

**CITY OF ESTELL MANOR
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
MAY 19, 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, Giercyk, Myers, Teasenfitz and Venezia
Solicitor Scerni was not in attendance. The City's CFO, Judson Moore, was present for the budget hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING / 2010 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Mayor Venezia motioned and Councilman Barbetto seconded to open the public hearing for the 2010 Municipal Budget.

Resident, Creed Pogue, distributed his own version of a budget worksheet to City Council. He then proceeded to explain his suggested changes in detail by line item, saying in the end that his suggestions would reduce the proposed budget by nearly four cents. *Mayor Venezia motioned to close the public hearing – no second; motion failed.*

Mr. Tom Pogue engaged in debate with the Mayor. The Mayor asked if there was anyone else wishing to speak on the budget, and seeing none, *he motioned to close the public hearing. Motion seconded by Myers. A voice vote was taken and a majority was in favor.*

The CFO explained the City was granted a levy cap waiver from the Local Finance Board and advised Council they could still make changes and amend the budget before adoption if they chose to.

CLOSED SESSION

Resolution 46-2010 A Resolution Providing for a Closed Session Not Open to the Public in Accordance with the Provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, Regarding Contract Negotiations / Interviews for City Forester

Following the closed session, Mayor Venezia summarized for the public as follows: City Council has just conducted interviews with two individuals for the position of City Forester. Council will be voting on this appointment this evening and for the record, I have been advised by the Solicitor to abstain on this matter in its entirety.

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Resolution 46-2010 (A)

Council President Myers motioned and Teasenfitz seconded, for the appointment of Mr. J. Scott Worrell for City Forester. Roll call: Barbetto – yes, Giercyk – yes, Myers – yes, Teasenfitz – yes, Venezia –abstain.

NEW BUSINESS:

(Participation in the SJPC bid for Electric Service) Mayor Venezia said that everyone has had an opportunity to read through the information and asked if anyone had questions. The Clerk took a moment to explain to Council that it was a cooperative purchasing agreement with the County (Camden); the County would be take the lead in advertising and awarding the contract to the lowest bidder. The decision before Council was whether or not to participate in the cooperative. *A motion was made by Teasenfitz, seconded by Giercyk to participate. Voice vote taken and all were in favor; motion carried.*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Venezia reported he met with the Emergency Management Coordinator and provided Council with an overview of what was discussed. He stated the City needed to set up certain accounts – authorizing the Coordinator to make certain purchases during non-business hours. He also said that the City needs to have contractors lined up for snow removal operations. The Mayor also suggested the City should purchase a pick-up truck for use by public safety/OEM and for use in snow removal. Councilman Teasenfitz referred to a letter written by the Emergency Management Coordinator whereby he explained to Council the snow removal operations was not the responsibility of the OEM; it is a DPW function. Teasenfitz agreed that the City should start looking into stand-by contractors for winter operations. A brief discussion took place over the status of various equipments repairs and needs in DPW. Mayor Venezia made mention of possibly renovating a hallway area in City Hall to accommodate new office space for the OEM.

Regarding the quarterly newsletter, Mayor Venezia expressed concern that he, as the editor, was not given the opportunity to review the last one before it was mailed out. He said he had received several complaints from residents upset that the Historical Society's page included personal and political attacks. He suggested that Council should take back the City's newsletter and let the Society handle other organizations. Councilman Barbetto reminded everyone that this service was free to the City. Council President Myers encouraged Council to establish guidelines for the newsletter.

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Council President Myers reported the City would be receiving over \$6000 this year for Clean Communities. Councilwoman Giercyk reported the Spring Dumpster Day was a success with all six dumpster being filled; the City took in \$65.00 for tires collection and the electronics recycling program was well-received.

Councilman Teasenfitz reported the DPW Foreman met with DOT officials that morning regarding Council's concerns over the detour routes for the Tuckahoe Road Bridge project. He had not had the opportunity to speak with the Foreman prior to the meeting and said he would report more at the next meeting.

Councilman Barbetto reported the next Pinelands Municipal Council Meeting is set for May 26th in Woodbine. He distributed copies of the quote he received for a new laptop computer (and related wiring) for the Emergency Management Coordinator and a brief discussion took place. *Councilman Barbetto motioned and the Mayor seconded to accept the quote and authorize the purchase; a roll call vote was taken and all were in favor.*

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Resident Cathy Cornew commented on the newsletter.

Creed Pogue commented on the newsletter, the historical commission and snow removal operations.

Diane Pogue commented on the historical sign on the Risley school building and the history of the building between 1911-1913.

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

A brief discussion ensued over court security and at City Hall in general. With no further business to discuss, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

accepted:

Kimberley Hodsdon, RMC

Mayor, Joseph Venezia