

**CITY OF ESTELL MANOR
WORKSHOP MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 15, 2010
MINUTES**

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 and website. Mayor Venezia called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 pm.

ROLL CALL: Present: Barbetto, Giercyk, Myers, Teasenfitz and Venezia
Solicitor Scerni was not present for this special meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Regarding DPW equipment repairs, Council reviewed information provided by the DPW Foreman. The first item of discussion was the purchase of various things needed in order to completely equip the new dump truck, such as the plow and spreader. The Mayor questioned whether or not the tool box was included in the quote.

A motion was made by Councilman Teasenfitz, seconded by the Mayor to authorize the purchase of equipment for the new dump truck in accordance with the quote provided by the Dejana Dealership. A roll call vote was taken and all were in favor.

The next DPW item was the need to repair the old dump truck due to wiring problems. The Mayor stated possible transmission problems existed on the truck as well. Councilman Teasenfitz commented that he thought the DPW Foreman had the transmission problems under control with routine maintenance.

A motion was made by Councilman Teasenfitz, seconded by The Mayor to authorize repairs made to the old dump truck not to exceed the amount of \$2,000.00. A roll call vote was taken and all were in favor.

Councilman Teasenfitz expressed concern over the timing of having all of these repairs done at once and asked the Clerk to have the DPW Foreman provide regular status reports and expected completion dates.

The Mayor briefly explained to Council that the Estell Manor Fire Company has inquired whether the old fire truck could be donated to the County. Councilman Barbetto stated the City was not in a financial position to donate the truck; we need to sell it for whatever amount we could get. The Mayor agreed donating it would not be a good idea.

Discussion turned to the proposed ordinance to regulate recreational vehicles. Mr. Caregnato, the City's Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer, was present to answer any questions. He began by stating that the ordinance was not intended to cause problems for responsible ATV operators. The goal was to control irresponsible and annoying activity such as property damage or harassment of neighbors. Residents could file a complaint but would need to appear in court to prove any violation of the ordinance. Mr. Caregnato reminded everyone that Pineland and State regulations already

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existed, but the City lacked an enforcement tool on the local level. State lands are already controlled and this ordinance would not prevent anyone from riding their ATV for hunting or recreational purposes. Again, the goal is to provide a tool to curtail disturbances.

City Council allowed public comment and at least five residents of the City all voiced strong opposition to the ordinance. Discussion ensued between The Mayor, Councilman Teasenfitz and Mr. Caregnato. Some residents seemed to think that Council could have adopted this ordinance without them knowing. The City Clerk explained the legal process for adopting any ordinance, which includes a mandatory public hearing and advertisements in the official newspaper. *A motion was made by Councilwoman Myers, seconded by the Mayor to table the matter indefinitely. A roll call vote was taken and all were in favor.*

The next item on the agenda was a proposed ordinance to regulate underage drinking on private property. Councilman Teasenfitz commented to the audience that the purpose of this ordinance was to establish an element of deterrence and an enforcement tool. He explained the Judge's ability to impose or suspend both fines and driving privileges. With no objections on Council, it was decided the ordinance would be prepared for introduction in October.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Councilwoman Myers, seconded by Councilwoman Giercyk to renew an agreement with Eastern Armored Service for the collection of City bank deposits. A roll call vote was taken and all were in favor.

A motion was made by the Mayor, seconded by Councilwoman Myers to authorize an agreement with the ACUA regarding reduced rates under the County Flow Control Ordinance. A roll call vote was taken and all were in favor.

A motion was made by the Mayor, seconded by Councilman Teasenfitz to allow the City Clerk and Public Works Foreman to attend the League of Municipalities Conference in November, with one stipulation: Public Works to attend only on the days applicable courses are offered and certificates of completion must be submitted to Council by both employees. Mr. Teasenfitz also suggested a written report would be acceptable in lieu of certificates, if they were not being offered for a particular session. A roll call vote was taken and all were in favor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by the Mayor, seconded by Councilwoman Giercyk to approve the meeting minutes of 7/7/10. Voice vote and all were in favor.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Mayor reported the Tuckahoe Road Bridge project is supposed to be completed on or about December 1, 2010. He gave council an update on the project.

Councilwoman Myers stated she had received some telephone calls inquiring about Clean Communities Day. She said she would reach out to the groups who have participated in the past.

The Mayor stated he would be attending the Mayors Conference. He planned on discussing funding formulas with Trenton officials as well as school districts and their funding.

Councilman Teasenfitz said the City Clerk had provided a sample snow removal policy for him, the Mayor and DPW Foreman to review; he anticipates it will be in draft format and ready for full Council review in the near future. A brief discussion ensued regarding back up contractors for snow removal. The City Clerk explained city resident, Bill Dittus was willing to meet with council to help guide them through the process of contracts, costs and equipment requirements. Mr. Teasenfitz suggested we sit down with Mr. Dittus as soon as possible.

Councilman Barbetto reported on behalf of the finance committee. He distributed a list of proposed hourly rates for equipment usage to be charged to Corbin City for DPW shared services. He noted the proposed rates did not include labor. Mr. Barbetto thanked the City Clerk for giving him a list of FEMA equipment reimbursement rates; these rates are justifiable numbers to use, rather than attempting to formulate our own. Councilman Teasenfitz agreed it is a good idea to use the FEMA figures but questioned in what direction council was going with the concept of a shared services agreement. The Mayor stated in his personal opinion the department of public works was always in catch-up mode. He didn't see how we could provide services for another municipality when we can't seem to catch up with our own work. With regards to true 'snow emergencies' (established by amount of snowfall), Councilman Teasenfitz said they had addressed the matter early in their discussions with Corbin City and made it clear they would be responsible to contract those services in severe weather. Councilwoman Myers noted this is the kind of thing the Governor is asking municipalities to do – share services.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Myers, seconded by Councilwoman Giercyk to allow the finance committee to pursue further discussions with Corbin City regarding the shared services proposal. Voice vote - all in favor.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The Mayor stated in the past he had tolerated personal attacks during the public portion, but would no longer allow it under any circumstances.

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Resident Joe Jeffries commented on the cities cell phone towers. Chris Haeser made comment in answer to Mr. Jeffries inquiry. Mr. Haeser also answered council's questions regarding the Dorothy Fire Company cell phone project.

The Mayor asked if the technology committee had anything to report regarding Verizon adding their service to our cell tower. Mr. Barbetto stated he was unsuccessful at getting Verizon to answer his questions.

Resident Tom Pogue commented on the painting project at the Risley School and the possibility that the historic Parker Oak may be infected.

Resident Creed Pogue commented on the following issues; Waste Management hauling trash to Cumberland County versus Atlantic County, Councils attendance at the NJLM upcoming conference. Snow plowing options and zoning office complaints.

Seeing no one else from the public wishing to speak, the public portion was closed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

accepted:

Kimberley Hodsdon, RMC

Mayor, Joseph Venezia