Municipal Clerk