COUNCIL MEETING JULY 21, 2015 7:00 PM

The Council Meeting of the Butler Mayor and Council was opened by Mayor Alviene who indicated that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act having been duly advertised and posted in Borough Hall. This was followed by the Pledge to the Flag and a Moment of Reflection

### **ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Robert W. Alviene, Councilman Robert Fox, Councilman Sean McNear, Councilman Robert Meier and Councilman Raymond Verdonik

Motion to excuse Councilman Regis and Council President Vath absence.

Moved: Fox Second: Verdonik

All in favor.

**ALSO PRESENT**: J. Lampmann, Borough Administrator; R. Oostdyk, Borough Attorney, and J. Kozimor, Chief Financial Officer.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

May 5, 2015 Council Workshop Meeting and May 19, 2015 Regular Council Meeting

Moved: Fox Second: Verdonik

Voted Aye: Fox, McNear, Meier and Verdonik

Voted Nay: None

Absent: Regis and Vath

### MEETING OF PUBLIC AND INVITATION FOR DISCUSSION

Lyn Dion, 77 Marion Avenue noted that on the Agenda is correspondence from Newark regarding increasing the residency requirement for paid police and fire departments in New Jersey. She questioned the reasoning behind the letter. Mayor Alviene explained that this is correspondence routinely received from other municipalities throughout the state looking for support for whatever the issue may be. Additionally, the correspondence does not apply nor will any action be taken. Ms. Dion appealed to the Mayor and Council to rescind the portion of Borough of Butler Ordinance 2015-14 requiring residency for officers, reiterating that these are officers trained with Borough funding.

Ann Marie Beck, 19 Currie Avenue is present this evening to thank the Mayor and Council for the support that was shown regarding the Board of Education changes to the busing of students. She also expressed her gratitude to Mr. Lampmann, for his response to all of the emails sent.

<u>Edward Meyer, 21 Cleary Avenue</u> had two quick questions regarding the passage of residency requirements for paid fire and police departments. Mr. Lampmann explained that there is legislation pending that the departments should represent the community that they serve. A copy of the letter from Newark was provided to Mr. Meyer at his request.

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Bob Norman, 31 Cascade Way questioned the status on the relining of the sewers on Boonton Avenue. He also asked when the area on Kiel Avenue where a water main break was repaired would be fixed. Mr. Norman asked if there has been any thought given to the reduction of property taxes for senior residents based on income. Mr. Lampmann explained that work is progressing; there is approximately a month of work remaining. Unfortunately, Morris County has postponed the Boonton Avenue paving until 2016, Mayor Alviene met with one of the supervisors and received assurances that road repairs will be done to make the road passable. Mr. Norman expressed concerns as to whether the road would survive the winter the Administration shares his concerns. Mr. Lampmann explained that the repair work would be performed soon on the Kiel Avenue site; however, we are waiting for asphalt, through the Morris County Cooperative. He explained that New Jersey administers a program for senior citizens to freeze taxes at a base year and any increase is covered in theory by the State. Mayor Alviene explained that there has not been a discussion on lowering property taxes for senior citizens. Additionally there is a state administered program for a senior deduction of \$250.00 based on income qualifications.

Seeing no one else come forward, motion to close this public portion of the meeting: Moved: Fox Second: McNear All in favor.

### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENT HEADS:

<u>Councilman McNear</u> noted that three home visits were conducted in June, one adult immunization, there will be a child health care conference on July 27 in Borough Hall. Also on July 30, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., there is a skin cancer-screening clinic. Mr. Lampmann wanted to update those present that all the time slots are booked, however you may be placed on the waiting list, please call the health department to be added to the waiting list. The Board of Health does not meet in July or August. Regarding the EDC the first concert in the park was a success with good attendance, the next concert is scheduled for August 14 please join us.

Councilman Meier in Kinnelon underground replacement cables were installed, a voltage complaint was remedied; various repairs were made where needed. In Butler, the Electric Department assisted with the Carey Avenue repaving. Relay testing was performed where required, tree trimming in various locations. A voltage complaint at Stony Brook was addressed, with a new transformer; new connections were installed. In Bloomingdale, replacement poles were installed, new service was energized, and a police report was obtained to generate a bill for the insurance company for time and material for a pole that was hit by a car. Riverdale and West Milford were quiet, all meters were read and recorded, delinquent accounts were addressed. The Butler Museum Committee has been working diligently to be open for "The Pathways of History Tour" that takes place throughout Morris County.

<u>Councilman Verdonik</u> reporting on Water and Wastewater he, members of the Water Department and some fellow Councilmembers went on a tour of the Two Bridges Sewer Plant, in Lincoln Park that services Butler. He wanted to express gratitude to the staff at Two Bridges for a very informative tour, providing information on the process used. The third phase of updates at

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the water plant is complete. Hydrant repairs are progressing, there are several left to be done, however, these require excavation that takes a bit longer.

<u>Councilman Fox</u> reporting on roads noted that while Boonton Avenue will not be paved this year, Carey Avenue has been paved, along with the Myrtle Avenue extension and both sections look great. The Fire department parking lot will be paved in August.

Tax Collectors Report – June 2015 – \$214,825.34 Power & Light/Water & Sewer Dept. – June 2015 – \$1,987,114.58

## APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS AND PAYROLLS

# R 2015-63 Authorization for Payment of Bills and Vouchers

Moved: Verdonik Second: Fox

Voted Aye: Fox, McNear and Verdonik

Voted Aye with abstention on fire department bills by Meier

Voted Nay: None

Absent: Regis and Vath R 2015-63 approved

#### PRESENTATION OF CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS

Correspondence received from Ras J. Baraka, Mayor of Newark and Eugene Venable Newark Police Director regarding increasing residency requirement for newly hired Police and Fire Personnel.

Mayor Alviene explained that the Borough has no position on this; no action will be taken.

## **ORDINANCE(S) FOR INTRODUCTION**

None

#### **ORDINANCE(S) FOR ADOPTION**

2015-15 Ordinance Amending Chapter 234 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Butler and Establishing Water Rates

Introduced: July 7, 2015 Advertised: July 12, 2015

Mayor Alviene opened the meeting to the public on this ordinance and this ordinance only.

<u>Richard Dean, 29 South Gifford Street</u>, asked for an explanation on this ordinance. Councilman Verdonik explained that the Department of Environmental Protection has changed requirements over recent years; as a result, updates on the Water Plant are required to meet those regulations.

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Councilman Fox seeing no one come forward made a motion to closed this public portion of the meeting, second by Councilman McNear All in favor

Moved: Fox Second: McNear

Voted Aye: Fox, McNear, Meier and Verdonik

Voted Nay: None Absent: Regis and Vath

### **RESOLUTION(S):**

Mr. Kozimor noted that all items listed with an asterisk (\*) are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Borough Council and will be approved by one motion.

## 2015-64 Resolution Authorizing Passage of a Special Consent Agenda

Motion by: Fox Second: Verdonik

Voted Aye: Fox, McNear, Meier and Verdonik

Voted Nay: None Absent: Regis and Vath

- \* 2015-65 Resolution Authorizing Refunds, Overpayments or Cancellations in the Electric Office
- \* 2015-66 Resolution Certifying the 2014 Audit
- \* 2015-67 Resolution Authorizing an Amendment to the Lease Agreement with Tri-Boro Animal Welfare, Inc. for the lease of Public Property
- \* 2015-68 Resolution Authorizing Participation in the Morris County First Responder Identification Card Program

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

#### INVITATION FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE PUBLIC:

Mayor Alviene opened this portion of the meeting to the public to speak.

**Bob Norman, 31 Cascade Way** will there be any additional relining of the sewer pipes in town or is it limited to the current project of the Pequannock River Basin Regional Sewerage Authority. Mr. Lampmann explained that the project is covers Boonton Avenue, there will be some digging will be done under a separate contract at West Belleview Avenue, which includes curb and sidewalk replacement. Work is required at the "Clock Triangle" by Butler Park, there

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is a small section at that location to repair, and additional work is required on Brook Street, which is the extent of the project. The Borough is doing some minor relining of the pipes on Ogden Terrace, using grant funding to complete this project.  Councilman Fox seeing no one else come forward to speak closed this public portion of the	
meeting. Moved: Fox	Second: Verdonik
All in favor.	
Motion to adjourn the meeting: Moved: Fox All in favor.	Second: Verdonik
Adjournment: 7:44 p.m.	
Adopted: September 15, 2015	
Attest:	Robert W. Alviene, Mayor
Mary A. O'Keefe, Municipal Clerk	

COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES OF:

Dated: September 15, 2015