

BOROUGH OF ALLENHURST
MINUTES
October 17, 2017

The Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Allenhurst was held on the above date with Mayor McLaughlin presiding and Commissioner McLoughlin and Commissioner Bolan answering the roll call. Also in attendance was the Acting Borough Clerk/Administrator 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 Acting Borough Clerk.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Resolutions from Colts Neck, Eatontown, Farmingdale, Allentown, Asbury Park, Fair Haven and Manasquan urging the Legislature to reject Senate Bill Nos. 1045 and 1046 amending the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) and the Open Public Records Act (OPRA) and to draft new legislation to modernize OPMA and OPRA and provide municipalities and their clerks with resources to effectuate these changes and benefit the public.

Press Release from St. Rose Parish in Belmar inviting US Armed Forces Veterans of all faiths to attend a Veterans Day Mass on Saturday, November 11 at 10am.

Notification from Congressman Frank Pallone, JR. announcing that the application period for his Youth Advisory Council will open from October 2, 2017 through November 3, 2017. All current high school students that are resident of New Jersey's Sixth Congressional District may submit their application during this time period. A copy of the notification and the related application are available at the Borough Offices.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Halloween Parade will be held October 21st

The Borough will hold its annual scarecrow contest. Check the Borough website for details.

ORDINANCES FINAL READING

ORDINANCE #2017-13 Bond Ordinance – FINAL Reading

Offered By: Mayor McLoughlin Seconded By: Comm. McLoughlin

BOND ORDINANCE NO. 2017-13

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO RAILROAD PLAZA PARK, APPROPRIATING \$400,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$275,000 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE A PORTION OF THE COSTS THEREOF, AUTHORIZED IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF ALLENHURST, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY

There was no response to Mayor McLaughlin's request for public comments.

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

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION #2017-229

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 26, 2017, be ratified and approved.

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

RESOLUTION #2017-230
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 26, 2017.

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

RESOLUTION #2017-231
A RESOLUTION TO HIRE TEMPORARY DISPATCHER

Offered By: Comm McLoughlin. Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

WHEREAS, There is a need for a Part-Time Temporary Dispatcher;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the following are hereby hired as a Temporary Dispatcher:

Temporary Dispatcher

Barby J. Menna \$18 dollars per hour

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

RESOLUTION #2017-232
A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE CHAPTER 159

Offered By: Comm McLoughlin. Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and,

WHEREAS, Said Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for equal amount;

Section 1

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Allenhurst hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of the year 2017 in the sum of \$1,669.44, which item is now available as revenue from the New Jersey Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund pursuant to the provisions of Statute; and,

Section 2

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a like sum of \$1,669.44 be and the same is hereby appropriated under the caption of New Jersey Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund.

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

RESOLUTION #2017-233
A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE CHAPTER 159

Offered By: Comm McLoughlin. Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and,

WHEREAS, Said Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for equal amount;

Section 1

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Allenhurst hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of the year 2017 in the sum

of \$1,223.11, which item is now available as revenue from the Body Armor Replacement Fund pursuant to the provisions of Statute; and,

Section 2

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a like sum of \$1,223.11 be and the same is hereby appropriated under the caption of Body Armor Replacement Fund.

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

RESOLUTION #2017-234
RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM 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 for these purposes are provided for in various accounts within the current budget, and the CFO has so certified; and,

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

R. Sullivan Electric – Repair to Public Restrooms in Cabana Area \$1,320.00

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

RESOLUTION #2017-235
A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE EXECUTIVE SESSION

Offered By: Comm McLoughlin. Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

WHEREAS, State law permits the exclusion of public in certain circumstances; and,

WHEREAS, The Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Allenhurst finds that such circumstances currently exist; and,

WHEREAS, The Board of Commissioners will make public, minutes of the closed session when confidentiality no longer exists;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners that they are hereby authorized to enter into closed session to discuss legal/contractual matters which are exempt from the public meeting under the Sunshine Law.

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

RESOLUTION # 2017-236
A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE BILLS & PAYROLL (10/1/2017-10/15/2017)

Offered By: Comm McLoughlin. Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

BE IT RESOLVED, That bills and payrolls totaling \$225,031.81 be approved for payment; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the October 15, 2017 consolidated bill list be attached hereto and made a part thereof.

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

RESOLUTION #2017-237
A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ENGINEER CERTIFICATE

Offered By: Comm McLoughlin. Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

WHEREAS, A contract was awarded to All Surface Asphalt Paving Inc. for “ADA Improvements to Railroad Park”; and,

WHEREAS, The Borough Engineer has reviewed the project and recommended payment as provided for in the Engineer’s Certificate #3, which is on file in the Clerk’s office;

WHEREAS, Funds for this purpose shall be provided through a Monmouth County CDBG grant;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That payment to All Surface Asphalt Paving Inc. be authorized in the amount of \$4,750.61 for work done in accordance with the Engineer's Certificate #3.

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

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

The Mayor gave a brief discussion on the status of the proposed Allen Avenue Railroad crossing. The DOT had conducted a study and recommended the closing. The DOT had performed another traffic study in June that yielded similar results as the previous study. The Mayor stated that the Commissioners have a meeting set up in Trenton with the DOT this month to appeal their decision. The Mayor stated that they will also ask our police and the Chief to write letters with their concerns and recommendations. The Mayor also stated that Borough is researching whether there are any easements that would preclude the closing. He also stated that Senator Pallone and Senator Beck are also helping the Borough with the appeal. The Borough also did an OPRA request for the costs associated with the upgrades for the Railroad crossings.

Rich Kaminski asked what the number of cars needed in the traffic study to keep the crossing open. The Mayor stated the DOT had mentioned 2000 but the traffic study only yielded 500.

Mrs. Varley asked if they would be putting up cement barricades if the crossing was to close and was worried about the safety. The Mayor stated that nothing had been decided yet. The Commissioners will voice the concern at the meeting in Trenton.

Tonya Tomaino asked why they have to rebuild the crossing. The Mayor stated Federal Mandate says it must be done due to the signals and gates not being up to standards. Mrs. Tomaino asked could we just leave the crossing as is. The Mayor stated the Borough has asked but DOT said no.

Melanie Olon from Loch Arbour asked if the Borough contacted the clerk from Loch Arbour to put out an email about the closing. She said the more voices the better. The Mayor stated although the numbers help the DOT is looking for more concrete reasons such as traffic safety.

Rich Kaminski stated the reason he felt the numbers were down for the number of cars using the crossing was due to Benson Park not being used. If the Borough redeveloped, it maybe there would be more cars. Commissioner McLoughlin stated that JCP&L is in the process of selling their property and the property might be redeveloped. He also stated the Borough will also use this as part of their appeal in Trenton.

Ross McIver asked if the DOT did a traffic study. The Mayor responded, yes. Mr. McIver also asked if any other towns had fought the DOT and won. The Mayor responded, no. The Mayor also stated did an OPRA request for the traffic studies that the DOT conducted.

Bob Scally stated that by closing the crossing it would create more traffic congestion. Christine Petillo expressed the same concern.

Mrs. Vignone stated that 25 years ago there was an accident at the crossing when the gates were working. She can't imagine how unsafe it will be with an unattended crossing, "It's a tragedy waiting to happen."

Michael Prince asked if the DOT set up a time line for the closing. The Mayor stated, no.

Theresa Santoro stated that if the crossing closes and barricades were put up it would create a safety concern as many kids would try to jump over the barricades to get to the basketball courts.

Patty Englert asked about the Feral Cat situation and if there was anything the Borough was doing about it. The Mayor stated that the Borough is in the process of researching a program with the ASPCA. The Borough will also look into an ordinance but it is a hard ordinance to enforce.

Trish McLoughlin asked if the Borough has an agreement with the ASPCA for trapping the cats. The Mayor reiterated that the Borough is researching it.

Mr. DeMurley stated that she is tired of being harassed about feeding the cats. She stated she is not feeding them.

Debbie Higgins stated that there is a woman in town called “The Cat Lady” that might take them. She will forward the information to the Borough Administrator.

There being no further business or comments, Commissioner McLoughlin moved, seconded by Commissioner Bolan that the meeting move to executive session at 8:10 PM. Motion carried.

After reconvening, Commissioner McLoughlin moved, seconded by Commissioner Bolan that the meeting be adjourned at 9:25 PM. Motion carried.

Donna M. Campagna
Borough Clerk/Administrator