

JULY 30, 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 5:05 P.M. The following members were present at roll call: Mayor Kalvaitis. Council members: Kelly, Root, Passio, Kappatos, White & Moore; Present: Administrator Richard E. Wright, Jr.; Solicitor Audra Pondish, Esquire; Borough Engineer Mark Basehore.

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

Council President Kappatos stated that it was now time to discuss items to be included on the agenda for 8/7/13.

The approval of minutes and the public hearings of Ordinances #13-15, 13-16 & 13-17 were discussed.

Various communications were discussed. Mayor Kalvaitis stated that she had already chosen a replacement, Patricia Smith, to fill the vacancy on the Library Board as a result of the resignation of Cathy Obert. A brief discussion ensued regarding the letter from Andrew Viola, Esquire, who wishes to be considered to replace Sam Ragonese, Esquire, as borough prosecutor. Councilman Ed White wanted to know if we had asked for other resumes. Council President Kappatos stated that we had not. Andrew would be filling the position until the end of the year.

Also discussed was a letter from a resident regarding the Code Enforcement Officer coming to her home. Police Chief Diano and Councilman White commented on the issue. Council President Kappatos asked our solicitor to respond to this resident.

RESOLUTION #13-116

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF POLICE SOFTWARE FROM SHI UNDER STATE CONTRACT #77560 BOROUGH OF RUNNEMEDE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN STATE OF NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, the Borough of Runnemede has entered into a shared services agreement with the Borough of Bellmawr for a police records system; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the contract for the purchase of police software as part of the shared services agreement for a police records system in the Borough of Runnemede be and is hereby awarded to SHI at a cost of \$22,000.00 under state contract #77560; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the contract also includes maintenance fees in the amount of \$3,300.00 (beginning August, 2014); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the presiding officer and the clerk of this body be and hereby is directed to sign for and on its behalf the contract in the prescribed form.

BOROUGH OF RUNNEMEDE

A motion was made by Kelly, seconded by Root this resolution be approved. Council President asked Police Chief Diano to explain this purchase. The motion carried and Mayor Kalvaitis requested a roll call vote with the following results: Ayes: Kappatos, Passio, Kelly, Moore, Root & White. Absent: None. Nays: None. Council President Kappatos declared the resolution adopted.

The following resolutions were discussed: A resolution creating property maintenance liens and the appointment of a bailiff.

A discussion ensued regarding placing a stop sign on Union Avenue. Mark Basehore, Borough Engineer, stated that he thought the incline was too great and that two houses would lose parking spaces if a stop sign were placed there. Councilwoman Moore stated that when she mentioned the idea to place a stop sign in this area to road department members they also had commented on the steep incline. Councilwoman Passio asked if there was some signage that could be placed along the road.

Council also discussed the paper street between Center and Hirsch Avenues. Various scenarios were discussed including asking the four property owners whether they were interested in acquiring the land, the borough selling the land or possibly not doing anything at all. A consensus was reached that the solicitor would send a letter to the property owners asking if they were interested in the land.

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Councilwoman Moore stated that she needs to have the clothing drop boxes at the library removed in order to have concrete pads poured for the new trash dumpsters. A discussion ensued regarding the regulation of clothing drop boxes within the borough. Beverly also commented on large number of these boxes popping up in the borough. Solicitor Pondish stated that the borough could create an ordinance regulating these boxes. Councilwoman Moore asked Chief Diano to expedite the removal of the boxes from the library.

Mark Basehore, Engineer, requested that Mayor & Council introduce an ordinance creating a crosswalk near St. Maria Goretti Church. Mark stated that he would give description to the clerk. Mark also reported that the state aid application was due in September.

Councilwoman Kelly raised the issue of charging a registration fee, with increasing charges yearly, to be imposed on foreclosed homes within the borough. Eleanor stated that Cherry Hill had just passed such an ordinance.

Mayor & Council discussed the appointment of a new police officer. The Administrator was directed to send a letter to the candidate offering him the position.

Councilwoman Moore informed Mayor & Council about the new dog park. Beverly explained that the old playground had been in disrepair for many years. Councilwoman Moore also advised everyone of the high cost of replacing the playground equipment. Councilwoman Moore stated that the total funds expended for converting the space to a dog park were \$1,984.05 from the public works budget and that a tentative date for the ribbon-cutting would be August 24th. Beverly stated that the Public Works Department had embraced the work to be done for the creation of the park and that both Councilman Root and she had made the decision to rehab the area in this manner.

GOOD & WELFARE:

Mark Martino, 578 Sherrington Lane: Mr. Martino complained about kids congregating on the property behind his house. Mr. Martino stated that the kids are smoking pot and drinking there. Mr. Martino also stated that the grass needs to be mowed and the borough is not taking care of the land. Councilwoman Passio stated that she was in the area last week and it looked beautiful. Councilman White spoke about the recreational deed restriction on the property. Mr. Martino stated that he wants wires or lines removed from under his property. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding how the situation regarding this property arose.

Robert Farrell, 580 Sherrington Lane: Mr. Farrell also had complaints about the kids congregating on the property behind the homes on Sherrington Lane. Mr. Farrell wanted to know why it took such a short time to turn over the public walkways to the residents, but is taking longer to resolve the issue behind their houses. Council President Kappatos gave a brief synopsis about the issues involved in turning this land over to the residents, Triton's interest in the land and promised to have our solicitor look further into the deed restriction.

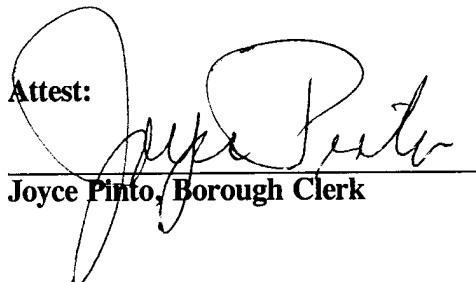
Seeing no one wishing to speak, a motion was made by Root, seconded by Kelly, to close the good and welfare portion of the meeting. The motion carried and Council President Kappatos declared the good and welfare portion closed.

There being no further business to come before Mayor and Council at this time a motion was made by Moore and seconded by White to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and Council President Kappatos declared the meeting adjourned at 6:24 PM.

Approved by:


Nick Kappatos, Council President

Attest:


Joyce Pinto, Borough Clerk