

Borough of Rocky Hill

Council Minutes

October 6, 2003

A regular meeting of the Rocky Hill Borough Council was called to order by Mayor Brian Nolan at 7:30 P.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our Country and a moment of silent meditation in memory of Peter Widen, former Somerset County Clerk, who passed away October 6, 2003. It was announced that this meeting has been advertised in the Somerset Messenger Gazette issue of December 12, 2002 in accordance with "The Open Public Meetings Act".

Roll Call:

Present

- Mr. Martin Engelbrecht
- Ms. Connie Hallman
- Ms. Peggy Harris
- Mr. George Morren
- Mr. Charles Pihokken

Absent

- Mr. Richard Batchelder

Minutes

The minutes of the September 15, 2003 meeting of Rocky Hill Borough Council were approved as presented, with minor corrections, with a motion by Mr. Engelbrecht, second by Ms. Harris. On a roll call vote Mr. Engelbrecht, Ms. Hallman, Ms. Harris, and Mr. Morren voted aye. Mr. Pihokken abstained.

Public Comment

Ms. Peggy Shafer, Toth Lane, asked if traffic has slowed down since South Bound Brook Police has been patrolling Rocky Hill Borough. Mayor Nolan stated almost 100 summonses have been issued since September 10, 2003 and he believes traffic has slowed down.

Ms Shafer asked about future use of "speed bumps or Tables" and was assured the public would have input before any decisions were made concerning the future use of speed bumps or tables.

Engineer's Report

Mr. Staph said Van Cleef Engineering reviewed plans for paving at Trinity Church and recommends final approval of the plans. Three proposals were received for the removal of a 1000 gallon UG fuel oil tank at borough hall and the installation of two 330 gallon basement fuel oil storage tanks. The low bidder was Environmental Excavating Co., Millington, NJ at cost of \$3573.32. Van Cleef Eng. recommends awarding the contract to Environmental Excavating Co. for \$3573.32.

Mr. Pihokken moved by Resolution, second by Ms. Harris to award the contract for tank removal and installation to Environmental Excavating Co. at a cost of \$3573.32. On a roll call vote all present voted aye.

Mr. Staph said he will have a RESOLUTION for a traffic calming grant ready for the next Council Meeting October 20, 2003.

Mr. Staph said the contract is in place for the leaf pick up this year and asked Council for a start date. After some discussion it was decided to have the contractor start on October 27, 2003 to pick up leaves.

Mr. John Harriett from WFI was present and presented a letter from Verizon that there antenna work on the water tower would not affect Verizon.

Mr. Pihokken moved, second by Mr. Morren to authorize Mayor Nolan to sign an agreement with WFI for more antennae on the water tower. On a roll call vote all present voted aye.

Bill List

Ms. Harris presented the following RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS THE TREASURER HAS CERTIFIED THAT SUFFICIENT FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE TO PAY SAID VOUCHERS: BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING VOUCHERS BE APPROVED FOR PAYMENT. Voucher 2794 will be held until the November 3, 2003 for approval and Vouchers 2795 and 2796 will be held until approved for release by Councilmember Harris. Second by Mr. Morren. On a roll call vote all present voted aye. See appendix #1 for the Bill List.

Committee reports

Administration & Records: Ms. Hallman said work on the Code Book will resume soon.

Buildings & Grounds: Mr. Pihokken reported most of the work at Borough Hall has been completed and the building looks great.

Finance & Insurance: No report

Public Safety/ Emergency Services: Mr. Morren received one Constable Report from Mr. Crowe and one parking summons was issued. Mr. Crowe stated he had several problems with Verizon concerning a low wire. Mr. Morren

said he has received a report from the Court Administrator (the first in a long time) and \$2991.00 was collected in fines and costs during September 2003.

Streets & Roads: Ms. Harris said she had the County clean up Washington Street and Crescent Avenue after the last storm and she asked residents to put their leaves out for pick up as close to the pick up day as possible so they will not get into the storm sewers.

Water, Sewer, & Environmental Protection: Mr. Engelbrecht reported that 2,760,000 gallons of water was pumped during September. There is one water main leak on Grove Street that Castoro & Co. has been told to repair it ASAP. All tests were O.K. He said Mr. Kessler reported no problems with the sanitary sewer system and Mr. Kessler will be checking manholes in October for leaks.

Council representative to Planning Board: Meeting not until next week

Council representative to School Board: Ms. Hallman said the New Montgomery Twp. High School will not open until September 2005.

Construction Official: No report

Special Business

Mayor Nolan introduced Mr. Richard Bartolone a Landscape Architect, Representing Montgomery Twp, who presented a plan for recreation development of Somerset County Park (Schafer Tract) that had input from both Rocky Hill Borough and Montgomery Twp. The plan shows all active recreation on 30 acres at the west end of the park. The different fields had to be moved and realigned because of wet lands at the south end of the tract. The walking trails around the active recreation area will be 8' wide and paved. The trails in the rest of the tract will be unpaved. The entrance road from Princeton Avenue will end near the Gazebo and will have 30 parking spaces there and another 10 spaces along the area where passive recreation is planned.

There were some questions concerning placement of ball fields and Mr. Bartolone will work on that.

Mr. Bartolone will confer with Mr. Kester, Rocky Hill's Landscape Architect, and fine tune the plan for further review.

Mayor Nolan introduced Ms. Mary Germain, President of The Rocky Hill Board of Health, who gave an update on the proposed new health contract with Montgomery Twp. She said Mr. Henry, Health Officer Montgomery Twp. was meeting with his committee people on October 8, 2003 to review some minor changes to the contract and present it to the full Montgomery Twp. Committee for approval on October 15, 2003. Ms. Germain believes the changes are minor and she believes there will be no change in cost to Rocky Hill.

Mr. Engelbrecht moved the following RESOLUTION, second by Ms. Hallman.

RESOLVED from Rocky Hill Borough Council to Mayor Louise Wilson and Montgomery Twp. Committee that the revised proposal for the Montgomery Twp. Health Dept. to provide Public Health Services to the Borough of Rocky Hill, be submitted to the Rocky Hill Board of Health no later than the close of business on Monday October 20, 2003 to allow time for review of the document prior to presentation to Rocky Hill Borough Council on November 3, 2003. On a roll call all present voted aye.

Mayor presented Ms. Susan Bristol, Chairperson Rocky Hill Planning Board, to discuss and answer questions concerning the proposed fence ORDINANCE for Rocky Hill Borough.

Ms. Bristol stated there have been several complaints in the last few years concerning fence construction in the Borough and the Planning Board felt it best to create a fence ORDINANCE to cover the whole town.

There was much discussion concerning this proposed ordinance and in the end Mr. Engelbrecht, Mr. Morren and Ms. Hallman had concerns with it and were not ready to introduce the proposed fence ordinance. Mr. Pihokken and Ms. Harris both felt the proposed fence ordinance was in the best interest of Rocky Hill. With three Councilmembers not in favor the proposed ordinance was not introduced.

Communications

They were discussed and ordered filed.

Unfinished Business

Mayor Nolan stated Mr. Castaneda is aware of the fact that he or his contractor must restore Borough property to the condition it was before they began construction of Mr. Castaneda's in ground pool.

Mr. Morren moved the RESOLUTION, second by Mr. Pihokken concerning veteran's tax deduction for Mr.

William Lucas for the tax year 2003. On a roll call vote all present voted aye. See appendix #2 for the resolution.

Mayor Nolan said Ms. Laura Griffiths asked about a form for use of the soccer field behind Borough Hall. It was stated a form had not been created but Mayor Nolan had received a use form from Montgomery Twp. and would adapt it to our use and give it to the Clerk for distribution to requestors.

It was stated that there is a grass roots effort being started to have Montgomery Twp. address the stripping issue at WAWA Rt. 518 Rt. 206 intersection.

New Business

Mr. Pihokken will take charge and several Councilmembers will help remove trash from the basement of Borough Hall on Friday October 17, 2003 at 6:00PM for clean up day on Saturday October 18, 2003.

Mayor Nolan said Mr. Brad Alexander sent a letter to Mr. William Dressel, Executive Vice President NJ League of Municipalities, concerning The Open Public Meeting Act and particularly advisory sub committees of Rocky Hill Borough. Mayor Nolan said he will reach out to Mr. Alexander; however Mr. Dressel will not respond to the letter.

Mr. Morren moved, second by Mr. Pihokken to introduce at first reading ORDINANCE 3-03 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 3-97 CONCERNING TRUCKS OVER FOUR TONS ON BOROUGH STREETS. On a roll call vote all present voted aye. The Public Hearing and final adoption will be November 3, 2003 at 7:30PM at Borough Hall. See appendix #3 for the Ordinance

Mr. Morren moved, second by Ms. Harris to introduce at first reading ORDINANCE 4-03 AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING U-TURNS ON CERTAIN STREETS IN THE BOROUGH. On a roll call vote all present voted

aye. The Public Hearing and final adoption will be November 3, 2003 at 7:30PM at Borough Hall. See Appendix #4 for the Ordinance

Ms. Harris said she and Mr. Batchelder have worked on revisions to the By –Laws of Rocky Hill Borough Council and would like to discuss the changes at the next Council Meeting.

Public Comment

Mr. George Covington, Lemore Circle, asked if completing a U-Turn by going around the Post Office Building was legal and was told it was legal. He also stated he has seen brush picked up on clean up days that was not tied in bundles and asked if he still had to tie up his brush. He was told the rule is tied and if he did not he stood the chance of his brush not being picked up

Mr. Engelbrecht moved at 9:45PM, second by Mr. Morren to go into Executive Session to discuss matters of possible litigation. On a roll call vote all present voted aye.

Mr. Morren moved at 10:02PM, second by Ms. Hallman to return to Public Session. On a roll call vote all present voted aye.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:04PM with a motion by Ms. Hallman, second by Mr. Pihokken. On a voice vote all present voted aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond E. Whitlock Jr.
Borough Clerk

MINUTES 3/17/08

Borough of Rocky Hill
New Jersey



EXECUTIVE SESSION

October 6, 2003

Mayor
Brian A. Nolan

Council President
George E. B. Morren

Council Members
Richard D. Batchelder
Martin Engelbrecht
Connie Hallman
Peggy Harris
Charles T. Pihokken

Mayor Nolan gave Borough Councilmembers an update on the Schafer fifteen acres land site in Rocky Hill. He said he had spoken with Ray Brown at Somerset County Park Commission and the Commission was favorable towards helping Rocky Hill with the purchase of the fifteen acres for open space. He also said he told Mr. Schafer of his talk with the County. He will update Council as things progress.

Chief Financial Officer - Treasurer
G. Ross Bobal

Tax Collector
Donna Griffiths

Assessor
George Sopko

Engineer
Neil I. Van Cleef

Borough Magistrate
Eric Perkins

Borough Clerk
Raymond E. Whitlock, Jr.

Borough Attorney
John D. Rankin

Prosecutor
Christopher "Kip" Bateman

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raymond E. Whitlock, Jr.", is written over the typed name and title.

Raymond E. Whitlock Jr.
Borough Clerk

All bills and communications should be sent to
Raymond E. Whitlock, Jr. - Borough Clerk
P.O. Box 188, Rocky Hill, New Jersey 08553
Tel (609) 924-7445
FAX (609) 924-2274