

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL – BOROUGH OF RED BANK
AUGUST 13, 2007
5:30 P.M.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Menna and Council Members Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont and Cangemi.

ALSO PRESENT: Administrator Sickels, Borough Clerk Vivona, Chief Financial Officer Mason, Attorney Pringle, Assistant Attorney Hall and Engineer Kosenski.

ABSENT: Councilman Bifani.

SUNSHINE STATEMENT

Mayor Menna requested the minutes reflect that, in compliance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231 (Open Public Meetings Act), notice of this meeting has been provided by notifying the Asbury Park Press, the Courier, the Two River Times and the Star Ledger and by placing a notice on the bulletin board and filing same with the Borough Clerk on January 1, 2007.

WORKSHOP

Count Basie Learning Center Utilization Report

David Prown – 44 Hillside Place – said he is here to report on the potential of a community center in Red Bank with other members of the community that would also like to see a community center in Red Bank. He said many years ago Red Bank had a community center and a lot of municipalities have them now. He said that recently there have been meetings regarding a community center and everyone would like to see one, but the main problem is financing it and to buy land and build a center would probably be impossible. He said that recently he learned the Borough owned a building on the corner of Bridge Avenue and Drs. Parker Boulevard which was originally known as the Count Basie Learning Center and then the Count Basie Achievement Center run by the YMCA. He said that he has just learned that their lease is expiring in March of 2008 and they are not interested in renewing it and that is when he really sensed an opportunity because we have a building that is up to code and licensed by the State so the costs of the land and the constructing a building disappear and the building has a 14-year history of serving children in our community. He said the building is licensed by the State and up-to-date with fire and ADA requirements and a secure safety entrance to assure the safety of those within the building. He said the Mayor and Council have put the building out to bid with a minimum price of \$800,000 and there were no bids received. He said the building could be staffed with our current Parks and Recreation staff and also partnering and collaborating with other local organizations and agencies that you will hear from this evening. He said at the last Council Meeting Councilman Curley was charged as Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Department was asked to start working with the Parks and Recreation Committee to start working on a plan and he has assembled a group of individuals twice to start working on a plan and in that short area time of 2 weeks we do not have all of the answers to your questions but we do have some answers. Three of the major issues asked by the Council at the last meeting were the need for a center, costs and a budget plan and the benefits of a community center to the community itself. He said he would end his portion of his presentation speaking about the benefits to Red Bank. He said the center is located on the Westside of town but it would serve the whole town and the location of the center is in the heart of quite an active development area. He said the Mayor and Council have worked diligently to stabilize our neighborhoods from over development and keep our people there. He said you have to have a building location to have programs so this building would give us an instant inexpensive opportunity to start building community programs and just having a community center itself helps to preserve and adds to the stability of the neighborhood and provides the services and amenities that help ensure a stable community. He said locating the Parks and Recreation Department in a more visible location could only help with more sign-ups and partnerships with the residents of the town and could also be used by various groups in town as a meeting center and it will give a place to go where they are welcome and safe. He said the benefits are huge especially with the low start up costs and wants to invite other members of the community to come up and speak about their needs.

Jane Stone – Point Pleasant Beach - said she is the Director of the Regional Perinatal Consortium and introduced Dr. Anna Monique Osterheld, who is director of the Red Bank Family Support Center. She said this is her second time being up here discussing the need for a support center, something to accommodate the needs of families in our community. She said they had applied for a grant but were not successful, but has information from the census and various other studies regarding the families in our community. She said when they started the Red Bank Family Success Center they conducted 27 leadership interviews and 100 surveys were conducted with residents of Red Bank and two open family

forum groups were held to elicit what the needs are in this community. She said the greatest challenges facing families in Red Bank are lack of affordable housing, difficulties accessing health care and struggling with the area high costs of living. She said they also found that families in Red Bank needed advocates who understood how to negotiate the different human and social services that are available. She said that 20% of the residents are Afro-American, 17% Latino, 12.5% Bi-racial, 27% are living below the poverty level and children in Red Bank receive nearly 80,000 free school lunches and an additional 13,759 reduced price lunches in the 2004-2005 school year. She said there was a 21% rate of substantiated reports to the Division of Youth and Family Services from Red Bank residents in 2004 and Red Bank had the second highest drop-out rate among all high schools in Monmouth County and the percentage of students living with HIV and/or Aids under the age of 13 is 5.3% and the percentage of unmarried mothers was 45.3% in 2004 and the town's crime rate is 29.3 per thousand as quoted from the New Jersey Department of Human Services in June 2005. She said Red Bank was found to be the highest service area with persons experiencing barriers to healthcare and said that these are large issues and it's a lot of information and where do you begin. She said the coordination of services that Mr. Prown was mentioning should be brought together under one roof because it would be helpful in offering advocacy and assistance to people who are trying to solve some of the problems that we are talking about tonight and the use of this building would be just an incredible asset to the community.

Anna Osterheld – Tinton Falls – said when they started in December they were seeing 13 families in December and they are seeing 90 families in the month of April and these are from actual referrals from various organizations. She said in 6 months she has given 420 referrals for various social services.

William Poku – 90 Bank Street – he said in Newark four Afro-American kids were murdered execution style while they were out playing in the neighborhood and if these kids had been playing in a public supervised area the murders would not have happened. He said that is one very good reason why we should have a community center and that there are so many organizations that are based in Red Bank that help our children and don't have a place of their own and that is why we need a community center.

Gary Morris – 186 River Street – he said that he has five children and kids need a supervised place to go because when they hang around the streets and parking lots they succumb to peer pressure and do destructive damage. He asked the Governing Body to really look at the idea of a community center.

Chris and Nicky Appolito – 232 Newman Springs Road – he said that he runs a summer enrichment program and that he thinks if we had a year round venue for programs it would be better for the community, kids and all of the organizations that spoke here this evening. Mrs. Appolito said that a lot of her students used the computer at the Count Basie Learning Center to do their homework and she would hate to see something like this go away.

Richard Ashton – 15 Clifford Place – said that you talk about the costs of running the center but it costs a lot more to put a kid in prison than it costs to educate them and we should think about this in the long run and it will benefit everyone.

Ben Forest – 16 Locust Avenue – said he is a fan of David Prown and he hasn't taken a close look at the building being used as a community center but he would like to see more done with the recreation department and would like to see more opportunities for employing our teenagers. He said he doesn't know if this is the right spot but the objective is the right thing.

Linda Clark – 207 River Street – said she is a lifelong resident of Red Bank and is the President and founder of the Count the Children Program and said that she wanted to get involved in the community to give back what other people have given to here when she was growing up. She said she wants to help them learn through her experiences and expose them to different things and also just giving them that enlightenment might help them go further. She said that she has worked with kids most of her life and said we need a central location so all the different organizations can help each other to help the children in our community and give them a place to go. She also suggested that the Senior Center be used at night in the interim to provide something for the kids for their future.

Diana Salvatore – 138 Bodman Place – said she wants the Members of the Governing Body to think about this in a different way and said we need to think about it in terms of prevention not just for children and families but for the young and the old. She said so many individuals do not have dental care and instead of going to the dentist end up in the emergency room with a rotten tooth for a year instead of just getting them a filling and we pay far more. She said she has worked for numerous organizations involved with children as a grant writer and because our income levels are high that rules us out of getting a lot of State grants when 80% of our kids are free or reduced lunch. She said our need was no less than lower income towns so we will have trouble getting funding from the State that we need to support a community center. She said there are so many resources in our community but it's about coordinating those resources and you can see there is so much support but there needs to be a point place and this is a really unique opportunity to have this building just sitting there and we really need to bring people together.

Freddie Boynton – P.O. Box 2074, Red Bank – said that he wanted to thank the Mayor and Council for attending the boxing match that they had at the Middle School and said the event was very successful. He said we need a place for the kids around here to go and stay busy so they do not hang out on the streets. He said we need a community center for the kids and he would be willing to work and help.

John Tyler – 69 Leighton Avenue – said that he agrees with everyone and said there are too many kids hanging around on the streets getting in trouble. He said he would also like to know how much it cost for the after school programs at the schools because if we had a community center the kids could go there and it would be nice for the Parks and Recreation Department to locate their offices there and some other offices and this could offset the costs.

Juanita Lewis – 844 Shrewsbury Avenue – said she is involved in numerous groups working with children and the kids do need more. She said that after Pop Warner is over the kids are lost and are out on the streets with nothing to do and a community center would be very helpful.

Gary Morris – 186 River Street – he said that you have this figure of \$800,000 for this building and Mr. Poku was talking about the incident in Newark where the kids were killed there and \$800,000 does not bring those kids back. He said that we have to look at the kids because they are your future and these kids need somewhere to go.

Judy Lutz – 114 Harding Road – said that a friend of hers that lives in Jersey City was put into the hospital by two 17-year-old kids who jumped him and they didn't even know why they were jumping him. She said that if you don't have a place for the kids to go this is what they do so this is why we need a community center to keep idle hands from the devils playground.

David Prown – 44 Hillside Place – he thanked the Council for hearing them this evening and the next and final step that you have asked to address this evening is to talk about the financing. He said they have been in contact with two major experienced organizations that both see a need and an opportunity here in Red Bank to meet the needs of both of their organizations and the Red Bank community. He said they know this community and they know the town, they know the building.

Mayor Menna said that on behalf of all of us he wanted to thank everyone for all of you for your comments. He said that sometimes political people think they have the answers to all of the questions and issues of the day and thinks that after so many years he realizes we don't. He said we can express opinions but a lot of our decisions are based upon a lot of information gathering and the comments of those that we serve, so all of your comments are very important to us and said he does have two meetings scheduled for tomorrow and one meeting on Thursday with representatives of various institutions, that perhaps Mr. Prown has already eluded to, who have some interest in this particular dialogue. He said that he and the Council are grateful to all of you for bringing the dialogue to the table and thinks there is a broader picture here and all of us have an obligation to study the issues and alternatives of all of the groups that have spoken tonight. He said the prize here is the future of young people and we have to keep an eye on that. He said that the Members of the Governing Body will review all of you comments and study the statistical data that was given to us tonight.

Councilman Curley said he wanted to thank the participants that were involved over the past few weeks. He said that he and Councilwoman Cangemi learned a great deal from sitting and talking to the residents and found the concern is to find places for our children and know where they will be. He said that as the Council Liaison to Parks and Recreation he is determined that the building being discussed is not just thrown away to some developer and said we need walls in this community to create programs to help us expand to serve the children of the community and thanked everyone for their participation.

Gary Lermer – Red Bank Community YMCA – he said that they have an interest in what happens to the building because they have numerous programs there. He said he wanted to share their anxiousness to work with the Borough to address two separate issues, the first is addressing the needs that were expressed here this evening and the second is space issues. He said the YMCA would like to work with the Borough on shared services for recreation programs and other after school programs for children.

Robert Taylor – Boys and Girls Club of Monmouth County – he said tonight you have heard all of the reasons for a community center and there is no doubt that this is a pressing issue and he thinks that what we are here to say today from the Boys and Girls Club is that the westside of Red Bank is a targeted area that has been identified as a place in need and you have an opportunity to make a difference in kids lives. He said that partnering with all of these agencies is something that we all have to do these days and he thinks we all have to work together and the State has invested 1.4 million dollars in the Boys and Girls Clubs to reach out to communities and do this kind of work and the federal government granted 85 million dollars to reach out to distressed neighborhoods. He said that he is here today to say that he wants to be a partner and serve the most disadvantaged kids in your community.

Jean Courdy – Sea Bright – said she has worked with Mr. Prown and Rob Taylor running a tutoring program after school with the Boys and Girls Club over the last year and the facilities she has worked in received rent from the company that she works for and there are a lot of avenues some economic benefit

could come in and money could be generated to keep the program going. She said she is always looking for space and people that really care about kids and Mr. Prown and Mr. Taylor are two of the best that she knows of in Monmouth County.

Mr. Prown asked if a decision on the bids for this building will be made at the Council Meeting of August 27, 2008.

The Mayor said no bids were accepted so nothing will be done.

Shrewsbury Avenue Post Office Parking

Mayor Menna said the Shrewsbury West Borough Post Office has been reopened and the Postmaster has asked me to create short-term parking. He said our Traffic Safety Department has recommended the changing four parking spaces to 15-minute parking.

Councilwoman Lee said she would like to see two on each side of the street.

Councilwoman Cangemi said that she agrees with Councilwoman Lee and would also like to see something implemented in this area to slow down the traffic.

Tower Hill Avenue

Councilman Curley said there are residents on Tower Hill Avenue that are concerned about the status of the no left-hand turn coming from Harding Road onto Tower Hill Avenue. He said the Council has passed an ordinance for this restriction but it has been delayed on the State level.

Councilman DuPont said that he spoke to the Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Transportation just about an hour ago and the D.O.T. has promised me that they would be signing off on that next week so we should have all the agreements for no left-hand turn by next week.

Councilman Curley said that he would like to hear from Mr. Kosenski about the status of the approval.

Councilman DuPont said the County took six months to make its decision and in addition it sat on the desk of a D.O.T. representative for a period of time and it was through the efforts of Mr. Kosenski and himself that we got the no left-hand turn.

Mr. Kosenski said that he knows there has been a lot of interest on the resident's behalf on their part to have a no left-hand turn from Harding Road to Tower Hill Avenue. He said the Mayor and Council authorized a study that he did last year and as a result of that the Mayor and Council adopted an ordinance prohibiting a left turn turning into Tower Hill Avenue and no left turn exiting Tower Hill Avenue onto Harding Road. He said that he forwarded the information to the State and the County on January 8, 2007 and the draft ordinance was submitted at that time and when the ordinance was adopted on February 26, 2007 that was also forwarded to the County and the State and he learned just before the meeting that D.O.T has agreed to approve this and the approval is being processed and we should have it by the middle of next week. He said he has made a number of phone calls to expedite the process.

Budget Adoption

Councilman Curley said when he walked through the door at 5:25 p.m. he learned from Councilwoman Cangemi that the adoption of the 2007 Budget had been pulled from the agenda and as the senior ranking member of the Republican Party he does not know why he was not contacted and would like the budget discussed tonight because Councilwoman Cangemi will not be at the next Council Meeting. He said that he has very grave concerns about the budget and has discussed over the years that we should go back to zero-based budgeting and said he is also concerned about the bidding process that takes place in the Borough and that is the diligence of going out to bid for our insurance because the taxpayers should know that we are getting bids from three bidders and that the Council and the Administration have done their part. He said that he has never taken health insurance and does not understand why we have Council Members that own their own businesses and they accept health insurance. He said he has also complained about the fines for the parking meters being too expensive and said the fine is \$38 and he had requested that it be reduced to \$25 and that it met opposition because we would have less revenue coming in. He said that if we enforced our parking ordinances up until 6 p.m. and even extending them to 8 p.m. and reducing the fine to \$25 we would be a lot better off in stimulating business and said that wherever he goes people say they would never shop in the town again because they received a summons for overtime parking. He said that the Code Enforcement Department has gone out and bought smaller more fuel efficient vehicles and that we have not heard any commitment from the Finance Committee to buy smaller vehicles throughout the town and said we are a town of 1.75 square miles with 12,000 people and we don't need SUVs and we don't need large cars with the exception of the Police Department. He said that he has requested that all vehicles be monitored for gas mileage and all vehicles be marked when they leave this Borough. He also said the Gary Watson told him that we have a problem because we have people that don't want to go out and push a lawn mower and that he told Mr. Watson to write them up because we have a responsibility to the taxpayers and that he had suggested three years ago to outsource

all of the maintenance of our public grounds and buildings and we reduce the size of our Public Works Department. He said that he wants to make sure our professionals are not paid on a salary basis feeding into the State pension plan and have them paid on a voucher basis and said Mayor Menna and Councilman DuPont serve as attorneys in various municipalities and he is against elected officials holding more than one job in the State pension system and that he is very concerned the Members of Council don't take these concerns seriously because they live in the system and the voters in New Jersey can stop this.

Mayor Menna said that it has always been his preference to put everything out to bid and one of the reasons he eliminated the position of qualified purchasing agent was because it was a superfluous position and that everything should go out to bid and he does not care what the State threshold limit is and that is what direction he wants purchasing to move towards.

Councilman Curley asked the Mayor why we did not go out to bid on the insurance.

Councilman DuPont said that Councilman Curley has to take responsibility for his votes because over the last 4 ½ years he voted for \$24 million dollars worth of infrastructure improvements, not once voting no and while you were the Finance Chairman there were a number of over expenditures in 2006 and now we have eliminated that in this budget. He said that we did not receive any extraordinary aid this year and the increase for the average home assessment would be \$57 and the last 4 years when Councilman Curley was Finance Chairperson and we received extraordinary aid each year in the amount of approximately \$100,000, the increases to the average home assessment was \$70 and \$80. He said this year the Finance Committee has eliminated all the audit comments from 2006 and have eliminated positions saving over \$100,000 and there were no over expenditures and debt service has been held to a 1% increase. He said that we did go out to get quotes from other insurance companies but once insurance companies find out we are in the Monmouth County Joint Insurance and Health Insurance funds they say they cannot compete with them and said the Mr. Mason just told him that we have just received a refund check for \$108,455 and our Moody ratings gave us a great review because we stabilized our efforts to more accurately budget revenues and expenditures and avoid over expenditures. He said that Mr. Curley did not contact him to go over the budget but Councilwoman Cangemi did and said that they spent a great deal of time going over it.

Councilman Curley said he did speak to him at a Council Meeting and does not trust him enough to sit in a private meeting with him.

Councilman DuPont said that it is true that he did speak to him at a meeting.

Councilman Curley said that he has voted no on the budget for the last 3 years and he did vote for infrastructure improvements because when a sewer system breaks down or the water plant is not working properly these are necessary items that must be repaired.

Councilman DuPont said that he would sit down with him any time or place because he does think they could have some dialogue on issues we agree or disagree with but at least when can speak reasonably about this and said that we did propose a good solid budget and the Finance Committee did make the recommendation to continue health benefits for the Mayor and Council and we should rise above the personal attacks and talk about what the most important thing is for the Borough of Red Bank.

Councilman Curley said that he thinks this is a boiler plate budget and adding one thing on top of another and he cannot go out and tell the taxpayers of this community that you gave an individual a \$10,000 raise.

Councilwoman Cangemi said that she is eager to speak because she is beside herself over the current situation and we could start with the \$57 average assessment and said that west of Maple Avenue nearly every homeowner that she has spoken with went up substantially and long-time residents cannot afford to live here anymore. She said we really need to tighten our belts and is offended by some of the spending practices and for the Finance Committee recommending that we continue to give health insurance to part-time employees is not right. She said she is so pleased and proud of the members of all of the volunteer boards who work for nothing for this community and she does not understand how the Finance Committee can recommend health insurance coverage for part-time employees in this day and age when people are struggling to keep their health benefits or have to receive charity care because they do not have any benefits. She said that she did appreciate Councilman DuPont sitting down with her and going through the budget line by line and she asked a lot of questions but thinks that we really should start with zero based budgeting.

Investigations

Councilman Curley said he read an article in the Asbury Park about Operation Bid Rigging and there was a quote from former Freeholder Harry Larrison saying he did not feel like he should have to pay the full price to International Truck Company because of all of the time he spent with Middletown, Red Bank and Howell and he wants it on record that he is going to ask the FBI for a full investigation on this matter as well as the deal that was recently struck for affordable housing in Red Bank because he does not believe it was legal or ethical.

Mayor Menna said that if Councilman Curley has any information he will personally drive him to the appropriate place to deliver it.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 9, 2007

Mr. Murphy offered a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. DuPont.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five and no nays, the minutes were declared approved.

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS

REPORTS OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilwoman Cangemi said that she wanted to thank the Borough Engineer for meeting with the Shade Tree Commission to work on the road program for next year because we have had some damage to trees from the road program.

Councilwoman Lee said that Boris Kofman rides around on his bicycle with his pruning saw and managed to prune her trees and said he is a very dedicated member of the Shade Tree Commission and thanked all the volunteers for all of the work they do in the Borough.

Councilman Curley said that on the agenda tonight is a request from the VFW to replace the flagpole at Veterans Park and said he hopes the Council supports this request. He also said that summer camp ends this Friday and included 124 children and it was a great success and they went on a fishing trip with the Boys and Girls Club today. He also said that this Thursday Congressman Frank Pallone will be here in Red Bank at the Primary School and he will be discussing the grant system for the food service program and said all of the breakfast and lunches for summer camp have been paid for through that program. He said that Bob Evans would be meeting with the Board of Education to discuss combining the summer camp program we have with the one the school has after the children get out of summer school.

Mayor Menna said that last Thursday evening the Count Basie Theatre received a grant from the Lowes Corporation in the amount of \$100,000 for the complete renovation of the roof and said that he is very grateful to the Lowes Corporation.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Mayor Menna read a request from Foodbank of Monmouth & Ocean Counties, Count Basie Theatre, San Alfonso Retreat House Women's Auxiliary and VNA of Central Jersey for raffle licenses.

Mr. DuPont offered a motion to approve the request, seconded by Ms. Lee.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the request was declared approved.

Mayor Menna read a request from The Community YMCA to hang a banner on Broad Street from November 3, 2007 to November 30, 2007 to advertise their "Miracle on Monmouth Street" event.

Mr. DuPont offered a motion to approve the request, seconded by Ms. Cangemi.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the request was declared approved.

Mayor Menna read a request from Navesink River VFW Post 438 to place a new flagpole and monument at Veterans Park at Front Street and Riverside Avenue.

Mr. Murphy offered a motion to deny the request, seconded by Mr. DuPont.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the request was declared approved.

Mayor Menna read a request from Pilgrim Baptist Church to hold their annual church picnic and to have Leonard Street blocked from traffic from Shrewsbury Avenue to Leighton Avenue on Saturday, August 18, 207 from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., pending approval of the Special Events Committee.

Ms. Lee offered a motion to approve the request, seconded by Mr. DuPont.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the request was declared approved.

Mayor Menna read a request from First Baptist Church of Red Bank to hold an outdoor concert on their property located at 84 Maple Avenue on September 9, 2007 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., pending approval of special Events Committee and the Chief of Police.

Ms. Lee offered a motion to approve the request, seconded by Mr. DuPont.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the request was declared approved.

Mayor Menna read a request from St. Anthony of Padua Parish to close Herbert Street between Bridge Avenue and the end of their property line on Sunday, September 23, 2007 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. in order to hold their annual parish picnic/block party, pending approval of the Special Events Committee.

Ms. Cangemi offered a motion to approve the request, seconded by Mr. Curley.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the request was declared approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON RESOLUTIONS ON THE AGENDA AND ORDINANCES ON THE AGENDA ON FIRST READING

Mr. DuPont offered a motion to close the public comment portion of the meeting, seconded by Mr. Murphy.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the motion was declared approved.

ORDINANCES – First Reading

2007-33 Mayor Menna read “AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF RED BANK, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER VII, “TRAFFIC,” SECTION 7-3.9, “PERMIT PARKING IN DESIGNATED AREAS,” SCHEDULE XIX, “RESIDENTIAL PARKING DISTRICT NUMBER TWO.”

Mr. DuPont offered a motion to adopt the ordinance on first reading, seconded by Mr. Murphy.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the ordinance was declared adopted on first reading.

Public hearing and final adoption scheduled for August 27, 2007.

ORDINANCES – Public Hearing & Final Adoption

2007-32 Mayor Menna read “AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF RED BANK, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF AN OPEN SPACE EASEMENT TO THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH WITH REGARD TO COUNT BASIE PARK.”

Mayor Menna opened the public hearing and asked if anyone would like to speak, no one appearing he closed the public hearing.

Mr. DuPont offered a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Ms. Lee.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the public hearing was declared closed.

Mr. DuPont offered a motion to adopt the ordinance on final reading, seconded by Ms. Lee.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the ordinance was declared adopted on final reading.

RESOLUTIONS

07-184 Mayor Menna read “A RESOLUTION EXTENDING A CONTRACT RELATED TO THE BOROUGH’S WATER AND SEWER MAIN CONNECTION FORCE ACCOUNT.”

Mr. DuPont offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Murphy.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the resolution was declared approved.

07-185 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH MARK WOSZCZAK MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS, INC. FOR OBTAINING OF CERTAIN PIPE SAMPLES IN CONNECTION WITH IMPROVEMENTS TO THE BOROUGH'S WATER AND SEWER MAINS."

Mr. DuPont offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Ms. Lee.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the resolution was declared approved.

07-186 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FORM AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A LEASE AND AGREEMENT WITH THE MONMOUTH COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY TO FINANCE THE ACQUISITION OF CERTAIN CAPITAL EQUIPMENT WHICH WILL BE LEASED BY THE MONMOUTH COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY TO THE BOROUGH OF RED BANK, NEW JERSEY; APPROVING THE FORM AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A LETTER OF REPRESENTATION AND A CONTINUING DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUANCE AND DELIVERY OF THE MONMOUTH COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY'S CAPITAL EQUIPMENT POOLED LEASE REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2007 AND AUTHORIZING AN AUTHORIZED MUNICIPAL REPRESENTATIVE TO DO ALL OTHER THINGS DEEMED NECESSARY OR ADVISABLE IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUANCE, SALE AND DELIVERY OF SUCH BONDS."

Ms. Lee offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. DuPont.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the resolution was declared approved.

07-187 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSES NO. 2007/2008."

Mr. Curley offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Murphy.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Cangemi

There being four ayes, no nays and one abstention, the resolution was declared approved.

07-188 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR ANIMAL WARDEN SERVICES WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF SHREWSBURY."

Ms. Lee offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Murphy.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the resolution was declared approved.

07-189 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR ANIMAL WARDEN SERVICES WITH THE BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY."

Ms. Lee offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Ms. Cangemi.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the resolution was declared approved.

07-190 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR ANIMAL WARDEN SERVICES WITH THE BOROUGH OF FAIR HAVEN."

Mr. DuPont offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Ms. Lee.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the resolution was declared approved.

07-191 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION AWARDED CONTRACT #07-2 RE-BID 2-4 PARKING UTILITY VEHICLES."

Mr. DuPont offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Ms. Lee.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the resolution was declared approved.

07-192 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR STATE AID FOR SPRING STREET PHASE II."

Mr. DuPont offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Ms. Lee.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the resolution was declared approved.

07-193 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION APPOINTING JOHN GURZO AS MUNICIPAL HOUSING LIAISON WITH THE COUNCIL ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING."

Mr. DuPont offered a motion to table the resolution, seconded by Mr. Murphy.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the resolution was declared tabled.

07-194 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT CERTIFICATE NO. 4 AND CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 RELATED TO THE CONTRACT WITH WILLIAM STOTHOFF CO., INC. FOR THE TOWER HILL WELL PROJECT."

Ms. Lee offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. DuPont.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the resolution was declared approved.

07-195 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PURCHASE/EXPENDITURES IN ACCORDANCE WITH RESOLUTION NO. 03-198."

Mr. Murphy offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. DuPont.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the resolution was declared approved.

PROCLAMATIONS

PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS

07-196 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION FOR PAYMENT OF BILLS AMOUNTING TO \$5,480,038.74."

Mr. DuPont offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Ms. Lee.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the resolution was declared approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Councilman Curley said he would like Councilman Murphy to see if we could put a crosswalk in front of the Post Office on Broad Street.

Councilman Murphy said that people are not suppose to be jay walking there and should go the crosswalks that are already located in this area.

Councilman Curley asked if there could be a crosswalk placed at Leroy Place.

Councilman Murphy said that there is already one located there.

Mayor Menna said that the crosswalk on Leroy Place needs to be painted and made more visible because you can hardly see it now and that we would also be placing some "Yield to Pedestrians" signs in this area.

Councilman Curley said that we need a crosswalk on Front Street in the location of Riverside Garden Park.

Councilman Murphy said there is a crosswalk there with a sign.

Councilman Curley said he would like to see a sign like the ones we have on Broad Street in the middle of the road.

Councilman Murphy said this is a County road and they told us we cannot place a sign in the middle of the road.

Councilman Curley said we should make a formal request and try again.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilman DuPont said that over the last couple of months we have been trying to be a little more environmentally conscience and the Environmental Commission has met and discussed plastic bags and in doing some research he found out that the Borough of Red Bank spends up to 17 cents per bag to dispose of a plastic bag. He said that he has called Joe Azzolina to set up a meeting with him to discuss the supermarket using reusable bags and the possible elimination of these bags because they are costly to get rid of and a hazard to the environment. He said that we have to educate the public about the hazards of plastic bags and speak to other municipalities as well as RiverCenter.

Mayor Menna said that he did review an ordinance from the West Coast and a couple of other ordinances that are out there and whatever we do in Red Bank has to be done in a regional manner.

Councilwoman Cangemi said that at the last Environmental Commission meeting they went over a lot of issues regarding plastic bags and said that a number of supermarkets are already using the reusable bags and are hoping to get voluntary cooperation from some of our vendors and asked RiverCenter to work with the Environmental Commission to come up with something that is attractive and could be sold in the downtown shops.

Fort Monmouth

Councilman DuPont said that he has asked that a resolution be sent to the Federal Government asking them to reconsider closing Fort Monmouth and would like to see it on the next agenda.

AUDIENCE

Gary Morris – 186 River Road – said that he is against the Members of the Governing Body receiving health benefits because with the continuing tax increase they need to reduce the budget.

Judy Hathaway – 44 Ambassador Drive – said that using reusable bags is a lifestyle change but we really have to do this.

Steven Heck – 135 Branch Avenue – said he has a question about receipts from delinquent taxes and a reserve for uncollected taxes and asked why we are setting money aside for uncollected taxes and going into debt.

Mr. Mason said this money as to be set aside by State statute based on the collection rate of the previous year.

Bill Meyer – 12 Monmouth Street – asked how the bill for the revaluation is paid.

Mr. Mason said it is paid out over 5 years.

Mr. Meyer said that Red Bank seems to be ordered to do more revaluations than other towns.

Mayor Menna said we have disputed the revaluations many times.

Mr. Meyer said the revaluations are a complete waste of money and annoy the taxpayers. He said people come into Red Bank and pay high prices for properties and then the little people get hurt.

Ivan Polonsky – 16 Quaker Lane, Little Silver and 151 Harding Road, Red Bank – said that is the first time he heard about the no left turn from Harding Road onto Tower Hill Avenue and is against this and said it will create more traffic on Harding Road.

Ben Forest – 16 Locust Avenue – asked about the status of the ordinance prohibiting blowing horns in the middle of the night.

Mayor Menna said we are still looking into this problem but under Title 39 of the New Jersey State Statutes you can file a complaint anytime.

Larry George – Lexington Avenue, Fair Haven – said he came to the meeting to discuss the budget and was disappointed that it was taken off the agenda. He said the taxes on property he owns in Red Bank have really gone up and he is going to file a tax appeal.

Steve Fitzpatrick – Hudson Avenue – asked if it is a conflict for Mr. DuPont to be the Public Defender in Belmar.

Mr. DuPont said that Mr. Pringle abstained from voting on the resolution appointing him and that his services are paid for by each individual he represents.

Mr. Fitzpatrick asked Mr. Pringle if Belmar amended their pay-to-play ordinance to state that all contributions had to be disclosed

Mr. Pringle said that they did.

Mr. Fitzpatrick said he would like Red Bank to do the same thing.

Les Hathaway – 44 Ambassador Drive – asked why the tax bills were sent out by bulk mail.

Mr. Mason said the tax bills are sent out by bulk mail every year and they went out on July 31, 2007 and the deadline for payment is August 28, 2007.

Fred Boynton – asked why employees get to drive their vehicles out of town because one is driven to Long Branch and he was reprimanded when he worked for the Borough and drove to Tinton Falls.

Councilman Curley said he spoke to Mr. Watson because he had received a complaint about this matter.

Mayor Menna said the Personnel Committee should review the vehicle policy.

Mr. Boynton said that sanitation collectors throw the garbage cans on the street in front of his Aunt's house on Shrewsbury Avenue and they collect garbage too early in the morning and should do the business area first.

Ed Poplawski – 145 Harding Road – said he is also protesting the change in the traffic pattern on Harding Road onto Tower Hill Avenue and asked why they were not notified.

Mr. Hall said that this ordinance was adopted in accordance with State Statutes and was published in the newspaper.

Councilwoman Lee said that this idea has been discussed for 4 years and there was a study done about traffic calming on Tower Hill Avenue and discussed at numerous Council Meetings.

Mayor Menna said that we would send a copy of the traffic study to Mr. Poplawski.

Val DeFazio – 56 Tower Hill Avenue – said this matter has been discussed for 4 years and the residents on Tower Hill Avenue want to know when it will be implemented.

Councilman DuPont said that the New Jersey Department of Transportation would be signing off on it next week and then the Borough could proceed with the signage.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Murphy offered a motion, seconded by Mr. DuPont to adjourn the meeting.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Curley, Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the motion was declared approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Vivona