

**BOROUGH OF STOCKTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
APPROVED:**

**REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 11, 2019**

The March 11, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton was called to order by Mayor Timothy J. Nemeth at 7:02 pm on March 11, 2019. 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.

Ms. Hovan called the roll. The following members of Council were present: Mr. Paul Bergquist, Mr. Adam Juncosa, Mr. Aaron Lipsen, Mr. Michael Mann and Mr. Donald Vandegrift. Mr. Nic Messina was absent. Borough Administrator/Clerk Michele Hovan was also present. There were three members of the public present.

Mayor Nemeth opened the meeting to the public. There being no questions or comments, the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Lipsen, seconded by Mr. Bergquist and carried unanimously.

Mr. Rick Hendricks, Solebury, and Chief of the Stockton Fire Department, thanked the Mayor and Council for their consideration of the organization's annual budget request that he distributed at the last meeting and asked for questions. Mr. Hendricks described the Department's plan to allocated \$17,500 over the next two years to offset costs for their new rig. Ms. Hovan asked if Mr. Hendricks could provide a list of equipment that the Borough could consider funding from its capital improvement fund because the weight of the request on the current budget is too much. Mr. Hendricks said that he would compile a list for consideration. Mr. Vandegrift and Mr. Lipsen lead a round of general discussion regarding the new truck. Mr. Hendricks said that he met with the Delaware Township finance committee and that they are trying to help. In response to a question raised by Mr. Lipsen, the next oldest truck (after the one being replaced) needs investment and attention but should last for another 15-20 years.

Chief Hendricks also raised the issue of hydrant repair and said that he had been in contract with Mr. Greg Ent about previously. Ms. Hovan said that some time ago the issue was discussed and that the engineer was involved. Ms., Hovan said that she didn't exactly recall the outcome but would go back in her notes to find out.

Mr. Lipsen also mentioned that there were some ideas about traffic calming and inquired about the Hilltop/Moore Street project plans. Ms. Hovan said that the engineer would be coming to the next meeting and could discuss the plans then along with the sewer project update.

Minutes – February 11, 2019 Regular Meeting – the meeting minutes for the January 7 meeting were approved on motion by Mr. Mann, seconded by Mr. Vandegrift, and carried.

Ordinance No. 19-02 – Minimum/Maximum Salaries

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR AND DETERMINE A SCHEDULE OF MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM SALARIES FOR OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF STOCKTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY

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Ms. Hovan read Ordinance No. 19-02 by title and explained that it updates the schedule of salaries and further explained that it had been amended to correctly reflect the utility collector's range. Mayor Nemeth opened the meeting to the public. There being no questions or concerns, the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Vandegrift and carried. Resolution No. 2019-36, as filed in the Borough Clerk's office and to adopt Ordinance No. 19-02, was adopted on motion by Mr. Bergquist, seconded by Mr. Juncosa and carried.

Roll Call: Ayes: Bergquist, Juncosa, Lipsen, Mann, Vandegrift
 Nays: None
 Absent: Messina
 Abstain: None

Resolutions – the following resolutions, Nos. 2019-37 and 2019-38, as filed in the Borough Clerk's office and listed below, were adopted on motion by Mr. Vandegrift, seconded by Mr. Mann and carried. Resolution Nos. 2019-36 was pulled from the agenda and unused.

2019-37	Shared Services Agreement Extension – Construction Code w/ Delaware Township
2019-38	2019 Salaries
2019-39	Appropriation Reserves

Roll Call: Ayes: Bergquist, Juncosa, Lipsen, Mann, Vandegrift
 Nays: None
 Absent: Messina
 Abstain: None

Claims for Payment – the claims for payment, as attached, were approved on motion by Mr. Lipsen, seconded by Mr. Juncosa carried unanimously.

Roll Call: Ayes: Bergquist, Juncosa, Lipsen, Mann, Vandegrift
 Nays: None
 Absent: Messina
 Abstain: None

Discussion:

goHunterdon Rt. 29 Speed Study – Ms. Hovan provided an overview of the speed study results conducted at the Borough's request for the Rt. 29 area previously subjected to the warning signs that the organization installed when the school was operational. A general discussion of the results followed. Council expressed a desire for a new device regardless of the study results to aid in slower speeds. Ms. Hovan said that she would communicate the request.

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Discussion – Hunterdon Energy Co-op - Ms. Hovan said that the County was exploring new options for a municipal electrical generation (not distribution) energy co-op and that they were seeking to identify municipal partners. Ms. Hovan said that the program did not extend to residential customers. There was no reportable reaction from Council.

Mayor Nemeth opened the meeting to the public. There being no questions or comments, the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Bergquist, seconded by Mr. Juncosa and carried.

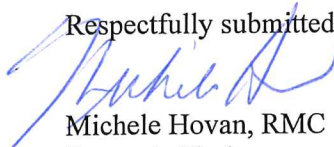
Council Liaison Reports

Mr. Lipsen reported that funds for tree work was needed as well as for the park shed. Ms. Hovan asked for the estimates to be included in the 2019 budget as soon as possible. Mr. Lipsen mentioned that the shed would need to be exterminated and Ms. Hovan said that should come out of the current fund. There was a brief discussion about peeling paint on the interpretive Bridge Street sign and issues with tree roots at the well house. Mr. Lipsen reported that the NJ Water Authority was scheduled to begin work in the spring on the canal banks.

Mr. Vandegrift discussed the idea for welcome signs at greater length than as introduced in February asking one post, two, type desired, etc. After some discussion, Mr. Vandegrift said that he would contact a vendor and collect some ideas. Mr. Hendricks suggested that the Bridge Commission might fund the project if they have funds available. Mr. Juncosa and Chief Hendricks briefly discussed the holiday lights and Karl Darby's generosity in the past for electrical work.

Mayor Nemeth announced that the next meeting would be held on April 8, 2019 at 7pm. There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:16 pm on motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Vandegrift, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Michele Hovan, RMC
Borough Clerk