

**MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 22, 2015**

The Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on the above date with Mayor McLaughlin presiding and Commissioners Bolan and McLoughlin answering the roll call. Also in attendance were the Borough Clerk and Borough Attorney.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. with a salute to the flag.

Mayor McLaughlin announced that the notice requirements of R.S. 10:4-18 had been satisfied by delivering the required notice to the Coaster, posting the notice on the board in Borough Hall and filing a copy of said notice with the Borough Clerk.

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter from Monmouth County Regional Board of Health on mosquitos.

ORDINANCE #2015-17 – APPROVED

Offered By: Mayor McLaughlin

Seconded By: Comm. McLoughlin

ORDINANCE #2015-17

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THAT A BUSINESS ENTITY WHICH
MAKES POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO MUNICIPAL CANDIDATES AND
MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY POLITICAL PARTIES IN EXCESS OF CERTAIN
THRESHOLDS SHALL BE LIMITED IN ITS ABILITY TO RECEIVE PUBLIC
CONTRACTS FROM THE BOROUGH OF ALLENHURST IN THE COUNTY
OF MONMOUTH**

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

RESOLUTION #1

A RESOLUTION TO RATIFY AND APPROVE MINUTES

Offered By: Comm. McLoughlin

Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

BE IT RESOLVED, That the minutes of the regular meeting held September 8, 2015, be ratified and approved.

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

RESOLUTION #2

A RESOLUTION TO DISPENSE WITH READING OF MINUTES

Offered By: Comm. McLoughlin

Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Clerk dispense with the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting held September 8, 2015.

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

RESOLUTION #3

A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM CONTRACTS AND PURCHASES

Offered By: Comm. McLoughlin

Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

WHEREAS, Purchases were made for amounts over \$1,000.00 and it is the policy of the Borough that the Board of Commissioners approve or confirm said purchases; and;

WHEREAS, Funds shall be provided for various appropriations within the current account;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the following contracts are hereby confirmed:

Burke Contracting – testing of sand and well points - \$2,870.00

County of Monmouth – street sweeping services - \$2,788.96

Mr. C's – electric for the month of May - \$1,693.15

Shore Awning – installation of cabana awnings and tents - \$1,500.00

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

RESOLUTION #4

A RESOLUTION TO AWARD CONTRACT FOR REMOVAL OF TREES IN PARK

Offered By: Comm. McLoughlin

Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

WHEREAS, There is a need for the removal of several dead trees, including the grinding of stumps, in Railroad Plaza Park; and,

WHEREAS, The Public Works Director has contacted several tree services and has secured the following quotations:

Aspen Tree Expert Co., Inc. - \$29,700.00

Armstrong Tree Service, LLC - \$15,000.00

WHEREAS, Funds for this purpose are available in Capital Account #2015-06, known as Improvements to Beach and Parks, and the Chief Finance Officer has so certified;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That a contract be awarded to Armstrong Tree Service, lowest of two quotes received, on their price of \$15,000.00.

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

RESOLUTION #5

A RESOLUTION TO HIRE POST-SEASON EMPLOYEES

Offered By: Comm. McLoughlin

Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

BE IT RESOLVED, That the following are hereby hired for post-season work at the Allenhurst Beach Club:

Jeff Mansfield - \$12.00/hr.

John McLaughlin - \$6.00/hr.

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-ABSTAIN

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE

Offered By: Comm. McLoughlin

Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

WHEREAS, The Borough of Allenhurst, on October 12, 2005 finally passed and adopted an Ordinance authorizing Sewer Improvements, as set forth in said Ordinance; and,

WHEREAS, The Mayor and Commissioners of the Borough of Allenhurst deem it necessary and advisable on November 29 , 2015 to issue a Bond Anticipation Note in the amount of nineteen thousand five hundred dollars and 00/100 (\$19,500.00) in connection with the financing of same and said Notes ae about to become due;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Mayor and Commissioners of the Borough of Allenhurst as follows:

1. That a Bond Anticipation Note of the Borough of Allenhurst in the County of Monmouth and State of New Jersey in the amount of nineteen thousand five hundred dollars and 00/100 (\$19,500.00) payable November 29, 2016 be issued and executed and held at the Borough of Allenhurst, with interest at an annual rate of 0% on said Note to be payable at the office of the Borough of Allenhurst.
2. Said Note shall be dated November 29, 2015 and shall be payable November 29, 2016.
3. Said Note shall bear interest at the annual rate of 0%.
4. The Borough Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized and directed to execute said Note on the part of the Borough of Allenhurst.

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

RESOLUTION #7

A RESOLUTION TO CANCEL UNEXPENDED BALANCES

Offered By: Comm. McLoughlin

Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

WHEREAS, Certain General Capital Improvement appropriation balances remain dedicated to projects now completed; and,

WHEREAS, It is necessary to formally cancel said balances so that the unexpended balances may be returned to each respective Capital Improvement Fund or credited to Surplus, and unused debt authorization may be cancelled;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Mayor and Commissioners of the Borough of Allenhurst, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, that the following unexpended and dedicated balances of General Capital Appropriations be cancelled.

<u>ORDINANCE NO.</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>AMOUNT CANCELLED</u>
2005-10	Road Improvement	10,362.74
2007-01	Improvements to Lake Drive	17,647.70
2008-03	Handicapped Ramp	57,367.57
2008-07	Purchase of Tractor	1,046.67
2009-07	Firehouse Exhaust System	14,838.89
2009-08	Refurbish Firetruck	2,366.84
2009-10	Various Equipment	.01
2010-17	Purchase of Fire Truck	689,517.91
2011-07	Purchase of Police Radios	.18

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

RESOLUTION #8
A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE TAX REFUND

Offered By: Comm. McLoughlin

Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

WHEREAS, Due to a reduction in assessment, certain properties have been overbilled for the 2015 tax year; and,

WHEREAS, The taxes on the indicated properties are overpaid;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED By the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Allenhurst that upon the recommendation of the Tax Collector, the taxes shown below be refunded to the taxpayer shown below due to an overpayment of 2015 taxes; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to refund the overpayment and charge 2015 taxes in the total amount of \$914.01.

BLOCK	LOT	OWNER	AMOUNT
21	3	JCP&L – GPU – Tax Dept. 800 Cabin Hill Drive	\$588.88
21	8	SJS Community Corp. c/o Tawil 1138 East 8 th Street Brooklyn, NY 11230	\$325.13

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

RESOLUTION #9
**A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PARTICIPATION IN INTRA-COUNTY
MUTUAL AID AND ASSISTANT AGREEMENT**

Offered By: Mayor McLaughlin

Seconded By: Comm. McLoughlin

WHEREAS, the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act, N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et. Seq., (“Act”) provides that any local governmental unit may enter into a contract with any other local governmental unit to provide or receive any service that each local unit is empowered to provide or receive within its own jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, mutual aid and assistance agreements between municipalities, counties, law enforcement agencies, police, emergency medical service, fire departments, fire companies, or EMS organizations and fire departments situated in fire districts operated by a Board of Fire Commissioners, are permitted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A: 14-26 and 40A: 14-156.1; and

WHEREAS, the President in Homeland Security Directive (HSPD-5), directed the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to develop and administer a National Incident Management System (“NIMS”), which would provide a consistent nationwide approach to Federal, State, local and tribal governments to work together more effectively and efficiently to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size or complexity; and

WHEREAS, “The New Jersey Civilian Defense and Disaster Control Act” App.A9-33 et. seq., provides for the health, safety and welfare of the people of the State of New Jersey during any emergency by centralizing control of all civilian activities having to do with such emergency giving the Governor control over the resources of each and every political subdivision to cope with any condition that shall arise out of such emergency; and

WHEREAS, The Director of the Division of Fire Safety in the Department of Community Affairs promulgated rules in accordance with the “Fire Service Resource Emergency Deployment Act,” N.J.A.C. 52:14E-11 et. seq., commonly referred to as the “Fire Service Resource Emergency Deployment Regulations” N.J.A.C. 5:75A et. seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Allenhurst deem it to be in the best interests of the Borough of Allenhurst to enter into Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreements with governmental entities throughout Monmouth County and all of their departments, authorities, boards, commissions and other functions under the auspices of each participating governmental entity including but not limited to, law enforcement, public works, emergency medical services, emergency management, human services, hazardous materials response units technical or special operations

teams, Community Emergency Response Team (“CERT”) members, Medical Reserve Corps (“MRC”) members or other volunteers and other jurisdictions defined “local governments” in the Homeland Security Act of 2002; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 14-26 AND 156.1 et seq. has authorized interjurisdictional mutual aid; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Allenhurst and the Participating Units recognize the benefit of entering into an Agreement for mutual aid and assistance with each other to protect against loss, damage or destruction by fire, civil unrest, hazardous material, major criminal or emergency events, natural and man-made disaster or catastrophe and to address those situations when additional aid and assistance is needed to protect the best interests of the persons and property of each individual jurisdiction.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Intra-County Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreements between the Borough of Allenhurst and Participating Units be and are hereby accepted; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Borough Clerk and are authorized to execute the Intra-County Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreements once they have been authorized and executed by each Participating Unit; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk forward a certified true copy of this resolution to the Monmouth County Sheriff; Office of Emergency Management Coordinator.

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

RESOLUTION #10

A RESOLUTION TO AWARD CONTRACT FOR APPRAISAL COMPANY

Offered By: Comm. McLoughlin

Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

WHEREAS, the Borough of Allenhurst has been ordered by Monmouth County to participate in a County-wide Tax Assessment Pilot Program and services are needed in connection with the collection and verification of all data of real properties situated within the confines of the Borough of Allenhurst; and,

WHEREAS, The Borough wishes to enter into a contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4* or *20.5* as appropriate; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the acquisition will not exceed \$17,500; and,

WHEREAS, the anticipated term of this contract is for a five year period beginning January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2019 or until the Monmouth County Pilot Program has been deemed complete; and,

WHEREAS, Realty Data Systems, LLC. has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide services in connection with the collection and verification of all data of real properties situated within the confines of the Borough of Allenhurst at a rate provided for in Appendices A through H of a contract on file in the Borough Clerk’s office; and

WHEREAS, Realty Data Systems, LLC has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies Realty Data Systems, LLC has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough of Allenhurst in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit Realty Data Systems, LLC. from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract, and

WHEREAS, Funds for this purpose shall be provided for in the current account under Tax Appeals, O.E., and the Chief Finance Officer has so certified;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Allenhurst authorizes the Mayor and Administrator to enter into a contract with Realty Data Systems, LLC as described herein; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution. *and,*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Borough Clerk be and he is authorized and directed to publish this resolution in accordance with *N.J.S.A 40A:11-1*.

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

RESOLUTION #11

A RESOLUTION TO PAY BILLS & PAYROLL (9/16/15 - 9/30/15)

Offered By: Comm. McLoughlin

Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

BE IT RESOLVED, That bills and payrolls totaling \$219,879.17 be approved for payment; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the September 22nd consolidated bill list be attached hereto and made a part thereof.

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

PUBLIC HEARING

Robert Scally asked which trees were going to be removed in the park and Mayor McLaughlin stated there are several dead trees which will be removed.

Jim Caulfield asked about the contract with the appraisal company and Mayor McLaughlin explained that Allenhurst is part of a mandatory Pilot Program, whereby 20% of the town is assessed every year for five years. They are not necessarily pleased with the program, but it is not voluntary. The County feels it will be a more equitable way to value a home and that it will cut down on the amount of tax appeals.

Mr. Caulfield asked how the 20% is picked each year and Mayor McLaughlin stated they start at one end of town and work their way down.

Mr. Caulfield stated that he will not let them in and Mayor McLaughlin stated that is his prerogative.

Joan March stated she had been on the Planning Board for many years. She understands the philosophy of historic preservation. She was appalled when she received a letter regarding her hedges. She spent \$1,500 just cutting one side. She feels there is a difference between a man-made fence and hedges. She wants her hedges as she would like some privacy from her neighbor. The Commissioners should not interfere with that. Also, everyone has gone after the summer. The timing is bad. Tonight is a Jewish holiday and a lot of people couldn't be here.

Theresa Santoro stated the houses closest to the ocean are raised. If they cut their hedges to four feet as measured from the curb, they will look like stubs from her front porch. They have been at the same height for the last 40 or 50 years.

Mayor McLaughlin stated they have had discussions with the Planning Board on this issue for years. He would rather drag his head on the sidewalk than try to enforce this. It is a pain. They are trying to prevent new residents from planting tall hedges, but can't do that unless they are already enforcing this ordinance. They are not trying to collect money. They are just trying to solve this problem. He agreed that it was bad timing, but because there were so many violations it took the Code Enforcement Official a long time to gather the information and to get the notices out. They have not fined anyone. They realize they have to work out some kinks and they will discuss it later tonight.

Comm. McLoughlin stated they could not do selective enforcement; therefore, they had to inspect the whole town.

Mayor McLaughlin stated there are also safety issues involved with hedges obstructing the sidewalks and line of sight at intersections.

Mrs. March stated she gets that. Maybe the Board should think about putting in a line that can't be planted with shrubs. She was appalled at the letter because she takes very good care of her house. To get a variance costs \$200. It sounds like a money making deal.

Comm. McLoughlin stated that is not their intent. When the Planning Board amended the

hedge ordinance, they did not care about the height along the rear of the property or on the sides up to the front of the house.

Mrs. March stated if the neighbors are in agreement, she doesn't see the harm. She didn't think it should be regulated. Some of the hedges were jointly planted and/or jointly maintained.

Comm. McLoughlin stated they want to figure out the best way to hear everyone's application.

Mr. Caulfield commented that the town has never looked better.

Mayor McLaughlin stated he didn't disagree with the side hedges but he doesn't think hedges should be taller than four feet in front of a home.

Mr. Caulfield asked, "Why now?"

Mayor McLaughlin answered that the problem has become worse and worse.

Mr. Caulfield stated the Commissioners should go through the ordinance and take out what is silly and leave in what makes sense.

Comm. McLoughlin stated when the ordinances were codified in 2009, the Borough Attorney and Administrator went through them and the silly ones were stricken.

Mr. Caulfield stated that on any streets where the lights of cars are coming around the bend, you want a hedge.

Comm. McLoughlin replied that those are the cases that should be granted a variance by the Planning Board. Then they will have a record.

Mr. Caulfield stated it should be done in a manner where the homeowner does not have to notify everyone within 200 feet.

Comm. McLoughlin assured him they will be looking at the process. That is why they have their attorney here tonight.

Mayor McLaughlin stated they will be sending out another letter. They just want to identify everyone who is non-conforming.

Mr. Caulfield asked if something could be done about the lights at the pool and Mayor McLaughlin stated they will take care of it.

Mr. Scally stated the Commissioners have been doing a great job. The problems with the hedges have been going on for years under other administrations and they did nothing. Some of those hedges are unsightly. He is surprised there haven't been more burglaries. If there are no fines, people will not cut them.

Mayor McLaughlin responded that eventually there will be fines, but not until they discuss this further and work out the kinks. He knows some properties pre-date the ordinance.

Sandy Murray stated that aside from hedges, there are a few unoccupied properties where the grass grows high.

Mayor McLaughlin explained that the Code Enforcement Officer does go around and issues violations. Sometimes they are ignored and sometimes they are cut. If they are ignored, the Borough will cut them and charge the homeowner. It is not a small charge, either. It is an on-going problem.

Adrienne Gnassi stated they put their fence up 15 years ago and got permission from Mayor Coyne. The fence was allowed so that people would not walk across their yard to get to the beach without paying.

Comm. McLoughlin stated that is one of the reasons this Board does everything in public, so there is a record.

Mayor McLaughlin added that the only people who can grant variances are the Planning Board. The Mayor himself, does not have that authority.

Mrs. Santoro commented that the Beach Club opened late and closed early this year. Mayor McLaughlin stated the Club opened Memorial Day weekend. It always used to open the third week of June. It is difficult to get it ready earlier than that.

Comm. McLoughlin stated the Commissioners have been talking about keeping the Club open later next year and Mayor McLaughlin added that they may have late nights on Fridays. The Mayor stated the Army Corps will be doing their final sweeps in October. The problems with the pool were out of their hands this season. The water got clearer as the summer wore on.

Mrs. Santoro commented that the size of the beach was great.

Mr. Caulfield stated that whoever handled the garbage did a great job. Comm. Bolan stated it was due in part, to the early enforcement of members. Mayor McLaughlin stated it was nice to hear.

Mayor McLaughlin stated the Commissioners were thinking of doing an ordinance prohibiting overnight parking in the street.

Mrs. March said she didn't like it.

Mr. Caulfield stated there are houses with 12 bedrooms. You are telling people not to come.

Mayor McLaughlin stated a resident can get permission from the police to park on the street. They are trying to get people to park their cars in their driveways. Mr. Caulfield asked, "Why?"

Comm. McLoughlin stated there are houses with four cars parked on the street and nothing in the driveway. Mrs. March replied, "So what?"

Mrs. Santoro stated that when they are expecting company, they park in the street so that company can park in the driveway.

Mr. Caulfield suggested that maybe the Commissioners would want to do a sticker system so that only residents can park in the street.

Mrs. March commented that the police are great. She calls once a year to ask if her husband can leave his race car on the trailer because they can't fit it in the driveway. She wants to be able to park on the street.

Mayor McLaughlin stated he has gotten complaints from residents that the streets are blocked with cars and driveways are empty. It is a problem.

Mrs. Santoro stated it may be a problem on Allen Avenue because of the Shul.

Comm. McLoughlin stated that everything east of Norwood Avenue would be no parking from midnight until 6 AM.

Mrs. Santoro stated her son has friends who meet at her house later in the evening. She asked if the Commissioners are saying they can't park on the street.

Mrs. March stated this ordinance will only inconvenience those east of Norwood Avenue. They are singling them out.

Comm. McLoughlin stated he wanted to do the whole town.

Mayor McLaughlin stated this will give them an opportunity to sweep the streets and Mr. Caulfield stated they don't get swept anyway.

Mr. Scally commented that on Cedar Avenue between Norwood and Ocean Avenue at 7 AM on a Saturday looks like the Club is open.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Comm. Bolan stated he has not heard back from Loch Arbour concerning his invitation to meet with them to discuss the expiring garbage contract.

The Board next discussed the request of Mr. Perrotto for a Beach Club membership. Comm. McLoughlin stated he didn't like it. It sets a precedence.

Comm. Bolan stated he heard people were coming to the restaurant and using the pool. This would legitimize that. What other reason would he want to have a locker? He stated he really didn't care, but how to you carve out an exception to the rule. Mayor McLaughlin agreed.

There was some discussion on the fence at the end of Allen Avenue. Comm. Bolan stated he knows Chris McLoughlin gave the ok for this fence. It looks like a cage and blocks the restaurant windows. He and the Mayor did not want to wall off the ramp.

Mayor McLaughlin asked Marc Heitmueller, one of the Beach Club Managers, if the fence could be cut. Mr. Heitmueller responded that it could be. Comm. Bolan asked if it could be moved north.

Comm. McLoughlin stated the only complaint they have gotten has been from Karen. Comm. Bolan stated that patrons have complained also.

Mr. Heitmueller stated they can move it. His concern is that if the height is cut, the spikes will be shoulder high. If they move it, it should stay the same height. Every one of the spokes comes out and they can re-drill the holes in the cross bars. If the height is reduced, it will look much better.

Mayor McLaughlin asked about moving the fence and changing the opening and Mr. Heitmueller stated it is hard to do because of the ramp and the way the gate swings open. Mayor McLaughlin asked how long it would take and Mr. Heitmueller answered about 20 hours.

Comm. Bolan asked Mr. Heitmueller to measure it and run it by Karen. If she is not satisfied, they will wait until the Spring when they have a grant for improvements to the east end of Allen Avenue. If the fence was along the line of the restaurant wall, she could attach a temporary wind block.

The Board next discussed requests for reimbursement from the restaurant tenants. The Commissioners authorized reimbursement of the electric fees for the sign and denied the request for reimbursement of work done on the basement door.

The Board discussed the annual Halloween parade and asked the Administrator to invite Loch Arbour and Interlaken. The parade will be held on October 31st at 11 AM.

It was further decided that the tree lighting would be held on December 6th at 5 PM. Santa will be at the restaurant.

Mrs. Gnassi asked about a light at the end of Allen Avenue and Comm. Bolan stated they will have one there. They received a grant to do some improvements there, including a new entrance to the beach.

Mr. Scally asked about the traffic light at Corlies and Main Street and Mayor McLaughlin stated what is there now is temporary. The Borough worked with the County to put it up. They are currently looking for a light that matches or is similar to what is there. The original manufacturer went

out of business.

The Board then discussed the ordinance concerning hedges.

Comm. McLoughlin asked if there was any way to amend the ordinance so that the Planning Board does not have to hear it. Borough Attorney, David Laughlin, stated if the Commissioners take hedges out of the Zoning Ordinance, there may as well not be a fence ordinance.

Comm. McLoughlin asked about doing something with the escrow and Mr. Laughlin stated he and Ms. Osborn spoke about it. He feels the escrow fee could be waived. Another option may be to amend the current ordinance to make this a minor variance with related fees and procedures. However, that will take at least 60 days. Setting up a different kind of variance for hedges, however, is very unusual.

Mayor McLaughlin directed the Administrator to send a letter to those who are in violation, stating they will not pursue this until after winter.

Mr. Laughlin stated they could move this into the property maintenance code and Ms. Osborn stated if they do that, there is no option for a variance. She stated that ownership of hedges is problematic as a lot of them are right on the property line and residents are claiming it does not belong to them.

Mayor McLaughlin stated he also felt it was ridiculous for homeowners who live on a corner to have to deal with two front yards.

Comm. McLoughlin stated they will bring these issues up to the Planning Board.

Anne Gruner stated she heard the Borough received \$400,000 in grants. Mayor McLaughlin stated they received an Open Space Grant for Allen Avenue, a Transportation Trust Fund Grant for paving Allen Avenue and a CDBG grant for Railroad Plaza Park.

BEST PRACTICES

Question No 8, which concerns participation in the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System is a No for the Borough. Mayor McLaughlin asked the Administrator to call the Engineer to see if there was a downside to participating.

Question No. 18 had to do with the timely filing of the audit and was answered No by the Borough. Comm. McLoughlin asked why it was not filed on time and Ms. Osborn stated it was their first year doing the audit. Comm. McLoughlin stated they should be informed that they will lose their contract if the audit is not filed timely next year.

Question No. 20 had to do with the adoption of a local Pay to Play Ordinance. The Board had never adopted one in the past as they are non-partisan. However, they introduced one this evening in order to be more in compliance with Best Practices.

Questions 33 and 34 on timely introduction and adoption of budgets were both answered no. The Board discussed a lot of factors that delay the introduction and subsequently the adoption of a budget, including the delay in State Budget numbers.

Question No. 46 had to do with Workmen's Compensation. The Board directed the Administrator to look into changing its practice to better comply with Best Practices.

Question No. 49 had to do with longevity. Ms. Osborn stated that she has discussed this issue with the PBA and has told them longevity will be eliminated in the next contract.

OTHER

Mayor McLaughlin asked Mr. Heitmueller about the roof project for the restaurant back entrance. Mr. Heitmueller stated he could put up a corrugated steel roof. It will take about a week. He will need to talk to someone from the Engineer's office so that it will be constructed for a wind and snow load.

Mayor McLaughlin stated he received a quote from Pilot for new pumps. Mr. Heitmueller responded that running the pumps as much as they did during the Army Corps project wore down the impellor and casings. There were a lot of problems due to massive amounts of sand and stone. The pump itself was put in 10 years ago. It is the same pump that Jason Burke has recommended. He likes it because it is a self-priming pump.

Comm. McLoughlin asked if this was one pump or two and Mr. Heitmueller answered that it was just one pump; the big pump. They don't use the smaller pump much anymore. It is really just a back-up.

Comm. McLoughlin asked if it would fill the pool any faster and Mr. Heitmueller stated it would be about the same. Six to eight hours. The pool should be filled by 5 AM.

Comm. McLoughlin stated they will discuss putting it in the budget for next year. Mr. Heitmueller let the Board know there is a 12 week lead period and there will be some re-piping.

There being no further discussions or any further business, Comm. McLoughlin moved, seconded by Comm. Bolan, that the meeting be adjourned at 8:57 PM. Motion carried.

Lori L Osborn, RMC
Clerk-Administrator