

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

7:30 PM, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1997

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 2, 1997."

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

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Gilly, C. Pres. Bruno, C. Higginbottom, C. Custy,
C. Woldin, C. Shapiro
Absent: C. Richardson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Custy, second by Woldin and unanimously approved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 25, 1997.

Motion by Custy, second by Woldin and unanimously approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 25, 1997.

GREETINGS OF THE PUBLIC AND INVITATION FOR DISCUSSION:

Mary Moody, downtown planner, reported on the status of the Bound Brook/South Bound Brook Joint Town Center designation.

David Domby, 445 West Maple Avenue, requested resident permit parking on portions of West Maple Avenue. Presented a petition in support of his request.

Rosanne Short, 169 Cherry Avenue, thanked the council for good leaf pick up this year.

Lois Romano, 135 Cherry Avenue, requested alternate side of the street parking for Cherry Avenue.

Phyllis Pournaras, 570 Winsor Street, asked if the two insurance companies were going to make presentations tonight.

Cameron McEwen, 338 West Main Street, urged the council to retain municipal welfare.

Phyllis Pournaras, 570 Winsor Street, stated that the less than \$13,000 savings in eliminating municipal welfare would be more than offset by the additional welfare workers you would get.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Bruno - Complimented Ed Custy for his years of service on borough council.

Higginbottom - We have a special council meeting scheduled for December 30. We need four councilmen present to authorize transfers in appropriations.

Custy - No report.

Woldin - Public works is still picking up leaves and cleaning roads. The Little League will need some engineering help regarding a sewer line at their site.

Shapiro - No report.

Gilly - Presented a certificate of appreciation to Ed Custy.

ORDINANCES FOR PUBLIC HEARING, FINAL READING AND CONSIDERATION:
97-20 - Turn prohibitions onto Cherry Avenue.

Motion to open the public hearing by Shapiro, second by Woldin, unanimous.

Lois Romano, 135 Cherry Avenue, does not oppose this ordinance but does not want Cherry Avenue to ever become one-way. Stated that the police are not doing their job regarding the existing problem on Cherry Avenue.

Kirk Slater, 701 Cedarcrest Drive, stated that this ordinance will create a bottleneck on Hayward Avenue and that the parents should be getting tickets from the police.

Rosanne Short, 169 Cherry Avenue, suggested no parking on Cherry Avenue in front of Smalley School. Stated that the same problem exists at other schools in town.

Karen Fritz, 523 Winsor Street, stated that this whole Cherry Avenue thing has become very emotional.

Joe Greco, 609 Hayward Street, stated that his grandson goes to Smalley School. He thinks that this ordinance is the wrong approach. A letter regarding the problems should be sent home with each child from the police chief. He opposes Cherry Avenue ever becoming one-way.

Don Kalbach, 137 Cherry Avenue, does not have a problem with one hour turn prohibitions. Opposes making Cherry Avenue one-way.

Colleen Sheehy, 126 Cherry Avenue, stated that children should not have to be driven to school in good weather. She opposes Cherry Avenue ever becoming one-way.

Rosanne Short, 169 Cherry Avenue, asked how the turn prohibition will be marked.

Kirk Slater, 701 Cedarcrest Drive, stated that this ordinance only eliminates one of the three existing traffic problems on Cherry Avenue.

Phyllis Pournaras, 570 Winsor Street, suggested that the safety patrol program be re-instituted and that the school safety officer issue summonses.

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

Motion to amend ordinance 97-20 by including a sunset provision of June 30, 1998 and adopted as amended by Bruno, second by Woldin.

Roll Call: Aye - Bruno, Higginbottom, Custy, Woldin, Shapiro
Absent - Richardson

RESOLUTIONS:

97-133 - Purchase two police vehicles under state contract.
Motion by Custy, second by Woldin, unanimous.

97-134 - Retain municipal welfare.
Motion by Higginbottom, second by Shapiro.
Roll Call: Aye - Higginbottom, Shapiro
No - Bruno, Custy, Woldin.
Absent - Richardson

97-135 - Turn municipal welfare over to the county.
Motion by Bruno, second by Woldin.
Roll Call: Aye - Bruno, Custy, Woldin
No - Higginbottom, Shapiro

Absent - Richardson

97-136 - Retain Middlesex County Joint Insurance Fund for insurance coverage.
Motion by Higginbottom, second by Shapiro.

Roll Call: Aye - Higginbottom, Shapiro
No - Bruno, Custy, Woldin
Absent - Richardson

97-137 - Switch to Somerset County Joint Insurance Fund for insurance coverage.

Roll Call: Aye - Bruno, Custy, Woldin
No - Higginbottom, Shapiro
Absent - Richardson

97-138 - Change order for Evergreen and Grove Avenues to do curb to curb top coat in the spring.

Motion by Shapiro, second by Woldin, unanimous.

PRESENTATION OF COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, ETC.:

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

NEW BUSINESS:

Woldin - Requested and obtained consensus of council to authorize the engineer assist the Little League with a sewer line problem at their new site.

APPROVALS:

Bingo license (BL-283) for St. Mary's United Organizations and bingo license (BL-284) and raffle license (RL-866) for Holy Family Academy. Motion by Higginbottom, second by Shapiro, unanimous.

Vouchers - Motion by Higginbottom, second by Custy, unanimous.

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

Rosanne Short, 169 Cherry Avenue, stated that the council should have waited until April to make a decision regarding municipal welfare.

Joe Greco, 609 Hayward Street, questioned if anything has been done with the old fire chief's car.

Phyllis Pournaras, 570 Winsor Street, stated that the council had previously eliminated community service workers and now they have eliminated welfare workers.

Carol Ann Koupiaris, 150 Cherry Avenue, spoke regarding the traffic problems at Smalley School on Cherry Avenue. Stated that the mayor and council had made this an emotional issue.

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

Council back.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Shapiro, second by Woldin, unanimous.

Time: 10:35 PM



Thomas R. Brodbeck
Borough Clerk-Administrator