

Borough of Tenafly

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MINUTES

TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. with the reading of the Open Public Meetings Act statement by Mayor Rustin.

Present: Mayor Peter S. Rustin

Council members: Anthony Barzelatto, Nadia LaMastra, Joseph McDermott, Patrick J. Rouse, Jon Warme

Borough Administrator: Jewel Thompson-Chin

Borough Attorney: William R. McClure, Esq.

Absent: Councilman Michael Lattif

1. **TO BE CONSIDERED**

A. Proposed 2010 Municipal Budget Review dates

Borough Administrator distributed a 22-page budget message from the Interim Borough Administrator and advised the balance of the budget books would be delivered on Friday. It was agreed to hold special budget review meetings on Thursday, April 8 from 7:30-11 pm, Saturday, April 10 from 9-1pm and Saturday, April 17 from 9-1pm. It is anticipated that budget introduction will be Tuesday, April 27 with public hearing and adoption of the budget set for Tuesday, May 25.

B. Review proposed recommendations by Code Enforcement Dept. to introduced sign ordinance

Council will adopt Ordinance as introduced tonight; recommendations of Code Enforcement Department will be reviewed by the Sign Committee as well as any additional revisions, for future consideration by the governing body.

C. Green team advisory committee (from 3/2 meeting)

All but Bob Kutik of Chamber of Commerce will continue to serve; resolution appointing committee will be on April 13 agenda.

D. Recognition of Volunteer (Fire Dept and TVAC) and Employee (Police and DPW) efforts in response to March 13 storm

After brief discussion, Mayor Rustin will report back at April 6 work session with a proposal.

2. **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

A. Administrative Start-up Activities

Ms. Thompson-Chin reported she is holding bi-monthly department head meetings, has requested organization charts from each department, a list of priorities from each department, inventory of contracts and grants for each department, and is working on an employee data base and an annual calendar. There will be coordinating committees formed dealing with budget, personnel, media and events, community services, quality of life, and projects.

3. **FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Councilman Rouse expressed concern that in these economic times, our Open Space Referendum question in 2005 requires a specific amount of \$.01 per \$100 of assessed value be set aside for specific Open Space purposes of land acquisition or preservation. He questioned the Borough Attorney if those set-aside moneys can be used to subsidize the operating expenses of the Recreation department instead of for capital expenses. Borough Attorney to review law governing Open Space tax and report back to Council. He advised that any change in the amount to be collected, i.e., 'up to \$.01 per \$100...' would require a new referendum question on the November ballot.

Councilwoman LaMastra questioned if lawn signs on private property 'for' and 'against' the school budget were permitted; Attorney responded that they fall under Free Expression signs in the Sign Ordinance.

Mayor Rustin advised he will appoint Monica Zaccario to the Recreation Board to fill the seat vacated by Susan Van Poznak.

4. **CORRESPONDENCE**

A. Alice Rigney Re: Request/Art Exhibit at Clinton Inn

Council agreed; this will be approved at public meeting tonight

B. Bonim Builders Re: Request/Sunday interior work/Apr 11, 18 & 25

Council agreed; this will be approved at public meeting tonight

C. A. Palladino Re: Thank you DPW

D. HPC Re: 2009 HPC encumbrance re 11 Knoll Rd

No invoice from T. Robbins Brown has been sent to date; Borough Administrator will request from researcher so payment can be processed.

E. Emy/Oxford Dr. Re: Request/PODs in front driveway

Council agreed; this will be approved at public meeting tonight

F. Elkeslasi/DeMott St Re: Request/Temporary Access to Recycling Ctr

Council authorized Borough Clerk to issue 6-month temporary access; Clerk will advise requester.

G. Lohmann/Knoll Rd Re: Request/Bd of Ed at Zero Percent Increase

5. **RESOLUTIONS for the meeting of March 23, 2010**

A. Authorize Refund/2009 Tax Court Judgments

B. Authorize Refund/Duplicate payment for 2010 dog license

C. Authorize Refund/Building Dept Escrow/Soil Moving Fees

D. Authorize Refund/Building Dept Escrow/Engineering Escrow/353 E Clinton

E. Authorize Refund/Board of Adjustment Escrow/353 E. Clinton

F. Approve renewal of contract/HARP nursing services

G. Approve renewal of contract/Mid-Bergen Regional Health Commission

H. Approve Raffle License Applications 964 and 965

- I. Approve Amended Temporary Budget and Transfer Reserves
- 6. **PUBLIC HEARINGS for meeting of March 23:**
 - A. Ordinances: 10-12 (Sign Ordinance) and 10-13 (Increase in UCC Fees)
 - B. Other: School of Rock sign appeal
- 7. **MINUTES to be approved:** Work Session and Public Meeting of February 23
Work Session of March 2, Public Meeting of March 9
- 8. **ADJOURN to public meeting in Council Chambers**

As there was no further business to come before the Council, on a motion by Council member LaMastra, second by Council member Rouse, and unanimously carried, to adjourn this meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm to review the Public Meeting agenda.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Hatten