

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
AGENDA MEETING/REDEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP MINUTES
THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023
6:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Borough Clerk Bill Bray called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Keenan led the Pledge and said an opening prayer.

ROLL CALL:

JOSH KEENAN, MAYOR – PRESENT
STEPHEN GANDY, COUNCIL PRESIDENT – PRESENT
JAMES KELLY, COUNCILMAN – PRESENT
LINDA HALL, COUNCILWOMAN – ABSENT
TINA LOMANNO, COUNCILWOMAN – PRESENT
PATRICK GILLIGAN, COUNCILMAN – PRESENT
MICHAEL TOLOMEO, COUNCILMAN - ABSENT
STUART PLATT, BOROUGH SOLICITOR – PRESENT
RON MORELLO, POLICE/OEM COORDINATOR – ABSENT
JOHN D. KEENAN, JR., ACTING BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR - PRESENT
BILL BRAY, BOROUGH CLERK – PRESENT

STATEMENT OF ADVERTISEMENT: The Borough Clerk read the following statement:

Notice of this meeting has been provided to the Courier Post and The Retrospect and is posted on the Borough Hall Bulletin Board stating the time and the place of the meeting.

PRESENTATION CAMDEN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Casey Baker, Assistant Health Educator, Health Education Risk Communicator gave a presentation on the services provided by the Camden County Health Department. Ms. Baker stated there will be a Community Health Forum on March 29. Ms. Baker stated the County is also distributed radon kits at its Lakeland Road location. Ms. Baker asked if there were any questions.

Joe Hann, 1 Buttonwood Road – asked about the dust from the ongoing Laurel Mills Shopping Center demolition. Ms. Baker stated he could contact the state regarding that issue. Mr. Platt stated testing was done prior to demolition and no asbestos was found.

PUBLIC PORTION FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

Councilman Gilligan motioned to open the public portion on agenda items only. Councilwoman Lomanno seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a voice vote.

John Gentless, 110 Union Avenue – Mr. Gentless asked if RES. 23-45 dealt with the sale of land. Mr. Bray stated the resolution authorizes the sale of real property. Mr. Bray stated the sale of land would be listed as real estate. Mr. Gentless asked why Wellington Avenue is included in the CDBG grant application because it was recently repaved. Mr. Keenan stated the Borough did repave a portion of the street due to residents concerns but further repairs are needed.

There were no further comments.

Councilman Gandy motioned to close the public portion for agenda items. Councilman Kelly seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a voice vote.

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POLICE/OEM REPORT: Det. Thomas Farrell provided the following report of the Stratford Borough Police Department Activities for February 2023.

Feb. 2 - Officer responded to a home on Cornell Ave for a domestic dispute where they found an intoxicated 35-year-old man with a 9-inch hunting knife. Police subdued and arrested the man and took him to the county jail.

Feb. 6 - Officer assisted Lindenwold Police with a reported shooting at Gibbsboro and Berlin roads. That evening a Stratford Police office made a successful traffic stop of an individual who was later wanted for questioning related to the shooting.

Feb. 7 - Police responded to Season's Pizza for an auto theft after a Doordash driver left their vehicle running and came out to find it stolen. The vehicle was used to two smash and grab robberies in Somerdale and Collingswood. The vehicle has not yet been recovered.

Feb. 9 – Police responded to an overdoes at Burger King. Police used 2 doses of Narcan to revive a 35-year-old Sicklerville man.

Feb. 10 – Police responded to a gas leak at John Paull II School that was later determined to have been caused by a contractor working in the kitchen. The students and staff were safely evacuated to Yellin School and returned later when it was safe.

Feb. 15 – Police were serving a restraining order on Laureba Avenue when the man used wire cutters to cut power to the home's breaker panel. The suspect was charged with violating the restraining order and harassment.

Feb 16 - Police responded to a home on Hillside Road and found a 65-year-old female who had died of natural causes.

Feb. 18 – A suspect previously arrested and charged for allegedly stealing cooper from the cell town behind Good will was released from jail and arrested and charged again for allegedly stealing cooper from the cell town a second time.

Feb. 19 – A suspect attempted to pry open the door at CVS causing minor damage.

Feb. 20 – Police responded to a hazmat incident involving a Borough trash truck caused when a resident placed pool chemicals in the garbage. The materials were neutralized and taken to the county dump for disposal.

Feb 23 – Police responded to Whitehall Apartments for a 30-year-old man who broke into an apartment and assaulted a resident in her home. The man was charged with burglary and assault.

Feb 24 – A woman was struck by a truck after exiting a NJ Transit bus and walking into the White Horse Pike. She suffered a serious leg injury and was transported to the hospital.

Det. Farrell stated the Police Department is updating its rules to bring them inline with the state's new drug testing policies.

ENGINEER REPORT:

Mr. Reilly stated the written report was submitted to Council. Mr. Reilly reviewed the Borough CDBG grant application. Mr. Reilly stated the notice to proceed would be issue next week for the Borough Funded Road improvement program.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

FEBRUARY 9, 2023 AGENDA MEETING

FEBRUARY 9, EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING

FEBRUARY 14, 2023 REGULAR MEETING

A motion was made by Councilman Kelly, seconded by Councilwoman Lomanno with all members present voting aye by roll call vote.

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OLD BUSINESS:

REPORT #1 UPCOMING PUBLIC HEARINGS OF ORDINANCES
ORD. 23:3 AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL AND REPLACE CHAPTER 15.20 – FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION
Mr. Bray stated the state DEP is requiring the adoption of the ordinance which would replace the existing Borough Code. Mr. Bray stated the ordinance allows for the Borough’s participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. Mr. Bray stated the Borough has participated since the early 1980s and periodically has been required to update this portion of the Borough Code to remain in the program.

NEW BUSINESS:

REPORT #2 UPCOMING INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES
ORD. 23-04 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 6 TO ALLOW BACKYARD HENS

ORD. 23-05 AN ORDINANCE TO AMENDING APPENDIX TO CHAPTER 2.12 ENTITLED “POLICE DEPARTMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS”

RESOLUTIONS:

Mr. Bray reviewed the proposed resolutions. No one from Council removed or added to the consent agenda. Resolutions 23:42 through 23:49 were approved as a consent agenda.

RES. 23-42 AUTHORIZE & SUPPORT PARKS COMMISSION GRANT APPLICATION
RES. 23-43 AUTHORIZE RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE/WAIVE MAINTENANCE BOND – TIM HORTON’S
RES. 23-44 AUTHORIZE RELEASE OF MAINTENANCE BOND – ALDI
RES. 23-45 AUTHORIZE SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY
RES. 23-46 AUTHORIZE SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT – Electrical Subcode Official/Inspector
RES. 23-47 AUTHORIZE CANCELLATION OF TAXES FOR 100 PERCENT DISABLED VETERAN
RES. 23-48 AUTHORIZE APPLICATION FOR CDBG GRANT
RES. 23-49 APPOINT LIAISON TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION - KELLY

Motion was made by Councilman Gandy, seconded by Councilman Gilligan with all members present voting aye by roll call vote.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilman Gandy – No comments at this time.
Councilman Kelly – No comments at this time.
Councilwoman Lomanno – No comments at this time.
Councilman Gilligan – Councilman Gilligan stated the jughandle at New Road has deteriorated curbing with chunks breaking away.

GOOD AND WELFARE:

Motion was made by Councilman Kelly, seconded by Councilwoman Lomanno to open the meeting to the public for Good and Welfare with all Council voting aye.

Joe Han – Buttonwood Road, Mr. Han stated there are plumes of dust coming from the Laurel Mills Shopping Center demolition. Mr. Han stated there should be water on site to reduce the dust. Mr. Platt stated the borough

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will contact the contractor to ask them to deal with the issue. Mr. Keenan stated by Monday the building will be down. Mr. Han stated the sorting of debris is the main source of dust.

John Gentless – 110 Union Avenue – Mr. Gentless asked if the proclamation for Craig Martin had been delivered. Mr. Keenan stated it had been mailed and the Borough would send another if it never arrived.

Motion was made by Councilman Gilligan, seconded by Councilwoman Lomanno to close the public portion with all Council voting aye.

ADJOURN:

A motion was made by Councilman Gandy, seconded by Councilwoman Lomanno with all Council voting aye to adjourn at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Bill Bray, Borough Clerk