

**CITY OF ESTELL MANOR  
WORKSHOP MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 17, 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 7:00 pm.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Barbetto, Gieryk, Myers, Teasenfitz and Venezia  
Solicitor Scerni was not in attendance.

Mayor Venezia expressed concern that the Solicitor was not present. Councilman Barbetto questioned the language in the Solicitor's contract – whether or not he is truly obligated to attend workshop meetings. The Mayor feels that he should be aware of things which are discussed at workshops so that he is prepared to give Council guidance when they vote on matters at regular business meetings.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Regarding the sale of city-owned property (DeCarlo lots) to the State, the Mayor advised Council that the land evaluation committee will be meeting with the Tax Assessor and will bring a recommendation to the next regular business meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mayor Venezia reported that the delivery date for the new DPW dump truck is still unknown. Discussion turned to the preparedness of the City for the next storm – forecasted for the upcoming week. Councilman Teasenfitz suggested they form a list of available contractors and their equipment types. Barbetto agreed and said that rates should also be approved by Council as well. The Mayor called on resident, Bill Dittus for his opinion. Mr. Dittus said that contractors should have been lined up back in the fall. As a contractor himself, he said that his services were secured in September by companies such as the Community College. The City needs to develop specifications of what its needs are based on equipment type and then negotiate rates and have these contracts signed well in advance of the winter season.

The Mayor advised Council that he had attended a County Freeholders meeting regarding the issue of solid waste flow control. He will keep Council updated as information becomes available. A brief discussion ensued over the difference in rates between Atlantic and Cumberland County facilities.

Council President Myers distributed suggested guidelines for the City newsletter. Among her suggestions was that Council review the newsletter before it is mailed. Councilman Barbetto noted that, in the past, Council reviewed and assembled the newsletter. The Mayor felt editorial rights were being taken away from him and he suggested the City continue to mail its own newsletter rather than using the Historical Society's. Councilman Teasenfitz commented that they should be concerned whether or not they are accomplishing the goal of communicating to the residents – rather

**CITY OF ESTELL MANOR  
WORKSHOP MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 17, 2010**

than who's in charge of it. *Mayor Venezia motioned and Teasenfitz seconded for the City to mail its own newsletter, dedicated solely to City business and let the Society include other organizations. A roll call vote was taken: Barbetto – n, Giercyk – n, Myers – n, Teasenfitz – n, Venezia – yes; motion defeated.* Myers' suggested guidelines were tabled for further discussion.

Council President Myers stated that the Health & Human Services Committee had nothing to report at this time. As for the Senior Citizen Committee, she stated that the Mayor, by ordinance, is to appoint this committee. This has not been done. Councilman Teasenfitz commented that the Office of Emergency Management should be aware of a registry of seniors and disabled persons with specific needs in emergencies. He described how the system works and suggested that he and Myers work to promote the concept; Myers agreed.

Councilman Teasenfitz reported on the possibility of collecting electronics on dumpster day. He called Waste Management and learned that they do not take these items and thus cannot be put in the dumpsters. ACUA charges \$5.00 per piece; he suggested the City might be able to collect the items and have DPW transport them.

Councilman Barbetto distributed copies of a newspaper article regarding a recent Pinelands Municipal Council meeting that he and Council President Myers attended. The topic of the meeting was alternative landfill covers and the NJDEP was present. He gave Council an overview of the meeting and said he felt positive that the DEP is becoming more receptive to the idea of alternative covers. Mayor Venezia said that he and Councilwoman Giercyk would be meeting with the DEP in the near future to discuss well-monitoring requirements.

Councilman Barbetto asked if Council still wished to pursue the renovations to the hallway – to make an office area for Emergency Management; *the Mayor replied yes and motioned to authorize the solicitation of quotes. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor.* Barbetto questioned the status of the floor replacement project. The Clerk explained that the DPW Foreman is handling the matter but has put it on hold due to recent snow storms.

There was a brief discussion lead by Council President Myers regarding professional dinner meetings. Councilman Teasenfitz recognized the efforts of DPW, OEM and various volunteers during the recent storms. The Mayor echoed the sentiment and said that he has thanked them all personally.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Bill Dittus asked about the City's emergency shelters. Teasenfitz replied that City hall is designated as a temporary staging area until residents could be moved to more adequate facilities. Mr. Dittus suggested the school should be equipped to become a shelter.

**CITY OF ESTELL MANOR  
WORKSHOP MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 17, 2010**

Giles Fox commented on the snow removal operations and commended the volunteers. He also commented on the newsletter and public participation guidelines.

Creed Pogue commented on the sale of DeCarlo lots, the newsletter, snow removal operations, flow control and the municipal court.

Tom Pogue commented on snow removal, the Historical Commission's public participation guidelines, County vs. City street signs, and the lighted advertising sign in front of the Risley School.

Diane Pogue commented on the City newsletter. She also expressed concern over how a certain member of Council handled the Donovan loan issue at the last meeting.

Seeing no one else from the public wishing to speak, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

accepted:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Kimberley Hodsdon, RMC

Mayor, Joseph Venezia