

BOROUGH OF HAMPTON

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

August 12, 2019

Mayor Cregar called the Regular Meeting of the Hampton Borough Council to order at 7:30 p.m. The Open Public Meetings Act Statement was read by the Deputy Municipal Clerk. The notice of this meeting was advertised in the Hunterdon Democrat on January 10, 2019. The annual notice has been posted on the public bulletin board and has been filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

The Municipal Clerk also noted that this meeting of the Borough Council and all future meeting of the Borough Council will be recorded.

Roll Call:	Present:	Mayor Cregar	Bob Baker
		John Drummond	Doug Rega
		Carroll Swenson	Jeff Tampier
		Rob Wotanowski	

The following people were also present: Alan Brower, CPWM, Kathy Olsen, CFO, Judy Kopen, Borough Attorney, and Linda Leidner, Deputy Borough Clerk.

The minutes of the Regular Session meetings of July 8, 2019 were approved as presented by the Deputy Municipal Clerk by a motion that was made by Cm Drummond second by Cm Rega; Voice Vote: All ayes motion carried.

Comments and Questions from the Public:

Fire Chief Rick Allen explained that there had been an accident with the Chief vehicle and that a check was received by the Borough. Mr. Allen inquired as to how the repair bill would be paid. Ms. Olsen explained that a check would be made payable to the Fire Company and then they would pay the bill.

Fire Chief Allen also noted that there are some concerns with the Lease Agreement between the Fire Company and the Borough. They are as follows:

On the first page, 4th paragraph the sentence ends at providing – the words fire protection and rescue operations should be added.

Page 4 Surrender of Property –

Paragraph 10. The entire paragraph makes it look like the Fire Company will be responsible for the general maintenance issues. Mr. Allen would like to see this worded differently.

Paragraph 11 on top of page 5, “The Fire Department will also leave all equipment in the building.....” the Fire Department currently owns all of the equipment listed in this section.

Page 6 paragraph 15 refers to parking without limitations to Section 224-10.1 of the Borough Code, this is incorrect, the correct Section of the Code should be 225. Also, Mr. Allen is

requesting a change in wording of Section 225 if there is an emergency call volunteers are parked everywhere and is requesting that there should be wording except during emergency operations. Committeeman Drummond noted that he has an issue with the parking along side of the building. There should not be anyone parked alongside of the building during Borough business hours. Mr. Drummond explained that once paving is done he will be having yellow lines where there should be no parking.

Ms. Kopen explained that it would be up to Council if they wish to have the changes made to the agreement. Ms. Kopen inquired as to what is considered Fire Company operations. Except in case of emergency services or fire company operations is very broad. Mr. Allen explained why it is very broad.

Ms. Kopen explained that she made notes on all of the issues noted by Chief Allen and will bring these back to Matt Lyons who drafted the agreement if it is the will of the Borough Council for her to do so.

Mayor Cregar asked if any of the council members have any questions or issues with the changes requested. All members of the Council are ok with the Borough Attorney's making the appropriate changes to the lease agreement.

Communications:

Letter from Lisa Moretti – request for the Borough Council to review, revise and create various Borough Ordinances pertaining to noise from livestock. Mrs. Leidner explained that Ms. Moretti would like the Borough Council to review and revise the Borough Ordinances that pertain to livestock. Particularly noise created by various animals. A copy of this letter was sent to Mr. Cushing. Ms. Kopen explained that they are waiting for council guidance on how if and how they would like to proceed.

Mr. Klemser indicated that the initial problem has been resolved.

Kathy Olsen explained that Clinton does not allow livestock at all.

Mr. Rega and Mr. Swenson both feel that they live in the country and livestock is part of living in the country.

Mr. Baker feels that the Borough Code needs to be reviewed. The owners of the animals should go through the Planning Board for approvals.

The Borough Council would like the Attorney to take a look to see if there is anything in our code book and get sample copies from other municipalities.

Tabled to the next meeting.

Letter from Hugh Farley regarding the regional school portion of tax increase.

Mr. Baker explained that the Borough could be charged for students that live in other municipalities that the Borough may be billed for their education.

Mr. Farley explained that he received a letter from the North Hunterdon School district we are currently being charged for 57 students. Mr. Farley recommended that the Borough Clerk get the student information from Hampton School for the last 4 years of graduating class. Then write to the regional school board and ask for the names of students that we are paying tuition for at this time. Mrs. Leidner will contact the Elementary school for these numbers.

Old Business:

Public Hearing and Adoption of:

ORDINANCE NO. 04-2019 – AN ORDINANCE ADDING CHAPTER 99 ENTITLED “BRUSH, GRASS AND WEEDS” TO THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HAMPTON

Motion by Cm Drummond second by Cm Rega to open the Public Hearing.

Voice Vote: all ayes, motion carried.

Municipal Violations Officer Frank Klemser noted that he has several concerns with Ordinance No. 04-2019. They are as follows:

Mr. Klemser recommends that Page 2 Section B needs to be changed as it exempts wild flower gardens that appear to be overgrown grass/weeds.

Section C. – Indicates that the fines should be paid to the Borough, however the Borough does not collect money. Page 2 B on top and bottom.

Section A – 99-4 – Mr. Klemser recommends that after 10 days if problem is not fixed then the violation should be issued.

Mrs. Leidner explained that with all of the changes recommended for this ordinance, the Borough Council really can't move forward with it at this point.

Motion was made by Cm. Drummond to close the Public Hearing and table to the next meeting on September 9, 2019, which was seconded by Mr. Baker.

Voice Vote: All ayes, motion carried.

Ms. Kopen explained that if any changes are deemed substantial then the Ordinance will have to be re published.

Ms. Kopen also confirmed that it is the desire of the Borough Council to have the Township Attorney revamp the Ordinance with the recommended changes. Mr. Baker agreed with the changes.

Mr. Drummond gave Ms. Kopen a copy of recommended Ordinance changes that Mr. Klemser created a while ago.

Reports of Committees:

Cm. Swenson reported that the well connection was finally made to the force main. Mr. Brower took pictures. Mr. Brower added that the inspection of the footing for the building will take place tomorrow. If it passes inspection then concrete will be poured on Wednesday and then the building will be delivered in about two weeks.

Cm. Swenson inquired if there has been any information on the Tax Map revision. Cm. Rega explained that there was no Planning Board Meeting; however he saw communication between the Tax Assessor and Planning Board Secretary.

Cm. Baker, Cm. Rega, Cm. Tampier and Cm. Wotanowski had nothing to report at this time.

Cm. Drummond deferred to Mr. Brower. Mr. Brower reported that, weather permitting, JTG Contracting will be starting the curbing on Foss Avenue tomorrow. Curbing in Orchard should be starting in the Orchard tomorrow as well. Both sides of South Street and curbing across from the Borough Hall will be done as well. There are 4 drains below railroad bridge that are almost covered due to tar and chip. Starting next year they may have to be lowered when the Main Street project starts next year.

Mr. Brower also reported that the permits were pulled for the work to connect gas from the Municipal Building to the kitchen. The DPW will be drilling holes to prepare for that over the next couple of days.

Paving should begin in mid-September.

New Business:

Motion by Cm. Rega second by Cm Baker to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 54-2019 – Resolution to Extend Grace Period for the Third Quarter Taxes Due August 1, 2019

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Baker, Drummond, Rega, Swenson, Tampier, Wotanowski.
All ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Cm Baker second by Cm Drummond to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 55 -2019- Resolution for Approval to Submit a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with the New Jersey department of Transportation for the Main Street Improvements – Section 3 Project

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Baker, Drummond, Rega, Swenson, Tampier, Wotanowski.
All ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Cm Drummond second by Cm Baker to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 56-2019 – Resolution to Award Contract Pursuant to Public Bidding to Arm OPCO, Inc. DBA American Road Machinery

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Baker, Drummond, Rega, Swenson, Tampier, Wotanowski.
All ayes, motion carried.

The following Resolution was Tabled due to the fact that the adoption of Ordinance No. 04-2019 was Tabled.

RESOLUTION NO. 57-2019 – Resolution Adding Certain Ordinance Violations to the Local Offense List

Motion by Cm. Drummond second by Cm. Rega to approve the following:

Request for a partial refund of Park Rental Fees for rental by Robert Stasyshyn on July 14, 2019. The Park Application should have been submitted by Bob Baker as the party was for a member of his family. The fee collected should have been \$150.00 not \$350.00. Total amount to be refunded is \$200.00.

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Drummond, Rega, Swenson, Tampier, Wotanowski.
Abstain: Bob Baker
Motion carried.

Request from the Tax Collector for the Borough Council to decide if there is interest in assigning Tax Sale Certificate for Block 21 L26 (10 Musconetcong River Road) to GTech Capital Pursuant NJSA 54:5-113 for full redemptive value of \$7,320.07.

Borough Attorney Judy Kopen and Kathy Olsen, CFO explained this process to the Borough Council members. Ms. Kopen noted that she has resolution prepared in the event that the Council wanted to act on this tonight. After a brief discussion the members decided that this is a benefit to the Borough and they would like to move forward with this request.

Motion by Cm. Swenson second Cm Rega to adopt the following resolution:

Resolution No. 58-2019 Resolution Authorizing Assignment of Tax Sale Certificate by Private Sale.

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Baker, Drummond, Rega, Swenson, Tampier, Wotanowski.
All ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Cm. Drummond second by Cm. Swenson to approve the hiring of John Zairro as of August 12, 2019 as a part time/per diem employee of the DPW.

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Baker, Drummond, Rega, Swenson, Tampier, Wotanowski.
All ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Cm. Baker second by Cm. Tampier to approve the following park rental:

Application for the use of the Borough Park on September 14, 2019 for a Bridal Shower submitted by Nicole Martinho, approximately 30 people. Park Use Fee has been received.

Voice Vote: All ayes; motion carried.

Motion by Cm. Rega second by Cm. Swenson to approve the following park rental:

Application for the use of the Borough Park on September 28, 2019 for a Family Reunion submitted by Karen Cunningham. Approximately 40 people. Park Use Fee has been received.

Voice Vote: All ayes; motion carried.

Bills and Claims: Motion by Cm Wotanowski second by Cm Drummond to authorize the Chief Financial Officer to pay all routine bills and claims prior to the next meeting of the Council.

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Baker, Drummond, Rega, Swenson, Tampier, Wotanowski.
All ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Cm Baker second by Cm Wotanowski to authorize the payment of the August 12, 2019 bills and claims as submitted by the Chief Financial Officer.

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Baker, Drummond, Rega, Swenson, Tampier, Wotanowski.
All ayes, motion carried.

Adjournment: Motion by Cm Swenson second by Cm Baker to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Hampton Borough Council. Voice Vote: All ayes motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Leidner, RMC
Deputy Municipal Clerk