

**BOROUGH OF ROCKY HILL
COUNCIL MINUTES
JULY 18, 2005**

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Rocky Hill was called to order by Mayor Brian Nolan at 7:30 PM. Mayor Nolan led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by a moment of silent meditation. Mayor Nolan 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: Ms. Peggy Harris-present, Ms. Connie Hallman-present, Mr. George Morren-present, Mr. Edward Zimmerman-present, Mr. Jared Witt - present

Absent: Mr. Richard Batchelder

Also present: Borough Clerk Raymond Whitlock, Borough Attorney Albert Cruz, Borough Engineer William Tanner

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 20, 2005, was made by Hallman with a second by Witt contingent upon the following correction: Page 2 – New Business – appreciation day to be in honor of all community volunteers including emergency services volunteers. Motion carried on roll call vote – all ayes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The floor was opened for public comments. Hearing none, the floor was closed to the public.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Tanner's report dated July 12, 2005, for July 2005 was distributed to Mayor and Council (copy on file in Borough Clerk's Office). Engineer Tanner provided an update on the Stormwater Management regulations. It was agreed that Mayor and Council will provide all comments regarding the regulations to Engineer Tanner by August 10th (prior to the next Council meeting).

It was noted that the decal installation for the storm sewers has been completed by a work crew provided by the Sheriff's Department. The crew also assisted with removal of the maple trees in Panicaro Park.

Monitoring of the wells at the Princeton Gamma Tech has continued with satisfactory results as per reports submitted to Engineer Tanner from Superintendent Larry Merk. Engineer Tanner will provide a spreadsheet with the pumping /monitoring statistics for the next meeting.

An update was provided on the construction progress of the County (VanHorne) Park, same of which is approximately 60% complete. Engineer Tanner provided a letter regarding the needs for completion of Phase 1B (mostly paving) which entails a change order. He noted that the Parks Committee is in agreement with the change order and the Township of Montgomery has introduced an ordinance for same. The following ordinance was introduced:

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE #4-2005 PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF PHASE 1B OF PARK IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF ROCKY HILL, IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$52,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$49,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

Ordinance #4 -2005 as filed in the Borough Clerk's Office and entitled as above was read by title. Motion to introduce the ordinance was made by Morren with a second by Zimmerman. Motion carried on roll call vote – all ayes. The public hearing for the adoption of the ordinance is scheduled for August 15, 2005, at 7:30 PM at Borough Hall.

RESOLUTION – AMENDMENT TO 2005 CAPITAL BUDGET

Resolution as attached hereto as Appendix #1 was read into record by Mayor Nolan. Motion to approve was made by Zimmerman with a second by Witt. Motion carried on roll call vote – all ayes.

Engineer Tanner advised of two transportation enhancement grants available. It was agreed to request the following: sidewalks on Washington St.; lighting in the area from Crescent to Crescent on Washington St; Brick paving in the area of the community group house (Ms. Hallman to provide photographs to Engineer Tanner for inclusion with the grant) and the Borough property at Montgomery Ave.; one or two benches (one for Panicaro Park); concrete tables for the pavilion. Engineer Tanner will provide follow-up correspondence to Mayor and Council within the week for review. Motion was made by Morren with a second by Hallman authorizing Mayor Nolan to sign and submit the grant applications to the DOT. Motion carried on roll call vote – all ayes.

Mayor Nolan referenced letter received from Tony Bianculli regarding the need for a ramp at the library and feasibility of a monetary contribution from the Borough for design and estimate work. Attorney Cruz will research the organization documents for the library, provisions for donations to the library, and will make contact with Mr. Bianculli and Borough Auditor Morrison. Engineer Tanner will contact the Montgomery Township Engineering Department for any interest in the project.

Mr. Zimmerman provided an update on the proposed pavilion noting that portions of the project must be placed out to bid. Motion was made by Zimmerman with a second by Morren to authorize Engineer Tanner to prepare bid specifications for the construction of same. Motion carried on roll call vote – all ayes.

In response to Mr. Witt's question regarding the status of the sidewalk repairs, Engineer Tanner advised a list was compiled by him and Ms. Harris some of which will be provided to Mayor and Council via e-mail.

In response to Mr. Morren's concerns regarding the steep slope groundcover in the area of the Scassera property and plantings on Cty. Route 518, Engineer Tanner will follow-up with the County as to the status of same. Engineer Tanner will also look into the feasibility of blinking, red lights for the stop signs at Crescent Ave. as well as the status of the painting of the three-way stop at Crescent.

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.

Clerk Whitlock referenced minor changes to the bill list. Motion to approve the resolution was made by Hallman with a second by Morren.

Motion carried on roll call vote – all ayes. (See Appendix 2 for Bill List)

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration & Records – Mr. Witt requested all comments regarding the proposals for amendment of the by-laws, *concerning Council President and Council Committee appointments* be provided to him by August 10th for discussion at the August 15th meeting. Discussion on the codification process will also be discussed at that meeting.

Buildings & Grounds – Mr. Zimmerman reported that the dead tree in the parking lot has been removed; the weeding was done at Panicaro Park by the County workers; mulching may also be done by the County workers; donation of memorial bench by Mrs. Lott of Toth Lane in memory of her husband for the Green Acres park was received – all welcomed receipt of same. Request was made for the purchase of a new bench for the tennis courts. Motion to approve expenditure not to exceed \$200.00 was made by Zimmerman with a second by Hallman. Motion carried on roll call vote – all ayes. Thank you letters will be extended to Robert Wells for the painting of the flag pole and Courtney White of the community group for the 4th of July community celebration.

Finance & Insurance – An expenditure report for the period January through July, 2005, was provided by Mr. Batchelder. Clerk Whitlock noted erroneous posting to the Collection salary and expenses line items and reallocation of the charges to same. Mayor Nolan reported on an upcoming meeting to be held with Municipal Software representatives regarding the newly installed fund accounting system.

Public Safety & Emergency Services – Mr. Morren referenced letter dated June 20, 2005, from Montgomery Township Administrator Donato Nieman, regarding the revised Records Management System and Computer Aided Dispatch System by the Township and possible transitioning to the Somerset County trunked radio system. Mr. Donato is requesting to meet with Borough representatives to discuss options and the sharing of costs by the Borough for these services. Mr. Morren is awaiting a meeting date from the Township for further discussions on this matter. As a follow-up to last month's meeting, it was noted that no contact has been made by the State Police to discuss the feasibility of a substation in Rocky Hill. Mr. Morren will follow-up with Lt. Devlin. Mr. Morren will contact the constables to follow-up on overgrown brush/tree problems. It was suggested that any concerns regarding this issue be directed to Mr. Morren via e-mail. Mr. Morren provided a summary of the State Police issued tickets, parking tickets, and the Court report for June.

Streets & Roads – Ms. Harris reported contact has been made with the County regarding the cleaning of the storm drains. At the request of Mr. Whitlock, Ms. Harris will look into having a street light placed further south on Crescent Ave. towards the Princeton Business Park. Ms. Harris advised that a report on the tickets issued by South Bound Brook from January through May is to be distributed.

Water, Sewer & Environmental Protection – Ms. Hallman read into the record the June utilization report as provided by Superintendent Larry Merk noting favorable results in same. A thank you will be sent to Mr. Cahill for his services of painting the fire hydrants at no charge to the Borough.

Council Representative to Planning Board – Ms. Harris reported that the Home Occupation application has been approved; the Shafer Property application has been deemed incomplete, and Engineer ~~Ferraro~~ Paul Ferriero has been appointed for the purpose of hearing that application. Mayor Nolan provided an overview of the procedural and public information processes regarding this application. It was agreed that Mayor Nolan would address any questions/comments received by the press.

Council Representative to School Board – It was noted that school board member Doreen Solazzo resigned from the Board at the end of June.

Council Representative to Board of Health – No report at this time.

Zoning Official – No report at this time.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communications as listed on the agenda were discussed, disseminated and/or ordered filed. Invitation for award projects as requested by the NJ Society of Municipal Engineers was referred to Mr. Zimmerman for disposition. Requests for Michael Pane Memorial Award was referred to Mr. Witt for disposition. Mayor Nolan noted the historic district guides as prepared by the Planning Board have been distributed to residents in the historic district. Public notices were made pertaining to the meeting *being held at the library on Saturday, July 23rd* to present the guides. It was noted that the guides are available to all interested residents *at the Boro Hall, Mary Jacobs Library, and on the Boro website.*

PUBLIC COMMENT

Martin Engelbrecht, resident, addressed the street lighting situation on Crescent Ave. as previously discussed. Mr. Engelbrecht suggested that an additional light be requested in lieu of moving the present one. *Ms. Harris will investigate this further.*

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 PM was made by Hallman with a second by Witt.
Motion carried on voice vote – all ayes.

Respectfully submitted:

Donna M. Griffiths
Deputy Clerk