

OFFICIAL MINUTES
OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE BOROUGH OF LITTLE FERRY
SPECIAL MEETING
APRIL 21, 2010

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Raguseo called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Raguseo led the Pledge of Allegiance

CALL TO ORDER: Present: Mayor Mauro Raguseo, Council President George Muller, Councilman Ronald Anzalone, Councilwoman Roberta Henriquez, Councilman Thomas Sarlo, Councilwoman Sue Schuck, Councilwoman Peggy Steinhilber
Absent: None

SUNSHINE STATEMENT:

Meeting authorization was called by the Governing Body of the Borough of Little Ferry, with notification of said meeting transmitted to The Record and Star Ledger on April 16, 2010 giving notice that a Special Meeting has been scheduled for April 21, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. or a soon thereafter as the matter may be heard in the Council Chambers, Municipal Building, 215-217 Liberty Street, Little Ferry, New Jersey at which time formal action may or may not be taken as provided by the Open Public Meetings Act. A copy of meeting notice and agenda were filed in the Borough Clerk's Office and have been posted on the bulletin board outside the Borough Clerk's Office.

PURPOSE: EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING FOR CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS AND ANY OTHER MATTERS DEEMED NECESSARY

CITIZENS HEARING:

Mayor Raguseo entertained a motion to open Citizens Hearing.

Motion by: C/W Schuck

Second by: C/W Steinhilber

All ayes

Since no one wished to speak, Mayor Raguseo entertained a motion to close Citizens Hearing.

Motion by: C/W Henriquez

Second by: C/M Muller

All ayes

Councilwoman Henriquez reported that the Finance Committee has been working on the budget together. She said all departments were informed of possible layoffs or demotions. Councilman Sarlo said that two meetings were held with the PBA to see if they would be willing to give back something in their contract. He said as of May 1, 2010, the Governing Body will proceed with one layoff in the department and demotions in the entire department. Initially, \$125,000 was budgeted for overtime. This was reduced to \$85,000, leaving the PBA with still and additional \$110,000 in givebacks. The Governing Body rejected the offer made by the PBA to allow the department to use compensation time instead of overtime pay. The end result was that for the year 2010, any overtime in excess of the \$50,000 appropriated for would be taken by each officer as compensatory time. The department will begin paying 1.5% of their salary towards health benefits beginning June 1, 2010 until December 2010. The Officers will also have to agree not to take two Personnel Days on the same tour, unless the days were already scheduled. With this proposal, the 1.5% of their salary going towards health benefits would save \$25,000 and the remaining savings of \$75,000 would come from the reduction in overtime. The PBA wanted a two year extension in their contract. Councilman Sarlo said the Governing Body rejected this offer.

Councilman Sarlo reported that the PBA requested doing the same givebacks for next year, which would alleviate the possibilities of demotions and layoffs. Councilman Sarlo spoke about the possibility of (3) retirements next year which would create a substantial savings.

Councilwoman Henriquez said she was very pleased to hear that the PBA was willing to provide givebacks. She felt it was appropriate for the Mayor and Council to accept this offer.

Councilman Sarlo said the Governing Body's options should be kept on the table for next year's budgetary needs.

Attorney Monaghan said if the Governing Body agrees to the option which is the 1.5% for this year and next year, it is his understanding that if an anticipated voluntary reduction of officers did not take affect in 2011, the Governing Body reserves the right to go back to the PBA for modification. He said a lot of the agreements being made tonight are contingent upon an anticipated reduction of officers next year.

Mayor Raguseo entertained a motion to add and vote on Resolution No. 137.

Motion by: C/W Steinhilber

Second by: C/W Henriquez

Roll Call: Ayes: Muller, Anzalone, Henriquez, Sarlo, Schuck Steinhilber

Nays: None

Absent: None

Mayor Raguseo entertained a motion to add repealing clauses to Resolution No. 137 to further amend Resolution No. 113 which was adopted on March 30, 2010.

Motion by: C/W Henriquez

Second by: C/M Muller

All ayes

RESOLUTION:

137. Amending Resolution Number 113 Authorizing Layoffs, Demotions and Other Matters of Personnel for Reasons of Economy and Efficiency

Since there was no other business to be discussed, Mayor Raguseo entertained a motion to adjourn.

Motion by: C/W Henriquez

Second by: C/M Muller

All ayes

Minutes transcribed by Deputy Borough Clerk Patricia Lazzaro and respectfully submitted by Borough Clerk Barbara Maldonado. I hereby certify the foregoing Minutes to be a true account of the Special Meeting of the Mayor and Council held on April 21, 2010.

Barbara Maldonado, Borough Clerk