

OFFICIAL MINUTES
OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF LITTLE FERRY
WORKSHOP/CAUCUS AND REGULAR MEETING
HELD ON DECEMBER 12, 2006

CALL TO ORDER: Council President Mauro Raguseo called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Council President Mauro Raguseo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Present: Councilman George Muller, Councilwoman Patricia Navarro, Councilman Mauro Raguseo, Councilman Thomas Sarlo, Councilwoman Sue Schuck
Absent: Mayor Thomas Quirico, Councilwoman Roberta Henriquez

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 December 1, 2006 giving notice that the previously advertised workshop meeting scheduled for December 5, 2006 has been cancelled and shall be combined with the regularly scheduled meeting to be held on December 12, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at which time formal action shall be taken as provided by the Open Public Meeting's Act. A copy of said meeting notice and agenda were filed in the Borough Clerk's Office and have been posted on the bulletin board outside of the Borough Clerk's Office.

OLD BUSINESS: Safe Streets Grant – Ken Job, Borough Engineer, said the State is administering a new program called Safe Routes to Schools. The application is due on December 28th. Councilman Sarlo said a Resolution needed to be approved. He said he also provided the Board of Education with a Resolution which they will also adopt.

Council President Raguseo entertained a motion to add Resolution No. 368 – Permitting Application for Safe Streets Grant.

Motion by: Councilwoman Schuck

Second by: Councilman Muller

All ayes

School Bus Parking – Police Chief Verdi said a parking area was being made on Union Avenue for the school bus. It will be safer for the children and the motoring public. There will be a one hour limit in the morning and a one hour limit in the afternoon for school bus parking.

NEW BUSINESS: Bergen County First Responder ID Program – Police Chief Verdi said he recommended this program. Each emergency responder will have an ID card. They will be color coded, bar coded and different crests for different towns. They will be prepared by the County. Chief Verdi said a Resolution needs to be approved and then he can contact the County to begin preparation.

Council President Raguseo entertained a motion to add Resolution No. 369 – Bergen County First Responder ID Program.

Motion by: Councilwoman Schuck

Second by: Councilman Muller

All ayes

REPORTS:

KEN JOB, BOROUGH ENGINEER reported that bids will be received for the demolition of the house on Mehrhof Road. The Contractor for the curbs and sidewalks for Veterans Park agreed to hold his price on that work until the spring. He said he received the coring and testing results for the Mehrhof Road State Aid pavement. The results came back fine.

COUNCILWOMAN SCHUCK thanked the girls at Borough Hall who helped with the Tree Lighting and Visit with Santa at Borough Hall. She also thanked Police Chief Verdi, the Police Department and DPW. She also thanked Mr. Johnson, the school choir, Craig Hartless and the CERT members. Councilwoman Schuck said all the volunteers make these events successful. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

COUNCILWOMAN NAVARRO thanked Councilwoman Schuck for the great job she did with the Tree Lighting and Visit with Santa at Borough Hall. She said that although the Building Department would be closed for a few days due to vacation scheduled, the Building Inspector could be reached by cell phone. A TANAAC meeting for Teterboro was held on October 25th. Teterboro Airport Industry Working Group is developing programs to make the airport more community friendly. Complaints are significantly lower. There are still no results on the air quality study which was conducted this past year. They hope to have more answers on this study at their January meeting. She commended Police Chief Verdi on getting involved with the Bergen County First Responder ID Program.

COUCILMAN SARLO said he, along with Captain Klein, attended the Safe Streets Seminar. He said he is also working with the Superintendent of Schools. He said it needs to be a joint application. He had nothing new to report on the Mehrhof Road Project. He spoke about the letter which pertained to the industrial spill which crossed over from Moonachie into Little Ferry. He said these environmental contaminations can get very costly. He wanted to make sure that the Borough of Little Ferry would not be spending any money and all the Borough's professional costs would be covered. He said the Borough should take all necessary precautions to get reimbursed for all the Borough's costs. Attorney Monaghan told Councilman Sarlo that Little Ferry already received a Hold Harmless Agreement from TRC RAVIV. He said the Borough still needs an updated insurance policy from them.

Ken Gabbert, Administrator, said it will be a long process and the Borough needs to be protected. He said he is looking into compensation for the Borough's inconvenience and if the Borough is losing any trees or foliage.

COUNCILMAN MULLER reported that under Finance all vouchers have been signed and are ready for payment. He had a meeting with the Borough's Insurance Risk Manager. He said the budget going into 2007 will have a 13% rate increase. He gave his police report. Under the office of Lieutenant Ebeneau, State Certified Police Instructor, classes were held for the Police Department. They were trained in the mandatory subjects domestic violence basic CPR, basic first aid and Hepatitis B. For the month of November the department answered a total of 1,861 calls. They assisted in 57 first aid calls and 15 fire calls. A total of 43 accident reports were taken on the street. The department issued a total of 335 summonses. The department responded to 7 domestic violence calls. 19 (9-1-1) calls were answered. 51 calls for service to Teterboro were answered by the Police Department. Councilman Muller said during the month of November the Police Department was outstanding in service. He commended Police Chief Verdi for his dedication and service to the Police Department.

Attorney Monaghan said he had discussions for Private Session.

REPORTS CONTINUED:

KEN GABBERT, ADMINISTRATOR reported that Resolution No. 366 grants authority to Bill Holley, Superintendent of DPW to make a recommendation for a recycling carting company. He said Resolution No. 363 the Claims List, there is a voucher to pay Maser Engineering on Veterans First Aid and Police Park. He said there was a problem with the flag poles. At that time, the Borough Attorney reached an agreement where Maser Engineering subtracted \$3,250 From the bill. The bill was originally \$10,500. The balance now is \$7,250.00. Mr. Gabbert said he wanted everyone to be aware of this and if there was a problem it needed to be discussed. At this point, he recommended paying this amount. He said the new truck is in the area. There were some discrepancies in the financial total amount and title. The truck will be inspected in New Jersey and delivered soon. He said he would like to discuss Resolutions Nos. 360 and 361 in closed session before a final vote is taken.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT RAGUSEO reported that Assemblyman Gordon and some of the State Legislators met with the Port Authority this week. They are offering small grants for homeland security or traffic safety measures for communities around Teterboro Airport. He said he would like to apply for some of the small grants and hopefully be successful. He thanked Police Chief Verdi for all his hard work, especially for his Community Outreach Meeting.

Council President Raguseo entertained a motion to open Citizens Hearing.

Motion by: Councilman Muller

Second by: Councilwoman Schuck

All ayes

Regina Coyle, 69 Grove Street, came forward to speak. She said she has attended and participated in many of the programs which Little Ferry had to offer this year. She thanked the Police Department for the CERT Team. She thanked instructors John Schwedhelm, Bill Ebeneau and Craig Hartless for all their time in making Little Ferry a safer place to live. He also thanked the DPW for helping with the beautification of Little Ferry and all the memorial services held this past year. She also thanked the Fire Department for all their hard work and for putting their lives on the line. She also thanked the first aid for their work this year. She said Councilwoman Schuck also did a great job with all the events for the children.

Rupa Patel, 6 La Rosa Drive, came forward to speak. He was concerned about the procedures he needed to follow regarding pavers around his pool. He was advised that he would have to attend the Planning Board Meeting to have his problems resolved. Mr. Gabbert said a recommendation was made that he should meet with an attorney and hopefully there might be a waiver of the escrow fee or application fee. Councilwoman Navarro advised Mr. Patel that he could have his attorney contact the Planning Board Attorney.

Since no one else wished to speak, Council President Raguseo entertained a motion to close Citizens Hearing

Motion by: Councilwoman Schuck

Second by: Councilman Muller

All ayes

ORDINANCE(S) FOR FINAL PASSAGE:BOND ORDINANCE NO. 1217-26-06

Clerk Read Ordinance by Title Only:

BOND ORDINANCE NO. 1217-26-06 CONTINUED:

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS OF THE BOROUGH OF LITTLE FERRY, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF \$500,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$475,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

Council President Raguseo entertained a Motion to open Public Hearing on Bond Ordinance No. 1217-26-06.

Motion by: C/W Navarro

Second by: C/W Schuck

All ayes

Since no one wished to speak on Bond Ordinance No. 1217-26-06, Council President Raguseo entertained a motion to close Public Hearing on Bond Ordinance No. 1217-26-06.

Motion by: C/W Navarro

Second by: C/W Schuck

All ayes

Council President Raguseo entertained a motion to Vote on Final Adoption of Bond Ordinance No. 1217-26-06 with notification of said adoption published in The Record.

Motion by: C/W Navarro

Second by: C/M Muller

Roll Call: Ayes: Muller, Navarro, Raguseo, Sarlo, Schuck

Nays: None

Absent: Henriquez

ORDINANCE NO. 1219-28-06

Clerk Read Ordinance by Title Only:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED ‘VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, PARKING’ OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF LITTLE FERRY, COUNTY OF BERGEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY”

Council President Raguseo entertained a motion to open Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 1219-28-06.

Motion by: C/W Schuck

Second by: C/M Muller

All ayes

Since no one wished to speak on Ordinance No. 1219-28-06, Council President Raguseo entertained a motion to close Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 1219-28-06.

Motion by: C/W Schuck

Second by: C/M Muller

All ayes

Council President Raguseo entertained a motion to vote on Final Adoption of Ordinance No. 1219-28-06 with notification of said adoption published in The Record.

Motion by: C/W Navarro

Second by: C/W Schuck

Roll Call: Ayes: Muller, Navarro, Raguseo, Sarlo, Schuck

Nays: None

Absent: Henriquez

PROCLAMATION/RESOLUTIONS:

Proclamation/ Resolutions will be voted upon as one unit in accordance with the consent agenda.

Council President Raguseo entertained a motion to vote on Proclamation and Resolution Nos. 345 through 359 and Resolution Nos. 362 through 369.

Motion by: C/W Schuck

Second by: C/M Muller

Roll Call: Ayes: Muller, Navarro, Raguseo, Sarlo, Schuck

Nays: None

Absent: Henriquez

PROCLAMATION: Supporting The You Drink and Drive, You Lose 2006 Year End Crackdown

RESOLUTIONS:

345. Authorizing Submission of New Jersey Meadowlands Commission 2007 Municipal Assistance Program Grant Application – (Previously adopted by telephone poll on November 20, 2006)
346. Ratifying Authorizing Submission of New Jersey Meadowlands Commission 2007 Municipal Assistance Program Grant Application
347. Release of Escrow – TMW Enterprises
348. Release of Overpayments of DCA Fees for Multiple Accounts Listed – Various Properties
349. Release of Overpayments of DCA Fees for Multiple Accounts Listed - 10 Monnett Street, 53 Redneck Avenue
350. Release of Escrow – Mr. Ali Kalkan
351. Appointment – Chaz Demera – Little Ferry Hook & Ladder Co. No. 1 – “Active Status”
352. Appointment – Tobin M. Reinert – Little Ferry Hook & Ladder Co. No. 1 – “Reserve Status”
353. Resignation – Vito Detrizio – Little Ferry Hook & Ladder Co. No. 1
354. Authorizing Issuance of 2006/2007 Vehicle License to Pride Auto Sales for the Sale/Purchase/Exchange of New, Secondhand or Used Vehicles
355. Approval of Minutes – Workshop/Caucus and Regular Meeting – November 13, 2006
356. Reinstating Christopher Wojcicki to “Active” Status Of Hook & Ladder Co. No. 1
357. Establishing Professional Services Contract Request for Qualifications Criteria Pursuant to the Fair and Open Process
358. Authorizing the Execution of a Memorandum of Agreement Between the Borough of Little Ferry and the Bergen County Utilities Authority
359. Extension of Operating Hours – Alcoholic Beverages 4 a.m. New Year’s Eve/January 1, 2007
360. Authorizing Payment to Amy Way for Participation in “Opt Out Plan” for Full-Time Employee Benefits
361. Authorizing Payment to Barbara Walsh for Participation in “Opt Out Plan” for Full-Time Employee Benefits
362. Authorization to Hold Two (2) Meetings: Sine-Die Meeting 1/5/07 – 6:30 p.m., Reorganization Meeting – 1/5/07 – 7:00 p.m.
363. Claims List
364. 2006 Budget Transfers
365. Approval of Raffle License – St. Margaret of Cortona Church
366. Authorizing Recommendation and Approval of Recycling Carting Contract

RESOLUTIONS CONTINUED:

- 367. Authorizing 2007 Vehicle Licenses: Sale: Purchase: Exchange of New, Secondhand or Used – Automobiles, Trucks/Vans, Buses, Recreational Vehicles & Motorcycles**
- 368. Permitting Application for Safe Streets Grant**
- 369. Bergen County First Responder ID Program**

PRIVATE SESSION:

Attorney Monaghan said he had Private Session matters regarding matters of personnel, litigation and negotiation.
 Council President Raguseo entertained a motion to enter into Private Session and vote on Private Session Resolution.

Motion by: C/W Schuck
 Second by: C/M Sarlo
 All ayes

RESOLUTION:

370. Executive Session Resolution

Return from Private Session

Roll Call: Present: Councilman Muller, Councilwoman Navarro,
 Councilman Raguseo, Councilman Sarlo,
 Councilwoman Schuck
 Absent: Mayor Quirico, Councilwoman Henriquez

Council President Raguseo said matters of personnel and litigation were discussed in Private Session. No action was taken.

Council President Raguseo entertained a motion to vote on Resolution Nos. 360 and 361.

Motion by C/W Navarro
 Second by: C/M Muller
 Roll Call: Ayes: Muller, Navarro, Raguseo, Sarlo Schuck
 Nays: None
 Absent: Henriquez

Attorney Monaghan said although these Resolutions were voted upon tonight, they are subject to his doing research on this matter.

Councilwoman Henriquez was on conference call for part of the Private Session Meeting.

Since there was no other business to be conducted, Council President Raguseo entertained a motion to adjourn.

Motion by: C/W Schuck
 Second by: C/W Navarro
 All ayes

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Minutes transcribed by Deputy Borough Clerk Patricia Lazzaro and respectfully submitted by Borough Clerk Barbara Maldonado. I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true account of the Workshop/Caucus and Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council held on December 12, 2006.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: -----TIME: -----P.M.