

**Borough of Rocky Hill
Borough Council
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
January 22, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Rocky Hill was called to order by Mayor Edward Zimmerman at 7:30 PM followed by the salute to the flag.

NOTICE OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Mayor Zimmerman read the following statement into the record: This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. This meeting was included in a list of meetings transmitted to the Courier News and Somerset Spectator on January 9, 2014. Notice remains continuously posted as to required notices under the Statute. A copy of this notice is available to the public and is on file in the Office of the Borough Clerk.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Tom Bremner-present, Mr. Jeff Donahue-present, Ms. Connie Hallman-present, Ms. Julia Hasser-present, Mr. Phil Kartsonis-present, Mr. Mark Pausch-present.

Also present: Mayor Ed Zimmerman, Clerk Rebecca Newman, Deputy Clerk Christine Witt, and Borough Attorney Albert Cruz.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

The Mayor thanked the County for keeping the Borough updated on the snowstorm and the Fire Department for keeping a crew at the firehouse overnight. The *Star Ledger* interviewed the Mayor and the Engineer about why Rocky Hill received all requested FEMA money from Sandy. Dr. Betsy Haines is the new voting member from Rocky Hill for the Flood Commission. The DEP has offered to buy 150 houses in the "Lost Valley" of Manville.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Reorganization/Regular Meeting Minutes – January 7, 2014. Hallman moved to approve the minutes and Donahue seconded the motion. Motion carried on roll call vote.

For: Bremner, Donahue, Hallman, Kartsonis, Pausch

Against: None

Abstain: Hasser

PUBLIC COMMENT

The floor was opened to public comment. Hearing none, the floor was closed.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Bill List dated January 22, 2014 was presented for approval. Pausch moved to approve all vouchers except 7911. Motion seconded by Donahue. Motion carried on roll call vote.

For: Bremner, Donahue, Hallman, Hasser, Kartsonis, Pausch

Against: None

Abstain: None

Donahue moved to approve voucher 7911, motion seconded by Hasser. Motion carried on roll call vote.

For: Donahue, Hallman, Hasser, Kartsonis, Pausch

Against: None

Abstain: Bremner

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Tax Collector—December 2013

Court Administrator—December 2013

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Water Department—December 2013

Motion was made by Bremner to accept the reports as presented. Motion seconded by Hasser. Motion carried on roll call vote.

For: Bremner, Donahue, Hallman, Hasser, Kartsonis, Pausch

Against: None

Abstain: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration & Records – J. Donahue. Investigating ways to make basement suitable for records storage.

Buildings & Grounds – T. Bremner. Thanks to the Clerk for buying a new vacuum cleaner. Working on updating building security, windows in the nursery school, and elevator. The Mayor added that roof will be repaired in three weeks, there will be a study of the damage in the elevator shaft, the easement clean up will take place after snow is gone, and Montgomery Township repaired the pond.

Finance & Insurance – M. Pausch. No report.

Public Safety & Emergency Services – P. Kartsonis. The next Borough OEM meeting is Tuesday, January 28th. The County OEM meeting is February 2nd on incident command. There is an open constable position.

Streets & Roads – C. Hallman. Borough residents did a great job at snow clearing. New streetlights have not been installed yet in front of post office by PSE&G.

Water, Sewer & Environmental Protection – J. Hasser. No report.

Council Representative to Planning Board – C. Hallman. The Planning Board held its reorganization meeting. Michael Goldman was elected Chair, and Brian Nolan was elected Vice Chair. Working on updating forms to make them in compliance with the revised Historic District Ordinance.

Council Liaison to Recreation Committee – C. Hallman. Will put together a Founders' Day flyer.

Council Representative to Board of Health – M. Pausch. The Board of Health had its reorganization meeting. Beverly Poelstra was elected President and Betsy Haines Vice President. They have hired a secretary.

Zoning Official's Report – No report.

Grants Committee – T. Bremner. Work has not begun yet on the Municipal Building. Received notice that we were not awarded mini grant funding for the flag preservation.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

Bylaw Review Committee

The Mayor recommended that a committee be formed to review the bylaws and suggested that the committee include the Mayor, Clerk, two Council members and two citizens. The Council discussed this proposal and concluded that would be too many people.

Pausch moved to form a bylaws committee comprised of the Mayor, Clerk, two Council members, and one citizen. Motion failed for lack of second.

Donahue moved to form a bylaws committee comprised of the Mayor, Tom Bremner, Connie Hallman, and Linda Goldman. Hallman seconded the motion. Motion carried on roll call vote.

For: Bremner, Donahue, Hallman, Hasser, Kartsonis

Against: Pausch

Abstain: None

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Discussion of Approval of Rocky Hill Cooperative Nursery School Sign

Donahue made a formal request on behalf of the RHCNS to place a sign in front of Borough Hall.

Donahue moved to approve the sign request, Hasser seconded the motion, and motion carried on roll call vote.

For: Bremner, Donahue, Hallman, Hasser, Kartsonis, Pausch

Against: None

Abstain: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Resolution 2014-26 Authorizing the Combining of Two Grants Received from the New Jersey Department of Transportation

Hasser moved to approve the resolution as presented, Bremner seconded, and the motion carried on roll call vote.

For: Bremner, Donahue, Hallman, Hasser, Kartsonis, Pausch

Against: None

Abstain: None

NEW BUSINESS

None

COMMUNICATIONS:

Communications as listed, were distributed, disseminated and filed accordingly.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ray Whitlock, 94 Crescent Ave. commented that the bylaws are for Council operations.

Executive Session

Anticipated Contract Negotiations: Pending Easement on Grove Street

Tabled

Borough Attorney Cruz is trying to track down a 1930 tax map.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Bremner with a second by Donahue to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 PM. Motion carried on voice vote.

Respectfully submitted:

Christine Witt

Deputy Borough

List of Bills - (0810101001) CASH
UTILITY OPERATING

Check#	Vendor	Description	Payment	Check Total
6854	415 - AQUA PRO TECH LABS	PO 4681 Water Dept. testing Dec. 2013	20.00	20.00
6855	364 - BRIAN RICHTER	PO 4664 Read water meter books for Q4 2013	200.00	200.00
6856	321 - MIRACLE CHEMICAL CO	PO 4662 Water Dept. chemicals	30.20	30.20
6857	450 - ONE CALL CONCEPTS INC	PO 4654 One Calls Dec. 2013	4.56	4.56
6858	204 - PITNEY BOWES	PO 4670 Postage machine rental Dec. 2013	58.00	58.00
6859	210 - PSE&G	PO 4650 Water Dept. electric Dec. 2013	2,107.10	2,107.10
6860	259 - NEW JERSEY STATE TREASURER	PO 4686 NJ Dept. of Env. Protection: Bureau	205.00	205.00
6861	289 - VERIZON	PO 4659 Water Dept. phone Dec. 2013	30.00	30.00
TOTAL				2,654.86

Total to be paid from Fund 08 UTILITY OPERATING

2,654.86

2,654.86

List of Bills - (1210101001) CASH - DOG FUND
ANIMAL CONTROL

Check#	Vendor	Description	Payment	Check Total
1	155 - MGL FORMS-SYSTEMS	PO 4690 Dog and Cat licenses 2014	324.00	324.00
TOTAL				324.00

Total to be paid from Fund 12 ANIMAL CONTROL

324.00

324.00

COUNTY OF SOMERSET
BOROUGH OF ROCKY HILL

RESOLUTION 2014 - 26

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COMBINING OF TWO GRANTS RECEIVED
FROM THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

WHEREAS, the Borough of Rocky Hill applied and was awarded a grant for the fiscal year 2011 for the installation of pedestrian activated flashing signals; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Rocky Hill applied and was awarded an additional grant for the fiscal year 2012 for the Washington Street Beautification; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Rocky Hill applied and was awarded an additional grant for the fiscal year 2013 for the Washington Street Beautification; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council and Borough Engineer felt it was most advantageous to combine these three grant funded projects into one for the following reasons:

1. The three projects overlap- the beautification project encompasses all but one of the intersections that the pedestrian activated flashing signals could be installed.
2. The projects compliment one another-the Pedestrian Signal Grant would have required the use of plain concrete and the beautification project would replace the plain concrete with stamped concrete.
3. The project cost- the original grant request for the 2011 FY grant did not encompass the cost of replacing the accessibility ramps. The sidewalks will be redone utilizing the downtown beautification grant funding which will meet the current ADA requirements.
4. Utilizing local funds- additional funding-was needed to replace the access ramps to meet current codes as part of the installation of the pedestrian activated flashing signals from the FY 2011 grant. This additional funding to cover accessibility reconstruction needed to be allocated in the 2012 budget for the Borough. With the award of the first beautification grant in 2012 and the second one in 2013, the Borough saw an opportunity to combine the projects and leverage all funding available, both grant and local, to obtain a larger more cost efficient project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rocky Hill request the combining of the three grants received from the NJ Department of Transportation for the installation of pedestrian activated cross walk signals and the two Washington Street Beautification projects 2012 & 2013 to take advantage of economies of scale by expanding the project and by awarding it to one contractor.

CERTIFICATION

I, Rebecca Newman, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough of Rocky Hill at a meeting duly held on January 27, 2014.

Rebecca Newman, Clerk

My signature and the Clerk's seal serve to acknowledge the above resolution and constitute acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approve the execution of the grant agreement as authorized by the resolution above.

ATTEST and AFFIX SEAL

Rebecca Newman, Clerk

Edward Zimmerman, Mayor