

**BOROUGH OF ROCKY HILL
COUNCIL MINUTES
MAY 16, 2005**

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Rocky Hill was called to order by Council President George Morren at 7:30PM. Mr. Morren led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by a moment of silent meditation. Mr. Morren stated that the meeting has been properly advertised in the December 31, 2004, issue of the Somerset Spectator and is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Roll Call: Mr. Richard Batchelder-present, Ms. Connie Hallman-present, Ms. Peggy Harris-present, Mr. George Morren-present, Mr. Jared Witt-present.

Absent: Mayor Brian Nolan, Mr. Edward Zimmerman

Also present: Borough Clerk Raymond Whitlock, John Horan, Esq., appearing on behalf of Borough Attorney Albert Cruz

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 2, 2005, was made by Hallman with a second by Harris contingent upon correction of typographical error on page 2, under Council Representative to Planning Board, should read, "...Ordinance #17-04". Motion carried on roll call vote – all ayes; Batchelder-abstain, Witt-abstain.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The floor was opened for public comments.

Cliff Moore, resident, requested the status of the distribution of the Guide that was developed by the Planning Board for residents within the histonsrsid3346633

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Tax Collector's report for April 2005 was received and distributed.

BILL LIST

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.
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C__C_sfcB_ĐŸÇ_ " _×µÆ%ÇVÅÆ"prove the resolution was made by Morren with a second by Harris.
Motion carried on roll call vote – all ayes. (See Appendix 1 for Bill List)

SPECIAL BUSINESS

Application for membership to the Rocky Hill Fire Company was received from Daniel M. Brown. Motion to accept Mr. Brown's application was made by Morren with second by Batchelder. Motion carried on roll call vote – all ayes.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communications as listed on the agenda were discussed and ordered filed. Copies of letter from Engineer Tanner to Waste Management confirming their last pick up date of 5/31/05 and to Raritan Valley Disposal concerning the Contract and Insurance were received; Letter from Alex DeCrose, Assembly Republican Leader requesting Council's consideration of the adoption of a Resolution, "Blueprint for Property Tax Reform" was received. Mr. Morren deferred action until Council has the opportunity to review the proposal; Notice of grant applications for individuals with disabilities was provided to Ms. Harris; Request was received Township of Cranford for a resolution supporting A-3526 & S-2144, "Christopher's Law" . It was the consensus of Council to adopt a resolution in support of same at the next meeting. Clerk

Whitlock will provide a copy of the resolution received to Council; Notice of a presentation of the NJDEP Draft Solid Waste Plan to be held on 5/23/05 in the Freeholders' Meeting Room was received. Ms. Hallman advised she will not be able to attend and extended the invitation to other Council members.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Award of Lawn Maintenance Contracts 2005 – Letter of May 11, 2005, from Engineer Tanner listing a comparison of costs for the lawn mowing services for the years 2003 through 2005 and recommendation for award of the contracts was received. It was noted that the increase in price reflects additional cutting that has been included. Mr. Morren moved by Resolution with a second by Harris the award of contract to John Kessler for lawn area maintenance services for 2005 in the amount \$6,996.00 and the award of contract to Maitland Van Nostrand for open field mowing services for 2005 in the amount of \$1,200.00. Motion carried on roll call vote – all ayes.

Purchase of Office Chairs/Filing Cabinet – Motion to approve of the purchase of two desk chairs at a cost of approximately \$70.00 each (Clerk and Tax Collector) and one filing cabinet at a cost of approximately \$150.00 (Zoning Official) was made by Hallman with a second by Witt. Motion carried on roll call vote – all ayes.

Flag Pole at Panicaro Park - Clerk Whitlock reported that Alan Querec has volunteered to paint the flagpole at Panicaro Park at no cost to the Borough. The cost of the machinery needed will be less than the \$500 previously appropriated. Clerk Whitlock advised that he received a quote for the installation of lights for the flagpole from Mr. Naomi which is approximately \$3,000.00. It was the consensus of Council that additional quotes should be sought. Clerk Whitlock will try to obtain additional quotes and report back at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Award Local Park Clean Up Contract – Proposal was received from Greenscapes Lawn and Landscape Services for clean up services at Crescent Park (\$1732.70) and Borough Hall (\$1398.00) for 2005. Clerk Whitlock noted Mr. Zimmerman's approval of same; however, Mr. Zimmerman expressed concern with the funds availability in the Buildings and Grounds budget. Mr. Batchelder moved by resolution with a second by Witt the award of the contract provided the award of same does not result in a deficit in the buildings and grounds line item. Motion carried on roll call vote – all ayes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cliff Moore, resident, was provided with the following information in response to his questions: the new trash pick up service begins on June 7, and the bins should be delivered within the next 10 days; the Somerset Park is expected to be open fully to the public in 2006, however, the paths/trails may be opened by the fall of 2005.

Helen Morris, resident, was provided with clarification of the award to Greenscapes and information pertaining to the bike race scheduled to pass through the Borough on 5/28/05.

Hearing no other comments/questions the floor was closed to the public.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 PM was made by Batchelder with a second by Morren. Motion carried on voice vote – all ayes.

Respectfully submitted:

Donna M. Griffiths
Deputy Clerk