

**BOROUGH OF BOUND BROOK
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 25, 2014**

Mayor Mark Hasting called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM with a reading of the Open Public Meetings Law Statement, Opening Prayer read by the Borough Clerk followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Councilman John Paul Levin	absent
Councilman Daniel Wright	present
Councilman Vinnie Petti	present
Councilwoman Lisa Bogart	present
Councilwoman Beverly Pranzatelli	present
Councilman Peter Lazzaro	present

Also Present:

Donna Marie Godleski, Borough Clerk
Randy Bahr, Administrator
Judy Verrone, Esq. DeCotiis, Fitzpatrick, Cole, LLP, Borough Attorney
Police Chief Michael Jannone- Police Department
Lt. Kevin Rivenbark –Police Department

Approval of Minutes:

Agenda Meeting: February 11, 2014
February 11, 2014 Executive Session Minutes for content only
Motion: C. Bogart Second: C. Petti All in favor: Ayes

Presentation of communications, petitions, etc.

Randy Bahr-Administrator:

- Resource Center of Somerset-Municipal certification -grant application for Somerset County Community Development Committee-2014 Funding- Transitional Housing Program for Bound Brook

Mr. Bahr advised that the grant request is for the continuation of an existing CDBG funded project. The primary purpose of the transitional housing program is to offer victims of domestic abuse and their children a safe, secure, and supportive residential solution.

The mayor and councilmember's were all in support of the community development block grant project.

Greetings for comments and invitation for discussion

Roseann Short-169 Cherry Avenue

She advised that she lives on a school corner. This corner has not been cleaned because of the ice. The kids walking to school are climbing over it which makes it very unsafe. She asked if public works was able to check all the school corners.

Mr. Bahr advised that the public works department was out on Monday taking care of potholes and was called out on a sewer job. On Tuesday they were out on potholes and again were called out on a sewer job. The department is trying to get to them all.

Councilman Wright noted that the department has been spending so much time clearing snow. The department has fallen behind.

Committee reports

Finance: C. Peter Lazzaro

The committee has a scheduled meeting with Mr. Bahr this Friday.

We will begin the preliminary work on the budget for 2014.

Mr. Bahr sent out to the full council the January finance report for revenues and expenditures.

Public Works, Bldgs., Grounds & Utilities-C. Daniel Wright

Councilman Wright presented the January report. He also presented back reports from the department which shows the workload shifts and changes during the year. A man-hours report was presented as well. In this report where there is a large amount of hours are areas in which any amount of efficiency improvements could have a big benefit. These reports may benefit making some adjustments to the efficiency of the department. The committee also met with Mr. Bahr to review reporting.

.Public Safety (Police & Fire)- C. Vinnie Petti

Councilman Petti read the police report for January into record of minutes. There was no report for EMS or Fire.

Personnel, Administration & Ordinances- C. Lisa Bogart

Councilwoman Bogart advised that the committee has not met yet. She will call a meeting this month.

Economic Development- C. Beverly Pranzatelli

Councilwoman Pranzatelli advised she will continue to work on the new SID with the guidance of Randy Bahr and Jim Kennedy.

We have received two letters of interest from developers and expect two more before the deadline on Friday.

We are setting up a meeting with New Jersey Transit to discuss redevelopment which may include transit property.

Zoning, Construction & Code Enforcement- C. John Paul Levin –absent

Introduction of ordinances - First Reading – none

Ordinance on Final Reading and Consideration: -

BOROUGH OF BOUND BROOK ORDINANCE 2014:03

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF TEMPORARY EASEMENT OVER MUNICIPAL PROPERTY TO THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, FOR THE UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS GREEN BROOK FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT

Summary: Perform Emergency Repairs to Segment U-Block 68/Lot 1.03-Tract Number 491E-4

Motion to open to public for comment: C. Petti; Second: C. Bogart

All in favor: Ayes

Public Comment: None

Motion to close public comment: C. Petti; Second: C. Bogart

Roll Call: Unanimous

Resolutions for final reading and final consideration:

R2014: 30

Approve the hire of Johanna Musson as part-time planning board recording secretary

Motion: C. Petti Second: C. Wright All in favor: Ayes

R2014: 31

Authorize the tax collector to issue refund on tax overpayment-
383 Talmage Avenue

Motion: C. Petti Second: C. Bogart All in favor: Ayes

R2014: 32

Approve budget transfers

Motion: C. Pranzatelli Second: C. Petti All in favor: Ayes

R2014: 33

Approve the submission of the State of New Jersey Sage Grant Application:
2014 Distracted Driving Crackdown

Motion: C. Bogart Second: C. Wright All in favor: Ayes

R2014:34

Approve a “new” liquor license for Cheers Restaurants, Inc.
License No. 1804-32-011-007- term-2012-2013
and renewal of “inactive” license for term 2013-2014

Motion: C. Pranzatelli Second: C. Lazzaro All in favor: Ayes

R2014:35

Approve the 2014 Sewer Rate

Motion: C. Pranzatelli Second: C. Wright All in favor: Ayes

R2014:36

Authorize submission of strategic plan for the Bound Brook/South Bound
Brook Municipal Alliance Grant for fiscal year 2014

Motion: C. Wright Second: C. Bogart All in favor: Ayes

Unfinished Business

- Resolution of Support: PSE&G-Energy Strong Program
Councilwoman Pranzatelli offered a motion to support; second by
Councilman Petti. There was discussion from councilmember's.
All in favor: Ayes

- Resolution of Support: New Jersey Highlands Coalition
Councilwoman Pranzatelli offered a motion to support; a second was offered
by Councilwoman Bogart.

There was discussion from councilmember's.
All in favor: Ayes

- Historic Preservation Ordinance/Commission Members

Councilwoman Pranzatelli advised that the ordinance that was sent to the council had every other page missing. She was not able to review in its entirety. The full ordinance is up on the website correctly. She advised that she has a resident that is interested in participating on the commission. She has experience and contacts.

Mayor Hasting advised that no appointments would be made at this time. A review and discussion of the ordinance will be at the next council meeting. Attorney Judy Verrone advised the mayor makes those appointments with the advice and consent of council.

Councilwoman Pranzatelli suggested looking at other town's ordinances. She was not sure even after reading the borough's ordinance if it is good for Bound Brook.

Attorney Judy Verrone will gather samples. She also noted a lot in the ordinance is by statute.

- Replacement of Bus Stop Shelters

Attorney Judy Verrone noted that she reviewed what Scotch Plains had in place with New Jersey Transit.

The Borough of Bound Brook is responsible for the maintenance and repairs of the four bus stop shelters per New Jersey Transit specifications.

Mr. Bahr advised that he would research the vendors that are out there that meet New Jersey Transit specifications.

He will also gather information on the vendor that came before the council last year with their proposal.

Councilwoman Bogart asked Mr. Bahr where the borough stood with the annual assessment. Mr. Bahr advised it is on the books. He will be sending to the finance committee a recommendation to go on an annual assessment program. He will have the town assessor provide the details for the next council meeting. He noted that other towns have this program.

Councilwoman Pranzatelli asked what the status was with energy aggregation.

Mr. Bahr advised that he reached out to Somerset County to let them know Bound Brook expressed interest. The county then has to go out to bid.

When they make a decision on a supplier, then the towns can decide what they want to do. This may take several months.

New Business

Councilwoman Pranzatelli advised Recreation Commission member Maria Strada resigned. Mr. Bahr advised that she needs to submit a letter of resignation before an appointment can be made.

She advised that June 21st will be the grand opening of the New Recreation Center.

Mr. Bahr stated that if the commission needs anything, to bring it forward. We can place the announcement up on the website and personal calendars. She noted that the Easter egg hunt is the same day as the Battle of Bound Brook Event.

She advised that the Shade Tree Commission has seedlings available to residents through the New Jersey Tree Recovery Program. The commission is asking if they need the council approval for this. Mayor Hasting stated it did not require approval.

She advised that the Economic Development Advisory Committee has problems with a meeting quorum. She asked if they have a right to their own by-laws or abide by the rules of the council.

Attorney Judy Verrone advised that a committee can draw up their own by-laws and then have them reviewed by the council.

For Approval:

Special Event Permit Application

Bound Brook Memorial Day Parade Committee

Event: Annual Memorial Day Parade –May 26, 2014

Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Location: Memorial Library to Veteran's Memorial & Union & Vosseller Avenue

Motion: C. Petti Second: C. Wright All in favor: Ayes

Special Event Permit Application

Relief Fire Co. No. 4

Event: Coin Toss:

Location: Intersection of Vosseller Aveue and Route 28

Dates: April 5, June 14, December 20

Time: 9 a.m. – 1p.m.

Rain dates: April 12, June 21, October 25

Motion: C. Petti Second: C. Bogart All in favor: Ayes

Special Event Permit Application

Event: Battle of Bound Brook

Date: April 12, 2014- Time 10 a.m.-Noon

Location: Soldiers Battle Old Stone Arch Bridge/Queens Bridge

Motion: C. Pranzatelli Second: C. Wright All in favor: Ayes

Councilwoman Pranzatelli advised that the Bound Brook Hotel offered to provide food for the event and has asked that the town cover the expense.

Mr. Bahr advised that we can hold off on this request for right now.

Firemen's Membership Application-

Bound Brook Hose Co. No. 1- Steven Fetko

Motion: C. Petti Second: C. Wright All in favor: Ayes

Approval of Vouchers

R2014: 37

Motion: C. Petti Second: C. Bogart All in favor: Ayes

Open meeting to the public for comments

R. Short- 169 Cherry Avenue

Ms. Short stated that it took the borough a long time to get a group of people together to work on the historic preservation ordinance.

Mayor Hasting stated that the borough will continue to move forward on the ordinance.

Ms. Short asked Police Chief Jannone if something could be done about people crossing over Union Avenue from the Bound Brook Apartments.

They are not in a crosswalk and they are almost getting hit by cars.

Chief Jannone advised that his department can step up enforcement, issuing summonses for jay walking.

R2014: 38- Adjourn @ 8:35 p.m.

Authorize executive session for (Contracts; Personnel; Litigation)

Action may be taken after session

Motion: C. Petti Second: C. Levin All in favor: Ayes

Regular meeting opened at 9:00 p.m.

Councilwoman Pranzatelli reported that she had more information as to why the Bound Brook Library Advisory Board went from seven to five members. The responsibilities of the board changed as a branch library of the Somerset County Library Commission.

Councilwoman Bogart recused herself from discussion. She is an employee of the Somerset County Library System.

Mr. Bahr advised that the library advisory board has always been a borough committee, not a Somerset County Library Commission.

Mayor Hasting advised the borough has an agreement with the county to run the library. Mr. Bahr advised that the borough is responsible for the maintenance of the library.

Judy Verrone, borough attorney advised that the library advisory board was established to act as a liaison.

Councilwoman Pranzatelli reported the board felt there was no longer a need for seven members and modified their by-laws. The board advised that there has been no involvement from the school for quite awhile.

Mr. Bahr advised that their by-laws are invalid because it does not concur with borough ordinance. The council can amend the ordinance.

Mayor Hasting advised at the last council meeting, the council liaison was to reach out to the school board.

2/25/14 agenda

Mayor Hasting suggested that Councilman Lazzaro reach out to the school board.

Councilman Petti recommended moving forward with a choice as to the liaison appointment from superintendent to a school board member

Mayor Hasting reported he informed the library board that their by-laws were invalid at their last meeting. Mayor Hasting stated at their meetings many areas are discussed including a director's report from county and various programs.

Adjournment @9:15 p.m.

Motion: C. Petti Second: C. Pranzatelli All in favor: Ayes

Respectfully submitted by,

Donna Marie Godleski, Borough Clerk