

## Mayor and Common Council Borough of Flemington

October 15, 2013

**Council Meeting Room** 

#### I. Work Session Agenda 7:00 pm

## 1. DISCUSSION: ENSURING ACCOUNTABILITY OF OWNERS OF MAJOR APARTMENT COMPLEXES (EDWARDS)

In view of information she has been receiving from various sources, Mayor Edwards stated she feels the need to bring a dialog to the public regarding activity in the larger apartment complexes; most notably Hunter Hills and Flemington Arms. Ms. Edwards spoke of criminal activity and overcrowding that affects the health and safety of not only the residents of these complexes, but also of the entire community. Ms. Edwards informed that the management of Hunterdon Mews had come to her with concerns regarding the impact these activities are having on their complex. Ms. Edwards stressed her own concerns with this situation.

Mayor Edwards stated she has plans to meet with residents of both Hunter Hills and Flemington Arms, and also the other apartment complexes in town, to discuss the issues they are having. Ms. Edwards said this information will help start the process of determining better ways to protect these communities and the Borough at large.

Mayor Edwards listed some possible strategies the Borough can implement:

- 1. Licensing of owners of large multiple dwelling communities to insure their accountability
- 2. Annual apartment inspections as apposed to the State criteria of every 5 years
- 3. More comprehensive measures to address problems in cases in which management is viewed as condoning or participating in the unlawful activity

Councilman Greiner noted that, when speaking with residents, it becomes clear that management differs at each complex, adding this seems to be more of a management issue.

Mayor Edwards agreed noting that does become apparent, if you can get management to speak with you. Ms. Edwards added there are over 1,000 rental units in the Borough, stating there is generally a distinct difference in accessibility of management and often times in responsiveness when comparing owners of one or just a few rental units to owners of large complexes..

Council Vice President Swingle voiced concern that these issues are not only affecting apartment residents but are becoming much more far reaching and impacting the entire Borough.

Councilwoman Fine asked for more specifics concerning criminal activity.

Mayor Edwards said more information would be forthcoming as the dialog progresses.

Mr. Swingle added law enforcement would also be asked to contribute opinions on the situation.

Councilman Gorman stated that "we know we have problems, we need to address them before they get worse".

Mayor Edwards informed there would be more discussion in a matter of weeks, once additional data is compiled.

Mr. Swingle added it takes time to compile data such as this.

Ms. Fine inquired who, from Hunterdon Mews, had contacted the Mayor.

Mayor Edwards said that recently it was management, but she has also been hearing from residents of all three complexes, noting some are reluctant to reach out, in which case she has heard from their worried friends who do not live in the apartments. Ms. Edwards stressed that this concerns her very much.

Ms. Fine noted the new Police Bike Patrol should help fast-track the effort to remedy these problems.

Mr. Swingle agreed, stating law enforcement is pouring resources into these areas.

Ms. Fine also suggested implementing programs such as those in the schools, where the residents are given information and resources that will make them feel more comfortable reaching out to law enforcement.

Motion To: Adjourn the Work Session at 7:25 pm

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: John Gorman, Councilman
SECONDER: Phil Greiner, Councilman

**AYES:** Brian Swingle, Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner

**ABSENT:** Phil Velella, Joey Novick

#### II. Regular Meeting Agenda 7:30 pm

#### Flag Salute

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Brian Swingle	Council Vice President	Present	
Phil Velella	Council President	Absent	
Dorothy Fine	Councilwoman	Present	
John Gorman	Councilman	Present	
Joey Novick	Councilman	Absent	
Phil Greiner	Councilman	Present	
Erica Edwards	Mayor	Present	

Mayor Edwards opened the meeting by informing Council President Velella was not present as he is, regretfully, away on business, and that Councilman Novick was also away on family business. However, Councilman Novick was available to participate if needed since he was listening on Mayor Edward's cell phone to most of the meeting and was watching the simulcast of the meeting on the internet.

#### MOTION TO: TABLE RESOLUTION 2013-164 TO AN UPCOMING MEETING

Mayor Edwards stated that, as there is not a full Council this evening, it is best to postpone discussion until everyone is present.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Phil Greiner, Councilman

SECONDER: Dorothy Fine, Councilwoman

AYES: Brian Swingle, Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner

**ABSENT:** Phil Velella, Joey Novick

#### 2. Motion To: Move Item 2013-168 from #11 on the Agenda to #2

**MOVER:** Brian Swingle, Council Vice President

**SECONDER:** Dorothy Fine, Councilwoman

**AYES:** Brian Swingle, Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner

**ABSENT:** Phil Velella, Joey Novick

### 3. PRESENTATION OF DONATION FROM FLEMINGTON-RARITAN PARKS AND RECREATION TO FRIENDS OF FLEMING CASTLE

Councilman Gorman presented Kelli Dochterman, of the Samuel Fleming House Board of Trustees, with a check for \$1,000.00 from the Flemington-Raritan Parks & Recreation Committee to aid in funding their upcoming event coinciding with the Hunterdon County Tri Centennial celebration. The Board is planning a day of Tuccamirgan Day activities for both adults and children at Samuel Fleming House. Ms. Dochterman informed there is an open house the second Saturday of each month at the Fleming House, inviting all to visit. The Fleming House also hosts 500 local 5th grade students each year for their Colonial Days education unit.

## 4. RESOLUTION 2013-168: AUTHORIZING THE USE OF A BOROUGH STREET TO BE UTILIZED FOR THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Susan Lax, of Hunterdon Helpline, was present to give an overview of the services this organization provides to the local community. Ms. Lax informed they are a 44 year old institution that has worked to evolve with the needs of county residents.

Ms. Lax spoke of the Teen Helpline, which is an information and referral service to area youth. The hot-line is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to aid in issues concerning mental health, homelessness, jobs, etc. Trained operators are there to listen and offer help, plus a licensed clinical social worker is also on staff for additional needs.

Ms. Lax informed their offices are located in the Century Link building, adding all operators have the ability to work remotely, in case of weather emergencies, etc.

Ms. Lax stated there is also a Social Services Hotline with access after hours to aid with emergency situations. Ms. Lax added that Hunterdon Helpline works very closely with the County OEM and Citizen Alert System.

Ms. Lax informed there are many divisions of the organization, including:

Seniors & Disabilities - checking in on them, making sure they are well and taking their medications, etc.

Friendly Visitor Program - adult volunteers offer socialization to area shut-ins

Emergency Cell Phones - providing cell phones and instruction to shut-ins

Choices for Seniors - a mini directory of all services under one umbrella, which is also accessible online

Literacy Services - for adults who are either not proficient in, or those with no knowledge of, the English language.

County Translation Center - serving all languages

Hunterdon Hispanos - Hunterdon Helpline just took over this organization and is bringing Salsa Night back to the Borough.

Ms. Lax wished to thank the mayor and Borough staff for all their help in preparation for Salsa Night.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Dorothy Fine, Councilwoman
SECONDER: Phil Greiner, Councilman

AYES: Brian Swingle, Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner

**ABSENT:** Phil Velella, Joey Novick

#### 5. Public Comments -- Session I

Elaine Gorman, 34 New York Avenue, Borough liaison to the Hunterdon County Tri Centennial Committee - gave the following update:

#### Tricentennial Report October 9, 2013

- Website---www.hunterdon300th.org
- Donations
  - Exxon---\$25,000.00
  - Merck---\$50,000.00
  - Shop-Rite---?
- Hunterdon In My Heart---book signings
  - 1. December 14, 2013---Red Mill---1:00 to 4:00pm
  - 2. December 15, 2013---Choir School---1:00 to 4:00pm
- Gala---March 29, 2014
- Blanket Sales---\$35.00---Choir School---Saturdays from 10:00-2:00
- 6. Fun Facts Calendar---\$3.00---Saturdays from 10:00-2:00
- Teaberry's Victorian Tea Party, December 27, 2014---Christmas themed, \$25.00/person
- 8. Commemorative Magazine, glossy, photos, text, 50-60 pages, \$10.00-\$12.00
- 9. Art in the Country, November 16, 2013 Dan Campanelli, \$50.00/person

#### January Events

January 1, 2014---Reenactment of the Freeholders Organization Meeting, Historic Courthouse, Refreshments in Freeholder's Meeting Room

January 4, 2014---Main Library, 1:00-4:30pm---Lecture and Panel Discussion

1:00---Marylyn Cummings---Mapped entire County—Power-point presentation

2:00---Panel Discussion---Mike Margulies, Elizabeth Cole, and Janice Armstron

Preservation in Hunterdon County, What has been los

What we are losing, Where are we going?

January 11, 2014---Quilling for Kids---North Branch Library---10:30-12:00
A local art teacher will present and have a hands-on activity

January 18, 2014---Main Library---2:00-3:30pm---Lecture, How to Sensitively Rehab a Historic House---Mike Margulies and Mike Hathaway

January 22, 2014 --- North Branch---7:00-8:00pm--- John Kuhl---300 Fun Facts

January 25, 2014---Tavern Tour, Frenchtown Inn, 12:00 to 3:00pm

Ms. Gorman added she appreciates all the support she has received from the Borough.

Robert Shore, 47 Broad Street - asked for a recap of the work session, as he was unable to attend.

Mayor Edwards summarized the discussion for Mr. Shore.

Mr. Shore inquired if the Borough overcrowding Ordinance has been helpful with these issues.

Councilman Greiner replied that this is a constant challenge with 60% of rentals being housed in the larger complexes. Mr. Greiner informed the original Ordinance has been updated to make it easier to report overcrowding, and an extension was also added to the main Borough telephone directory. Mr. Greiner informed the Fire Marshall responds to all reports, and recently cited a block of nine overcrowded units at the Hunter Hills complex.

Mr. Shore asked for more information regarding criminal activity at the apartments.

Mayor Edwards informed Council is compiling data and would be elaborating on the issues at a later date.

Mr. Shore noted the substandard housing at these complexes and suggested encouraging the owners to modernize, which would attract a better grade of tenant.

Referencing Ordinance 2013-17, Mr. Shore questioned lowering the dollar amount available for residential tax abatements from \$50k to \$25K.

Mayor Edwards noted this level of residential abatement is the maximum amount permitted by State statute.

Mr. Shore stated Flemington should be proactive and move for change.

Jack Koontz, 2 Park Avenue - was present to inform Council that a third car belonging to him had been hit in front of his house. Mr. Koontz cited many instances from past Council meetings where the Old Park Avenue driving pattern had been discussed, asking when action would be taken.

Mayor Edwards informed Council is looking into this, and is considering making this road a one-way with the cones being removed from the corner.

Karen Giffen, 9 Highland Avenue - inquired if her suggested time adjustment to trash being put out to the curb had been considered.

Councilman Greiner said it was agreed to make the time earlier during the winter months, but there is no need to change the Ordinance, as this can be handled through enforcement.

Ms. Giffen informed that Governor Christie is allotting \$25 million in Hurricane Sandy funds to municipalities who are installing backup power, suggesting Council apply for this grant.

Ms. Giffen wished to speak on her voting record, which had been questioned by some members of Council.

Councilman Gorman stated he, then, would ask to offer his rebuttal.

A discussion ensued concerning whether this should be allowed as it might be construed as a political statement.

Mayor Edwards asked Borough Attorney Goodman to weigh in on the issue.

Mr. Goodman advised that he would allow Ms. Giffen to speak, noting that the First Amendment allows a certain amount of latitude to members of the public who speak at Council meetings and she would be asked to stop if he determined the content was crossing that line because it became a campaign speech.

Ms. Giffen, originally from England, gave an account of her path to citizenship in the United States, noting that once she was able to become a registered voter, she had participated 100%.

#### 6. Motion To: Move Item 2013-171 from #14 to #6 on the Agenda

**MOVER:** Brian Swingle, Council Vice President

**SECONDER:** Phil Greiner, Councilman

AYES: Brian Swingle, Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner

**ABSENT:** Phil Velella, Joey Novick

# 7. RESOLUTION 2013-171: ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF TRACI FLEMING AS THE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER AND APPOINTING ANIMAL CONTROL AND INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES, LLC TO FILL THE VACANCY

Mayor Edwards introduced the new Borough Animal Control Officer, Nathaniel Barson, citing his extensive resume, which not only includes handling domestic animals but also wild animals that impact the safety of residents. Ms. Edwards said he will also act as an animal cruelty investigator. Retaining his company would mean an increase in the level of service to the Borough and be a great benefit.

Mr. Barson spoke of animal cruelty, noting most issues stem from neglect, which usually is a function of lack of knowledge or financial strife. Mr. Barson informed he is partnered with Animal Alliance to help mitigate these situations.

Councilman Gorman asked for protocol concerning woodchucks, skunks and other nuisance animals.

Mr. Barson informed, through his professional service contract, he deals only with these types of animals if they are found in the living quarters of a home, but added a resident may contract with him separately, for a fee, to deal with other issues.

Mr. Gorman asked if Mr. Barson deals with deer control.

Mr. Barson said that he does not deal with deer or red foxes, as they are governed by State fish & wildlife laws.

Mr. Greiner asked if there is a salary differential between the old and new services.

Mayor Edwards said there is an increase, but the Borough is receiving additional services.

Councilman Swingle inquired about protocol relating to bears and coyotes.

Mr. Barson said he will respond and deter, but will not remove the animals.

Robert Shore, 47 Broad Street - related that the vacant house next to his has a family of skunks living under it, asking what might be done.

Mr. Barson suggested calling an exterminator as the animals are not in Mr. Shore's home.

Councilwoman Fine inquired if animals are relocated during breeding season.

Mr. Barson informed animals that are not protected may be relocated, but those that are protected, such as foxes, may not be relocated.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Phil Greiner, Councilman

SECONDER: Dorothy Fine, Councilwoman

AYES: Brian Swingle, Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner

**ABSENT:** Phil Velella, Joey Novick

#### 8. Mayor's Report (up to approximately 3 minutes)

Mayor Edwards informed the October Borough newsletter would be mailing in a matter of days.

Ms. Edwards informed that she, Councilman Swingle and Councilwoman Fine have been working on a draft modified noise Ordinance, and would have a draft ready shortly.

Concerning trash/recycling issues, Mayor Edwards has been speaking with the Public Works Committee and is advocating for a change. Ms. Edwards informed she would have an update at the next Council meeting.

Ms. Edwards informed she has been speaking with Park Avenue residents in an effort to evaluate the traffic pattern in that area. Ms. Edwards said the traffic engineer will be looking into changing Old Park Avenue into a one-way.

Ms. Edwards informed she, Assemblywoman Simon, Assemblyman Ciattarelli and Senator Bateman had all attended a meeting with the new president of JCP&L and area manager John Anderson, noting it was very informative. Ms. Edwards stated she would be asking Mr. Anderson to attend an upcoming Council meeting to give a broader view of the information they had received.

Ms. Edwards said she has been speaking with residents of Mine Street regarding their concerns over how privately owned trees on Mine Street might impact utility lines in the event of a major storm. Property Maintenance Official Tirpok will be utilizing his authority under the Property Maintenance Ordinance to request residents rectify any potentially hazardous situations.

Councilman Greiner asked if JCP&L had already evaluated this area.

Ms. Edwards responded that they had and were satisfied, noting this is due to their broad parameters. Ms. Edwards cited the need for the Borough to take extra precautions to insure utility lines are not impacted in case of a storm.

Ms. Edwards informed she is working with the residents of Prospect Hills regarding trash, recycling and mail issues.

Ms. Edwards informed the FBID Board would be introducing their 2014 budget at the October 28th Council Meeting, with a hearing to follow on December 9th. Ms. Edwards added the FBID has been asked to advise Council on ways to enhance opportunities for existing and potential new businesses in the Borough.

Ms. Edwards gave a brief statement for Council President Velella, who was away on business:

Ms. Edwards said Mr. Velella wished to inform that, due to the mention in last month's Borough newsletter, the Shade Tree Commission had received over 30 requests for free trees.

Mr. Velella has also been continuing to meet with the FBID.

Mr. Velella also has forged a tentative agreement with K-9 Soldiers, an organization that trains scent search dogs, to hold training sessions in the 90-100 Main Street building. Ms. Edwards noted this Resolution is on the evening's agenda.

#### 9. Council Members' Reports

#### **Council Vice President Swingle**

Council Vice President Swingle informed he had attended the Tax Assessor's workshop, and found it informative.

Mr. Swingle had also attended the SAFE in Hunterdon Candlelight Vigil, noting it was great to see so many people come out.

Mr. Swingle informed the noise Ordinance is shaping up.

Regarding the Borough website, Mr. Swingle said all Council meeting minutes had been updated. Mr. Swingle also noted new photo slides have and will continue to be added to the site.

Mr. Swingle had met with Hunterdon Central School Superintendent Steffner regarding the busing situation, adding he will continue to work on this issue. Mr. Swingle said he has also requested a meeting with Flemington-Raritan Schools Superintendent Nolan regarding safety.

Mr. Swingle noted the Fire Department had responded to his push to amp up recruiting, informing there are now several new recruits looking to join. Mr. Swingle also informed he had a meeting with Department leadership and the new Fire Marshall, with the intention of creating a good line of communication between them.

Mr. Swingle informed he and the Mayor are in the process of looking at possible Police promotions, noting leadership structure is critical to the Department.

Concerning locating the Borough Emergency Operations Center at the Police Department, Mr. Swingle informed this will make it easily accessible and also will allow use of the generator in a power outage.

Regarding concerns with the Good Neighbor Ordinance Councilman Novick had raised, Mr. Swingle informed he is doing research and would bring his findings to the next Council meeting.

Mr. Swingle reminded all to vote in the upcoming Special Election.

#### **Council President Velella**

Council President Velella was not present.

#### **Councilwoman Fine**

Councilwoman Fine said she had attended the recent Candlelight Vigil organized by SAFE in Hunterdon and found it to be very moving.

Ms. Fine said she was amazed to hear all Hunterdon Helpline does for the community.

Ms. Fine informed she is working with the Mayor and Councilman Swingle on the noise Ordinance, adding she is planning to have the Environmental Commission also look at it.

Ms. Fine spoke of the recent County Electronics Collection Day, reminding November 9th is Hazardous Waste Day.

#### **Councilman Gorman**

Councilman Gorman opened by offering an apology to Ms. Giffen, noting she had the right to say her piece.

Mr. Gorman informed drainage repairs have been completed on the inlet by the library.

- Mr. Gorman informed the DPW would begin leaf pick-up next week.
- Mr. Gorman also attended the Tax Assessor's workshop, noting it was very informative.
- Mr. Gorman said Well 5 is ready for its final test by the State, which may not happen for some time.
- Mr. Gorman updated that the William Martin Way sewer project was coming along, with paving commencing next week.
- Mr. Gorman informed he had attended the fundraiser for Flemington resident Kimberly Goetz, who is vying for a spot on the US Olympic Speed Skating Team, noting the Parks Department had presented a \$500 check.

#### **Councilman Novick**

Mr. Novick was not physically at the meeting and did not provide an update.

#### **Councilman Greiner**

Councilman Greiner informed no new applications were submitted or discussed at the recent HPC work session on October 3rd, adding the committee has started planning the Borough House Tour scheduled for October 2014. Mr. Greiner informed the HPC now has an extension on the Borough phone system.

- Mr. Greiner informed that at the October 5th Planning Board work session, one sign application was approved for a new eatery at 123 Main Street.
- Mr. Greiner informed he had attended the recent Tax Assessor's workshop, noting the light attendance. Mr. Greiner said it was very informative.
- Mr. Greiner said he did his usual monthly Property Maintenance review on October 9th.

#### 10. Approval of Minutes

Motion To: Approve Minutes: September 23, 2013 Regular Council Meeting

**MOVER:** Phil Greiner, Councilman

**SECONDER:** Brian Swingle, Council Vice President

**AYES:** Brian Swingle, Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner

**ABSENT:** Phil Velella, Joey Novick

# 11. RESOLUTION 2013-142: AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A GENERATOR FOR THE FLEMINGTON BOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT AND APPROVING A CONTRACT FOR INSTALLATION OF THE GENERATOR

Councilman Greiner wished to commend Mr. Swingle and his team for getting the price down significantly. Mr. Greiner also noted this is the first time Council is voting on this generator.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

**MOVER:** Brian Swingle, Council Vice President

**SECONDER:** Phil Greiner, Councilman

AYES: Brian Swingle, Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner

**ABSENT:** Phil Velella, Joey Novick

# 12. RESOLUTION 2013-165: AUTHORIZING A REFUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$481.10 TO US BANK CUST FOR BV001 TRUST FOR AN OVERPAYMENT MADE AT THE TAX SALE HELD ON OCTOBER 1, 2013

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Dorothy Fine, Councilwoman
SECONDER: John Gorman, Councilman

**AYES:** Brian Swingle, Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner

**ABSENT:** Phil Velella, Joey Novick

# 13. RESOLUTION 2013-166: AUTHORIZING THE REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE 2012-006 HELD ON BLOCK 12 LOT 3 AND AUTHORIZING THE TREASURER TO ISSUE A CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,348.06 TO US BANK CUST FOR CRESTAR CAPITAL LLC

**RESULT:** ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Phil Greiner, Councilman

SECONDER: John Gorman, Councilman

**AYES:** Brian Swingle, Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner

**ABSENT:** Phil Velella, Joey Novick

## 14. RESOLUTION 2013-167: APPROVING AN APPLICATION TO THE NJ STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION FOR HANSAL PATEL

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

**MOVER:** Brian Swingle, Council Vice President

**SECONDER:** Phil Greiner, Councilman

AYES: Brian Swingle, Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner

**ABSENT:** Phil Velella, Joey Novick

## 15. RESOLUTION 2013-169: ACKNOWLEDGING THE REQUIREMENT TO MODIFY CERTAIN ADA ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS UNDERTAKEN DURING THE PARK AVENUE REALIGNMENT PROJECT

Mayor Edwards informed this relates to the Park Avenue road project which was completed using Federal Highway Funds. Ms. Edwards stated the NJDOT did the final inspections, issuing their approval. Ms. Edwards said that, at a later date, the federal government audited some of their funded jobs and took exception to certain aspects of the NJDOT approval. Ms. Edwards noted, even though this represents a disagreement between NJDOT and Federal Highway, it still affects the Borough.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: John Gorman, Councilman
SECONDER: Phil Greiner, Councilman

**AYES:** Brian Swingle, Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner

**ABSENT:** Phil Velella, Joey Novick

# 16. RESOLUTION 2013-170: AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTION OF A GRANT AGREEMENT FOR NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE TRUST FUNDS FOR THE PARK AVENUE ADA ACCESS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Councilman Gorman informed this is an application for a grant relating to the previous Resolution.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: John Gorman, Councilman
SECONDER: Phil Greiner, Councilman

AYES: Brian Swingle, Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner

**ABSENT:** Phil Velella, Joey Novick

## 17. RESOLUTION 2013-172: APPROVING THE BEST PRACTICES CHECK LIST FOR SUBMISSION TO THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

**RESULT:** ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Dorothy Fine, Councilwoman

SECONDER: John Gorman, Councilman

**AYES:** Brian Swingle, Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner

**ABSENT:** Phil Velella, Joey Novick

# 18. RESOLUTION 2013-173: AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CLERK TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH M2 ASSOCIATES TO PERFORM GROUNDWATER TESTING IN THE MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT BETWEEN MAIN STREET AND BLOOMFIELD AVENUE, FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$13,000.00 TO BE PAID FROM CAPITAL ORDINANCE 2005-23 ALREADY APPROVED

Councilman Gorman informed this relates to a case that has been dormant for over 17 years.

Councilman Greiner inquired if it is necessary to finance this testing, or could it be expensed?

Mayor Edwards said she would speak with CFO Hance concerning this.

Attorney Goodman informed a new Resolution would have to be presented if this change is made.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: John Gorman, Councilman

**SECONDER:** Brian Swingle, Council Vice President

**AYES:** Brian Swingle, Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner

**ABSENT:** Phil Velella, Joey Novick

## 19. RESOLUTION 2013-174: AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH K9 SOILDERS FOR THE USE OF 90-100 MAIN STREET

Councilman Swingle wished to abstain, as he has worked with Ms. Gabriel in the past. Mr. Swingle did note, however, that he holds Ms. Gabriel and her work in very high regard.

RESULT: ADOPTED [3 TO 0]

MOVER: Phil Greiner, Councilman

SECONDER: Dorothy Fine, Councilwoman

**AYES:** Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner

**ABSTAIN:** Brian Swingle

**ABSENT:** Phil Velella, Joey Novick

## 20. RESOLUTION 2013-175: APPOINTING ROBIN HUGHES TO THE POSITION OF REGISTRAR AND REBECCA NEWMAN TO THE POSITION OF DEPUTY REGISTRAR

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Dorothy Fine, Councilwoman

SECONDER: Phil Greiner, Councilman

AYES: Brian Swingle, Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner

**ABSENT:** Phil Velella, Joey Novick

# 21. ORDINANCE 2013-17: FIRST READING: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 27 "TAX ABATEMENTS" OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF FLEMINGTON

Mayor Edwards noted this Ordinance is just to do housekeeping adjustments to the ordinance, making it easier to read and correcting the maximum residential abatement amount to \$25k, as per State statute.

Ms. Edwards also informed the second reading would occur at the November 18th Council meeting, as the newspaper notice of the second reading of the proposed amended Ordinance has been delayed due to tonight's meeting being held on a Tuesday, instead of Monday, because of the holiday.

RESULT: TABLED [UNANIMOUS] Next: 11/18/2013 7:30 PM

**MOVER:** Brian Swingle, Council Vice President

**SECONDER:** Phil Greiner, Councilman

**AYES:** Brian Swingle, Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner

**ABSENT:** Phil Velella, Joey Novick

Mayor Edwards wished to inform all that the Borough Reorganization meeting and dinner would be held on January 2, 2014.

#### 22. Public Comments -- Session II

Richard Higgins, 21 Bloomfield Avenue - urged Council to pursue bringing a Trader Joe's to the Borough, citing the need for this type of store in town.

Mayor Edwards said she would speak with FBID Director Holt about this.

Chris Englehart, 180 Main Street - thanked Council for having the flower pot removed from the library corner, as it obstructed vision.

Ms. Edwards informed the tree at that corner would also be relocated in the near future, insuring clear vision for traffic.

Donald Rinker, 34 New Jersey Avenue - informed he believes trash and recycling are not always separated when they are picked up.

Ms. Edwards stated that as there are many issues concerning trash/recycling pick-up, and Council is working on a solution.

Councilman Gorman noted that he always puts his trash and recycling on opposite sides of his driveway to insure they remain separated.

#### 23. Attorney's Report

There was no report this evening.

#### 24. Payment of the Bills

**Motion To:** Pay The Bills

**RESULT:** APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] MOVER: John Gorman, Councilman

**SECONDER:** Brian Swingle, Council Vice President

AYES: Brian Swingle, Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner

**ABSENT:** Phil Velella, Joey Novick

## **Executive Session For Any Other Applicable Matter Identified During the Regular Meeting (Action May Be Taken)**

There were no items for Executive Session this evening.

#### **Adjournment**

Motion To: Adjourn the meeting at 9:30 pm

**MOVER:** Brian Swingle, Council Vice President

**SECONDER:** Dorothy Fine, Councilwoman

**AYES:** Brian Swingle, Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner

**ABSENT:** Phil Velella, Joey Novick

\_\_\_ October 28, 2013

Robin Hughes Acting Deputy Clerk Borough of Flemington