

BOROUGH OF GLEN ROCK

Executive Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 11, 2015 7:30 pm

This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law. This Meeting was included in a list of meeting notices sent to the Bergen Record and advertised in said newspaper, posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building, and has remained continuously posted as the required notices under the Statute. In addition, a copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

ROLL CALL:

Council Member O'Hagan - present
Council Member Orseck – present
Council Member Nogara - present

Council Member Pazan - present
Council Member Surrago - present
Council Member Martin – present

Mayor van Keuren – present
Robert Garibaldi, Borough Attorney – present
Lenora Benjamin, Borough Administrator – present
Jacqueline Scalia, Borough Clerk – present

Lenora Benjamin – introduce Gary Higgins (auditor)

Gary Higgins – independent auditor report we do not audit the LOSAP fund. Opinion on page two is the qualifications and the opinions.

Council Member Nogara – adverse opinion can you explain

Gary – it's no fault of your just required by law. Modified cash bases which is better.

Council Member Nogara – so basically everyone in the state will get that adverse opinion.

Gary – yes. Surplus at year end has increased, rating agencies like that you have a surplus policy and abide by that. On page 92 three audit recommendations, unemployment trust fund the bill from ending 2014 not enough money in reserved in the 2015 budget. But didn't get until March of 2015. Not material \$5,500.

Second item – certain departments not preparing monthly reports.

Lenora Benjamin - few departments that tie with the tax office, because of lump money and different accounts do to miss posting. They have to tie at the end of each month instead of at the end of the year. Will be up to the department head to check.

Final one is the incumbent system, same as last year.

Lenora Benjamin– corrective action plan to review the vendors and do a blanket purchase order.

Gary – they will assist in solving some of the small daily purchases required.

Lenora Benjamin- numerous bills on a daily basis. Making the purchase submitting the invoice cutting the check. But we have never gone over.

Council Member Nogara – it's more formality

Lenora Benjamin – the system does work just a little backwards.

Gary Higgins– at year end the blanket orders will need to be closed out, so that will be an additional job. Audit records were in good conditions, moving forward getting better every year. Financial statements are in good conditions.

Mayor – can you see a reduction?

Lenora Benjamin – yes in 2018

Council Member Nogara- we will lose a good amount of debt then

Council Member Surrago – usually good practice to meet without the public and management.

Gary Higgins – you can call the office if you have anything that you would like to discuss, everything is in here.

Mayor – some concerning information think we are all aware that within the past year four AED were placed at various fields, and over the weekend all four have disappeared. I informed the police that I am putting up \$1,000 of my money to find out where they went. To have then taken is a huge blow and a huge risk to the kids that play and I wanted to provide an incentive.

Sycamore Park there is an old basketball court with a backboard that is falling apart and a year ago we had a resident ask to replace that. It wasn't put in by the borough is was put in by an organization and they didn't want to replace it, for us to get involve it entails green acres the cost of one backboard and pole is somewhere like \$800 - \$1,000 most accessible to a moderately small neighborhood I tried to get them to participate in doing that, and now I asking you if we you would like to purchase that.

Council Member Surrago – what about the surface

Mayor – if you wanted to do the surface I would say approx. another \$1,000

Council Member Orseck – Basketball looked at this a while back and decided not to use it. My concern is the access and the parking.

Council Member O'Hagan – it's a half court.

Council Member Martin – if it exist then people should be able to use it rather than just let it alone.

Council Member Orseck – you want me to take it back to Rec and ask Basketball again.

Mayor – would like to spend the \$1,000 and fix it.

Council Member O'Hagan – did the neighbors complain about the noise and security?

Council Member Surrago –asked about the cost of the surface.

Mayor – will talk with Bobby T for cost of the surface.

Emerson Road

Mayor – last Wednesday, Lenora, Amy & I met with residents and no parking on either side, going to throw out a proposal no parking on the south side of Emerson ever and on the north side unrestricted parking with the restriction of designating four or five spots as being available to the residents, spoke with the superintendent and she is will to work with us to inform the students, sensitive to the possibility that is may work. Each driveway apron has white lines and push them out approx. a foot to make the access to the driveway easier.

Council Member Martin – how would designate for resident only.

Mayor – there isn't a consistent feeling among the residents. Making sure it stays open for emergency vehicles.

Public Comment

Mark Goldberg – so opening up and identify for residents and would limit the amount on the north side its very narrow, backing up from the north side is very difficult. Hope that you limit on the north side. Review when you are out there. Move the lines in a limit would give you more feasibility.

Carol Knapp – it's a public street, why not limit the parking to three or four hours. Afraid you might have a problem.

Mark – we put a new rule in place and now we are going backwards.

Mayor – there a number of conditions we are trying to accommodate.

Council Member O'Hagan – a lot of the reasons was because of the renovation, with reaching out to the superintendent could you reach out by the end of the year to ask for no student parking on Emerson. A way to reach out to the school no student parking. There are plenty of spots available. Trying to make everyone happy and the ones causing an issue are the kids going to school, same distance on the other side.

Diane Herrlett – it's a quality of life issue as well as a public street.

Bob Bourne – it requires enforcement

Lenora Benjamin– we are making an efforts we are limiting the number of people that can park while changing the lines. We didn't limit is because it cause another set of problem to limit the parking.

Carol Knapp – could the school do an assessment of the area.

Mayor – this is coming a classic example of trying to find a solution with a number of complexity. You have to fish or cut bait, it possibly that the chosen solution may not be perfect. Pick a solution a try to make it work.

Mark Goldberg – what was the date the signs went up.

Council Member Martin – I think it was revisited because of safety.

Mark Goldberg – the signs went up and it worked and now two people are complaining and now want to change again.

Mayor – then resident will want the same thing on their street. I don't think we can go to the school and say your kids can't park on Emerson.

Bruce Packer – to insure the AED was too expensive. Can they be added to the insurance and they are unlocked. Maybe something exist that they have a GPS chip but in them to locate them.

Council Member Orseck – I think you tried to find a compromise.

Mayor – the problem will disappear over the summer then reemerge in the September.

Mayor – we have two big dead trees on borough property and getting bids to remove them, any items of what to do with the wood.

Council Reports –

Council Member Pazan – went to the Arboretum over the weekend Bee& the Bear, Children's Park is great packed with Kids. Building fees \$149,422 for April. 81 building inspections 83 plumbing 62 certified of occupancy. Library always open for you hoopla new service. Meditation class today 7pm summer entertaining June 4 7pm. New program 6 to 12 grade crafter noon. Book page art journals on the 21st. Knitting group, tea at two. Paws for reading ages 5 and up. Teen advisory board receive credit for volunteer hours.

Council Member O'Hagan – number of request or concerns with house fires in the last few weeks, asked the head of the Fire department to make a presentation on safety and why we need sirens on May 27th. Thursday evening fire department does different training will be Wilde Park to work on the gear and different training mechanism used. Ambulance Corp using Wilde Memorial bring in a helicopter Tue. May 19th for training. Continue to thank Hawthorne and Fair Lawn Fire Departments with coverage during the day.

Council Member Martin – Central Business District Raffle for the fair. Arboretum has become a station for the monarch butterfly its big deal for the Arboretum.

Council Member Nogara – shade tree committee met last week and discussed a few issues. Finance Committee audit report is a good thing and happy with our surplus and with our current debt structures it really drives what we can do in the future financially. Capital budget discussion to be setup.

Council Member Orseck – thank you for reporting on Wilde Park restroom, will not be able to make the Rec meeting tomorrow, pool badges on sale, learn to swim and shack program. Should look in the fall for the two teenagers. One more week before prices goes up.

Council Member Surrago – two members of the environmental commission have asking to adopt a resolution for green up Glen Rock team, need to do to get renewal of sustainable New Jersey to make us eligible for grants and planning, resolution is basically the same that was adopted three years ago, the difference is the third paragraph is to continue and reaffirm the endorsement. Looking to add to the agenda for Wednesday night

Paul Sharar – total of 150 point we are working on point that would be 200. Asking that the Mayor officially name the team. Andy has worked hard with keeping us on track for all of this.

Paul Rosengran – Shade tree hurting the Glen Rock canopy has a proposal that would require during demo of a house would need to replace or make a donation, to have developers to think first. Clearly not a solution but think it's a first step.

Mayor – could we make it a little stricter, that you can't take them down?

Paul – you would definitely have the support of the committee with that.

Council Member Nogara – we don't want to add any burden to the residents or the rights to property owners, so this protect the clear cutting to remove a tree in the foot print. There is no down in my opinion, good first step to get the ordinance on the books. It should be pretty much a win, win with also possibly a first step to maybe revisit in the fall.

Paul – this is at least an improvement then what we have.

Carol Knapp – we found they violated every code with the building. Over the years the shade tree committee has come to the council to ask for change the ordinance, to help educate the developers and homeowners.

Council Member Nogara – asked what the cost would be in terms of enforcement. All it would be is an additional form that goes with the permits, Both Brain Frugis and Bobby T are on board with this.

Diane Herrlett - on the zoning board we haven't seen them either. Now they are knocking down and haven't seen any so this is a good law.

Council Member Martin – I don't see why we can't start strict and work backward if it needs to be fixed.

Council Member Surrago – are we talking about developers or all property owners? If just for developers I would then support that.

Council Member Pazan – I would like to see all the trees on the site plan before anything is taken down.

Council Member Nogara – they are certainly loop hole, I like the ordinance the way it's written it's a very good way to get this on the books without hurting the property owners. Like to see this as a start and tweak as needed. It's a good start.

Council Member O'Hagan – who decides what a hindrance?

Paul – this is try to stop just strictly clear cutting.

Mayor – the shade tree has comes with a request. Asked the shade tree to take into account the council sentiment. We would ask you to evaluate that and then ask you if that's working or if improvements are needed.

Council Member Nogara – the shade tree will just fill in the gap didn't want to burden the building department and they would step in when called upon.

Council Member Orseck – it's a great start.

Mayor – a number of towns around here do tell residents what they can and can't do.

Robert Garibaldi to review and discuss at the next work session.

Admin Report –

Lenora Benjamin– contractual salary resolution on the agenda. Do you want to go over the bond ordinance? Upper Faber, bathroom renovation Wilde, security, pool \$467,250. Police – enforces, radar unit \$16,700. Dpw _ \$700,000 street, loader, sewer and sidewalk repair \$1,052,000. Fire dept. – radio upgrade bldg. improvements, reserve \$100,000 – \$145,000. Municipal bldg., new bus, train station ADA entrance \$2,009,950. Need to get on the same page with the list for paving. Paving to start in July to set schedule we have the biggest program out there.

Diane – have you considered our request for help?

Lenora Benjamin – requested information and we are waiting on that.

Mayor –that would be part of the capital budget.

Council Member Nogara – we spoke about a loan option, looking into some of the cost and what the ongoing cost will be, and the soft cost we want to see the entire picture before we come to a vote.

Peter Gramercy place – interest peaked on this with the long term cost for this project and to what extend would the town be involved in it.

Council Member Surrago – Lenora brought up some concerns with the amount if that was really even enough.

Council Member O'Hagan – to look at a long term asset to the borough in order to help. Once we get this information.

Public Comment -

Diane Herrlett – thanked the council for supporting the Ambulance with the request for jackets we are getting fitted tomorrow.

Bob Bourne – two seniors that exercise at the community school, looking for alternatives to that for the summer.

Diane Herrlett – traditionally this group meets at the church we can only rent to non-profits, and they don't have a 501c3.