

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL – BOROUGH OF RED BANK
March 27, 2019
6:30 P.M.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Menna and Council Members Hassin, Triggiano, Yngstrom, Zipprich, and Horgan.

ABSENT: Councilman Ballard.

ALSO PRESENT: Administrator Shehady, Borough Clerk Borghi, Attorney Cannon and Engineer Neumann.

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 Two River Times and the Star Ledger and by placing a notice on the bulletin board and filing same with the Borough Clerk on December 12, 2018.

Mayor Menna asked for a motion to carry the appointments for the Redevelopment Agency positions to the April 3, 2019 Workshop Meeting.

Councilman Yassin offered a motion to carry the appointments, seconded by Councilman Zipprich.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

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

PROCLAMATIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS

Public Hearings on Green Acres Grant Applications

Administrator Shehady reviewed the purpose of Public Hearings which were required as part of Green Acres applications to the State. He said both projects have already been approved and previous hearings had been held. He said Engineer Neumann would speak on both projects.

Riverside Gardens Environmental Improvement Project

Engineer Neumann reviewed the proposed improvements to Riverside Gardens Park which she said would include boardwalk decking, landscape enhancements, a flag pole and benches. She said it would remain a passive park. She said the total project cost was approximately \$114,000 and the amount of the grant being applied for was approximately \$57,000.

Bellhaven Park Improvement Project

Engineer Neumann reviewed the proposed improvements to Bellhaven Nature Preserve which she said would include an observation deck. She said the plan was to keep the environmental nature of the area so people could enjoy the shoreline while providing for some level of activity. She said the total cost of the project was approximately \$423,000 and the amount of the grant being applied for was approximately \$105,850.

Administrator Shehady said the matching funds for the projects had already been funded through previous bond ordinances. He said the reason they had selected these projects was because a lot of the technical and design work had already been done.

Mayor Menna asked if there were any questions from Council. Seeing none, he opened the Public Hearing regarding Riverside Gardens Park.

Cindy Burnham—71 Wallace Street—Asked when the bond for the funding of Riverside Gardens was done.

Engineer Neuman said it had been done in the 2018 bond cycle along with other projects and reviewed the phases of the projects.

No one else appearing, Councilman Zipprich offered a motion to close the Public Hearing on the Riverside Gardens Park Grant application, seconded by Councilman Yngstrom.

Mayor Menna opened the Public Hearing for Bellhaven Park.

Kathleen Gasienica—110 Locust Avenue—said she was representing the Bellhaven Condominium Association which was adjacent to the Park. She expressed areas of concern. She asked the Council to consider the full scope of the park and cited areas that needed to be addressed including litter issues.

Engineer Neumann said she would share Ms. Gasienica's comments with T&M Associates who were the design engineers on the project.

Councilwoman Triggiano also noted that the Environmental Commission had a clean-up scheduled on 4/27 and said the Bellhaven area was on their map.

No one else appearing, Councilman Zipprich offered a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilwoman Horgan.

19-73 Mayor Menna read, "State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Enabling Resolution – Riverside Gardens Park Environmental Improvement Project."

Councilman Yngstrom offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Horgan.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

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

19-74 Mayor Menna read, "State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres enabling Resolution -- Bellhaven Park Improvement Project."

Councilman Yngstrom offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Horgan.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

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

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Menna appointed Paul Proietto to the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee for an unexpired three-year term ending 12/31/2021.

Mayor Menna appointed Anna Cruz to the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee for an unexpired three-year term ending 12/31/2020.

Councilman Yngstrom offered a motion to confirm the appointments, seconded by Councilman Yassin.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

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

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

No one appearing, Mayor Menna asked for a motion to close.

Councilman Zipprich offered a motion to close the Public Comment, seconded by Councilwoman Horgan.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

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

MINUTES & REPORTS

Regular Meeting Minutes of 3/13/2019

Councilman Zipprich offered a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilman Yassin.

ROLL CALL:

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

Workshop Meeting Minutes of 3/6/2019

Councilman Zipprich offered a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilwoman Horgan.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

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

ORDINANCES - Public Hearing/Adoption:

None.

ORDINANCES - First Reading:

None.

RESOLUTIONS

19-75 Mayor Menna read, "A Resolution for Payment of Bills in the Amount of \$2,810,413,25."

Councilman Zipprich offered a motion to approve the resolutions en masse, seconded by Councilman Yassin.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

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

19-76 Mayor Menna read, "A Resolution Accepting the Resignation of Patrolman Michael A. Baron."

Councilman Zipprich offered a motion to approve the resolutions en masse, seconded by Councilman Yassin.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

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

19-77 Mayor Menna read, "A Resolution Authorizing Renewal of the Franchise Agreement with New Jersey Natural Gas Company."

Councilwoman Horgan offered a motion to approve the resolutions en masse, seconded by Councilman Yassin.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

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

MAYOR & COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Zipprich thanked the RiverCenter team and congratulated them on a successful Wedding Walk.

Councilwoman Horgan had no report.

Councilman Yngstrom reported that the Parks & Recreation Spring Egg Hunt would be held on 4/13/2019 at Count Basie Park. He said the Department would be organizing a Memorial Day Parade on Monday, 5/27/2019 and encouraged organizations to participate.

Councilman Yassin had no report.

Councilwoman Triggiano had no report.

DISCUSSION & ACTION

No items.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Governmental Issues, 5 Minute Limit)

William Poku—90 Bank Street—said he was appearing with the permission of the NAACP President and was speaking on the organization’s behalf. He then noted that he had personally challenged the Borough snow removal ordinance in court. He stated that the Borough’s Attorney had objected and said he was offended by Mr. Poku stating he was a representative of the NAACP. Mr. Poku said the NAACP President had asked him to emphasize the fact that he was the organization’s Secretary and also noted that he had a Master’s Degree in Electrical Engineering.

Mayor Menna said no one was challenging those facts.

Mr. Poku said the NAACP represented the community and tried to keep constituents abreast of the issues. He reviewed his reasons for challenging the ordinance and said he was appearing at this meeting to confirm that he was able to speak on behalf of the NAACP and also noted that he served as the organization’s Secretary.

Allison Gregory—109 Bank Street—said she wanted to speak regarding cross walks. She said no one yields and she called for action. She said the ones on Shrewsbury Avenue needed to be painted. She also reported that several street lights were out and said it was a safety issue.

Councilman Zipprich asked her to contact the County Board of Freeholders regarding those issues as Shrewsbury Avenue was a County Road.

Administrator Shehady said he would speak with the Police Chief and County representatives regarding enforcement. He said the Borough was working with the County and the State for a pedestrian grant. He said the Borough was in the process of inventorying and GIS mapping the lights. He said many of the lights go back decades. He said the County was responsible for the sidewalks but the Borough maintained the lights. He said

they had made a number of repairs trying to handle what could be done in-house but said there were conduit wiring issue that they would have to contract out for the repairs.

Ms. Gregory said it should be a priority.

Administrator Shehady said they were in the processes of assessing priorities in the budget.

Josephine Guttadaura—Middletown—expressed concern about a marijuana dispensary proposed for the Galleria. She said she felt people in town were unaware. She said she was opposed to the plan and offered statistics of how the sale of marijuana had negatively affected the people of Colorado. She asked why the Council would vote “yes” when the surrounding towns had voted “no.” She said she was concerned the bill would be passed as a way to make money.

Mayor Menna said he was not aware of any such application for the Galleria.

Administrator Shehady clarified that the Council voted to allow zoning for medicinal marijuana dispensaries. He said one application had come forward for one such shop in the Galleria. He said the application had been denied. He said no dispensary had been approved by the Borough. He also noted that the Mayor and Council do not approve those types of applications but said they are handled through the Planning/Zoning process.

Cindy Burnham—71 Wallace Street—said the crosswalks on Broad Street were barely visible and suggested they be painted in the Spring rather than the Fall.

Administrator Shehady said the intersection on Broad Street were planned for painting in the Spring. He said the Borough had purchased a paint machine last fall. He said the road also needed some patching and some areas may be repaired as part of the Road Program.

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Menna read a proclamation proclaiming March 16, 2019 as a day of recognition for the Men’s Fellowship Breakfast of Pilgrim Baptist Church of Red Bank and presented it to members of the organization.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Cont’d)

William Poku—90 Bank Street—said he had tried to assist a woman with a Code Enforcement issue and had been told that Borough employees had been told not to discuss matters with him. He asked for guidelines on how to address citizens’ issues.

Borough Attorney Cannon said she ask for representation by a member that did not have multiple pending lawsuits against the Borough.

No one else appearing, Councilman Yngstrom made a motion to close the public portion, seconded by Councilman Zipprich.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

19-78 Mayor Menna read a resolution to adjourn to executive session to discuss Litigation; no action to be taken.

Councilman Yngstrom offered a motion to adjourn to Executive Session, seconded by Councilman Zipprich.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

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

ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Horgan offered a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Zipprich.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

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

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Borghi