

**BOROUGH OF BOUND BROOK-
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES –FEBRUARY 24, 2009**

Mayor Pilato called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with a reading of the Open Public Meetings Law Statement, Opening Prayer read by the Borough Clerk.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Pilato	present
Council Thompson	present
Council President Vasquez	absent-arrived 7:05 p.m.
Council Auletta	present
Council Pranzatelli	present
Council Dietrich	present
Council Petti	present

In attendance: Donna Marie Godleski, Borough Clerk; Borough Attorney Louis N. Rainone, Esq.

Absent: Randy Bahr, Borough Administrator

The Pledge of Allegiance was read with the Girl Scout troops.

Proclamation- Girl Scout Week-March 8-14-, 2009

Mayor Pilato read the proclamation into the record of minutes.

The Girl Scout troops present were from Troop 331, 229 and 510.

A presentation on the “CAP” program was given by Kevin Sullivan, Art Teacher at the High School. He stated that he is was an advisor on a weekend retreat at Camp Bernie with the students on building leadership skills. As a result of this trip, a program was developed to give back to the community.

Several High School students were present to discuss the community outreach program. The High School is presenting the first annual community adult program on March 12, 2009 at the High School. The program is designed for the adults in Bound Brook who may or may not be familiar with the town’s high school. The High School is eager to show just what they have been doing, learning and achieving.

The free program will have science, art, chess, performances and dinner. The students have been circulating flyers around town and attended a Seniors Meeting to present the program.

Dr. Hoffman-Bound Brook Superintendent of Schools- was present to ask the council’s consideration to move the polling places for the school board election in April to two of their school buildings.

Dr. Hoffman talked about elections as a part of our educational process. A “Kids Vote” program will take place in each of their buildings. The students will be debating topics of interest to their age grade level.

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This will take place in another area off the polling location. This program is a project statewide; endorsed by the Department of Education. The commissioner is directing schools to make citizenship education and responsibility of voting in educating our students. In addition, work with students to understand the importance of being an active member of community; getting out voting in all elections. Part of our education process is talking about the necessity of passing a school budget. We would like people to come in and see the schools, the changes that have been made.

The parking is viable ~~is viable~~ at our schools; the security has been improved in all buildings. It is not an issue as it was 4 to 5 years ago.

The locations that are requested are Lafayette School and the High School.

A Board of Education member was present and stated that this change is supported by the board and they encourage the governing body support.

Mayor Pilato asked if the school would entertain having all elections moved there. Dr. Hoffman stated they would entertain all elections. Mayor Pilato asked if the school board would waive any costs to the borough. Dr. Hoffman stated he would bring that request back to the school board.

Mayor Pilato stated that the Borough Clerk will have a conversation with the Elections Superintendent to check if these sites are agreeable and all other elections would they be agreeable as well.

Under New Business a resolution will be formalized.

Approval of Minutes

Agenda/Workshop-February 10, 2009

Motion moved by C. Dietrich; second by C. Vasquez; all in favor-ayes

Mayor Pilato gave a brief update on 100 West Main Street.

A Superior Court Order was filed to Brook Industrial Park to come up with a remediation plan in ten days to remove the soil. The borough won the court case and now the dirt has to be moved.

Congressman Lance visited the borough last week. He was given a tour of the Flood Control Project. He was informed that the project was fully funded in the stimulus program. Projection of completion by 2011.

Mayor Pilato stated he will seek to go to Washington, D.C. to meet with Secretary Woodley on this.

Greetings of the Public and Invitation for Discussion

Short- 169 Cherry Avenue

Ms. Short asked the High School if there was a consideration for computer adult programs. The students stated they would be more than happy to assist.

Bill Siebel-633 Watchung Road

Mr. Siebel asked when Watchung Road will be regraded and resurfaced. He also asked about sidewalks. Mayor Pilato stated that this project was submitted to the DOT as a potential stimulus project that they may finance. If this does not happen, then there is the question of moving forward with the project.

Mr. Siebel also addressed the potholes on Piedmont and Church stating that they are very bad.

Mayor Pilato offered the following appointments-

- Economic Development Advisory Committee –
- John Buckley
- Jim Lefkowitz
- Motion moved by C. Pranzatelli; second by C. Vasquez; all in favor –eyes

- Board of Health
- Lisa Slater – regular member-term expires 2012
- Motion moved by C. Vasquez;second by C. Thompson; all in favor –eyes

- Somerset County 2009 Community Development Committee-
- Mayor Carey Pilato
- Council President Javier Vasquez
- Motion moved by C. Dietrich; second by C. Vasquez; all in favor _-eyes

- Municipal Energy Team to work with Somerset County Energy Team
- Randy Bahr, Administrator
- Tom Miller-Public Works Superintendent
- Cindy Tierney- Deputy Clerk
- Motion moved by C. Pranzatelli; second by C. Vasquez; all in favor-eyes

Committee Reports:

Public Safety- Police, Fire & Rescue-C. Dietrich

C. Dietrich read the Monthly report into the record of minutes.

Committee has completed police promotion process. C. Dietrich will reach out to Mr. Bahr on the next step.

The Rescue Squad will be celebrating their 75th Anniversary. C. Dietrich will reach to the Rescue Squad Captain for more details.

Public Works- C. Thompson

C. Thompson reported on the matter of lights not working at the train station. This is being worked on. Vosseller Avenue was televised two weeks ago for sewer replacement. Improvements with graffiti continue at the train station.

Regarding potholes-teams are out working on those. Filling the potholes depends on the weather. Until we start having warmer weather the potholes being filled now will have to hold until then. The potholes will stay until we get the streets done.

Economic Development- C. Pranzatelli

C. Pranzatelli provided a summary on the meeting two weeks ago with the Downtown Advisory Business Team. After the tour the team gave the borough a summary of their visit. The borough was told the story of Bound Brook is not just that of a town but the tale of two towns. A community of people that came from afar. The other town sits to the north; people born here, established homes. Both towns survive on their own. The question is can they do better. The poor economy has taken a toll on both. This is what the Mayor and myself learned from this tour.

We are waiting for the report summary from the Downtown Advisory Business Team. If Bound Brook is to become that special place the big obstacle is cultural differences. A better Bound Brook is one of our goals. Ethnic diversity could make for a great town

The committee met and discussed -

- West Bound Train Station-The Rail

A list of improvements were reviewed which were proposed by applicant. This was compared with actions by code enforcement. We then put together a list of recommendations which will be discussed later in executive session.

- East Bound Train Station-received approval from the state. We should have shovel in the ground the end of March.
- Community Development Block Grant- preliminary applications submitted; due in April; T&M Associates, Borough Engineer is on top of this.

- Economic Development Improvement Grant- applications not available yet; this may be an opportunity to make application for a hire of a downtown business advocate that was suggested by the Downtown Business Assistance Team.

- PPS Report- Draft-Amended Redevelopment Plan for area 2 in the master plan- In order to conform to requirements of consent decree, we have reduced the size of Area 2. The report breaks down details about buildings, etc.

Mayor Pilato reported that the Economic Development Advisory Committee should offer a recommendation to place a resolution on to start an ordinance for this redevelopment zone. We will then refer to the Planning Board. If they agree it comes back for a second reading, then an ordinance. The attorney stated that the Planning Board would also do the appropriate amendment to the master plan.

- Spoke with Regional Plan Association which proposes a plan that further details the county plan for the transit village area.

RPA plans will be funded by \$50,000 smart growth plan.

- Penrose and Elite Properties will be discussed in executive session.
- Mayor Pilato reported that John Maddox from the Economic Development Business Partnership has ideas for the downtown economic development person. This may cost Bound Brook zero dollars financing through a small business development center.

- Sign Ordinance-

Committee will have a timeline for the next committee report.

The committee has taken several ordinances from other towns which they are reviewing. Lot of opinions; process is dragging on.

Mayor Pilato suggested a simple ordinance where our zoning officer can approve signs. Our ordinance now has the Planning Board involved which adds to doing business in Bound Brook.

Finance- C. Auletta

C. Auletta reported that Mr. Bahr has asked department heads to provide their budget requests. He has assembled information into worksheets. He will be meeting with Department Heads and will refine numbers and come up with a proposed budget. This will be reviewed with the finance committee.

A Special Finance Meeting is scheduled for this Saturday, February 28 @ 9 a.m. This meeting was advertised at the beginning of the year with the Annual Meeting Schedule.

Zoning, Construction & Code Enforcement- C. Petti

C. Petti read his monthly report into the record of minutes.
Mayor Pilato reported in the Board of Health minutes there were a few troubling summonses. Property owners decided on their own they were not going to provide heat for their tenants.
The owners were only providing heat 35 to 45 degrees. State laws require 65 degrees.

Personnel, Administration, Ordinances- C. Vasquez

C. Vasquez reported he is working on the personnel policy with Mr. Bahr, Administrator. The public works contract is being reviewed.
The design and layout on the website will be complete in two weeks.
He has a matter for executive session discussion regarding Personnel.

Adoption of Ordinance-Second Reading

ORDINANCE B09-02- AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF BOUND BROOK, IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$3,362,875 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.

Motion to open to public: C. Vasquez Second: C. Pranzatelli All in favor: Ayes
Motion to close to public: C. Pranzatelli Second: C. Vasquez All in favor: Ayes
No public comment
Motion to adopt: C. Pranzatelli Second: C. Dietrich
Roll Call: Unanimously adopted

Resolutions

Resolution No. 09- 36- PULLED

Authorize Professional Services Agreements for Appointed Professionals

Resolution No. 09-37

Authorize Submission of Safe Corridors Grant

Motion: Dietrich Second: Vasquez All in favor: ayes

Resolution No. 09-38

Authorize Chief Finance Officer to refund parking permit application fee to (4) applicants

Motion: Pranzatelli Second: Vasquez All in favor: ayes

Resolution No. 09-39

Authorize Tax Collector to refund tax overpayment to
121 Agnes Place-Block 98.03, Lot 19
317 East Street; Block 67, Lot 6
250 West Main Street; Block 1, Lot 15

Motion: Pranzatelli Second: Vasquez All in favor: ayes

Resolution No. 09-40

Approval of Vouchers

Motion: Vasquez Second: Pranzatelli All in favor: ayes

Resolution No. 09-41

Authorize Executive Session – Negotiations; Personnel; Litigation;
Matters for discussion-Rail Building; Elite; Penrose; Army Corp of Engineers; Bolmer
Building; No action will be taken in regular session

Motion: Vasquez Second: Pranzatelli All in favor: ayes

Approvals:

- Firemen's membership Application-Louis Pizzigoni
- Motion: Dietrich Second: Pranzatelli All in favor: Ayes
- Raffle License-HSA Holy Family Academy- 50/50/-June 15, 2009
- Motion: Pranzatelli Second: Vasquez All in favor: Ayes

Old Business

Mayor reported on the letter sent to the DOT regarding Route 28 improvements. Included in that letter was discussion on Thompson Avenue. On a monthly basis utility crews are being sent to replace poles. In addition, discussion on Vosseller Avenue and Carleton Street.

New Business

Discussed in public comment by Dr. Hoffman- Request to move polling locations for school board election-

Motion moved by C. Dietrich; second by C. Vasquez; all in favor-ayes

Authorize municipal clerk to request that county board of elections consolidate for the purposes of the school board election all of the polling places into the two (2) newly suggested locations- Lafayette School and the High School. In addition, the Primary and General Elections.

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C. Thompson-

Addressed the hiring of part time for public works; grass cutting, etc. Suggest (2)- college students.

Will meet with committee to discuss and report back to the council.

Also suggest meeting with the school and discuss what we do and what they will do as far as maintenance; cutting grass;etc.

Mayor Pilato suggested reviewing the public works contract regarding the hire of part-time help for the summer.

Open to Public

Roseanne Short- 169 Cherry-

Ms. Short asked if the school system and the borough are looking into energy conservation measures.

Dr. Hoffman stated that they are looking at this, an energy audit is being done.

Mayor Pilato stated that the borough is seeking assistance from Somerset County and Board of Public Utilities regarding energy audit program.

Mayor Pilato reported that he would be attending an Energy Summit.

Adjourn to Executive Session at 8:25 p.m.

Regular Meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,


Donna Marie Godleski, Borough Clerk