

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

7:00 PM, TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1999

The meeting was opened by Mayor Gilly 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 1, 1999."

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

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Gilly, C. Pres. Higginbottom, C. Bruno, C. Shapiro, C. Ryan, C. Carbone
Absent: C. Slater (arrived 7:20 PM)

Mayor Gilly presented an American Public Works Association award to Superintendent of Public works Mark Cassebaum.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Higginbottom, second by Shapiro and unanimously approved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 8, 1998.

Motion by Shapiro, second by Bruno and unanimously approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 8, 1998.

Motion by Shapiro, second by Bruno and unanimously approved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Special Meeting of December 22, 1998.

Motion by Higginbottom, second by Bruno and unanimously approved the minutes of the Special Meeting of December 22, 1998.

Motion by Bruno, second by Carbone and unanimously approved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Reorganization Meeting of January 1, 1999.

Motion by Bruno, second by Shapiro and unanimously approved the minutes of the Reorganization Meeting of January 1, 1999.

GREETINGS OF THE PUBLIC AND INVITATION FOR DISCUSSION:

Rosanne Short, 169 Cherry Avenue, complimented the new councilmen and Chief Henderson.

George Plesa, West Main Street, complimented Mark Cassebaum on his award.

Fiore Cirello, 244 Chestnut Street, complained about a bill from Mike's Towing.

Nadine Warner, 435 East Union Avenue, asked if there was an ordinance regarding snow removal from sidewalks.

Karen Fritz, 523 Winsor Street, complimented Chief Henderson on the recent arrests at a local go-go bar.

Cameron McEwen, 338 West Main Street, complained about conditions on Talmage Avenue.

Councilman Slater arrived at this time.

Linda Brnicevic, 20 Talmage Avenue, complained about the number of pay phones in the downtown area.

Michael Allaire, 259 West High Street, questioned the status of the High and Tea Street asbestos exposure problem, the sidewalk and fencing on Tea Street and the parking situation at Rosina's. Complained about dumping in the Tea Street parking lot, speeding on High Street and cars not stopping at the stop signs at Thompson Avenue and Verona Place.

Carol Aloisi, 20 West Maple Avenue, complained about the borough not taking a stronger stance against go-go bars.

Jean Mangino, 338 West Maple Avenue, questioned why other kennels did not respond to our request for proposals.

Karen Fritz, 523 Winsor Street, wrapped up complaints regarding the Talmage Avenue area.

Carmella DiMatteo, 414 West Maple Avenue, requested resident permit parking on Highland Place.

Phyllis Pournaras, 570 Winsor Street, requested "no Left turn" from Hamilton Street onto Main Street during the morning hours. Also complained about the timing of freight trains backing up traffic on Main Street.

Nadine Warner, 435 East Union Avenue, was concerned about the traffic light being installed at East Street and Union Avenue.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:
Higginbottom - No report.

Bruno - No report.

Shapiro - Thanked the ABC and borough police department for the recent arrests at a local go-go bar. The police department has offered to meet with local business owners regarding any security concerns. He will be attending a fire department board of engineers meeting later this month and will be meeting with the rescue squad.

Slater - The finance committee will have a recommendation regarding transfers and will need a closed session regarding personnel,

Ryan - He is working with the county to solve the problems brought up by Cameron McEwen and his group.

Carbone - He is working on right to know compliance. Drove around town with Mark Cassebaum. We are in need of some catch basins.

Gilly - Nominated Sam Todaro for Alternate #2 on the Parking commission. Roll call was unanimous.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

99-1 - Increasing liquor license fees: Retail consumption from \$1112 to \$1334 and Retail Distribution from \$778 to \$933.

Motion to introduce and set public hearing for February 8, 1999 by Shapiro, second by Higginbottom.

Roll Call: Aye - Higginbottom, Bruno, Shapiro, Ryan, Carbone
No - Slater

RESOLUTIONS:

99-10 - Professional services resolution for the Borough Attorney, Auditor and Engineer.
Motion by Ryan, second by Carbone, unanimous.

99-11 - Authorize Mayor and Clerk-Administrator to sign Municipal Alliance Grant Agreement with Somerset county in the amount of \$12,007.
Motion by Carbone, second by Bruno, unanimous.

99-12 - Approve 1999 Community Development Grant applications as follows: (1) Sanitary sewer reconstruction in Imlay Place and in Park Place between Grove and Evergreen Avenues, (2) Low/Moderate Income Housing Rehabilitation, (3) Codrington Park Improvements.
Motion by Higginbottom, second by Shapiro, unanimous.

99-13 - Appoint Y2K advisory committee as recommended by the state consisting of Brad Higginbottom, Thomas White and Thomas Brodbeck.
Motion by Slater, second by Shapiro, unanimous.

99-14 - Authorize Mayor and Clerk-Administrator to sign 1999 recycling agreement with Somerset County.
Motion by Higginbottom, second by Ryan, unanimous.

99-15 - \$15,368.29 transfer in appropriation reserves.
Motion by Bruno, second by Slater, unanimous.

99-16 - \$5348.67 transfer in appropriation reserves.
Motion by Higginbottom, second by Ryan.
Motion to table by Bruno, second by Slater.
Roll Call: Aye - Bruno, Shapiro, Slater, Gilly
No - Higginbottom, Ryan, Carbone

PRESENTATION OF COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, ETC.:

Monthly Departmental Reports - Motion by Shapiro, second by Carbone, unanimous.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Bruno reported on police department computer upgrades.

NEW BUSINESS:

The planning board submitted a written request to have the zoning officer attend planning board meetings.

Motion by Ryan, second by Shapiro.
Roll Call: Aye - Higginbottom, Shapiro, Slater, Ryan, Carbone
No - Bruno

Slater requested consideration for an ordinance restricting parking of large vehicles on private property. Since this would be a zoning ordinance, the Clerk-Administrator will submit one to the planning board for recommendation.

APPROVALS:

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

Motion by Slater, second by Bruno to remove resolution 99-16 from table.
Roll Call: Aye - Bruno, Slater
No - Higginbottom, Shapiro, Ryan, Carbone

Councilman Shapiro left at this time (8:45 PM).

OPENING OF THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC ON AGENDIZED ITEMS ONLY:
Phyllis Pournaras, 570 Winsor Street, thought that the lease arrangement for police vehicles was a good deal.

John Warner, 435 East Union Avenue, questioned how many police cars the borough currently has.

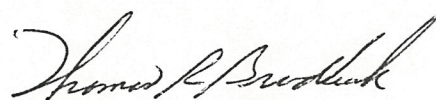
Cameron McEwen, 338 West Main Street, stated that there are plenty of code violations in the borough that are not being enforced now.

Motion by Slater, second by Higginbottom and unanimously approved for a closed session to discuss personnel.

Council back.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Carbone, second by Slater, unanimous.

Time: 9:30 PM



Thomas R. Brodbeck
Borough Clerk-Administrator