

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL – BOROUGH OF RED BANK
MARCH 24, 2008
7:30 P.M.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

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

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

ABSENT: Councilman Curley.

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, 2008.

SUSPEND REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. DuPont offered a motion to suspend the regular order of business, seconded by Ms. Horgan.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

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

Presentation of Red Bank Borough Board of Education 2008-2009 School Budget

Superintendent Laura Morana and Business Administrator Annie Darrow gave a presentation on the 2008-2009 budget for the Red Bank Borough Board of Education. The presentation included an outline of issues impacting the development of the budget and the goals of the Board of Education. Ms. Morana noted that enrollment has been increasing over time growing every year at the Primary School level. She thanked the community partnerships for support. She reviewed the distribution of state aid and grants along with the Boards 2008-2009 initiatives. She reviewed the facilities' needs at the Middle and Primary schools along with revenue sources. She noted that the budget called for a one cent increase on the tax levy.

Mayor Menna thanked Ms. Morana for her presentation and asked if anyone on the Council had questions. Mayor Menna expressed his goal to keep an open dialog with the Board of Education and said this public presentation was an example of that. He noted that he spends a lot of time in the schools and that progress is ongoing. He noted that this budget shows that it can be done for about \$4 a month. He thanked Ms. Morana for restoring pride in the system.

Councilwoman Lee asked what the expected growth rate was. Ms. Morana answered that the Primary School was growing at a rate of 8.5% and the Middle School was fairly steady at one percent.

Mayor Menna asked for comments from the public.

David Prown, 44 Hillside Place, said he found the slide presentation interesting. He said he noted that both state aid and Special Education funding had nearly doubled. Ms. Morana noted that there had been some reallocation of staff and a change in the funding structure. She said the complete presentation will be on their website and there will be another public presentation on Saturday.

08-72 Mayor Menna read “A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2008 BUDGET OF THE SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT OF THE BOROUGH OF RED BANK.”

RiverCenter Director Nancy Adams and Board Member Robin Fitzmaurice said copies of the organization’s budget were available tonight or at their offices.

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

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

RESUME REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. Murphy offered a motion to resume the regular order of business, seconded by Mr. DuPont.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

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

WORKSHOP

Councilman DuPont said he would like to see an improved “green” status for Red Bank and wanted to institute or adopt policies to make that happen for an efficient government and environment. Policies he would like to see include a ban on plastic bags by January 1, 2009, taking cars off the road, solar panels on public buildings, reducing greenhouse emissions by switching vehicles to compacts and hybrids, developing the Riverwalk and bike paths and hosting a Green Fair. He said he believes the public schools should include environmental issues in the curricula for each child. He also said the borough should look into the Transit Village program and suggested cars could be reduced by 10 to 20 percent by highlighting public transportation. He asked the Mayor to form a “Cool Green Red Bank Committee.”

Mayor Menna responded that it was quite a list and that the Council would be happy to look at the suggestions. Mr. DuPont noted that Earth Day was the next Saturday and urged all residents to participate in a campaign to turn off all non-essential lights to reduce greenhouse gases. Councilwoman Lee noted that residents should also unplug appliances not being used to avoid a power drain.

Councilman Cangemi offered her comments on the list. She said she had met with a gentleman who runs vehicles on reclaimed vegetable oil. She said he lives cheaply and had driven to Florida and back on vegetable oil. She suggested the Borough consider converting a Public Works truck to try it. She said the gentleman takes the oil from local restaurants that pay him to remove it. He then filters it and uses it as fuel.

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS

REPORTS OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilwoman Cangemi reported that Red Bank Marines 6th Motor Transport came home this week and all are back with no injuries. Sgt. Major Robinson sent his thanks for the Borough’s support.

Councilwoman Horgan noted that at the last meeting she had mentioned that she would be attending a roundtable for the Mayor that was sponsored by the Monmouth County Cool Cities Partnership. She said the organization’s goal was to sustain communities and get cities involved in “Cooling America Through Local Leadership.” She said she is also interested in getting residents involved in the committee.

Councilwoman Lee reported that Rev. Porter had invited everyone to participate on April 26 in a Community Volunteer Work Day. She said there will be a meeting on March 27 at 7 pm at Pilgrim Baptist Church to discuss anticipated work projects. She also noted that the sign for “Unity Way” is now up at Montgomery Terrace. Mayor Menna reviewed how the name came about after a prayer service was held at the location.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Mayor Menna read a request from the Hamilton Jewelers to hold the 1st Annual New Jersey Ferrari Rally on Broad Street on June 22, 2008 from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m., already approved by RiverCenter and pending approval of the Special Events Committee and the Chief of Police.

Councilwoman Horgan asked how the rally will affect traffic and where the 75 cars will be parked. Administrator Sickels said the Special Events Committee and Police will work out the details once the Mayor and Council approve the event.

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

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

Mayor Menna read requests from Jersey Shore University Medical Center Foundation and Monmouth Rugby Football Club for raffle licenses.

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the requests were 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: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

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

ORDINANCES – First Reading

2008-3 Mayor Menna read “AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF RED BANK, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER XXV, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, SUBSECTION 8.27, “SIGNS.”

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

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

Public hearing and final adoption scheduled for April 14, 2008.

ORDINANCES – Public Hearing & Final Adoption

2008-8 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.”

Mayor Menna opened the public hearing and asked if anyone would like to speak.

Tony Sotto, 10 Regent Drive, Hazlet stated he was opposed to the ordinance. He noted that he is a Post Office employee and that he now parks on Pinckney and walks to the facility. He said he notices that there are no cars parked on Hudson Avenue. He requested that the Borough maintain the two hour limit.

Anna Downing, 69 Wardell Circle, Oceanport said she was also opposed to the ordinance. She said she was also a Post Office employee and that there was no place for them to park. She outlined the streets she currently uses noting that she moves her car every two hours.

Mayor Menna asked the employee, if there was a parking garage, would they pay a nominal fee to park. Most answered no.

Susan Kahn, 94 Branch Avenue, noted she is a Red Bank resident and a Post Office employee. She said, while she can walk from home, she sometimes brings her car and moves it every two hours. She noted that the employees support the local business for lunch and shopping. Councilman Murphy asked her what she thought the ideal situation would be. She said she would like to see parking permits for Post Office employees. Mayor Menna noted that the facility has parking but opts to use it for postal vehicles.

Kevin Readon, Hudson Avenue, noted that as a resident of the street, he was in favor of the ordinance. He noted that he can't park his car when he comes home. He says he pays for a train station permit and sympathizes with the situation, but noted that it is not just the postal employees, but other Broad Street institutions. He said it is not fair to the families, they want their block back.

Leonard Oakes, Postmaster, said he would like to address some concerns and act as a voice for the employees. He noted that he had been newly appointed and that this was his first concern. He said they have employees at the facility from 4 am to 8 pm. He suggested marking the street residential only from 6 pm to 6 am. Mayor Menna noted that the Federal Government had looked into a plan for a shuttle service and permit parking with Wachovia bank, but said it fizzled out because the employees didn't want to pay. He noted that some employees do pay for parking permits and have made arrangements. Mr. Oakes said they are working to find alternatives such as offering a spot for employee of the month. Councilman Murphy also suggested contacting the representatives of the Verizon property. Mr. Oakes said they currently use some of those spaces, but they worry that they could be taken away. Mr. Murphy noted that the Red Bank Catholic students face the same problem and repeated that there seem to be a lot of empty spaces at the Verizon property. He asked if anyone present could get them to consider opening their lot to other businesses. Mayor Menna said he would be happy to try to get a dialog going. Mr. Oakes said he thought there were liability issues. Mr. Murphy suggested the issue could be resolved with insurance. Mr. Oakes noted that the Post Office is self funded by the sale of stamps. He said they have no parking requirement for employees. He said he was just trying to help the employees who are servicing the community. He said he doesn't understand the logic. Councilman DuPont again suggested trying to enter into a payment arrangement with Wachovia or Verizon. Mr. Oakes said he can't, it would be up to the individual employees. Councilwoman Lee asked how many employees worked at the facility. Mr. Oakes said 138. Mr. DuPont asked how employees at New York City branches handle parking. Mr. Oakes said most use mass transit.

Tim Hogan, 105 Hudson Avenue, said he implored the council to let the residents have their street back. He understands the problems employees face, but said it is more than a few cars. He noted that Hudson Avenue had become the last bastion for parking with all of the sister streets having been marked residential only. He agreed with the statement that the employees start arriving at 4 am but noted that many cars are there until 10 pm. He said he was sympathetic but that it is a residential area and it should be residential parking.

Buddy Dugan, 366 Navesink Avenue, Atlantic Highlands, spoke regarding the Wachovia Bank proposition. He said he serves as shop steward and noted that there had been discussions with the bank and employees had offered to pay to park in their lot. He said the bank's answer was that they had periodic meetings where they needed their entire lot and that they couldn't give it up whether there was payment or not. He said they have also tried to work with Verizon, but they couldn't give more than 12 or 15 spots. He noted that Hudson Avenue is the last street available for parking since most have been converted to residential only.

Mayor Menna asked again, if a facility were available, would employees be willing to pay \$4 to \$5 per day. Mr. Dugan answered no.

Tom Doremus, 171 Hudson Avenue, said he sympathized with the employees, but felt it was a quality of life issue, not just a Post Office problem. He said his driveway is often blocked and it is not just Post Office employees that are the problem. He said employees at his downtown business either get a parking permit or go where they can feed the meters. He said the problem occurs three or four times per week. He noted the problem occurs during both day and night and again stated it is not just the Post Office that is the problem.

A postal carrier from 322 Delaware, Brick, noted that he had transferred from a small town, but they had a similar parking problem there. He suggested that if employees could provide a letter from the Postmaster, the town could consider giving non-residential worker permits for \$35 per year. He also noted that most Hudson Avenue residents had driveways for their use. Councilwoman Lee said if the town designated 20 spaces the Postmaster would have to determine who would get them. He suggested 20 on Hudson and maybe 10 on South Street. Attorney Pringle said the problem with the suggestion is that they couldn't offer it only to the Post Office, it would have to be first come, first served. It was suggested employees park at locations served by New Jersey Transit buses.

Adam Colley, 88 Hudson Avenue, noted that he lives right behind the Post Office and that he was in favor of the residential parking ordinance. He said he had a situation where the Department of Public Works had to replace a water main and by 7 am there were already five cars parked where they needed to dig. He said there are also constantly problems with leaf removal since when cars are parked in the leaves they don't get picked up for another week.

William Tye, 23 Bower Drive, Oceanport, noted that while he works at the Westboro office, he was at one time temporarily assigned to the Broad Street Post Office and was attending the meeting in support of his colleagues. He noted that taking away the parking will make it more difficult for the employees. He asked that since the Post Office facility's property went all the way through to Hudson Avenue, shouldn't the employee's be entitled to residential permits? He also said he didn't think the blocked driveway comments were fair. He asked if there were tickets issued or records of calls reporting blocked driveways.

Dawn Patterson, 1058 Windmere Drive, Aberdeen, stated she also objected to the ordinance. She asked the council to consider the number of employees, the hours they spend here and the shopping they do in town. She suggested they could stay away from the complaining houses and agreed the employees were aware of the need to not block driveways.

Sean Fagan, 167 Hudson, noted that he lives at the other end of Hudson away from the Post Office and that he felt the biggest problem in his end was overflow from the church. He said they had at least three meetings per week and there is always overflow onto the street. He said there are six newborn babies on the block and noted that they will be growing up on the street. He said the problem is much bigger than just Hudson Avenue. He repeated that it was not just a Post Office issue. He said he works from home and deals with the situation day to day.

Patrick Petrucci, 71 Center Avenue, Atlantic Highlands, said he has been a carrier for over 21 years and he was against the ordinance. He said the employees have always been respectful of the residents. He noted that the problem is, with limited parking on all of the other streets, all of the cars are coming to Hudson. He said the employees can't help the fact that there is no parking and noted that their union has been working on the problem.

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

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

Councilwoman Horgan said she sympathized with both sides. She said she would go ahead and vote for the ordinance, but would like to do something to help the Post Office employees.

Councilman DuPont said he wasn't sure why the Post Office doesn't find parking for its employees. He said the Post Office must bear the responsibility of finding parking for its employees or employees must use NJTransit or other alternatives.

Councilwoman Cangemi said she wanted to make clear that this ordinance was not aimed at the Post Office. She said the problem is greater and that, while Post Office employees may park responsibly, other organizations and schools are part of the problem. She said she would like to help the Post Office, but she must be responsible to the town.

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

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

2008-9 Mayor Menna read "AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF RED BANK, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER IXX, SANITATION, SECTION 19-10.3, "NONRESIDENTIAL COLLECTION."

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. Cangemi.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

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

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

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

RESOLUTIONS

08-65 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF CERTIFICATE NO. 2 AND CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 RELATED TO THE CONTRACT WITH MARK WOSZCZAK MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS, INC. FOR THE WATER MAIN IMPROVEMENT PROJECT."

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

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

08-67 Mayor Menna read “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TAX APPEAL SETTLEMENT REGARDING BLOCK 10, LOT 2, 239 SPRING STREET, RED BANK, NEW JERSEY.”

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

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

08-69 Mayor Menna read “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT CERTIFICATE NO. 2 AND CHANGE ORDER NO. 6 AND FINAL RELATED TO THE CONTRACT WITH LUCAS CONSTRUCTION GROUP, INC. FOR THE 2005/2006 ROAD PROGRAM.”

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

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

08-73 Mayor Menna read “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR ANIMAL WARDEN SERVICES WITH THE BOROUGH OF FAIR HAVEN.”

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

AYES: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

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

08-74 Mayor Menna read “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE FOR MIDSTATE SOLAR DISTRIBUTORS, BRIDGE AVENUE AND WEST BERGEN PLACE, BLOCK 75.01, LOT 77.02.”

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

AYES: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

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

08-75 Mayor Menna read “A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT GOVERNOR CORZINE, U.S. SENATOR FRANK LAUTENBERG, U.S. SENATOR ROBERT MENENDEZ, CONGRESSMAN FRANK PALLONE, CONGRESSMAN RUSH HOLT, SENATOR JENNIFER BECK, ASSEMBLYMAN DECLAN O’SCANLON, ASSEMBLYWOMAN CAROLINE CASAGRANDE AND THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS FOR THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH REJECT NEW JERSEY TRANSIT’S PROPOSED RAIL EXTENSION FROM RED BANK TO LAKEHURST FOR THE PROPOSED MONMOUTH-OCEAN-MIDDLESEX RAIL ROUTE.”

Councilman Murphy noted that he had met with NJTransit regarding this issue. He said currently the train gates go up and down in Red Bank 80 times a day and that this plan would add 30 more. He noted that we are part of a peninsula that empties to the parkway causing congestion and traffic along Bergen Place and Newman Springs Road. He said he was not in favor of this proposal in any way.

Mayor Menna noted that it was a quality of life issue and the plan would strangle the municipality.

Councilwoman Cangemi said she is personally affected by all 80 stops and knows what a strangle it is. She said the situation is already inefficient.

Mr. Murphy also noted that Red Bank is not an express location but sees every stop and also has buses coming through. He said we already have more stops than most towns and already do our share.

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

AYES: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

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

08-76 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION AWARDED CONTRACT FOR SPONSORSHIP AND PROMOTION FOR THE 2008 RED BANK SUMMER SERIES, PRODUCED BY THE RED BANK PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT."

Councilwoman Horgan asked for a clarification of how the funds were to be distributed. Administrator Sickels explained that the company would be soliciting sponsorship for Parks and Recreation programs and would keep a percentage of the funds they raised. Mayor Menna noted that it had been out to bid. Mr. Sickels said it has actually been put out to bid twice. Councilman DuPont questioned the organization receiving 39 cents out of every dollar raised. He asked if they could claim expenses on top of that. Mr. Sickels said he believed not. Mr. DuPont said the company would be raising funds for Red Bank children but creating a windfall for themselves. Councilwoman Cangemi noted that they would be raising funds for the program. Mr. DuPont said he felt the amount of money going to the business was too high. Ms. Cangemi said she believed it was the standard for this type of service and noted that the agreement would not cover money brought in by the Borough, only sponsorships the company itself brought in. Mayor Menna suggested the resolution be tabled. Mr. DuPont said he would like to review the contract and repeated that he thought their fee was excessive.

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

AYES: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

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

08-77 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING POTENTIAL SITE REMEDIATION AT THE RED BANK INCINERATOR AND FORMER MUNICIPAL LANDFILL."

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

AYES: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

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

08-78 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR ANIMAL WARDEN SERVICES WITH THE BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY."

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

AYES: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

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

08-79 Mayor Menna read “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR ANIMAL WARDEN SERVICES WITH THE BOROUGH OF LITTLE SILVER.”

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

AYES: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

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

08-80 Mayor Menna read “A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH’S CONSTRUCTION PLAN FOR THE INTERSECTION OF COUNTY ROUTE 34 (HARDING ROAD) AND PROSPECT AVENUE.”

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

AYES: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

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

PROCLAMATIONS

PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS

08-81 Mayor Menna read “A RESOLUTION FOR PAYMENT OF BILLS AMOUNTING TO \$1,415,234.66.”

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

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

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

AUDIENCE

Steven Hecht, Branch Avenue, Red Bank asked about Resolution No. 08-67 regarding a tax appeal. He questioned the decision to settle. Councilman DuPont said based on an income analysis, the income did not support the value assessed since many residents were Section 8 clients. He said that the Borough’s stance was based on the information provided, cost to litigate and the fact that they would lose.

Cindy Burnham, 146 Harrison Avenue, Fair Haven and owner of 71 Wallace Street, asked if Red Bank provided any public access to the river such as a boat ramp. Mayor Menna and Administrator Sickels both said no. Ms. Burnham asked if they foresaw doing so in the future. Mayor Menna said a waterfront plan hearing is coming in the next month and it calls for public access for residents. He said it would be wonderful to have, but funding is an issue. He said no state funds were available and, in his opinion, eminent domain was not an option. Ms. Burnham asked about including something in the Marine Park renovations. Mayor Menna said there was an issue in disturbing the clam beds. Ms. Burnham asked if the Borough owned the lot at the foot of Maple Avenue and suggested putting a ramp in the cul de sac. Mayor Menna suggested she bring her idea to the Waterfront Access Committee. Ms. Burnham asked how many years this had been an issue. Councilman Murphy asked is Ms. Burnham actually lived in Fair Haven. She said yes, but she wanted to put her boat in the water in Red Bank. Ms. Burnham commended the Borough on the Master Plan and Riverwalk plans calling it a “nice addition.”

Boris Kofman, 28 Riverside Avenue, asked if the Borough was considering selling the property at the foot of Maple Avenue. Mayor Menna said that is was being considered. Mr. Kofman said it would be unfortunate if it was sold and encouraged the Borough to invest in a Waterfront Access Plan. Mayor

Menna said the sale was one option. He said the Council needed to make a difficult decision to benefit the taxpayers. He said many were more concerned about putting food on the table than river access.

David Prown, 44 Hillside Place, thanked the Mayor and Council for inviting the Superintendent and School Business Administrator to make their presentation. He noted that Long Branch was a community with similar needs to Red Bank and that they had announced they will be opening a Community Center by 2010. He said it will be run by the Boys and Girls Club of America. He credited cooperation and partnership with making it happen. Mayor Menna noted that Long Branch has been engaged in redevelopment and PILOT agreements and has seen an infusion of cash that created the opportunity.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Murphy, Lee, DuPont, Cangemi, Horgan

NAYS: None

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

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Borghi