

BOROUGH OF BOUND BROOK- MINUTES

AGENDA/WORKSHOP MEETING- SEPTEMBER 10, 2007

Mayor Frank Ryan called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with a reading of the Open Public Meetings Law Statement, Pledge of Allegiance and Opening Prayer read by Donna Marie Godleski, Borough Clerk.

In attendance: John J. Kennedy, Administrator, Donna Marie Godleski, Borough Clerk, Robert Keady, Borough Engineer.

Not Present: James J. O'Donohue, Borough Attorney

ROLL CALL

Mayor Frank J. Ryan	Present
Councilman Jeffry Thompson	Present
Councilman Javier Vasquez	Present
Councilman Carey Pilato	Present
Councilman James Lefkowitz	Present
Councilman Paul Hasting	Absent
Councilwoman Jacquelyn Nicholson	Present

Greetings of the Public and Invitation For Discuss

Carmen Cermenara-795 Watchung Road-

Mr. Cermenara expressed his concerns on the proposed road improvements on Watchung Road. He prepared a statement which he read into the record of minutes which addressed curb or not to curb Watchung Road . Thanked the council for the opportunity to review the plans. He understood the engineering plans, but does not agree.

717 Watchung Road

Resident agreed with curbing ; what we have now is not uniform.

792 Watchung Road

Resident stated to add the curbing project would be a waste of taxpayers money. Part of the charm of Watchung Road is diversity of appearance; the natural layout. We do need improvements in drainage but to add curbing project would be a waste.

783 Watchung Road

Stated that the cut through by 717 Watchung Road should not be there; it is not a street; if it was dugout, planting grass/tree would take care of his problems.

800 Ross Lane

Last week majority of residents asked to mark the trees in some manner so they can see the effect. Can the engineer mark the trees with a ribbon.

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631 Central Avenue

Paving road may increase the speeding; not in favor of disturbing roots of these trees.

791 Watchung Road

Go back to Meadow Drive finish that road and then come back to Watchung Road.

767 Watchung Road

Concerns of the narrowing of the street; this complicates the island;

C. Pilato suggested to Mayor Ryan to have the borough engineer give an overview of the Watchung Road Improvement Plans-

Mr. Keady began his overview of the plans stating that the improvements are from south end to the north end. Mr. Keady answered questions on the drainage patterns.

Further questions from the public-

605 Watchung Road

What I have heard from engineer so far, is the road will be 18 feet wide and put in curbs; this is a cookie cutter design.

C. Pilato commented stating that the original plan for this road included a good chunk . was to tear up the island. We are looking at each home and taking into account the overall impact of improvements. This is not a cookie cutter design.

565 Watchung Road

Was public service consulted with the trees under the wires? Ms. McHendry, Shade Tree member stated that the commission has taken this into consideration.

620 Watchung Road

No objection to the curbing.

767 Watchung Road

How much island can be removed without hurting the trees?

796 Watchung Road

No amount of belgian block can compare with amount of damage to trees.

103 Piedmont Drive

Pleased with curbing that was done in front of his home.

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McHendry-200 W. Franklin-Shade tree member

When trees were inspected; trees were chosen; these trees are likely to die; old; fungus.

792 Watchung Road

Can we negotiate with Public Service Electric & Gas to place utilities underground?

767 Watchung Road

Is there flooding because of lack of curbing?

Mr. Keady stated curbing lengthens the life of the road; keeps water into the road into the drainage.

Wilk-800 Ross Lane

Was there a traffic impact study done.

Mr. Keady stated this was not done because we are not changing any uses on the road.

626 Watchung Road-

Please do the road; concerns on trees; shade tree has done a good job; we do need to take some trees down.

Why do we need to go out a foot from curb?

Mr. Keady stated the reason not to go from the existing curb is because of saving more trees.

770 Watchung Road

If this Project was not done how many trees would be coming down?

McHendry-200 West Franklin- shade tree member

We would not have inspected these trees if this Project was not planned.

633 Watchung Road

We all agree on paving; some trees need to come down; cannot come to an agreement on the belgian block.

Council thanked everyone for their comments.

C. Pilato stated that the two hours of engineer presentation on Watchung Road Improvements will be charged to the Watchung Road Bond Ordinance.

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Engineers Report –T&M Associates- Items for Discussion

Mr. Keady reported

1) Drainage at the Intersections of Drake Street, Talmage Avenue, Linden Avenue and Fairview Avenue-

Prepared a cost estimate; investigative work; establish most of the drainage for these areas; does not show piping from other areas; we need this information; bulk of this is for survey;

Mayor Ryan stated those areas do flood; lets get together with Army Corp;

Understood surveys were done ;

C. Pilato stated we were told by previous engineer this should not happen but it did; what depth of a survey was done?

T&M will conduct the survey; need to find the plans;

Plans from Studer and McEldowney, PA unless there is some other plan out there;

Who was the engineer on this 97/98 Project? We need to take a look at the resolution.

2) Revision –resolution adopted 8/28/07 on West Franklin Street/Winsor Street Intersection –

There is an increase of \$600.00-resolution would need to be amended-

Motion to amend resolution moved by C. Pilato; second by C. Nicholson; all in favor

C. Pilato asked engineer to look into the Mountain Avenue pump station-higher amount of sewage smell;

C. Thompson suggested we ask Tom Miller, Public Works Superintendent to take a look at this.

C. Pilato –Asked who owns the creek by Metape. Retaining walls are damaged. Fall is coming, leaves will be falling. Engineer asked are there any easements. If not it is private property and it is the responsibility of the owner. The Somerset County Mosquito Commission will not touch this area if the residents are dumping. If ditches are clean and water is stagnant they will come in.

Engineer will distribute a copy of letter from the Mosquito Commission to C. Pilato.

Engineer was excused at 9:30 p.m.

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Listed Minutes have been referred to members of the borough council for reading and study-

Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of July 24, 2007;

Motion: C. Lefkowitz Second: C. Vasquez All in favor:

SECOND READING -

ORDINANCE NO. 07-17-

THE FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION ORDINANCE-

ORDINANCE CODIFIED IN 21-10.24 SHALL BE REPEALED AND REPLACED

Motion to open to Public: C. Thompson Second: C. Nicholson All in favor: Ayes

Mr. Kennedy gave a brief summary of the ordinance.

Motion to close to Public: C. Thompson Second: C. Lefkowitz All in favor:

Motion to Adopt: Unanimously adopted

RESOLUTIONS:

07-133-Authorize Executive Session-

C. Lefkowitz and C. Thompson stated they had closed session items for discussion- Items will be carried over to the next meeting. There was no closed session.

Other Business

C. Pilato will speak with C. Hasting over the next few weeks regarding additional information on budget. A special meeting was suggested.

A special meeting scheduled for September 18, 2007 was agreed to discuss these municipal budget items.

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Agenda Items For Meeting of September 25, 2007

Unfinished Business for discussion and placement on the agenda

- **Appoint committee members for PBA negotiations-Mayor Ryan will speak with C. Thompson on those appointments
- **Correction to Closed session minutes of July 10, 2007-on the agenda for the meeting of September 18.
- **Resolution to award contract to Ferreira Construction-courtroom renovations-Mr.Kennedy forwarded information to the attorney for his review
- **Resolution tabled at meeting of August 28-Planning Partnership Program-Joint Town Center-Submission of grant application-C. Lefkowitz spoke with Dennis Hudasco; this program is a voluntary program; Interlocal grant in the amount of \$20,000. Questioned why we cannot apply for funding for the redevelopment services we are paying Phillips, Preiss .
- C. Pilato suggested he speak with Robert Bzik or Kimberly Cowart at the County Offices.

- **Hire Parking Enforcement Officer –C. Vasquez reported that two parking officers will be hired. The resumes will be forwarded to all councilmembers.

New Business for discussion and placement on the agenda for September 25, 2007

- **Commodity Resale Agreement between the County of Somerset-Resolution to authorize to provide public works commodities and services through cooperative and joint purchasing

- ** Amendment to Bingo License No. BL-304-St. Mary's Church adding dates to license

- ** Amendment to Annual Meeting Schedule-
November 2007 Meeting date of November 20th-should be changed to
November 13

Added Item for New Business for meeting of September 25-

- C. Thompson- Streamline the need for Crossings guards when public schools closed and Holy Family is open-
Coordination of schedules between both schools may result in cost savings measures.

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Mayor Ryan read into the minutes a Proclamation-Prostate Cancer Awareness September 17-22, 2007.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS ON AGENDIZED ITEMS

No comments.

Mr. Kennedy acknowledged tomorrow is the anniversary of September 11.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn regular meeting at 10:00 p.m. moved by C. Thompson;
second by C. Lefkowitz; all in favor.

Respectfully submitted by
Donna Marie Godleski, Borough Clerk