

**CITY OF ESTELL MANOR
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 7, 2010**

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act adequate notice of this meeting was sent to the Official Newspaper and was posted on the City Bulletin Board. Mayor Venezia called the meeting to order at approximately 7:06 pm.

FLAG SALUTE AND A MOMENT OF SILENCE WERE OBSERVED

ROLL CALL: Present: Barbetto, Giercyk, Myers, Teasenfitz and Venezia
Solicitor Scerni was also in attendance. The City Clerk was absent and the CFO Judson Moore, who is also an RMC, was present in her place. Clerk Typist, Fern Brown was present to take minutes.

ESTELL MANOR HISTORIC COMMISSION TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Mrs. Corinne Olsen addressed Mayor and Council in reference to a letter addressed to the Council from the Historic Commission regarding the sign at the Risley School. Cathy Cornew, secretary of the Historic Commission, stated the Commission wants the sign removed. She stated she wants to keep things peaceful between the two groups but would like the sign removed by a vote of Council. Corinne Olsen, chairperson for the Historic Commission, stated people get the two organizations confused and the Commission only wants to address historic issues. Mrs. Olsen stated the sign is a sight hazard at its present location. She does not suggest the sign be destroyed only moved to a safer location. Chris Ottaviano, member of the Historic Commission, stated the location of the sign is neither safe nor proper. Mr. Ottaviano thanked the Zoning Officer for attending the meeting and giving his account of the issue regarding sign. The Mayor replied to some of the statements made by members of the Historic Commission. He stated he would like to see a community bulletin board placed in a strategic location for all to see.

The Mayor had requested the City Zoning Officer, Wayne Caregnato be present at the meeting for his professional input to this topic. Documentation was provided by Mr. Caregnato in relationship to the permitting for the sign. Mr. Caregnato stated a Mr. Herdman, represented the Historical Society and approached him to apply for a zoning permit to place a sign on the Risley School property. Mr. Caregnato revoked the sign permit after investigating the issue further and learning that the sign placement had not been approved by the Historic Commission. Permission was granted to obtain a sign but not for the actual placement of the sign. Mr. Caregnato informed DCA official, Chuck Kane in writing of the revoked permit, but no response or final inspection had ever been performed to his knowledge.

Mayor Venezia questioned the initial issuance of the zoning permit. Mr. Caregnato answered the Mayor's questions of why the initial permit was issued. He stated he was given incorrect information regarding prior approval of the sign's location.

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A Motion was made by Mayor Venezia, seconded by Myers to remove the sign at the Risley School.

Mr. Scerni questioned when the zoning permit was revoked. Mr. Caregnato stated the initial permit was issued on March 1, 2008 and then he issued a stay revocation on March 4, 2008. Mr. Caregnato then stated he gathered more information regarding the permit application and lifted the stay and issued the final revocation on March 22, 2008. Mr. Caregnato stated the DCA officials have the authority to have the sign removed. He also stated he has notified all necessary parties involved.

Mr. Scerni questioned the enforcement mechanism in reference to this issue. Mr. Caregnato stated he has the authority to issue a summons to remove the sign after an abatement period. Discussion ensued. Mr. Scerni recapped the issue regarding the sign and advised Council not to supersede the City's enforcement policy.

Mr. Caregnato stated he would like more time to consult with the DCA officials to confirm his authority on this matter and the correct actions to be taken. Scerni advised Council to let the enforcement mechanism of the City take place and follow proper procedure; he suggested waiting until the Zoning Officer reported back after consulting with the DCA. He also stated the sign was most likely paid for with City funds and not grant monies. *Motions to remove the sign were withdrawn by the Mayor and Myers and it was decided that Council would wait for a follow up report from Caregnato.*

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A Motion was made by Barbetto, seconded by Teasenfitz to accept the bill list and trust fund account listing as presented by the CFO. Voice vote taken, all in favor.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Chuck Fralinger and Mr. Steve Nardelli from Fralinger Engineering were present to give the engineer's report. Fralinger addressed a letter the City received from the Atlantic County Planning and Regional Development office in regards to the City's Open Space Funding project. He gave an update on the soccer complex status and stated he would ask for an extension in response to the deadline set in the letter. He stated he would investigate the pot holes reported on Maple Avenue and contact Pierson Construction Co. regarding the damage possibly caused by their trucks. DOT funding was discussed and Council questioned if Mr. Fralinger had heard if any future State funding would be reduced to municipalities for road improvements. Which city roads would be next on the list for improvements were discussed. Bid limits were discussed with

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the CFO for advertising of road improvements. The Mayor and Councilman Teasenfitz discussed with Mr. Fralinger specific dates available to meet to discuss upcoming projects. The Mayor addressed the topic of the City's landfill site possibly being used as a solar power site. Discussion ensued.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Venezia asked for the minutes of January 20, 2010 to be tabled until the next regular business meeting.

APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Motion made by the Mayor, seconded by Barbetto to accept the Clerk's report '10, Pubic Works report '10. Voice vote taken and all were in favor

NEW BUSINESS

Motion made by Myers, seconded by Teasenfitz to approve an application for Stephen Novajousky to join the NJ State Fireman's Association. Voice vote taken and all were in favor

ORDINANCE/SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING

01-2010 An Ordinance Establishing Salaries and Renumeration for the City of Estell Manor Employees and Officials

A motion was made by the Mayor, seconded by Myers to open the public hearing portion of the meeting for public comment on Ordinance 01-2010

*Seeing that no one from the public asked to comment on the ordinance a motion was made by the Mayor, and seconded by Myers to close the pubic portion of the meeting.
Voice vote taken and all were in favor.*

A motion was made by the Mayor, seconded by Giercyk to adopt Ordinance #01-2010. Roll call: Barbetto – y, Giercyk – y, Myers – y, Teasenfitz – y, Venezia – y.

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RESOLUTION

- 37-2010** A Resolution Urging Atlantic City Electric to Conduct Vegetation Management in Accordance with the N.J.A.C. 14:5-9.1 seq.
Motions: Venezia / Giercyk
Voice vote: all in favor
- 38-2010** A Resolution Accepting a Grant from the Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Fund Public Entity Program through the New Jersey Economic Development Authority and the Department of Environmental Protection
Motions: Venezia / Giercyk
Roll call: Barbetto – y, Giercyk – y, Myers – y, Teasenfitz – y, Venezia – y.
- 39-2010** A Resolution Supporting the Implementation of a “No Passing Zone” on a certain Section of Route 50 within the City of Estell Manor
Motions: Teasenfitz / Myers
Voice vote: all in favor but for the Mayor who abstained
- 40-2010** A Resolution Amending the City of Estell Manor’s Personnel Policies and Procedures
Motions: Teasenfitz / Myers
Voice vote: all in favor

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Resident, Hal Goodman addressed council and made a statement about the school budget meeting held march 30, 2010. He questioned council on what steps they have taken towards the City’s budget. Mayor Venezia responded to Mr. Goodman’s questions by stating the City is losing financial State aid. Councilman Barbetto stated the City has scheduled a special budget meeting on April 14, 2010 to discuss the budget.

Resident, Tom Pogue representing the Historical Society commented on the Zoning Officer’s statements made earlier this evening in reference to the Risley School sign.

Resident, Joe Lea asked about reassessments or revaluations being conducted in the City. He also commented on taxes and the average assessed values of homes in Estell Manor. Mayor Venezia responded to Mr. Lea’s inquiry in reference to tax reassessments and stated the

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City is not conducting any reassessments or revals at this time. The Mayor requested the City Tax Assessor be available at the next business meeting to give an update on revaluations and the necessity of them.

Resident, Donna Lea commented on the current real estate sales in Estell Manor and the assessed value of her home. Tax reevaluations were discussed and how often they are required by the County. City Solicitor, Alfred Scerni offered an explanation of the requirements and the time frame of when an order would be issued to conduct one. Mayor Venezia questioned the CFO on the particulars involved to financially fund a Reevaluation.

Resident, Diane Pogue commented on the letter Council was sent from the Historical Commission regarding the Risley School sign. She stated the City does not own the sign and that several organizations contributed to the purchase of the sign. She stated the County Engineers Measured the sign at its present location and they stated it was fine.

Resident, Robyn Eccles commented on the vegetation maintenance resolution. She stated her employer, Atlantic Electric, will be trimming trees on the following streets, 9th, 10th and 11th. She stated Atlantic Electric would not be trimming personal property for residents. She also commented on the solar issue.

Resident, Donna Lea commented on the Risley School sign and the confusion that surrounded the issue.

Resident, Chris Haeser commented on concerns he had regarding the proposed soccer field and the deadline for open space funding. Mayor Venezia and Councilman Barbetto responded to his questions and the response deadlines.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Giercyk, seconded by Councilman Barbetto to close the public portion of the meeting. All in favor. With no further business to discuss, this meeting was properly adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

accepted:

Kimberley Hodsdon, RMC

Mayor, Joseph Venezia