

**BOROUGH OF STOCKTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
APPROVED:**

**REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 12, 2020**

The October Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton was called to order by Mayor Timothy Nemeth at 7:15 pm on October 12, 2020. The meeting was held online using Zoom technology due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Mayor Nemeth read the “Sunshine Statement” indicating the meeting was being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Ms. Michele Hovan called the roll. The following members of Council were present: Mr. Adam Juncosa, Mr. Aaron Lipsen, Mr. Michael Mann, Mr. Nic Messina (arrived at 7:38pm) and Mr. Donald Vandegrift. Mr. Paul Bergquist was absent. Borough Attorney Michael Butler and Borough Administrator/Clerk Hovan were also present. There were 2 members of the public present.

Mayor Nemeth opened the meeting to the public. Mr. Karl Darby, 17 Sandy Ridge Road, Delaware Township and representing the Stockton Civic Committee, provided an update on the groups fundraising events for holiday decorations. He thanked the Mayor and Council for their support and also sent a letter expressing similar sentiments. He said that the fundraising was ongoing for more lighting fixtures and that the group was prepared to reimburse the \$440.27 originally short when placing the order and that the Borough “fronted.” Mayor Nemeth thanked Mr. Darby and all the committee members. There being no additional questions or comments, the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Juncosa seconded by Mr. Vandegrift and carried.

Minutes:

The meeting Minutes for the September 14, 2020 Regular Meeting were approved on motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Lipsen and carried.

Ordinance No. 20-07 – Bond - Sewer Utility Equipment and Repairs – Second Reading/Public Hearing

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT AND WET WELL CLEANING FOR THE SEWER PUMP STATION, APPROPRIATING \$125,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$125,000 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE A PORTION OF THE COSTS THEREOF, AUTHORIZED IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF STOCKTON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY

Ms. Hovan read Ordinance No. 20-07 by title and explained that it funds urgent equipment for the sewer utility, including a generator. 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. Mann, seconded by Mr. Lipsen and carried.

Resolution No. 2020-63 as filed in the Borough Clerk's office and to adopt Ordinance No. 20-07, was adopted on motion by Mr. Mann, seconded by Mr. Juncosa and carried unanimously.

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

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Absent: Bergquist
Abstain: None

Claims for Payment – the claims for payment, as attached, and minus the charge for a screen door from Neice’s Hardware, were approved on motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Mann and carried unanimously.

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

Discussion – Halloween 2020

Mayor Nemeth introduced the subject of Halloween during COVID-19 and noted that Lambertville, typically a community that draws hundreds of visitors to town for the holiday, has cancelled their regular events. Mayor Nemeth said that some residents were worried that there might be “extra” trick-or-treaters because Lambertville isn’t participating and asked what others thought. A general discussion followed, with the overriding sentiment that there wasn’t a real concern, and that if residents would employ social distancing measures for the evening and while distributing candy, it should remain safe. Mr. Juncosa suggested that that extra presence by the NJSP would be a good idea. Ms. Hovan said she would adjust the sample flyer for safe Halloween tips and would send it for posting to the website, on the Borough Hall window and at the post office.

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. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Vandegrift and carried.

Mayor’s Report/Council Liaison Reports – Mayor Nemeth said that he believed the speed study was completed for Woolverton and was under the impression there were no major issues but that he hadn’t seen the data. Mr. Lipsen suggested an extra sign be installed, such as “Slow Hidden Drives” or something similar and a brief discussion followed. Ms. Hovan said that she would consult with the engineer and use the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for suggested signs.

Mr. Vandegrift reported that the park plan was presented to the Planning Board and that there were comments about the gazebo and apple trees and that there was a fair amount of support for a restroom. He also reported that the Bridge Street curbs were repaired and that the interpretive sign on Bridge Street was fixed. He said that he is working on the welcome signs and hoped to have more to report soon. In response to a question raised by Mr. Lipsen about the Bodine Farm, Mr. Butler said he believed the property was sold and that the new owners (or prospective new owners) planned to reach out to the zoning officer with questions that they may have.

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Mayor Nemeth announced that the next meeting would be held on November 9, 2020, at 7:00 pm, via Zoom. There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 pm on motion by Mr. Mann, seconded by Mr. Juncosa and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Hovan, RMC
Borough Clerk