

**BOROUGH OF STOCKTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
APPROVED: 1/2/17**

**REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 12, 2016**

A Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton was called to order by Mayor Timothy J. Nemeth at 7:00 pm on December 12, 2016. The following members of the Borough Council were present: Mr. Anthony Grecco, Mr. Adam Juncosa, Mr. Aaron Lipsen, Mrs. Kate Steffanelli and Mr. Donald Vandegrift. Mr. Nic Messina was absent. Borough Administrator/Clerk Michele Hovan and Borough Attorney Michael Butler were also present. There were two members of the public present.

Mayor Nemeth read the "Sunshine Statement" indicating the meeting was being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act and led the flag salute. Mayor Nemeth opened the meeting to the public.

Mr. Stan Prater of JCP&L introduced himself as the new Area Manager, taking the place of John Anderson who is on assignment. He reported on the planned outage that took place in recent weeks as part of a system upgrade and also reported on a new phase of tree trimming in the area. In response to a question raised by Ms. Hovan, Mr. Prater said that the utility is working under new tree guidelines from BPU that will start at the substation and work into the service zone from there, on a 4-year cycle. Mr. Vandegrift asked if the recent upgrades would prevent delayed responses such as the one Stockton experienced this past summer, especially in light of the more rapid response that PA neighbors across the bridge received from their utility. Mr. Prater said that the August outage was unique and that the delay was caused by assessment issues. Mr. Norm Torkelson, 29 Woolverton, inquired about a leaning pole issue near his home and exchanged contract information with Mr. Prater. Mayor Nemeth thanked Mr. Prater for his time.

Mr. Torkelson reported on the Penn East Pipeline issue and the Homeowner's Against Land Taking Group. Mr. Torkelson mentioned that he had filed as an intervenor on behalf of the Borough and the Planning Board. Ms. Hovan asked if the Planning Board had voted to intervene and said that she hadn't received any information from the Board regarding it or any requests for funding for it. In response to a question raised by Mr. Butler, Mr. Torkelson clarified that he filed as a private citizen, not on behalf of the Borough. Mr. Torkelson then briefed Council on the positions of the NJ Rate Council regarding justification for the project and of NJDEP relative to the potential C1 waterway impact. Mr. Torkelson said that as a resident, he was very concerned about the spread of arsenic as a result of land disturbance from the pipeline and discussed a new technique called directional boring trenching. A brief discussion ensued. Mr. Torkelson also reminded Mayor Nemeth that his appointment to the Lower Delaware Wild And Scenic Committee was up for renewal in January. Finally, Mr. Torkelson reported that the Stony Brook Millstone Watershed is coordinating a program called "River Friendly Resident Program" and that he planned to set up a table outside of the Stockton Market in the spring to help encourage participation. Council thanked Mr. Torkelson for his commitment to the Borough and this issue.

There being no additional discussion or further comment, the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Grecco and carried.

**BOROUGH OF STOCKTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
APPROVED: 1/2/17**

**REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 12, 2016**

Minutes – The meeting minutes for the November 14, 2016 Regular Meeting were approved on motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Vandegrift and carried, with Mrs. Steffanelli abstaining due to his absence.

Ordinance No. 16-01 – Cable Franchise Renewal – Second Reading/Public Hearing
Ms. Hovan read Ordinance No. 16-01 by title and explained that since the Borough has yet to receive approval from BPU to proceed, the only option is for the Ordinance to fail, which was affirmed on motion by Mr. Lipsen, seconded by Mr. Juncosa and carried. Mr. Butler said that the Borough could introduce a new ordinance in 2017 once the requisite approvals have been obtained.

Resolutions - Ms. Hovan noted that the contract for snow plowing was listed on the agenda and that Council could decide to award a one-year or two-year contract. Ms. Hovan noted that only one proposal was received and that the RFP was advertised on the website as well as sent to past vendors who have expressed interest. A brief discussion followed and all were in support of a two-year agreement. The following resolutions, Nos. 2016 through 2016-85 as listed below and as filed in the Borough Clerk's office, were approved on motion by Mr. Vandegrift seconded by Mr. Grecco and carried unanimously.

2016-80	Adoption of Hunterdon County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan
2016-81	Municipal Alliance Grant Application
2016-82	Extension of Shared Services Agreement for Supplemental Police Services
2016-83	Budget Transfers
2016-84	Snow Plowing Services
2016-85	Request to Bank 2016 County Open Trust Allocation

Roll Call: Ayes: Grecco, Juncosa, Lipsen, Steffanelli, Vandegrift
 Nays: None
 Absent: Messina
 Abstain: None

Claims for Payment – the claims for payment, as attached, were approved on motion by Mr. Vandegrift, seconded by Mrs. Steffanelli and carried unanimously.

Roll Call: Ayes: Grecco, Juncosa, Lipsen, Steffanelli, Vandegrift
 Nays: None
 Absent: Messina
 Abstain: None

**BOROUGH OF STOCKTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
APPROVED: 1/2/17**

**REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 12, 2016**

Discussion - FY17 Local Aid Grant Opportunity

Ms. Hovan reported that there were two streets remaining for reconstruction - Hilltop Drive and Moore Street and that she and the Borough Engineer believe that combining both in the next round of grant requests (due in February) would be a good strategy as opposed to asking for one or the other since both streets are small with limited volume. Mayor Nemeth asked if the NJSP commitment to assist with Hilltop costs was still valid and Ms. Hovan said that she would follow up regarding that. Mr. Grecco asked what the costs would be for the project and Ms. Hovan said that the next step is for the Engineer to prepare the estimate.

A brief discussion regarding a change in meeting dates led to no change and Mayor Nemeth asked if the January 2, 2017 could be combined with the regular January meeting. With no objection, Ms. Hovan was directed to notice the two meetings, with a start time of 6 pm.

Council Liaison Reports – Mr. Lipsen reported that there is a dearth of working holiday lights and said that he would look into options for holiday lights. Ms. Hovan mentioned that the costs for holiday lights is not inexpensive and that the Borough could consider funding in ensuing budgets. Mr. Lipsen added that donations or alternative funding options might be available.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 pm on motion by Mr. Vandegrift seconded by Mr. Juncosa, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Hovan, RMC
Borough Clerk