

March 22, 2016 – AGENDA SESSION

President Schroth called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and read the Open Public Meeting Statement:

The notice requirements provided for in the “Open Public Meetings Act” have been satisfied. Notice of this meeting was properly given in a notice which was transmitted to the Times of Trenton and the Trentonian, filed with the Clerk of the Township of Ewing and posted in the Ewing Township Municipal Complex, all on the 4th day of January, 2016.

THE PUBLIC WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL DURING THE “STATEMENTS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC” SEGMENT OF THE MEETING. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE REQUESTED TO SIGN IN ON THE SHEET PROVIDED IN THE FRONT OF THE ROOM. ALL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC WILL BE DIRECTED TO THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT, WHEN ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL, PLEASE GIVE YOUR NAME AND YOUR ADDRESS.

THE COUNCIL INVITES AND ENCOURAGES PARTICIPATION BY THE PUBLIC IN ITS MEETINGS, HOWEVER A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC MAY UTILIZE FIVE MINUTES OF TIME FOR REMARKS AND QUESTIONS, UNLESS OTHERWISE ENGAGED IN A DIALOGUE WITH A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL. ANY FURTHER REMARKS OR QUESTIONS BEYOND THE TIME LIMIT MUST BE AUTHORIZED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL.

ROLL CALL

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| ▪ Mr. Baxter – Present | Jim McManimon, Administrator |
| ▪ Ms. Keyes-Maloney – Present | Joanna Mustafa, CFO |
| ▪ Ms. Steward – Present | Maeve Cannon, Attorney |
| ▪ Ms. Wollert – Present | Kim Macellaro, Municipal Clerk |
| ▪ President Schroth – Present | |

DISCUSSION

1. AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2016 TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

The CFO explained that every year municipalities are allowed to “bank” up to three point five percent of their appropriations, not including certain items such as debt service, capital improvements or shared services, to use in the current year budget or in the next succeeding two years.

Councilman Baxter asked why do we go to three and one-half percent.

The CFO replied that it is based on the cost-of-living. This year the cost-of-living is zero but, by Ordinance, we are allowed to go up to three and one-half percent. We may not utilize all of it, but it allows us to utilize it if we need to do so.

Councilwoman Keyes-Maloney asked if this creates a reserve that can be used if needed.

The CFO responded – correct. We have not actually used it in the past couple of years.

There were no additional questions or comments from Council.

Caroline Steward (30 Gilmore Road) said that you can add three and one-half percent every year and put in the bank.

The CFO responded – up to three and one-half percent.

Ms. Steward asked if there is a limit as to how much and how long this can be banked.

The CFO explained that you take last year’s appropriations minus certain exceptions as listed on page three of the budget document. Then, it is three and one-half percent of that amount to include in the current year budget or to bank for the next two years.

There were no additional questions or comments from the Public.

2. **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EWING IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, TO AMEND CHAPTER 225-49 SCHEDULE II: EMERGENCY NO PARKING TO ADD THE SOUTHERN SIDE OF CLERMONT, MONTICELLO AND GREENWALD AVENUES AND THE WEST SIDE OF GLENDALE AVENUE FOR THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF THOSE ROADS**

The Attorney explained that this Ordinance comes to Council as a recommendation from the Police Department specifically as a result of a traffic study conducted by Officer Wesner.

There were no questions or comments from Council or the Public.

3. **A RESOLUTION INTRODUCING AND APPROVING THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EWING, COUNTY OF MERCER FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2016**

President Schroth said that this introduces our budget for the calendar year. We will begin the process of having presentations from the department heads. After the budget is introduced, it will become available to members of the Public for their review.

There were no questions or comments from Council or the Public.

4. **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ASSIGNMENT OR TRANSFER OF GENERAL APPROVAL FOR CLASS C RECYCLABLE MATERIALS TO EWING REALTY PARTNERS, LLC**

The Attorney said that this allows us to transfer the permit for the composting facility. The Township will no longer be operating the facility; it will be operated by Ewing Realty Partners who purchased the property. The Attorney explained that the Ordinance adopted to transfer the property said "all other necessary documents"; however, DEP wanted a specific Resolution authorizing the transfer of the permit.

There were no questions or comments from Council or the Public.

5. **A RESOLUTION APPROVING ERIC J. ST. AMAND AS AN ACTIVE FIREFIGHTER MEMBER OF THE PROSPECT HEIGHTS VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY**

President Schroth said that this is an addition of a new member to the Prospect Heights Fire Company.

The Attorney added that there is an active recruitment drive going on.

There were no questions or comments from Council or the Public.

The Council President acknowledged the members of the fire companies present at tonight's meeting.

6. **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES RELEASE FOR SONIC – SRI REAL ESTATE PROPERTIES BLOCK 40.01, LOT 3, 1660 NORTH OLDEN AVENUE EWING TOWNSHIP ENGINEERS REMINGTON & VERNICK AND AFFILIATES #1102 / 060**

The Attorney said that this is a standard performance guarantee release. The Attorney then explained that a two year maintenance bond is required as a condition of the performance bond release.

There were no questions or comments from Council or the Public.

All items were approved for action.

BILLS LIST

1. A Resolution Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to Pay Bills in the Amount of \$1,059,053.05 and to Pay Supplemental Bills per Resolution #16R-13 in the Amount of \$1,473.03

There were no questions or comments from Council or the Public.

The Bills List was approved for action.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council President Schroth presented the Consent Agenda for review.

1. Approval of Agenda Session Minutes for July 28, 2015, September 22, 2015, October 27, 2015, November 10, 2015, January 12, 2016, January 26, 2016, February 9, 2016, February 23, 2016; Approval of Regular Session Minutes for July 28, 2015, September 22, 2015, October 27, 2017, November 10, 2015, January 12, 2016, January 26, 2016, February 9, 2016, February 23, 2016; Approval of Reorganization Minutes of January 1, 2016
2. A Resolution Authorizing the Conduct of an On-Premise 50/50 Cash Raffle Sponsored by Prospect Heights Volunteer Fire Co #1
3. A Resolution Authorizing the Conduct of an On-Premise 50/50 Cash Raffle Sponsored by Sunshine Foundation

Vice President Steward applauded the Clerk's Office for making great strides in catching up with the minutes.

There were no additional questions or comments from Council. There were no questions or comments from the Public.

The Consent Agenda, with the exception of the February 23rd minutes, was approved for action.

ORDINANCE(S) FOR FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION

(None for this Meeting)

ORDINANCE(S) FOR SECOND READING, PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL ADOPTION

(None for this Meeting)

COMMISSION & COMMITTEE REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Councilman Baxter reported that at last night's meeting of the Recreation Advisory Board, The Board discussed finding someone to come in and teach golf and rebuild the tennis program. Also, Schafer Gymnastics is building their building right out here in back. Councilman Baxter mentioned that Opening Day for Little League is April 9th at Moody Park. Girls Softball Opening Day is tentatively scheduled for April 22nd.

Councilwoman Keyes-Maloney reported that the Drugs & Alcohol Alliance had a presentation from the group that manages health services at the College of New Jersey. There is a sliding scale mental health service action that is provided to the Community through the College of New Jersey. The Drug & Alcohol Alliance is developing their own website which will include resources for members of the Community; this mental health service will be included.

Vice President Steward reported that at the last Green Team meeting we had a meeting with groups interested in starting or learning more about the various neighborhood associations. Last night there was a presentation about the energy audits discussed at the last Council Meeting. The featured speaker at the next Green Team meeting will be

Mr. Nettleton, School Board Administrator, who will discuss what the Ewing schools are doing to improve sustainability.

Councilwoman Wollert said that the various Senior clubs have many activities planned throughout the year. The Seniors encourage new members and encourage everyone to take advantage of these offerings which can be viewed on the online calendar.

There were no additional Commission and Committee reports from members of Council.

NEW BUSINESS

(None for this Meeting)

STATEMENTS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Mildred Russell (119 King Avenue) stated that she is here tonight representing the Civic Association of which she is President. Mrs. Russell said that although the Civil Association received a letter from Mr. Latini, there has been no response from the Administration to the packet that the Civic Association provided this past December or to the communication from about a month ago. Mrs. Russell said that all the Civic Association wants is a meeting with the Administration to discuss the various Association suggestions listed in that packet. Mrs. Russell then stated that the Association wants to know the criteria used by the Administrator to decide which streets will get speed humps as Weber Avenue does have them.

The Administrator replied that he did say at the last Council meeting that speed humps will be addressed in this year's capital budget and that he, along with the Mayor, will decide where they will go. The Administrator then briefly described where speed humps have been put in the past few years. The Administrator said that we are getting there slowly, spreading them around the Township where we think speed humps are needed. Mr. McManimon commented that he gets opinions from both ends – from the safety folks who are effected by speed humps when responding to an emergency and from civic associations and parents who want to slow all traffic down. We have to look at the entire Township, not just one neighborhood. Recommendations have been made, however, we have not yet presented the capital budget.

Mrs. Russell and the Administrator then discussed some of the streets that the Civic Association suggested get speed humps and if those streets were recommended in the capital budget. Mrs. Russell then commented that Sussex does not need speed humps as Sussex is not a “cut through” for traffic. Mrs. Russell then asked the Mayor if he is going to respond to the Associations suggestions as listed in the packet.

The Mayor responded that he had a conversation with the Administrator and thought that that was being taken care of. The Mayor asked Mrs. Russell to call his office tomorrow to schedule a meeting. The Mayor added that right now, there are thirty-six streets that people have asked that speed humps be put in. We have to look at the entire Town and are trying to put it on a schedule.

The Administrator added that there was no misunderstanding – he asked Mr. Latini to address some of the Association's suggestions and he was going to address others.

Mrs. Russell then wanted to know who in Code Enforcement should the Civic Association send their complaints to.

President Schroth replied that the complaints should be given to the Administrator. And then added that he knows that the Administration is taking their concerns about the speed humps very seriously. The Civic Association will hear about this when we get to the capital budget. The Council President reiterated that there is another side to this – the emergency responders have to navigate these bumps when responding to a call.

Wayne Kemper (255 Somerset Street) said that the original entrance to the College is still there, including all the pipes & drains, and suggested that using this would help solve the problem of traffic through the neighborhood.

The Mayor responded that yes, that road was planned as a bypass road many many years ago. There was a lot of resistance from Lawrence residents who held the project up for many years. The State decided not to build the bypass. The area has now been built up and part of that area is now classified as wetlands and cannot be used.

Dr. “Alphie” Page said that the last time he was here, he emphasized the fact that he is a team player. Dr. Page added that Council should not take that as a weakness because as

Assistant Superintendent of Personnel for the Trenton Board of Education, he never lost a case. Dr. Page said that the last President showed him respect; however, he has not heard anything in the three months since. The case deals with 31 Charles Street. Dr. Page stated that the letter from the State only deals with one part of this and that the information in the letter to Senator Turner was a lie. Dr. Page asked if that problem has been corrected – did anyone apologize to Senator Turner. Dr. Page then offered to help Council solve this problem. People have to know why this happened and who was involved. President Schroth said that Council will look into this further.

There were no additional questions or comments from the Public.

CLOSED SESSION

(None for this Meeting)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Schroth asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Keyes-Maloney so moved seconded by Mr. Baxter. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

David P. Schroth, President

Kim J. Macellaro, Municipal Clerk