

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

7:00 PM, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2000

The meeting was opened by Mayor Ryan who read the following statement: "This meeting is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law in that the requirements of the law have been met with the posting of the meeting notice on the Municipal Bulletin Board, filed with the Borough Clerk, and forwarded to the Courier-News, the Bound Brook Chronicle, the Home News and the Star Ledger on January 2, 2000".

A prayer was offered by the Clerk-Administrator followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Ryan, C. Pres. Carbone, C. Bruno, C. Higginbottom
C. Slater, C. Siebel, C. Anderson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Carbone, second by Siebel and unanimously approved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 11, 2000.

Motion by Siebel, second by Carbone and unanimously approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 11, 2000.

Motion by Higginbottom, second by Slater and unanimously approved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Special Meeting of February 1, 2000.

Motion by Carbone, second by Higginbottom and unanimously approved the minutes of the Special Meeting of February 1, 2000.

GREETINGS OF THE PUBLIC AND INVITATION FOR DISCUSSION:

Rosanne Short, 169 Cherry Avenue, thanked the public works department for their quick snow removal. Would like to see the requirement for property owners to shovel their sidewalks better enforced.

Steve Chubrick, 225 West Main Street, stated that there are several existing ordinances not being enforced: cleaning up after dogs, snow removal, abandoned vehicles, garbage put out too soon, illegal parking and no parking during snow emergencies.

Nadine Warner, owner of Bound Brook Hotel, complained about the flood control project being postponed until October.

Marie Colombaroni, 532 Longwood Avenue, complained about the condition of sidewalks throughout town.

Karen Fritz, 523 Winsor Street, asked what could take precedence over the Greenbrook Flood Control Project.

Tony Sheha, Greenbrook Flood Control Commission member, suggested that residents attend the Greenbrook Flood Control Commission meetings.

Ed Zujkowski, Greenbrook Flood Control Commission member, stated that Hurricane Floyd caused some re-designs of the flood control project.

Andrew Rehm, Plymouth Mass., stated that his apartments are 11' 6" above grade but that this was done more to provide parking than protect against flooding.

Marie Colombaroni, 523 Longwood Avenue, questioned how long the flood control project would take.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Carbone - Reported on overcrowding inspections. The Health Department is continuing its inspections. There are a lot of no heat problems.

Bruno - P.B.A. negotiations are complete. The police department took a very reasonable approach. The new contract provides for pay increases of 2.5%, 3.25%, 3.5% and 3.75% over the next four years

Higginbottom - Work is continuing on the redevelopment plan. There is another meeting scheduled for tomorrow night at Bound Brook High School.

Slater - Commented on the borough's loss in ratables. Invited the public to stay for the Somerset County Prosecutor's presentation on the COPS in shoos program.

Siebel - The police department issued 119 summonses for parking during a snow emergency. They issued a total of 608 summonses, made 279 motor vehicle stops and 53 arrests. The Rescue Squad responded to 51 calls. The fire department expended 7667 man hours and responded to 276 alarms in 1999.

Anderson - No report.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

2000-3 - Increase liquor license fees.

Motion by Carbone, second by Siebel, unanimous.

2000-4 - Establishing drunk driving free school zones.

Motion by Higginbottom, second by Carbone, unanimous

2000-5 - Budget CAP index rate ordinance.

Motion by Carbone, second by Slater, unanimous.

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL READING, PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION:

2000-1 - Approve lease for temporary public works facility at Bridgewater Industrial Park.

Motion to open the public hearing by Siebel, second by Bruno, unanimous.

Motion to close the public hearing by Bruno, second by Slater, unanimous.

Motion to adopt ordinance 2000-1 by Carbone, second by Bruno, unanimous.

2000-2 - Prohibit parking of commercial vehicles on residential property in residential zones.

Since this ordinance is an amendment to our Land Use Ordinance it had to be referred to the Planning Board for their concurrence. The Planning Board did not concur. They recommended increasing the length of a prohibited commercial vehicle from sixteen (16) to twenty (20) feet. At this point Slater made a motion to amend the ordinance with a public hearing on the amended ordinance on March 14; second by Anderson.

Roll Call: Aye - Carbone, Higginbottom, Slater, Siebel, Anderson

No - Bruno

RESOLUTIONS:

00-11 - Approve revised police department rules and regulations.

Motion to remove from table by Siebel, second by Bruno, unanimous.

Motion to adopt by Siebel, second by Slater, unanimous.

00-19 - Introduce 2000 municipal budget.

Motion by Carbone, second by Higginbottom, unanimous.

00-20 - Transfer jurisdiction of East Main Street to Somerset County upon their concurrence.
Motion by Siebel, second by Carbone, unanimous.

00-21 - Support Somerset County EDA Demonstration Pilot Grant to assess contamination of brounfields sites.
Motion by Slater, second by Carbone, unanimous

00-22 - Seek "Rainy Day" funding to offset tax increase.
Motion by Bruno, second by Siebel, unanimous.

00-23 - Eliminate part-time position in the fire prevention bureau.
Motion to defeat by Siebel, second by Carbone, unanimous.

PRESENTATION OF COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, ETC.:
Monthly Departmental Reports - Motion by Higginbottom, second by Carbone, unanimous.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Somerset County Prosecutor made a presentation in support of the COPS in school program.

Rosanne Short, 169 Cherry Avenue, thinks its a good program.

Steve Chubrick, 225 West Main Street, has financial concerns regarding the program. Schools do not need a police officer in them full time. Recommends the subject be put off.

Joe Viano, Central Avenue, does not think the D.A.R.E. program is working very well.

Georgette Miller, 351 Grove Avenue, stated that a police officer in a school building is a non-threatening adult in that building.

Frank Morano, 655 Church Street, asked whatever happened to our juvenile officer. supports the program.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bruno - Stated that the overcrowding inspector is a sensitive job. It does not have a job description. The individual is not reporting to the proper person. You can't just have inspectors going door-to-door based on rumors.

Siebel - The Memorial Day Parade will be May 29. The route has been changed. He is looking into have a bicycle ~~rate~~ to replace the one that left Scotch Plains. There will be a picnic for volunteers on May 20.

APPROVALS:

Vouchers - Motion by Bruno, second by Slater, unanimous.

OPENING OF THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC ON AGENDIZED ITEMS ONLY:

John Gardner, 606 Welch Road, questioned what has changed since April, 1999 when the same truck ordinance was defeated.

Charles Teryek, 115 Wahnetah Drive, supports the truck ordinance.

John Gardner, 606 Welch Road, asked why complaints can't be handled on an individual basis or why existing trucks can't be grandfathered.

Tom Bowlby, 162 Cherry Avenue, had some questions about the timing and public notice

aspects of the ordinance.

Linda Brnicevic, 20 Talmage Avenue, questioned the topic of the January 22 council meeting.

Rosanne short, 169 Cherry Avenue, thought that such a truck ordinance already existed.

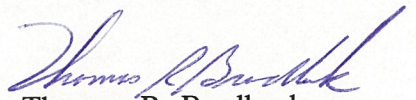
Steve Chubrick, 225 West Main Street, opposes the truck ordinance.

Motion for a closed session to discuss pending litigation, potential litigation, negotiations and personnel by Bruno, second by Slater, unanimous.

Council back.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Bruno, second by Higginbottom, unanimous.

Time: 10:35 PM


Thomas R. Brodbeck
Borough Clerk-Administrator