

The **March 14, 2016** meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Spring Lake Heights, Monmouth County, New Jersey was called to order by Mayor Thomas O'Brien at 7:00 p.m. in the Frank E. Adams Municipal Building.

Present:

Councilman Christopher Campion  
Councilman Arthur Herner  
Councilwoman Sara King  
Councilman Robert Merriken  
Councilman James Shuler  
Councilman Thomas Vorbach  
Mayor Thomas O'Brien

Absent: None

Also Attending:

Janine Gillis, Borough Clerk  
Joseph J. Delaney, Jr., Administrator  
Gary McLean, Esq., Borough Attorney

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: Resolution No. R2016- 60** Authorizing an Executive Session

**Personnel:** Borough Engineer, Alternate Prosecutor, Alternate Public Defender & Personnel Policies

**Attorney Client Privilege; Council Absence**

On a motion by Mr. Merriken, seconded by Mrs. King, Resolution R2016-60 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Campion ,Mr. Herner, Mrs. King, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler, Mr. Vorbach  
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

**8:00 p.m.-PUBLIC SESSION:CALL TO ORDER ▪ SILENT REFLECTION ▪ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

Present:

Councilman Christopher Campion  
Councilman Arthur Herner  
Councilwoman Sara King  
Councilman Robert Merriken  
Councilman James Shuler  
Councilman Thomas Vorbach  
Mayor Thomas O'Brien

Absent: None

Also Attending:

Janine Gillis, Borough Clerk  
Joseph J. Delaney, Jr., Administrator  
Gary McLean, Esq., Borough Attorney

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

The Mayor reported the meeting was being conducted pursuant to the requirements of the N.J. Open Public Meetings Act with notice included in the annual notice of meetings sent to the Coast Star and Asbury Park Press; posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and on the Borough website.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

- Mayor O'Brien asked for a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Resolution Nos. 2016-65, Appointing Joseph May as Borough Engineer; 2016-66, Confirming appointment of Alternate Prosecutor – Brian Wilton; 2016-67, Confirming the appointment of Alternate Public Defender-Raymond Raya; 2016-68: Authorizing the absence of Councilman Vorbach.

On a motion by Mr. Campion, seconded by Mr. Shuler, the agenda was approved as amended, by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Campion, Mr. Herner, Mrs. King, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler, Mr. Vorbach  
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

**APPROVE MINUTES**      Executive Session - February 8, 2016  
Executive & Regular Session - February 22, 2016

On a motion by Mr. Merriken, seconded by Mr. Shuler, the minutes of **February 8, 2016** Executive Session was approved, by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Campion, Mr. Herner, Mrs. King, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler  
Nays: None      Abstain: Mr. Vorbach      Absent: None

On a motion by Mr. Merriken, seconded by Mr. Shuler, the minutes of **February 22, 2016** Executive & Regular Session was approved, by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Herner, Mrs. King, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler  
Nays: None      Abstain: Mr. Campion, Mr. Vorbach      Absent: None

**PRESENTATIONS** - None

**SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS** - None

**PUBLIC COMMENT** (Agenda items only) None Presented

The voice of the public was closed on a motion by Mrs. King and seconded by Mr. Merriken without objection.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- Sustainable Jersey Municipal Program

Documentation had been provided by Ms. Crippen to Mayor and Council about Sustainable NJ; Ms. Crippen had been appointed as a contact person for the Borough via Resolution #159-2009 and authorized to submit an application on behalf of the Borough. Ms. Crippen submitted a request on behalf of the Environmental Commission that Lisa Ball-O'Brien and Sandy Denison be appointed as the Borough's contacts. Borough Clerk, Janine Gillis informed Mayor and Council that she had spoken to the organization and that a new resolution wasn't necessary; that she could update the contact information, Mayor and Council had no objection to the change.

- Paint The Town Pink Program

Janine Gillis, Borough Clerk, reported that Mayor and Council had received a request from Meridian to participate in their "Paint The Town Pink" campaign and that one of our residents had volunteered to act as a chair person. Mrs. Gillis reported that there was a little confusion between Spring Lake Heights and Spring Lake and that she was awaiting a reply from Meridian as to which town had a representative. She reported that if it was not for Spring Lake Heights that she and Mary Ellen Karamus would represent Spring Lake Heights. She explained that Meridian would supply 100 bows and a banner that could be displayed using the JCP&L poles but that it required a permit. Councilman Herner stated that the Fire Company had hung banners across Highway 71 in previous years. Mrs. Gillis asked for authority to move forward with obtaining the necessary permit; Mr. Herner made a motion to move forward with the permit application; seconded by Mr. Merriken with no objection. Councilman Vorbach offered thanks for taking on the project.

**MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilman Herner – reported that Summer Camp will run from June 27<sup>th</sup> through August 25<sup>th</sup> Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. He also stated that he will be looking to advertise for an onsite camp director.

Councilman Campion – reminded all that it's budget time; he reported that budget documents would be distributed to council on the 18<sup>th</sup>, with an introduction on March 28<sup>th</sup> and a public hearing on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

Councilman Vorbach – no report

Councilwoman King – stated that there has been talk about the lack of training of the Spring Lake Heights Police in the area of autistic and disabled persons. She stated that our officers received the required training back in 2010. She reported that within the next month the Police Chiefs Association of Monmouth County will be conducting a new training program and the Spring Lake Heights Police Department will participate, when the details are finalized, she will update everyone.

Councilman Shuler - reminded everyone that the Borough had received grant money for improvements to the community center and that it's in the beginning stages and that we are awaiting on a proposal from the architect. He hoped to have something for the next council meeting.

Councilman Merriken – no report

#### **REPORTS, NOTICES & CORRESPONDENCE**

- Monthly Police Department Report – January 2016
- Monthly Police Department Report – February 2016
- Municipal Court Revenue – February 2016
- Public Hearing Notice, April 5 & May 6, 2016 -Township of Middletown: Sale of Surplus Property
- Public Notice – Borough of Spring Lake Re: Permit for Living Shoreline & Berm
- Public Hearing Notice, March 22, 2016 - JCP&L
- Monmouth County Regional Health Commission – Sale of Surplus Vehicle
- Invitation from Monmouth County Improvement Authority – Information Session, April 5, 2016
- County of Monmouth-Mosquito Control Division – Treatment Operations
- Verizon Wireless – Small Network Nodes

Councilman Herner asked about the public notice from Spring Lake and if the proposal would affect Spring Lake Heights. Mr. Delaney reported that the work being done was east of the railroad tracks, Mr. Herner added that despite where work was going to be done, that potentially we would be affected. Mr. Delaney added that some dredging has been done in Wreck Pond. He also stated that at one time there was an offering to come and speak and if council felt it necessary it would make those arrangements; council agreed that it would be good.

#### **ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS** None

#### **RESOLUTIONS**

- **R2016-61**, Authorizing a tax lien redemption, Block 42.03 Lot 31

On a motion by Mr. Merriken, seconded by Mr. Shuler, Resolution R2016-61 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Campion ,Mr. Herner, Mrs. King, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler, Mr. Vorbach  
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

- **R2016-62**, Supporting April as Alcohol Awareness Month

On a motion by Mr. Shuler, seconded by Mr. Merriken, Resolution R2016-62 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Campion ,Mr. Herner, Mrs. King, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler, Mr. Vorbach  
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

- **R2016-63**, Authorizing appropriation from Capital Improvement Fund to provide for Licensed Remediation Professional services to evaluate Public Works Facility

On a motion by Mr. Shuler, seconded by Mr. Merriken, Resolution R2016-63 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Campion ,Mr. Herner, Mrs. King, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler, Mr. Vorbach  
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

- **R2016-64**, Authorizing the payment of claims on the March 10, 2016 Bill List.

On a motion by Mr. Merriken, seconded by Mr. Shuler, Resolution R2016-64 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Campion ,Mr. Herner, Mrs. King, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler, Mr. Vorbach  
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

- **R2016-65**, Appointing Joseph May as Borough Engineer.

On a motion by Mr. Merriken, seconded by Mrs. King, Resolution R2016-65 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Campion ,Mr. Herner, Mrs. King, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler, Mr. Vorbach  
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

- **R2016-66**, Confirming appointment of Alternate Prosecutor – Brian Wilton.

On a motion by Mr. Merriken, seconded by Mr. Shuler, Resolution R2016-66 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Campion ,Mr. Herner, Mrs. King, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler, Mr. Vorbach  
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

- **R2016-67**, Confirming the appointment of Alternate Public Defender-Raymond Raya.

On a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Merriken, Resolution R2016-67 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Campion ,Mr. Herner, Mrs. King, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler, Mr. Vorbach  
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

- **R2016-68**, Authorizing the absence of a Councilman Vorbach.

On a motion by Mr. Merriken, seconded by Mrs. King, Resolution R2016-68 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Campion, Mr. Herner, Mrs. King, Mr. Merriken, Mr. Shuler  
Nays: None Abstain: Mr. Vorbach Absent: None

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT (Any item)**

- Paul Murphy 816 Greenwood Drive - reported that he had gone through the tax appeal process and wanted to inform council of his experience. He stated that the county officials were very good but the hearing process was very intimidating. He felt there was a disadvantage in receiving the comps only one week in advance of the hearing date. He felt the Tax Assessor wasn't very fair and that with this new process how he could do his job when he's only in the office for one hour a week.

Councilman Shuler added that the inspector was at his home and that he wasn't very understanding that his property on Shore Road was in a flood zone.

- John Tangeman 564 Atlantic Avenue - offered that the Tax Assessor is a tenured position and didn't think there could be alterations to his schedule. He asked when council would be making a decision about opting out of the program; Mayor O' Brien replied that the deadline date was the end of April. Mr. Delaney added that the county officials that had been at a previous council meeting had stated that changes to the program would be forth coming. He asked if council would be able to change his hours; Attorney McLean stated that he would research that question. Councilman Campion suggested a shared service for those duties. Councilman Herner suggested that council speak to the assessor and address the residents' concerns.

Mr. Tangeman stated that the property known as Fletcher looks very nice; he suggested that picnic tables and benches be installed so that the public could enjoy the park.

- Steve O'Dowd 39 Apple Drive – stated that he had appealed his assessment; he felt that the assessed values in particular at Fairway Mews are flawed. He stated that he has compiled figures detailing this and would like to submit them to someone in the borough and discuss. Mr. Delaney accepted his documents and would meet with Mr. O'Dowd.

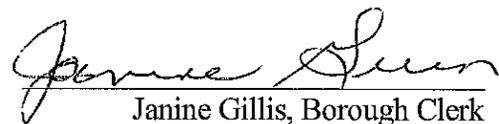
- Rosemary Luisi 813 Central Avenue - thanked Mrs. King for the information tonight with regard to the Police Training. She has autistic teenagers and would like to encourage the additional training.

- Beth Bernardo 610 Monmouth Avenue – stated that she didn't file a tax appeal and stressed how she is over assessed. She stated that she had given her information about attending training for residents when called upon for assistance with disabled persons but that she hasn't heard anything. Councilman Campion reminded her that he had intentions of doing training when the weather got warmer.

The voice of the public was closed on a motion by Mrs. King and seconded by Mr. Shuler without objection.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Merriken, seconded by Mr. Shuler, the meeting was adjourned without objection at 9:00p.m.

  
Janine Gillis, Borough Clerk

Approved: March 28, 2016