



Florham Park Borough Council
Thursday, February 26, 2015
Work Session Minutes

Mayor Taylor called the work session to order at 6:30 p.m. He asked the Borough Clerk for a roll call:

Governing Body	Present	Absent
Mayor Taylor	X	
Council President Carpenter	X	
Councilman Germershausen	X	
Councilwoman Cefolo-Pane	X	
Councilman Malone	X	
Councilman Michalowski		X
Councilman Zuckerman	X	

Council Portfolio Updates:

Council President Malone provided the following report:

- A third grade group of Brownies asked if they could do a brownie project concerning Elm Street. Mr. Malone proposed the idea of building birdhouses and placing them along the wooded area next to the detention basin. The idea was well received. It was suggested that Mr. Malone consult with the Environmental Commission and he stated he would proceed along those lines.
 Attorney Joseph Bell requested that the Borough make sure they are covered under the Borough's insurance Policy.

- A list of questions was sent to Morris County Energy Co-op, which they answered. Mr. Malone stated that we have listened to their presentation and did their due diligence by asking some more questions. Mr. Malone stated that he feels the Council should observe what happens with the co-op over the course of the year and revisit it next year. He stated that it is a great idea for the Council to review and know it is there; however, after reviewing it more thoroughly, he thinks the Council should table it for now.

Mayor Taylor thanked Council President Malone for compiling questions and getting answers.

Two draft ordinances are on the agenda tonight under Mr. Malone's portfolio which will be explained in the regular meeting.

Council President Malone stated that he, Mr. Timmons and Mr. Huyler met with the Board of Education regarding field usage; very beneficial to us. Very positive field focused meeting.

Council President Malone thanked Borough Administrator Bill Huyler for organizing the anti-nepotism committee meeting which was discussed this weekend. The committee had some preliminary discussions as well as a general path.

Also Bill Huyler is arranging talks with a new insurance broker; there may be some cost savings as well.

Councilman Germershausen provided the following report:

Mr. Germershausen stated he had a copy of a water study that was done. He stated that in 2009 the Council asked DCS Director Carl Ganger to review the current water rate structure and update how the manganese treatment plant under Ordinance 2006-17 for \$7.8M would impact the water utility rates and debt service. The objectives of the study were to determine the revenue requirements of the water utility operations and to define the appropriate rate designed to generate the required revenues. It should be noted that the water system functions are designed to meet both average and maximum demands and vary as the quantity, rate of use, time of use and duration. The allocation factors developed require experienced judgement and analyzing a wide spectrum of the integral parameters including design criteria, operation practices, volume demand, data and accounting, billing history. After considerable review it was determined that the current rate structure was insufficient to generate enough revenue; therefore, a

new rate structure is proposed, equitably allocates costs to all user groups. It will increase block rates but will reduce residential schedule from five tiers to three tiers. It maintains the number of commercial tiers. He provided an overview of the new rates, which he said are spelled out in the study. He stated the Mayor and Council had all received copies to review.

Mayor Taylor asked the Council to get back to Mr. Germershausen with questions and on the study.

Councilman Malone stated that there was a ton of information; he had been traveling and didn't have enough time to go through it all. He thinks there should be a summary of what is contained in the study and suggested that a summary be prepared outlining the highlights of the study. Mr. Malone wasn't sure how the well-head ordinance fit in.

Councilman Germershausen said the purpose of the well-head Ordinance was to ensure the health and safety of the drinking water and contaminants. He provided an overview of the Ordinance.

Councilman Carpenter said this is more than just a rate study; it's a study of the water as well. He further stated that he agrees with Councilman Malone that a summary should be prepared.

Councilman Germershausen said the Council should go over the rates; he finds them to be on the high side.

Councilwoman Cefolo-Pane:

- Gazebo Summer Concert Series: Will have 7 concerts this year;
- June 7th - Larry Stevens
- June 14 – RB Express
- June 21 – JoBonanno & The Godsons of Soul
- June 28 – David Aaron Orchestra
- July 12- Little Big Band
- July 19 – Woodson and the Bahama Mamas
- July 26 – Jesse Garron

Planning Board Meeting held as follows:

- London Day School came in. They are expanding their services down to 18 month olds. Application was not heard; application was not complete.

- Florham Park Sports Dome Corp. at 71-76 Passaic was back in; still going through their application. As of now, they have indoor regulation size turf soccer and lacrosse field indoors; a swimming pool for their day camp; 8,000 sq. ft. party room. They had traffic and parking experts as well; they are going to make more revisions and they will be back.

Councilman Carpenter provided the following report:

- Fire Department:
 - Had cooperative drill with the First Aid Squad; went well
- Engineering:
 - Mike Sgaramella received results of study for the Felch Road improvement project; overwhelming majority in favor of not providing a sidewalk there
- Police Department:

Nothing exciting happening in the PD at the moment; traffic studies are continuing

- DPW:
 - Review of organic waste program for 2014; some of the goals were achieved were total dumps of material was down by 25%; stops were down by 40%; saved approximately 250 man hours. Man hours were reallocated to catch up on catch basins repair and tree cutting. Also, they were able to man the recycling center on Friday. The plan is to continue with the same plan with some possible adjustments in pick-up requirements. Also plan on doing informative leaflets.

Councilman Zuckerman provided the following report:

- Municipal Pool – Ordinance on tonight for first reading for 2015 Pool Rates; 7% increase; reduced the age for senior citizens to 62. Right now not on schedule for renovations right now; pool full of snow.
- Environmental Commission has set up two Saturdays in April for work at Spring Garden Lake; 2nd Saturday in May will be working at Memorial Park on Brooklake Road
- Historical Preservation Commission resolution on agenda to apply for funds; also looking to fix the retaining wall around the Little Red Schoolhouse

Mayor Taylor:

- Attended the meeting regarding the Pilgrim Pipeline with Environmental Commission Chair Ted Trautman. They gained some important information; very informative.
- Mayor Taylor thanked DPW Director Frank Esposito and his men for all of the storms they have been handling. Mayor Taylor stated that he always receives complimentary phone calls. He asked the audience to give a round of applause and stated it was all good.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Mayor Taylor opened the meeting to the public.

Public Comments:

John Winters, 32 Brooklake Road

- Asked various questions regarding new water rates and service fees. Mr. Winters asked if the contractor working on the pool would get a little bone if he gets down with the pool work on time. Councilman Zuckerman stated they hope and pray the pool will be done.

Seeing no more members of the public who wished to be heard, Council President Carpenter closed the meeting to the public.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:00 p.m. the Council returned to open session. On a motion made by Councilman Malone and duly seconded, the work session was adjourned by a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila A. Williams, R.M.C.
Borough Clerk
March 19, 2015