

**CITY OF ESTELL MANOR  
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 18, 2011**

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 7:40 pm.

For the record Council President, Stephen Teasenfitz stated the meeting could not start at the advertised time due to a lack of quorum.

**Roll call:** Present: Barbetto, Haeser, Teasenfitz, Wiker and Venezia  
Solicitor Scerni was also in attendance.

**PRESENTATION**

An Award of Merit was issued to Estell Manor resident and Volunteer Fire Company member, Stephen Sperlak for his selfless actions taken to assist an accident victim.  
The Mayor also acknowledged Fire Chief, Dan Collins for his past and present service to the Estell Manor community.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Fire Chief, Dan Collins provided Council with an update on the pending 911 dispatch servicing. A meeting with Gloucester County is to be scheduled to discuss equipment issues. A decision is on hold for the moment with hope of a meeting by June to finalize details and determine if Gloucester County is the right location to service Estell Manor. Deficiencies on the two cell towers that would service Estell Manor were discussed.

The Mayor stated he met the Atlantic County Sheriff over the weekend and inquired if they would be able to accommodate us for 911 calls.

Mr. Collins commented the Sheriff's Department could only offer limited services to our area. He stated Weymouth Township cell tower would be the most likely tower to utilize, but no meeting has been scheduled with Weymouth to date.

Fred Scerni reviewed the contract agreement with Gloucester County and stated everything looked to be in order, but certain issues needed to be resolved before the City is in a position to sign and approve a contract.

Mr. Collins stated licensing issues and equipment details need to be finalized.

Councilman Haeser asked Mr. Collins if Weymouth Township had updated their equipment to date or if they were still operating under the old system.

Mr. Collins continued to discuss with Council details of the issues that needed to be finalized before a final decision was made for 911 servicing.

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The Mayor stated the Atlantic County Freeholders have expressed interest in starting their own County Wide Dispatching Service but there is no certainty as to when it would be available. Mr. Collins suggested the City Clerk contact the head coordinator for Gloucester County technical department in response to setting a meeting date. Discussion ensued regarding moving forward with a contingency plan. The Mayor asked Mr. Collins to keep City Council posted on any new information he receives on this topic.

*Motion made by Mayor, seconded by Councilwoman Wiker to enter into Closed/Executive session for matters relating to personnel*

*Motion made by Mayor, seconded by Councilwoman Wiker to close Closed/Executive session and go into Open session.*

Mr. Scerni summarized the closed session discussions as follows. During executive session Council discussed matters relating to personnel specifically the public works department. Council has concluded to increase the part-time employee hours by five and one half hours per week. The position of the City Clerk was also discussed and it was determined that a resolution will be offered to appoint an Acting City Clerk at the June 1, 2011 meeting. The public will be made aware of the City Clerk's position at the June meeting.

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| <b>RESOLUTIONS</b> | <b>66-2011</b> A Resolution to Enter into Closed/Executive Session to Discuss Matters Relating to Personnel Matters                           |
|                    | <b>67-2011</b> A Resolution to Enter into an Agreement with the County of Gloucester to Provide Dispatch Services to the City of Estell Manor |

On hold until details regarding servicing and equipment are finalized.

- 68-2011** A Resolution to Appoint a City Forester

The Mayor asked Mr. Scerni to explain to Council the resolution details and the necessity of a Certified Forester. Councilman Haeser questioned the duties of a Forester. Mr. Scerni stated he was advised by the State that for purposes to maintain our plan we could hire a certified tree expert to meet our needs. He stated if the State will accept our requirements

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by City Code then we need to make changes to our Ordinance regarding Forester's. He suggested the Clerk contact CME Associates to inquire if they are still interested in the position.

*Motion made by Mayor, seconded by Haeser to table Resolution #68-2011 until the June 1, 2011 meeting.*

The Mayor suggested Mr. Scerni follow-up with CME Associates for the Forester position and their intent.

**69-2011** A Resolution of the City of Estell Manor Regarding an Appointment to the NJ Pinelands Commission

The Mayor explained to Council the reason for this resolution and our support of it. He proceeded to read the resolution aloud. He added an amendment to add District 1 to the list of agencies to provide a copy to.

*Motion made by Mayor, seconded by Teasenfitz to adopt Resolution #69-2011.  
Roll Call: Barbetto-No; Haeser-No; Teasenfitz-Pass; Wiker-No; Venezia-Yes; Teasenfitz-No  
Motion failed.*

Councilwoman Wiker suggested reintroducing the resolution in two weeks at the June 1, 2011 meeting to allow Council ample time to inquire about the candidate listed in the resolution. She also asked where Council members could attain more information about this candidate.

The Mayor stated the City Prosecutor had not been paid this year. He asked the Clerk to follow up on this.

Judson Moore stated he did not have the filing information from the Prosecutor in order to pay them.

Councilman Barbetto distributed to Council a draft proposal from Corbin City for Shared Services with Estell Manor for Public Works services. He requested the issue be placed on the June 1, 2011 agenda for discussion. A brief discussion ensued regarding the labor and rates paid to Estell Manor.

Councilman Haeser also distributed to Council a handout regarding "Going Green" in municipal government and asked if this item could also be placed on the June meeting's agenda.

*Motion made by Mayor, seconded by Barbetto to open public portion of meeting.*

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Resident, Creed Pogue addressed Council's need to inspect the camera bag left in the courtroom during closed session. He also addressed the Forester's position and responsibilities as well as Maple Avenue road improvements and Pierson Company's responsibility to maintain certain sections of the road.

Resident, Linda Kent addressed the Forester position and the fees the City currently have in our Code book regarding logging.

The Mayor stated there are other fees as well which need to be revised.

Resident, John Cunningham congratulated Council on their penny pinching efforts to cut expenses on the budget at the last meeting.

*Motion made by Mayor, seconded by Haeser to close the public portion of the meeting.*

Councilman Barbetto addressed the next newsletter submissions and the deadline to submit them. Creed Pogue stated June 3, 2011 was the intended deadline.

A brief discussion ensued regarding submissions for the newsletter from Council and the allowable content.

*Motion made by Mayor, seconded by Haeser to adjourn meeting at approximately 10:00 pm.*

*Voice vote, all in favor*

Respectfully submitted,

Accepted,

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Fern A. Brown, Acting City Clerk

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Mayor Joseph Venezia