

# **Borough of Tenafly**

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MINUTES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2015

At 7:41 p.m. Mayor Rustin read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement: "In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act P.L. 1975, chapter 231, the notice requirements have been satisfied. Meeting dates for the year are confirmed at the Annual Meeting, are posted on the public bulletin board in the lobby of the Municipal Center, published in the Record within the first 10 days of the New Year, and copies are sent to the Suburbanite and Northern Valley News. Notice of this meeting by the January 26, 2015 Sunshine Notice has been sent to the Record, Suburbanite, and Northern Valley Press and posted on the bulletin board in the lobby of the Municipal Center. "

Present: Mayor Peter S. Rustin

Council members: Anthony Barzelatto (arrived at 8:33 p.m.), Nadia LaMastra, Daniel Park, Paul Stefanowicz, Mark Zinna

Borough Administrator: Jewel Thompson-Chin

Borough Attorney: William R. McClure, Esq.

Absent: Councilman Maxim Basch

## **TO BE CONSIDERED**

### **Sgt. Oresko Memorial Plaque – Proposal by the Historic Preservation Commission**

HPC members Mario Turchi and Karen Neus presented a proposal to commemorate and honor Sgt. Oresko, who was a 57 year resident of Tenafly. Mr. Turchi noted that this was a preliminary proposal to get a sense of what will be required budget-wise. He explained that the HPC looked at Medal of Honor memorials, which usually are made of stone and bronze and require little maintenance. As part of the memorial, Mr. Turchi stated that it was important to have Sgt. Oresko's face etched or mounted to establish a personal connection. The memorial would be placed in the oval between the two majestic trees. Mrs. Neus noted that in Huyler Park there is an obelisk that is a war memorial.

Mrs. Thompson-Chin advised that there are no funds set aside for this project and any costs would be reviewed during the budget hearings. C. LaMastra recommended the use of the open space funds since it is for a historic purpose. Mayor Rustin commented that the project should be eligible for a county open space grant and recommended that the HPC speak with Paul Keyes, who is a landscape architect to get a recommendation on landscaping the area surrounding the memorial. Mayor Rustin stated that the area can be converted to a passive park with benches where people can come to read and relax. Once the funding has been identified, he noted that there should be a subcommittee formed for the design of the area.

Mr. Turchi recommended that the design of the Medal of Honor be etched or sand blasted at the bottom of the monument. Mrs. Neus informed that the HPC is still working on the details for the content of the design in an effort to devise an accurate and concise story. The HPC is recommending that the area be called a "green" instead of park to distinguish the area. Mr. Turchi advised that the initial budget figures are approximately \$10,000 - \$12,000, which includes a monument designer if required at about \$2500 - \$5000.

Mayor Rustin stated that Dan Merino retired after serving for at least 15 years on the HPC. He would like to invite and give him a proclamation honoring his service. He asked the HPC to contact Mr. Merino to find out when he would be in town.

## **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Mrs. Thompson-Chin advised Council that based on a discussion with the CFO the supplemental bond ordinance listed on tonight's agenda needs to be held for introduction until the February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting because the auditor needs to complete the annual debt statement.

She noted that the budget books have been prepared and the first budget meeting is this Saturday. She provided a copy of the Borough's recruitment and hiring procedures from personnel manual. Also a copy of the Borough's petty cash procedures has been provided.

