

April 8, 2014

**BOROUGH OF BOUND BROOK  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 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

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

Also Present:

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

Approval of Minutes:

Agenda Meeting March 11, 2014

Executive Session March 11, 2014

Motion moved by C. Bogart; second by C. Petti; All in favor: Ayes

Presentation of communications, petitions, etc. – none

Mayor Hasting announced that Proclamations recognizing service will be presented at the next council meeting set for April 8, 2014.

Former Mayor- Carey A. Pilato

Former Councilman- Anthony Pranzatelli, John Miller, Hal Dietrich,  
John Buckley and Howard Wagner.

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Greetings for comments and invitation for discussion

Carol Holub-518 West Second Street-

She asked for an update on the Battle of Bound Brook Event and the Bolmer Property Project.

Councilman Levin provided an update. The signage and marketing is getting done to get the work out. The High School has the event on their electronic board. We are working on a flyer that the school students can bring home in their backpacks. Also Somerset County cleanup detail is coming this weekend to clean up for the event.

Ms. Holub asked about the Old Stone Bridge. The borough is responsible for the cleanup. We should take care of this.

Councilman Wright advised that he would look into that.

Mayor Hasting advised that the Bolmer Property project will not be ready in April. It will require more time with completion as soon as they can.

Roseann Short-169 Cherry Avenue

She asked about the building on the side of the train tracks.

The commuters have no place to wait in during the winter months.

Mayor Hasting stated that we are trying to work on this. Mr. Bahr provided a brief background. This project went out to bid. There were deficiencies and the grant was lost. The DOT told us that the specifications were not good. This went back and forth; the federal grant was taken away. The fingers should be pointed at the DOT; not the borough.

Mayor Hasting stated that we are not giving up on this project. We will work getting the grant reinstated.

Mr. Bahr noted that it has been eight years working on this project. The town can certainly do a capital project and have the taxpayers pay for it.

Michele DeFazio -603 Church Street

She advised she is a member of the Board of Education and they have no interest in serving on the library board advisory.

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Hannah Kerwin – Library Director –Bound Brook Branch of the Somerset County Library System

Councilwoman Bogart recused herself from discussion, noting that she is an employee of the county library system.

She wanted to clarify the school and library. The school used to be involved with library decades ago. The books processed by library gone by the wayside.

The board used to have a dedicated member Jean Finlayson for forty years. She stayed on because she wanted to until last year. The board is now an advisory board. We are limited to just taking care of the library property.

Councilman Levin asked about now changing the by-laws. Mr. Bahr advised that the amendment to the by-laws to eliminate school membership is by ordinance. The advisory board voted to change their by-laws.

Ms. Kerwin extended an invitation for everyone to come to the library. She offered to help in anyway. She personally offered to take photos of any events taking place in the borough. Also to reach out to the library for photos they may have for an event coming up. This will certainly give a good impression of the town.

Mayor Hasting thanked Ms. Kerwin for her willingness to help the borough. Councilman Levin advised of a tutoring program offered by the library that he highly recommended. Ms. Kerwin noted that this is a pier tutoring program which is in its second year at the library. This program involves high school students. They receive community service credit. The students tutor kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup>....in Math and English. This program is free and everyone benefits.

Committee reports

Finance: C. Peter Lazzaro – absent

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

Councilman Wright reviewed the February activity report noting that a very detailed report was submitted from the department supervisor. A total of hours and man-hours were recorded. There were many hours for snow removal. He thanked Mr. Mangino, department supervisor for the thorough report. This report allows us to see what work is being done, covering pothole repair and cleanup.

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

Councilman Petti read the February police activity report into the record of minutes.

Personnel, Administration & Ordinances- C. Lisa Bogart

Councilwoman Bogart advised that the committee has not met. There are no issues to be attended to right now.

Economic Development- C. Beverly Pranzatelli

Councilwoman Pranzatelli advised that the committee has met with two of six developers that responded to the Letters of Interest for downtown redevelopment. There are four more meetings coming up. We are continuing to work on the SID ordinance.

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

Councilman Levin read the February activity report into the record of minutes. A year to date building department summary report will also be provided in the reporting.

Introduction of ordinances - none

Ordinance on Final Reading and Consideration: - none

Resolutions for final reading and final consideration:

R2014: 47

Authorize Emergency Appropriations in the 2014 Temporary Budget –

Motion: Councilwoman Bogart Second: Councilwoman Pranzatelli

All in favor: Ayes

R2014:48

Authorize the Chief Financial Officer to submit a contribution for the Length of Service Awards Program for firefighters

Motion: Councilwoman Bogart Second: Councilwoman Petti

All in favor: Ayes

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## Unfinished Business

### ➤ Historic Preservation Ordinance-

Councilwoman Pranzatelli asked about funding the commission which was her main concern. The borough attorney advised that escrow can be used for applications that go before the certificate of appropriateness. You can establish this, similar to the planning board. Councilwoman Pranzatelli asked if the commission can raise funds through events. The borough attorney noted that this may be problematic as the commission is an agent of the borough.

Mayor Hasting recommended a committee be formed to review all these concern areas.

Councilwoman Bogart offered to take on the committee.

### ➤ Proposed Revision to Levee Ordinance

Councilwoman Bogart thanked Police Chief Jannone for working on the revision to the ordinance. Mayor Hasting advised that the county has enforced rules on the levee which will restrict access. Councilwoman Bogart stated that we will need signs for the publicity and education in order for this to be successful. Mr. Bahr advised that the maintenance of the levee falls within the county. The signs will be placed by the county. The ordinance will be placed on the next meeting agenda for introduction.

## Randy Bahr- Administrator advised on the following items:

### ➤ New Jersey Transit Bus Shelters-

He advised there was nothing ready to report for this meeting. He will forward to council what information he has now regarding the bus shelters.

### ➤ Annual Assessment Program –

Mr. Bahr reviewed the Somerset county program. The county advised that Bound Brook is now closer to 100% true market value. The county does recommend this program. The annual inspection would be 25% of properties each year costing \$18,000.00. This is less expensive then having a revaluation company come in and do the work. The last contract was just under \$200,000. Mr. Bahr recommended the county program.

This will also reduce tax appeals. He will reach out to the County Tax Administrator for the formal information on the program.

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➤ Sale of Suburban borough vehicle –

Mr. Bahr advised that the book value is \$18,000.00. The vehicle is currently being used as a first responder by the Rescue Squad. Mayor Hasting stated that we have the option of lettering the vehicle. Mr. Bahr advised that you can keep it as an emergency vehicle. Councilman Petti offered his opinion to sell it over to the Rescue Squad for one dollar. The squad volunteers so much of their time. The vehicle is five years old. The squad can insure it. Councilman Petti offered a resolution to sell the vehicle for one dollar to the Rescue Squad. There was no second. Resolution was not carried. Councilwoman Pranzatelli asked if it was possible for the Rescue Squad to attend next meeting to discuss the vehicle. Mayor Hasting tabled the discussion. The consensus of council agreed that the Captain of the Rescue Squad attend the next council meeting to help make a decision on the vehicle.

New Business

Shade Tree Commission: Approve grant for (50) Trees

Mary Patton-Shade Tree Commission Chairperson announced that the New Jersey Tree Foundation is working with TD Bank. Their staff will plant the trees. The commission made this application for the trees and received the grant. She asked that the staff is able to use the restrooms at Tea Street when they are ready to start the planting. Mr. Bahr will coordinate. The Police Chief will supply the signs for the staff and coordinate with Lt. Rivenbark to put up signs on the streets the day before and the day off planting.

A resolution was moved by Councilman Wright; second by Councilman Levin to accept the grant; All in favor: Ayes

The governing body thanked Mary for her work.

For Approval: Special Event Permit Application

Bound Brook Hose Co. #1, Inc.-

Event: Coin Toss

Dates: April 26, June 7, August 16 & November 15

Time: 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Location: W. Union Avenue (Rt. 28) & Vosseller Avenue

Raindate: May 3, June 28, August 23 & November 22, 2014

Motion: Councilwoman Pranzatelli Second: Levin

All in favor: Ayes

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Twin Boros Scholarship Foundation- 5 K Fun Run

Location: Criterium Bicycle Course- Maple, Cherry & Winsor Streets

Date: May 25, 2014

Time: 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

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

Bound Brook Fire Department- NO ACTION

Event: Carnival

Date: May 14-May 17, 2014 - Time: 5 p.m. – 11 p.m.

Location: Billian Park

Motion: Councilman Petti Second: Councilwoman Bogart

Discussion: David Lukac, Board of Engineers 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant advised that permits have been filed.

He advised that the time for Saturday is 3 to 11 p.m.

Mr. Bahr asked if this will be a borough event. This is a fundraiser for the fire department.

Mayor Hasting asked to table the event application to the next council meeting. We will need to know what the expected costs will be for police officers those days

A motion to table was moved by Councilman Levin; second by Councilman Wright; All in favor: Ayes

Approval of Vouchers

R2014: 49

Motion: Councilwoman Pranzatelli Second: Councilwoman Bogart

All in favor: Ayes

Open meeting to the public for comments

Carol Holub- 518 West Second Street

She asked for clarification on the historic preservation ordinance.

Mayor Hasting stated that we have an ordinance on the books. The commission has not been active. A committee will be looking at recommendations to the ordinance as to what is best for Bound Brook at this time.

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Fred Holub-518 West Second Street

He stated that he walks the levee every day. He asked if the proposed amendment to the ordinance will no longer allow this.

Mr. Bahr advised that this dictation has come down from the state and the county.

Michele DeFazio- 603 Church Street

She asked what the percentage is now on the reassessment of the town.

Mr. Bahr advised the percentage of the whole town for 2013-2014 is 19.7%.

Roseann Short-169 Cherry Avenue

She asked how much over budget on snow removal. Mr. Bahr advised the normal is \$27,000.

Mary Patton-751 Watchung Road

She asked when the developer will be paying taxes on the Bolmer property.

Mayor Hasting advised that the borough and the developer agreed that a payment in lieu of taxes (pilot) was necessary to finance the project.

R2014: 50- no executive session

Authorize executive session for ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

Adjournment @ 8:40 p.m.

Motion: Councilwoman Bogart Second: Councilman Petti

All in favor: Ayes

Respectfully submitted by,

Donna Marie Godleski, Borough Clerk

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