

MINUTES OF:
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WORKSHOP MEETING
OCTOBER 1, 2013
7:00 P.M.
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The Workshop Meeting of the Borough of 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.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Alviene, Councilman Fox, Councilman McNear, Councilman Meier, Councilman Regis, Councilman Verdonik and Council President Vath

ALSO PRESENT: J. Lampmann, Borough Administrator, R. Oostdyk, Borough Attorney and M. O’Keefe, Borough Clerk

APPOINTMENT TO THE SENIOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mayor Alviene appointed Isabelle Rimmer to a one-year term ending on December 31, 2013. The Mayor and Council congratulated Ms. Rimmer on her appointment.

DISCUSSION:

AMENDING CHAPTER 216 “TOWING AND STORAGE OF VEHICLES”

Mr. Lampmann explained that he was approached by one of our towers who would like to clarify sections and or amend sections of the code to bring it in line with the State of New Jersey Predatory Tower Act. The Mayor and Council agreed with the changes and Mr. Oostdyk to prepare the ordinance for introduction at the October 15, Council meeting.

THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE Mr. Oostdyk provided samples of ordinances detailing Economic Development Committees “EDC” in other municipalities. Mr. Lampmann explained that the Borough of Madison has a rather active committee which includes (4) business owners or property owners of businesses, (1) senior citizen, the Mayor and a Council person, a full time EDC employee, one senior citizen, two at large members and a member from the media, who helps Madison disseminate information to the public. The Mayor outlined his choices for the Committee from the governing body Councilman McNear, Councilman Meier and himself. Mr. Lampmann noted that the first step is to create the committee. Madison’s focus is on bringing traffic to the downtown area, by sponsoring various civic and seasonal events that will generate foot traffic, the theory being that it is up to the business owner to get them into the stores. Madison has offered to speak with our Committee when it is established. Mayor Alviene speaking on behalf of himself and the Council would like the members to deal with the whole picture, not just their particular complaint, or their pet peeves, and this Committee must be in the best interest of the community as a whole, not primarily individuals businesses, or areas. Mayor Alviene spoke with Freeholder Director Mastrangelo regarding funding, he stated that when the Committee is up and running to contact him. Mayor Alviene also cautioned those in attendance that whatever funding is available would not be a large amount of money; it is available through the Morris County Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Lampmann noted that a member of the press is a good idea especially since the local newspaper is located in a prime location on Main Street.

Mr. Lampmann noted that he received an email from Shelly Taggart and Robert Soules, asking if the Mayor and Council would require another presentation regarding Butler Day in 2014, as they have already contacted and received permission from the Board of Education for field usage. The Mayor and Council granted permission, however, should there be any major changes Council notification is required. The Mayor and Council will approach the Recreation Commission about moving the date away from Memorial Day.

Mr. Lampmann informed the Council he received notification from the State of New Jersey regarding a small piece of property located at 1350 Route 23 North (Block 92, Lot 11), currently listed as a commuter park and ride. The State of New Jersey D.O.T. has offered the property for sale to Morris County and the Borough of Butler, with the stipulation that the land remain as open space or recreation, should the

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property be sold for commercial or personal use the State has the right to take the property back. The Mayor and Council decided not to pursue acquisition of this property.

John Pellington, 39 Spring Street asked that the date for Butler Day be changed as it takes away from the military and their sacrifices on Memorial Day.

Councilman McNear had an update on the Shingles vaccine availability, the Health department can obtain the vaccine, however, the shots are typically covered by health insurance, for uninsured residents the Borough would provide the shot at either a reduced rate or free. The Board of Health has funding available to install "No Smoking" signs in Borough Parks they asked Councilman McNear to inform the Council of this and ask the Council for permission. The Council would like to see the signs prior to making a decision, they are not aware of a problem with smoking in the parks being severe enough to warrant the placement of signs.

Councilman Regis provided the Council with detailed reports of patrol and vehicle locations from September 20, through September 30, 2013; noted over 360 occasions where Main Street was patrolled during that period. Councilman Regis noted that Chief Card has been logging this information since he requested it. Councilman Meier was unaware that the Police presence was so great in the downtown area. Mayor Alviene noted that there is a police presence on Main Street, though no system is foolproof, Councilman Regis did address this in a timely manner, copies are available upon request.

OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Mayor Alviene opened the meeting to the public at this time.

Seeing no one come forward to speak a motion was made to close the public portion of the meeting.

Moved: Fox

Second: McNear

All in favor.

Motion to adjourn the meeting:

Moved: Fox

Second: McNear

All in favor.

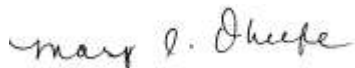
ADJOURNMENT: 7:30 p.m.

Adopted: October 15, 2013



Robert W. Alviene, Mayor

Attest:



Mary A. O'Keefe, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Dated: October 15, 2013