

The **January 25, 2016** meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Spring Lake Heights, Monmouth County, New Jersey was called to order by Mayor Thomas O'Brien at 7:00p.m. in the Frank E. Adams Municipal Building.

Present:

Councilman Christopher Campion
Councilwoman Sara King
Councilman Robert Merriken
Councilman James Shuler
Mayor Thomas O'Brien

Absent:

Councilman Thomas Vorbach

Also Attending:

Janine Gillis, Borough Clerk
Joseph J. Delaney, Jr., Administrator
Gary McLean, Esq., Borough Attorney

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Resolution No. R2016-37 Amended at meeting.

Borough Administrator Jay Delaney asked for an amendment to the Executive Session adding Easement-N. Lake Drive-Stewart Application

Contract Negotiations: Public Works Director - Easement N. Lake Drive

R2016-37, Authorizing an Executive Session

On a motion by Mr. Campion, seconded by Mrs. King, Resolution R2016-37 was approved as amended by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Campion, Mrs. King, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Vorbach

8:00 p.m.-PUBLIC SESSION:CALL TO ORDER ▪ SILENT REFLECTION ▪ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present:

Councilman Christopher Campion
Councilwoman Sara King
Councilman Robert Merriken
Councilman James Shuler
Mayor Thomas O'Brien

Absent:

Councilman Thomas Vorbach

Also Attending:

Janine Gillis, Borough Clerk
Joseph J. Delaney, Jr., Administrator
Gary McLean, Esq., Borough Attorney

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The Mayor reported the meeting was being conducted pursuant to the requirements of the N.J. Open Public Meetings Act with notice included in the annual notice of meetings sent to the Coast Star and Asbury Park Press; posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and on the Borough website.

APPROVE AGENDA

Mayor O'Brien asked for a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of appointments to the Environmental Commission. Mayor O'Brien also announced that at the prior meeting there was a request to have someone from the County speak about the Assessment Program, they couldn't be here tonight but will be at the February 8th meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Shuler, seconded by Mr. Merriken, the agenda was approved as amended, by the following vote:

Ayes: Mrs. King, Mr. Campion, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Vorbach

APPROVE MINUTES – January 1, 2016 Re-Organization & January 11, 2016 Regular Session

On a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Merriken, the minutes of January 1, 2016 & January 11, 2016 were approved, by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Champion, Mrs. King, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler
Nays: None Abstain: Absent: Mr. Vorbach

PRESENTATIONS – There were no presentations

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda items only) None Presented

Mayor O'Brien thanked the Police Dept., Public Works, Mr. Delaney and Mr. May for the great job done throughout town with the snow removal.

The voice of the public was closed on a motion by Mrs. King and seconded by Mr. Merriken without objection.

DISCUSSION ITEMS - None

MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Councilman Campion – reported that the budget process as started and meetings have begun with department heads.
- Councilwoman King – reported that the Chief and Patrolman Kwiatkowski distributed information to residents about clearing sidewalks along Hwy 71 for the safety of the children that walk to school.
- Councilman Shuler – thanked the DPW workers for an outstanding job.
- Councilman Merriken – no report

REPORTS, NOTICES & CORRESPONDENCE

- Public Notice from Wall Township – Adoption of the 2015 Master Plan Reexamination Report
- Public Notice from South Monmouth Regional Sewerage Authority-Re: Sewer Connection Fee
- Public Notice from South Monmouth Regional Sewerage Authority-Re: Revised Meeting Date
- Notice of Hearing Spring Lake Heights Board of Adjustment Re: 603/603 ½ Pitney Drive
- Notice of Hearing Spring Lake Heights Board of Adjustment Re: 569 Ocean Road
- Length of Service Awards - Audit Report for 2013 & 2014 prepared by Suplee, Clooney & Company
- Letter from Cablevision Re: 2015 Franchise Fee check in the amount of \$74,420.00

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS - None

RESOLUTIONS

R2016-38, Appointing a member to the Borough Council

Mayor O'Brien asked for nominations; Mrs. King nominated Mr. Arthur Herner to the position of Councilman, seconded by Mr. Merriken. Mayor O'Brien asked if there were any other nominations, none presented.

On a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Merriken, Resolution No. 2016-38 was approved appointing Mr. Herner by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Champion, Mrs. King, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Vorbach

Mayor O'Brien asked about Mr. Herner coming in to get sworn in prior to next meeting; Borough Clerk replied yes and that she would also prepare copies of the last 3 meeting packets for Mr. Herner.

R2016-39, Appointing members to the Zoning Board of Adjustment

On a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Shuler, Resolution No. 2016-39 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Champion, Mrs. King, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Vorbach

R2016-40, Appointing members to the Beautification Committee

On a motion by Mr. Shuler, seconded by Mrs. King, Resolution No. 2016-40 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Champion, Mrs. King, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Vorbach

R2016-41, Authorizing Monmouth County Mosquito Extermination Commission to apply pesticides

On a motion by Mr. Shuler, seconded by Mr. Merriken, Resolution No. 2016-41 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Champion, Mrs. King, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Vorbach

R2016-42, Approving issuance of a Social Affair Permit-Common Ground Grief Center

On a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Champion, Resolution No. 2016-42 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Champion, Mrs. King, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Vorbach

R2016-43, Approving use of the Community Center-Monmouth County Board of Elections

On a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Merriken, Resolution No. 2016-43 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Champion, Mrs. King, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Vorbach

R2016-44, Authorizing the adjustment of designated water-sewer accounts

On a motion by Mr. Shuler, seconded by Mr. Merriken, Resolution No. 2016-44 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Champion, Mrs. King, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Vorbach

R2016-45, Authorizing extension of Shared Service Agreement for Dispatching Services with Borough of Belmar

On a motion by Mr. Merriken, seconded by Mrs. King, Resolution No. 2016-45 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Champion, Mrs. King, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Vorbach

R2016-46, Approving payment of itemized claims on the January 21, 2016 Bill List.

On a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Merriken, Resolution No. 2016-46 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Champion, Mrs. King, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Vorbach

PUBLIC COMMENT (Any item)

▪ Donald Eilenberger 1215 Pond Road – thanked the Public Works Dept. for the outstanding job with the snow removal. He asked if there was an update to the traffic light installation on Old Mill Rd & Warren Ave; Mrs. King replied that it is scheduled for a spring installation. The goal is to have the

installation in before summer. Mr. Eilenberger also inquired about the improvement to the intersection at Ocean Rd & Old Mill Rd; Mrs. King stated that all approvals were in place but that Mr. May was at the mercy of the weather. Mr. Eilenberger suggested a traffic light or a 4 way stop at that location. Mr. Eilenberger stated that the sign on the building of the Spring Lake Tap House is non-conforming and that the Borough's code official should address it.

- Kathleen Heath 600 Essex Avenue stated that she had attended the Planning Board meeting where there was discussion about the siren at the Fire House. She has concerns about the impact on her since she lives next door to the fire house. She expressed that she does not object to the installation of the siren but is concerned about the decibel level. Mr. Campion explained that it is adjustable and the new siren is at height that wouldn't impact her. He offered that Sea Girt has a similar siren that she could visit, which he would gladly arrange.

- Larry Devine 1225 Wall Road – he asked for the borough's assistance about a property behind him; 2216 Old Mill Rd. He stated that the property is in foreclosure and he is looking to find out would be in charge of the property. He stated that there are trees on the property that are a danger, he would be willing to pay for their removal. Attorney McLean stated that the foreclosure process can be a varied length of time. He suggested the NJ Judiciary website to try and gain some information to ascertain the attorney that might be handling the case. He added that sometimes the banks do notify the municipality of a company that may be handling the property maintenance. Mr. Levine stated that he did locate an attorney but has not been able to actually speak to someone. Mr. Levine added that the borough has an ordinance with regard to property maintenance, couldn't they do something. Mr. Devine also asked about the re-surfacing of Wall Road.

Borough Administrator, Jay Delaney asked Mr. Levine for the address of the property. He added that the office does receive information from lenders when there is a foreclosure in process which sometimes indicates if they've assigned anyone for property maintenance. He would check if there is anything in our records. Mr. Delaney indicated that unfortunately Wall Road is not high on the priority list for repair. He added that NJ Natural Gas has done most of the excavations and that recently there has been discussion with them to do some repairs.

- Rick Anselmo 554 Essex Avenue -- expressed the same concerns as his neighbor about the siren. He feels that it's not the proper location; it is not a central location. Mr. Anselmo felt the notification about the Planning Board meeting was improper.

- Dennis Selmont 556 Essex Avenue lives in New York but eventually will be a full time resident. He also felt the letters were not sent out in a timely fashion but was happy to have received the notice. He feels the siren is a big impact to the homeowners and does not want this in his backyard. He would appreciate continued notification throughout the process.

Mayor O'Brien pointed out that previously there were 3 sirens in town, one of which was at the fire house. The goal was to install one new whistle which would not be as loud as the previous ones.

- Susan Lalji 559 Monmouth Avenue stated that she arrived late and apologized if this subject matter discussed. She expressed that she was not happy about her new tax assessment; Mayor O'Brien stated that a representative from the county will be at the next council meeting. Ms. Lalji stated that she has gone through the appeal process but was not happy that the process has to be repeated every year. She added that when she refinanced her home the appraisals always came in well below her assessment. She feels that she could never get the appraisal amount for her home if she where to sell; she has never done any upgrades. She was glad to hear that council was considering opting out of the program. She added that she was thrilled to find that she would actually be inspected but that the representative stated he was there to confirm what was on the county records which were correct. But felt that consideration should be given in lieu of the home not ever being upgraded.

▪ Kat Crippen 564 Atlantic Avenue – commending the borough workers for an outstanding job with the snow removal which continued today along with garbage removal.

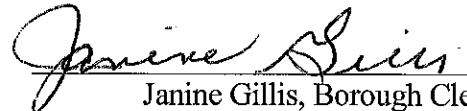
Mr. Campion expressed thanks to the residents for adhering to the borough code about keeping vehicles off the street. He also thanked the police for taking the time to knock on some residents doors reminding them of the ordinance.

The voice of the public was closed on a motion by Mrs. King and seconded by Mr. Shuler without objection

Mayor O'Brien announced that he was appointing Gary McLean, Sandy Denison, Lisa Ball O'Brien and Kat Crippen to the Environmental Commission.

AJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Merriken, seconded by Mr. Campion, the meeting was adjourned without objection at 8: 57p.m.


Janine Gillis, Borough Clerk

Approved: February 8, 2016