

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL – BOROUGH OF RED BANK
MARCH 13, 2013
6:30 P.M.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Menna and Council Members Lewis, DuPont, Horgan and Lee.

ALSO PRESENT: Administrator Sickels, Municipal Clerk Borghi, Attorney O'Hern, Engineer Ballard and Chief Financial Officer Lapp.

ABSENT: Councilmen Zipprich and Murphy.

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 January 1, 2013.

Councilman Murphy arrived at 6:35.

Councilman Zipprich arrived at 6:37.

SUSPEND REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

Councilman Murphy offered a motion to suspend the regular order of business, seconded by Councilman DuPont.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

Wesleyan Arms/United Methodist Homes of New Jersey Check Presentation for Sandy Relief

Representatives of Wesleyan Arms offered their thanks to the Borough for its support on a daily basis. They said they also appreciated the efforts of the First Responders during last year's hurricane and particularly Tom Welsh and the Emergency Management staff who went over and above to provide service to the residents of Wesleyan Arms. They presented a check in the amount of \$1,000 to be put toward Hurricane/Relief efforts.

Mayor Menna commended Wesleyan Arms and said they had a special relationship with the Borough and had made it possible for families to stay together by providing housing within the Borough. He also thanked them for the annual dinner they host to for the First Responders. He also said he would ask the CFO to put the funds in a dedicated account for volunteer services.

Councilman Murphy thanked the representatives of Wesleyan Arms for their generosity on behalf of the Police and Fire Department. He said the Emergency Team worked remarkably well and said Tom Welsh was a great leader along with Alan Soden and Ernie Van Pelt adding that they did a stellar job.

RiverCenter Check Presentations for Sandy Relief to Hope for Highlands, Sea Bright Rising and Rebuild Recovery

RiverCenter Director Nancy Adams explained that their organization had recently sponsored a Bar Bounce. She said they had 200 participants pre-registered and another 240 the day of the event. She noted that they considered that a good turnout since it had been a bad weather day. She said they had raised funds in the amount of approximately \$12,000 for three local Sandy Relief charities that would be receiving \$3,863 each. Checks were presented to Hope for Highlands, Sea Bright Rising and Rebuild Recovery.

Rebecca Kane accepted on behalf of Hope for Highlands and spoke of her own experiences as a first responder and of their hopes to return their town to its former state.

Councilman DuPont offered special kudos to Chris Wood of Sea Bright Rising saying that he had heard of his extreme graciousness and thanked him for his efforts.

RiverCenter's Leo Zeik noted the efforts of his neighboring business, Sounds to Go DJs, and talked about how they had turned their storefront into a warehouse for relief efforts. Anthony, from Sounds to Go, thanked the town for supporting their effort.

Mayor Menna commended them on their efforts for storm relief and also on the improvements they had made to their storefront that he said brought life to the streetscape.

Councilman Murphy thanked the representatives of RiverCenter for thinking outside of the box to help neighbors in need.

Councilwoman Lee said she wanted to thank the four organizations in attendance noting that the most difficult part for these organizations was getting money back out to the people and commended them their efforts to get

the money out to where it was needed.

Councilman Zipprich said he wanted to echo the sentiments of Council members Murphy and Lee and said he was proud of RiverCenter for taking the lead in Red Bank and said it was a good example of what effective team work could do.

Councilwoman Lewis agreed adding that what the Red Bank Community had done during Hurricane Sandy was amazing and showed that they cared about each other. She also urged everyone to remember that people were in need and had not returned to their homes and needed support. She also thanked everyone for all they had done.

Councilwoman Horgan thanked the representatives of the organizations and said their efforts were inspiring.

RiverCenter Budget Presentation

RiverCenter Director Nancy Adams explained that the RiverCenter budget was funded without any residential tax payer dollars but from a self-imposed assessment on commercial properties within the district. She said they had not raised the assessment in the five and a half years that she had been with the organization and also noted that, when the streetscape project was paid off, the assessment actually went down. She said they also had supplemental income from events such as festivals that was used for marketing purposes. She said they also receive income through an agreement with Riverview Medical Center where they manage a parking lot and receive permit fees.

Councilman Murphy commended RiverCenter for the fact that the budget hadn't been raised in six years and for the fact that, when the brick sidewalks were paid for, money was funneled back to the store owners to offset their taxes. He also said the fund raising events and marketing campaigns were great promotion for the town.

Councilman DuPont said he thought it was important to note that it was reported in the press that the corridor from Shrewsbury to Ocean had a vacancy rate for commercial tenants of approximately ten and a half percent while Red Bank was below six percent. Ms. Adams and Mayor Menna said they believed it was four percent. Councilman DuPont said he felt that was in large part due to the RiverCenter Board's vision. He reviewed some of the projects that were currently underway and generating interest. He again commended the organization's Board for their leadership and attention to detail. He said he wholeheartedly supported their budget and the Board. He also noted that the Borough was introducing its budget tonight and said that in excess of forty percent of the budget came from the downtown district and stressed the need for it to thrive.

Councilman Zipprich said that, in the current trying economy, this was a feat well noticed. He also commended RiverCenter for their outstanding effort to attract businesses and lower the vacancy rate. He also complimented the Visitors Center for all of their efforts to make sure that Red Bank stayed on the map.

Ms. Adams said they have had increased interest and credited the marketing campaigns for helping.

Mayor Menna said he appreciated everything everyone had said and agreed it was a great budget and said he agreed with Councilman Murphy that it was consistent with the fine work the organization had been doing and getting positive results. He said he would be remiss if he did not note that part of the statistical data that was so positive for Red Bank was not only RiverCenter and the Visitors Center but also the Council that had the vision and creativity to go along with some initiatives such as the suspension of the Parking Contribution Fund. He said he also wanted to compliment Councilwoman Sharon Lee and the Code Committee for having the creativity and vision to move forward on some of the much needed code revisions that the Borough has undertaken adding that it had sped up the process to open a business. He said Red Bank was a model for being business friendly and was putting people to work, keeping them employed and was a place for residents to both work and enjoy themselves. He said the relationship between the Council and RiverCenter was genuine partnership and he said he didn't want the Council to forget that they were a part of the equation and team. He said they had more to do including further code revisions.

Councilwoman Lee thanked the Mayor for his comments and thanked Administrator Sickels for a Department that was a well-oiled machine. She said things would not be able to get done without the help of the entire Council, Borough Staff, RiverCenter and the Visitor's Center.

RiverCenter Parking Wayfinding Signs

RiverCenter Director Adams explained that they had been working to improve the Parking Wayfinding signs and said they were on Phase Two of the getting the existing Wayfinding signs approved. She showed an example of what the signs would look like and said they were waiting for good weather to continue the installations. She asked the Council to approve the installation of the new signs.

Mayor Menna recommended that the signs be installed before Memorial Day and that they be made with light reflecting paint for night visibility.

Mayor Menna asked the Council for their opinion and all were in favor.

13-72 Mayor Menna read, "A Resolution Approving the 2013 Budget of the Special Improvement District of the Borough of Red Bank."

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

2013 Proposed Budget Presentation

13-75 Mayor Menna read, “A Resolution to Cancel 2012 Current Fund Appropriation Reserves.”

Councilman DuPont offered a motion to approve the resolutions, seconded by Councilwoman Lee.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

2013-5 Mayor Menna read, “A Calendar Year 2013 Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14).”

Councilman DuPont offered a motion to approve the ordinance on first reading, seconded by Councilman Murphy.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

13-73 Mayor Menna read, “A Resolution Authorizing Introduction of the 2013 Municipal Budget.”

Mayor Menna asked Councilman DuPont to review the 2013 Budget. Councilman DuPont said Budget was being introduced and there would be a Public Hearing at a later date. He said it contained a 3.8 cent increase which equaled about \$12.50 per month. He said the overall revenue had decreased by about \$200,000 while expenses had increased by about 2.39 percent or about a half a million dollars. He said they still had work to do and said the increase in expenses was in large part due to contractual expenses with the CWA and PBA. He said the loss of revenue was due in large part to a great reduction in construction permits. In addition, he continued, the Borough lost about \$19 million in rateables. He said the downturn in the economic obviously had a great effect on the Borough’s assessment base. He said there was some good news and said he wanted to commend CFO Lapp and Administrator Sickels for their efforts that helped reduce the Borough’s increase in insurance premiums from 22 percent last year to only six percent this year. He said that was in large part due to their efforts in negotiating, in compliance with the Union contract, reasonable benefits. He also noted that Borough employees contribute to their health insurance in excess of \$200,000. He also noted that both the CWA and PBA contracts expire at the end of the year and they would be negotiating in the following year. He said he also wanted to point out that the Borough was not using any additional surplus from last year. He also noted that the Borough pays the County their share of the collected taxes, but that they did not share in the refund when an appeal is granted. CFO Lapp confirmed that the County was paid 100 percent of their levy and the Borough has to pay back taxes that are lowered due to appeals but the County does not refund the Borough. Councilman DuPont called for an honest discussion about the situation. He said the County Board of Freeholders should be discussing this as well as the Legislators. He again noted that this was an introduction only and said he wanted to praise CFO Lapp and Administrator Sickels for their efforts.

Mayor Menna said he wanted to thank the same individuals and agreed that the introduced budget was for deliberative purposes only and said they would be taking a look at it. He said they would be making suggestions that he felt would result in a positive change. He said he believed there was news from Trenton on the question of how revaluations and reassessments could be done in an expedited fashion. He said every municipality was losing substantial money through tax appeals and, as Councilman DuPont had noted, other constituent groups get 100 percent of the assessment but do not refund it when there is an appeal. He asked Councilman DuPont to prepare a memo with the information that they can distribute to every municipality to raise awareness and orchestrate a statutory change.

Councilman DuPont noted that the amount Red Bank had paid back in refunds was in excess of half a million dollars and the County’s portion would be approximately \$84-85,000. He called for the County to bear the responsibility of a portion of the refunds.

Councilman DuPont offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Lee.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

Councilman DuPont said the Finance Committee would be having a public meeting and he would announce the date.

Mayor Menna noted that Marge Lowe had asked to address the Council.

Marge Lowe wanted to —9 Wall Street—said she had wanted to come forward after Wesleyan Arms gave their presentation and respond to some of the things they had said but wanted to wait until after the presentations were done. She said she had previously invited any of the Council members to come to Wesleyan Arms so she could show them some of the many problems at the facility. She said, in her case, the problems had to do with where her apartment was situated which was right over a parking lot which meant she could not open her

windows because cars were directly under it. She also noted that, on the other side, she was right over the dumpster so she couldn't open those windows either. She said she had also had a flooding problem in her kitchen and said the Plumbing Inspector had come and demanded they do something and, after eleven years, they had finally fixed the problem. She said her living room was still stained with mouse droppings from ten years ago.

Mayor Menna told her about the Rent Leveling Board that could address these types of landlord/tenant issues and gave her contact information for the Board Secretary. He said she may be eligible for a reduction in rent.

RESUME REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

Councilman Murphy offered a motion to resume the regular order of business, seconded by Councilman Zipprich.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

WORKSHOP

No workshop items.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 27, 2013

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS

REPORTS OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilman Murphy reported that Chief Arcalo Forgione would be celebrating 50 years of service with the Red Bank Volunteer Fire Department and Liberty Hose would be hosting an event in his honor on April 20th from 5 to 9 pm.

Councilwoman Lee said, on behalf of the Office of Emergency Management, she wanted to thank the Council for commending Tom Welsh for the excellent work he had done with the organizations that were represented earlier in the meeting. She thanked Administrator Sickels for mentoring Mr. Welsh for all these years. Mr. Sickels thanked Councilwoman Lee for her comments.

Councilwoman Horgan reported that the Environmental Commission had met the previous evening and were planning a cleanup in conjunction with another environmental entity with the location and date to be announced at the next Council meeting.

Councilwoman Lewis reported that the Parks and Recreation Committee would meet the following week and said she wanted to congratulate the fifth and sixth grade boys and girls basketball teams for participating in the Two River Basketball Championship. She said the boys won their championship game and the girls lost by two points. She said she was proud of the kids and Recreation for what they had been able to achieve. She said that April 6 would be the official ribbon cutting ceremony for the new baseball/softball fields at Count Basie Field. She also reported that the Vision Committee had met on the 11th. She said they were in the planning stages and would be starting a sponsorship drive because they wanted to expand their program from last year.

Councilman Zipprich reported that the Engineer had submitted a status report on projects going on in the Public Works Department and asked everyone to review it. He said the Historic Preservation Commission had not met due to a lack of a quorum and would be rescheduling their meeting for April.

Councilman DuPont reported that Kick Start Walk from Red Bank's Mayor's Wellness Campaign had been featured in an article and photographs in the New Jersey League of Municipalities magazine. He said they will be holding an outside bicycle event in June to celebrate the installation of bike racks received with grant monies and said he hoped it would be coordinated with the Borough's Safe Routes program. He said there was also going to be a community group exercise at Count Basie one Saturday over the summer and said it would feature various areas of expertise including spinning and yoga. In addition, he continued, many people had offered healthy recipes and one would be posted each month on the Mayor's Wellness Campaign page of the Borough's website. He said the Committee was also requesting permission to start a Facebook page. He reported that Administrative Secretary Doreen Hoffmann had been asked to speak at Pilgrim Baptist Church because she had lost so much weight. He said she would be speaking about the Healthy Initiative Challenge that she and other employees had participated in.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Mayor Menna read a request from Friends of the Red Bank Library to hold the Town Wide Yard Sale on Saturday, April 27, 2013, with a rain date of Sunday, April 28, 2013, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., approved by the Special Events Committee.

Councilman DuPont offered a motion to approve the request, seconded by Councilwoman Lee.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

Mayor Menna read a request from The Red Bicycle to hold a Post Triathlon Event on May 19, 2013 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the parking lot behind the store, approved by the Special Events Committee.

Councilman DuPont offered a motion to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Zipprich.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

Mayor Menna read a request from Monmouth Day Care Center to hold the 4th Annual Touch a Truck fundraising event in the Middle School Parking lot on Saturday, September 21, 2013 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., approved by the Special Events Committee.

Councilman DuPont offered a motion to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Murphy.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

Mayor Menna read a request from Red Bank Family Reunion to close Drs. James Parker Boulevard from Shrewsbury Avenue to Bridge Avenue on Saturday, August 10, 2013 for a community block party from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., approved by the Special Events Committee.

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

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

ORDINANCES – First Reading

2013-1 Mayor Menna read, “Ordinance of the Borough of Red Bank, County of Monmouth, New Jersey Amending and Supplementing Chapter II, “Administration,” Adding New Section 2-37.14, “Ex-Chiefs Advisory Council.”

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

Councilwoman Horgan asked for clarification on the purpose of the ordinance. Councilman and Fire Commissioner Murphy explained that they were basically changing the name for the body that was currently in place, the Fire Prevention Bureau, which had been established a long time ago. He said it needed to be changed to reflect the fact that it was a group of experienced ex-Chiefs that would offer guidance to the current Chiefs.

Administrator Sickels said it had originally been founded in 1930 and the ex-Chiefs served as Fire Inspectors. He said when new codes came into play and designated that they had to be licensed. He said the ordinance was then changed to create the Fire Marshal’s Office and that portion had been taken out but the committee continued to meet in an advisory capacity. He said Long Branch has established an ex-Chief’s Advisory Council and Red Bank was following there lead. He said this would put the body back into the ordinance and define their duties.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

Public hearing and final adoption to be held March 27, 2013.

2013-2 Mayor Menna read, “Ordinance of the Borough of Red Bank, County of Monmouth, New Jersey Amending and Supplementing Chapter II, “Administration,” Section 2-37 “Fire Department”, Section 2-37.1, “Officers.”

Mayor Menna explained that the Borough ordinance currently stated the Fire Chief, First Deputy Chief and Second Deputy Chief must each be residents of the Borough and this would allow for them to live within three miles of Red Bank.

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

Public hearing and final adoption to be held March 27, 2013.

2013-3 Mayor Menna read, "Ordinance of the Borough of Red Bank, County of Monmouth, New Jersey Authorizing the Acceptance of a Deed of Easement Regarding Property Located at 40 Riverside Avenue, Block 7, Part of Lots 12.03 and 12.04."

Councilman Zipprich offered a motion to adopt the ordinance on first reading, seconded by Councilwoman Lee.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

Public hearing and final adoption to be held April 24, 2013.

2013-4 Mayor Menna read, "Ordinance of the Borough of Red Bank, County of Monmouth, New Jersey Authorizing the Acceptance of a Deed of Easement Regarding Property Located at 40 Riverside Avenue, Block 7, Part of Lots 16 and 16.01."

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

Public hearing and final adoption to be held April 24, 2013.

ORDINANCES – Public Hearing & Final Adoption

RESOLUTIONS

13-66 Mayor Menna read, "A Resolution Authorizing Change Order No. 6 Related to the Contract with Meco, Inc. for the 2011 Road Program Project."

Councilman Zipprich offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Lee.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

13-67 Mayor Menna read, "A Resolution Awarding Contract #13-01 Electrical Services."

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

13-68 Mayor Menna read, "A Resolution Releasing Performance Bond and Accepting Maintenance Guarantee Regarding Downtown Investors, I, II, III, V, LLCs, Block 47, Lots 1, 25.01, 10, 10.01 and 11; and Block 48, Lots 36, 37, 38, 39."

Councilman Murphy offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Zipprich.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

13-69 Mayor Menna read, "A Resolution Releasing Performance Guarantee Regarding Good Fork Restaurant Group, LLC (D/B/A Char Steakhouse), 27-33 Broad Street, Block 29, Lots 1 & 2."

Councilman Murphy offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Lee.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

13-70 Mayor Menna read, "A Resolution Awarding Contracts for Supply and Delivery of Sodium Hypochlorite, Aluminum Sulphate and Hydrated Lime."

Councilman Murphy offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Zipprich.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

13-71 Mayor Menna read, "A Resolution Calling for Action by the New Jersey Legislature to Allow Full Marriage Equality for Same Sex Couples in New Jersey."

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

13-74 Mayor Menna read, "A Resolution Proposing the Immediate Restoration in Full of All Energy Tax Receipt Funding."

Mayor Menna explained that the Governor had taken the responsibility of collecting these funds from municipalities but had not returned any of the money to the towns.

Councilman DuPont noted that the Mayor of East Windsor had recently testified before the Senate on the matter. He said he estimated the loss to municipalities to be in the millions. He said he thought it was important to make every effort to have the funding restored to the municipalities.

Councilman DuPont offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Zipprich.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

13-76 Mayor Menna read, "A Resolution Authorizing Emergency Appropriations in the 2013 Temporary Budget."

Councilman DuPont offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Lewis.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

PROCLAMATIONS

PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS

Mayor Menna said, with the Council's permission, he would like to strike on particular payment in the amount of \$29,210.10 from the bill list pending review in Executive Session. He said, with the item removed, the new total for the resolution would be \$2,777,323.56.

13-77 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION FOR PAYMENT OF BILLS AMOUNTING TO \$2,777,323.56."

Councilman DuPont offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Lewis.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

AUDIENCE

Stephen Hecht—135 Branch Avenue—expressed concern about the benches in Marine Park being slowly destroyed by skateboarders. He said there was a solution to the problem which would be to put an arm rest in the center of the bench as a deterrent to skateboarders.

Mayor Menna said he was aware of the issue and received a lot of reports regarding the damage. He said damages to public property could run up to hundreds of thousands of dollars. He said the Police Department had increased visibility and they were being encouraged to prosecute those who damage public property. He added that Public Works Director Watson and the Public Works Committee were looking at different options not only for the benches but for the public places such as Riverside Gardens Park as well.

Councilman Zipprich confirmed that he has discussed the matter with Mr. Watson and the Public Works Committee and they had identified a number of preventative measures.

Mr. Hecht said he understood the need for enforcement and encouraged them to move forward with the preventative measures. Mr. Hecht said he also wanted to talk about parking at the Municipal Building. He said he had come to the building recently to attend a Borough meeting and there had been a Zoning Board meeting and Count Basie Theatre show the same night. He noted that he had gotten the last space in the lot and he watched others leave their cars and walk to the theater. He said he thought the theater should offer help with monitoring the lot rather than the Borough bearing the expense of taking an officer off of the street.

Mayor Menna agreed and said he had just recently discussed the matter with the Administrator and called for a meeting with the new Executive Director of the theater to review a number of issues. He said he planned to discuss the need for them to provide an employee to prevent their patrons from using the municipal lot and also to address the impact on nearby residential areas.

Cindy Burnham—71 Wallace Street—asked if the Borough had plans to remove the sailboat from the foot of Maple Avenue. Mr. Sickels said they did and added that the State had entered into a contract with a company to remove debris from waterways. He said the owner had been contacted by the Police and he had said he was not interested in retrieving the boat.

Ms. Burnham also asked about the fence and broken gate near the boardwalk which she said had been broken for quite some time. Mr. Sickels said he was not aware of the issue and said he would consult with Mr. Watson.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

13-78 The Attorney read a resolution to adjourn to executive session to discuss contract obligations and personnel.

Councilman DuPont offered a motion to adjourn to executive session to discuss contract obligations and personnel, seconded by Councilwoman Lee. Minutes to be made public in 180 days.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

Councilwoman Horgan offered a motion to close executive session, seconded by Councilwoman Lee.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Borghi