

# Borough of Tenafly

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MINUTES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 P.M. with the reading of the Open Public Meetings Act statement by Mayor Rustin, "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 Press."

Present: Mayor Peter S. Rustin  
Council members: Council members Barry Honig, Nadia LaMastra, Jon Warms, and Mark Zinna

Borough Administrator: Jewel Thompson-Chin  
Borough Attorney: William R. McClure, Esq.  
Chief Financial Officer: Gene Vinci

Absent: Council members Anthony Barzelatto and Martha Kerge

## **TO BE CONSIDERED**

### **Police Accreditation**

Mrs. Thompson-Chin informed Council that in response to their inquiry if the Police Department was interested in accreditation, the Chief received a proposal from the Rodgers Group. She is not asking Council to take specific action on this proposal. Its purpose to provide an estimate on what a proposal would be like and if Council was interested proceeding the Borough would have to undergo a RFP process since the cost is expected to go above the bid threshold. She explained that the issue is to determine whether accreditation is something that the Borough wishes to pursue. Mr. Vinci advised that there may be funds in the Police budget available to begin the process.

Chief Bruno commented that accreditation has been around for a long time, but is getting recent press and now JIF has gotten involved because civil suits are focusing if an agency is accredited. He noted that the JIF is offering to offset some of the costs and that eventually there may be a penalty if a police department is not accredited. He cited that the positive aspects of accreditation involve leveraging in applying for grants, enhancing communication protocols, and establishment of a management system for updated policies and procedures that is excellent for strategic planning. He explained that the proposal that was obtained is from a company that has performed the accreditation process for Bergen County and throughout the state. Chief Bruno noted that someone would need to be devoted to this, but it does not have to be a ranking officer. He advised that there is no real downside other than cost and allocating a member of personnel, but he assign the current officer that was handling records, as he will be able to participate in the accreditation process and handle his regular duties.

Mayor Rustin inquired if forfeiture funds can be used to offset the cost of the accreditation process. Chief Bruno responded that he will research to determine if some funds may be used, but not willing to spend the whole amount of the forfeiture funds because it is a resource that is used for the purchase of equipment and other items that are cut from the budget. He advised that he will also check into how much the JIF is willing to contribute. C. Honig stated that he is in favor of accreditation and funds should be found in the budget for this matter.

C. LaMastra inquired if there is a transition process or if the accreditation is ongoing after an initial completion. Chief Bruno responded that accreditation is an ongoing process and that there is a recertification every 3-5 years. C. LaMastra asked if the table of organization is evaluated and if any recommendations made, it is mandatory to implement them. Chief Bruno advised that a review of the table of organization is conducted and recommendations

that are made, which must be implemented. He commented that he has spoken to the chiefs of organizations that have been accredited and has received positive feedback from all.

The consensus of Council was to move forward with the accreditation process. Chief Bruno will provide the Borough Administrator with the information he obtains once he completes his research on the funding available from the JIF and forfeiture funds for this process.

### **9/11 Memorial – Fire Department Proposal**

Fire Inspector Bill Connolly reported that the Fire Department will solicit donations in March 2013 to raise funds for the memorial. With regards to the replacement of the bell, the Fire Department is requesting that the Borough rebuild foundation for the bell as it was removed during the construction of the expansion of the Police Department. The stones from the original foundation were saved. The foundation for ring is already in place. He recommended that DPW can build the bell's foundation since they built the foundation for the ring.

Mayor Rustin requested that the Fire Department find out the cost to rebuild the foundation and if volunteers can pour foundation. Once a cost is obtained, it can be evaluated with the DPW Director. Mayor Rustin offered to speak with the masons and carpenters in town to determine if they can donate the service.

### **2012 Best Practices Inventory**

Mrs. Thompson-Chin informed Council that this year's inventory has new questions since last year. This year's responses include the fair contracting ordinance, which is being introduced tonight. She advised that the Borough scored 90% and there will be no reduction in the final payment of state aid. Mr. Vinci reviewed the Borough's responses and noted that Not Applicable and Prospective responses count positively in the overall tabulation. He has submitted the inventory to the state and the resolution listed on tonight's agenda memorializes the submission.

### **BID Bylaws**

Mr. McClure advised that before the bylaws can be adopted, the ordinance creating the BID Management Corporation must be amended first. He presented an ordinance amendment that is consistent with the proposed bylaws to change the number of members to 11 and to reflect the terms for the each category for the directors. Council reviewed the proposed bylaws. C. LaMastra clarified that in the proposed ordinance the description for the Class C Directors needs to be amended to remove restriction of being a retail business operator as it will limit the potential pool of candidates for this category. It was noted that the Class A Director is the Council Liaison, Class B Directors are appointed by Council, Class C Directors are chosen by the members of the BID and the number of votes for each member correlates with the number of properties and Class D Directors are chosen by the current directors to the board. The ordinance with the amendments discussed this evening will be listed for introduction under New Business during the regular public meeting.

### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Mrs. Thompson-Chin reported on the implementation of a formal property maintenance process as there is an increase in unsightly properties. If there is no response from a property owner upon issuance of a notice of violation, a summons will be issued and in the case of final remediation, the DPW will bring the property into compliance and notify the Finance Department. If the property owner does not pay the Borough for DPW's services, the Finance Department will place a lien on that property's taxes.

Mayor Rustin requested that the Borough Administrator speak with the Construction Official regarding boarded up home from a property maintenance perspective.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Tenafly BID

RE: Downtown Parking Lots

Council noted the BID's opposition to soccer cage. Mayor Rustin requested that the Borough Clerk list for discussion changing the parking ordinance to open up parking spaces in the downtown for the first work session in November.

Tenafly Traditional Holiday Committee RE: 2012 Holiday Crèche Display

Council approved the Committee's request for the holiday crèche display. The Borough Clerk will notify the committee.

Maugham School 5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Graduation Committee

RE: Permission to Conduct Yard Sale

Council approved the Committee's request to conduct the yard sale. The Borough Clerk will notify the members of the committee.

Chestnut Street Home Owners

RE: Opposition to Outdoor Seating Application

Mayor Rustin advised that the convenience store will not be building a dining patio as noted in the letter because their application for the patio was denied. The outdoor seating application will be considered on the consent agenda. With regards to the property maintenance issues identified in the letter regarding TPR Restaurant, Good Taste Restaurant and Stop & Shop, Council requested that the Borough Administrator have the Code Enforcement Officer to investigate the area to determine if there are any violations.

**RESOLUTIONS** for meeting of September 27, 2012:

- A. Approve Expenditures as of September 19, 2012
- B. Certify Review of CY2012 Best Practices Inventory.
- C. Award Contract to Lerch, Vinci, & Higgins, LLP/Calculation of Arbitrage Rebate Service
- D. Authorize Escrow Refund/David Watkins, Esq.
- E. Terminate 1954 Agreement with the City of Englewood
- F. Authorize Receipt of Bids/Train Station Lighting Improvements.
- G. Approve Additional Engineering Services/Oversight Inspection of Train Station Lighting Improvements
- H. Authorize Agreement/East Bergen Mutual Aid Association
- I. Endorse Bergen County Community Development Grant Application/ADA Improvements with Handicap Swing at Walnut Park
- J. Authorize Issuance of Outdoor Seating Permit/Dawn Till Dusk Convenience Store
- K. Authorize Redemption of Tax Title Lien TTL10-1

There were no comments on the resolutions listed on the consent agenda.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

Ordinances: ORDINANCE NO. 12-15 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER XVIII OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF TENAFLY ENTITLED "SEWERS"

There were no comments on the ordinance scheduled for a hearing this evening.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

- Board of Adjustment Appointment (Mayor Rustin)  
Mayor Rustin advised that he will be appointing Sean Li to the Board of Adjustment since Jon Fox resigned.
- C. LaMastra requested that Council go into closed session after the public meeting to discuss the BID.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- 2012 League Conference Resolutions  
Council determined not to prepare any resolutions to be considered at the League Conference in November.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

As there was no further business to come before the Council, there was a motion by C. LaMastra, seconded by C. Zinna, and unanimously carried, to adjourn this meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lissette Aportela-Hernandez, MPA, RMC  
Borough Clerk