

**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL – BOROUGH OF RED BANK
OCTOBER 23, 2009
6:30 P.M.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Menna and Council Members Zipprich, Horgan and Murphy.

ALSO PRESENT: Administrator Sickels, Deputy Borough Clerk Borghi, Attorney Megill, Engineers Ballard and Kosenski.

ABSENT: Council Members Lewis, DuPont and Lee, Attorney Pringle, Assistant Attorney Hall and Chief Financial Officer Mason.

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 October 13, 2009.

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

Mayor Menna asked if anyone from the audience wished to address the Council on any agenda items, no one appearing, Councilman Murphy offered a motion to close the public comment portion, seconded by Councilman Zipprich.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Zipprich, Horgan, Murphy

NAYS: None

There being three ayes and no nays, Mayor Menna voted aye and the motion was declared approved.

RESOLUTIONS

09-240 Mayor Menna read “A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING BID FROM AND AWARDED CONTRACT TO LAYNE CHRISTENSEN COMPANY FOR PRESSURE FILTERS AND OTHER WATER FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS.”

Mayor Menna noted that a number of bids came in and the lowest responsible bid was in the amount of \$2,120,650 submitted by a bidder from Pennsylvania which was Layne Christensen Company. He also noted that it came in \$700,000 under the estimate. Mayor Menna said he wanted to take the opportunity to express his deep appreciation to everyone around the table especially Christine Ballard, Rich Kosenski and T&M Associates for stewardshipping the project from the beginning. He added that they tailored the project so it met public needs and did not lose sight of the goal which was to provide much needed improvements to a very old system using Federal monies. He said it could not have been done without the stewardship of our engineers, the Public Works Committee, Gary Watson, Stanley Sickels and each member of Council who served on the committee. He commended Engineers Ballard and Kosenski with saving the town a lot of money. Engineer Ballard noted that the savings was over \$1 million. Mayor Menna said he completely and totally disagreed with those who say the town should not work so hard to get grants and that he felt the majority of Red Bankers disagreed with them. He noted that if Red Bank didn't take advantage of them, some other town would. He said it was a great opportunity and he wanted to express his appreciation to everyone for working so hard on this.

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

Councilman Zipprich thanked Engineer Ballard for her stewardship and attention to detail in making the application for a portion of the American Recovery Act.

Councilman Murphy said he wanted to point out that most of the projects going on in town right now are a result of T&M's efforts in obtaining grants. He added that he thought everyone on the Council knew that T&M worked hard on those grants and they kept their ears and eyes open to get the right grants. He said surrounding towns get fewer grants and noted that Red Bank gets them more frequently because the town has the right people behind them. He said he also wanted to thank T&M for their leadership.

Councilwoman Horgan said she echoed Councilman Murphy's sentiments.

Engineer Ballard said she felt that the State put every obstacle possible in front of them but noted that they have been looking at the project for two years and finally getting it done was going to be great. She also noted that the improvements were not small items, but fifty year improvements.

Councilman Zipprich said it would be nice to see tax dollars return to the Borough and serve the taxpayers.

Mayor Menna said that was what he didn't understand when he heard at least one person criticizing saying the Borough shouldn't be applying for it because it was money that came from the taxpayers. He said his answer was that if Red Bank didn't apply for it, some other town will and the Borough will lose it. He added that that was the whole idea behind Cedar Crossing which they were criticized for years ago. He again noted that if Red Bank didn't take advantage of it someone else would and Red Bank citizens would still be contributing to it. He said this would be nice, because Red Bank citizens would be getting something back.

Councilwoman Horgan said this was especially good because Red Bank was getting something it sorely needed.

Mayor Menna agreed and said many other things were sorely needed so Red Bank was going to stay the course.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Zipprich, Horgan, Murphy

NAYS: None

There being three ayes and no nays, Mayor Menna voted aye and the resolution was declared approved.

AUDIENCE

Councilman Murphy offered a motion, seconded by Councilman Zipprich to close the audience portion of the meeting.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Zipprich, Horgan, Murphy

NAYS: None

There being three ayes and no nays, Mayor Menna voted aye and the motion was declared approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Zipprich, Horgan, Murphy

NAYS: None

There being three ayes and no nays, Mayor Menna voted aye and the motion was declared approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Borghi