

JANUARY 29, 2013

The Caucus Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Runnemede was held on the above date in the meeting room of the Borough Hall, 24 N. Black Horse Pike, Runnemede, NJ. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 P.M. The following members were present at roll call: Council members: Kappatos, Kelly, Moore, White & Passio; Absent: Mayor Kalvaitis Present: Administrator Richard E. Wright, Jr.; Solicitor Leonard Wood, Esquire, Borough Engineer Mark Basehore.

STATEMENT: Council President Kappatos read the notice of this meeting pursuant to the "Open Public Meetings Act."

Council President Kappatos gave the floor to Police Chief Diano who recommended the handicapped parking in front of St. Maria Goretti Church. Councilwoman Moore suggested that this ordinance amendment go into effect after the road work is completed. Chief Diano also recommended the appointment of the Class II Special Officer. Councilwoman Kelly asked Chief Diano if the two officers who had been considering retirement had submitted their letters of intent. Chief Diano stated no they had not.

Fire Chief Fred Loverdi recommended the appointment of another part-time EMT. Chief Loverdi also briefed everyone about the specs for the new ambulance.

Kathy Vasinda, Library Director, spoke about her management of the gym. Kathy spoke about all of the work that she took on and that no new agreement has been adopted since the agreement was prepared for the last few months of 2012. Mrs. Vasinda made a statement that borough administration had received raises but she had not and that she had also taken on senior center issues. Richard Wright, Borough Administrator, explained that the borough does not pay the salary of the library employees, the Library Board determines the salaries. Mrs. Vasinda then went into her request for the purchase of recycling cans and that she thought as Clean Communities Coordinator she would be able to just purchase them. Richard Wright, Borough Administrator, attempted to explain the purchasing laws to Mrs. Vasinda. Councilwoman Passio also stated that she went to Trenton when she was the Clean Communities Coordinator and that she was told the funds could be spent as desired. Rich then went into a lengthy explanation of the purchasing laws and various ways in which funds from all line items are utilized and the process necessary to follow in order to request funds.

Mrs. Vasinda presented photos of the recycling cans she wishes to purchase and then spoke about the community garden project.

Councilman Kappatos reported that the finance department was in the process of closing out 2012. Nick also reported on the Monday morning meetings he was attending with department heads. Councilman Kappatos advised everyone that the payroll clerk was on leave and that the administrator was doing payroll.

Councilman White reported that he had attended a few school board meetings. Ed also reported that Nancy Ward was resigning and Marie Gallagher was retiring.

Councilwoman Kelly reported on meetings she had with Police Chief Diano and Deputy Fire Chief Loverdi. Various issues were discussed at the police meeting: the possible retirement of two police officers, handicapped parking at St. Maria Goretti Church, lock-down issues at St. Teresa School; auction of police cars; purchase of three new police cars. Eleanor toured the fire house and viewed the new jaws of life and the training classroom.

Councilwoman Passio asked Rich for data regarding public events. Administrator Wright explained the requisition/purchase order with respect to the funding of various activities. Rich also explained that funding sources could come from different line items. Pat reported on her tour of the borough, RYAA wish list, color for the new Green Acres bathroom project and a list of roads to be repaired this year. Councilman White asked when the engineering committee had met. Councilwoman Passio stated that it had not met. Councilman White wanted to know how the list of roads was arrived at and did anyone know that there was also a sewer problem at the end of Read Avenue. Councilman Kappatos asked everyone if they thought Ed should be removed from the engineering committee. Councilwoman Kelly stated that she did not like Ed's tone of voice and did not want Councilwoman Passio put on the spot. Councilwoman Moore stated she wanted Councilman White on the committee. Councilwoman Passio stated that she wanted Councilman White to remain on committee.

Councilwoman Moore reported on her meeting with the Public Works Department, two snow events and 2 water main breaks. Beverly reported on several issues she had asked the department to address, as well as the permanent appointment of a road department employee on the February agenda and the labeling of public works vehicles. Councilwoman Moore praised the public works employees for all of their efforts.

The following issues were brought to the table for inclusion in the February 5, 2013 agenda:

Approval of Minutes;
Proclamation;
Various resolutions;
Bingo & Raffle Licenses;
Discussion of several appointments;

CAUCUS-JANUARY 29, 2013

Discussion of changes in structure to construction department which will include an ordinance for first reading creating the position of Zoning Officer; Councilman White asked some questions about how the changes in the construction department would be implemented and its impact on finances;

Discussion of trash contract;

Discussion of repair of municipal building door; Councilman Kappatos asked to hold off on this project in order to consider other options;

Discussion of planning board solicitor's letter regarding townhouses; Len Wood, Solicitor, presented council's options.

GOOD & WELFARE:

John Schmidt, 1 W. Thompson Avenue, Gloucester City: Mr. Schmidt questioned several appointments made to the planning board and asked council to change the resolutions. Councilman Kappatos and Solicitor Wood stated that the appointments were properly done and that nothing would be altered.

Maria Panzarella, 12 S. Oakland Avenue: Mrs. Panzarella welcomed new council and stated that as the President of the RYAA, she was looking forward to meeting with everyone regarding the needs of the organization.

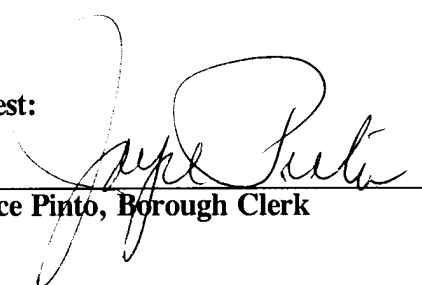
John Schmidt, 1 W. Thompson Avenue, Gloucester City: Mr. Schmidt asked questions about an ordinance regarding the civic association.

There being no further business to come before Mayor and Council at this time a motion was made by Kelly and seconded by Passio to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and Council President Kappatos declared the meeting adjourned at 7:17 PM.

Approved by:


Nick Kappatos, Council President

Attest:


Joyce Pinto, Borough Clerk