

The **March 31, 2014** special meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Spring Lake Heights, Monmouth County, New Jersey, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council President Christopher Tienken in the absence of Mayor Maccanico in the Frank E. Adams Municipal Building.

Present:

Councilwoman Patricia Cindea  
Councilwoman Sara King  
Councilman Thomas O'Brien  
Councilman James Shuler  
Councilman Christopher Tienken

Absent:

Mayor Gavino Maccanico  
Councilman Thomas Vorbach

Also Attending:

Joseph J. Delaney, Jr., Administrator/Borough Clerk  
Scott Kenneally, Esq., Borough Attorney

There were no members of the public present.

On a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Shuler, **Resolution R2014-67**, authorizing an Executive Session to discuss the Public Works Superintendent appointment was adopted without objection. The public meeting was recessed at 7:07 p.m. and the Executive Session convened in the Conference Room.

**Executive Session.** Borough Administrator/Clerk Delaney reported on the status of plans to fill the Public Works Superintendent.

The Executive Session was adjourned at 7:15 p.m. without objection.

**Public Session.** The public session was called to order at 7:34 p.m. by Council President Tienken and opened with a silent reflection and Pledge of Allegiance.

Present:

Councilwoman Patricia Cindea  
Councilwoman Sara King  
Councilman Thomas O'Brien  
Councilman James Shuler  
Councilman Christopher Tienken

Also Attending:

Joseph J. Delaney, Jr., Administrator/Borough Clerk  
Scott Kenneally, Esq., Borough Attorney  
David Petriken, Police Chief  
Joseph May, P.E., Borough Engineer  
Tom Seaman, CFO/Tax Collector  
John Barrett, PM Consultants

Absent:

Mayor Gavino Maccanico  
Councilman Thomas Vorbach

There were 7 members of the public present.

**STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE.** The Clerk announced the meeting was being conducted pursuant to the requirements of the N.J. Open Public Meetings Act with 48 hour prior notice transmitted to the Coast Star newspaper and posted on the Borough website and in the Municipal Building. The Clerk also announced the meeting is being held to discuss the 2014 Municipal Budget and related matters and proposed park improvements.

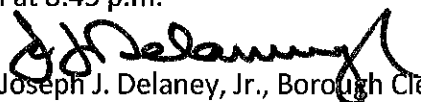
**DISCUSSION ITEMS.**

- **Park Improvements Project** – Borough Engineer May detailed the planned improvements to Ocean Road and Allaire Road parks, reported on the bids received on the project, and recommended a contract award to Thor Construction with a projected start date in May and completion in August. Mr. May noted \$180,000 Monmouth County Grant is partially funding the project.

- Mrs. Cindea requested copies of the insurance endorsements.
- Mrs. King asked about the playground drainage issues, if the restrooms will be updated and if the tot-lot will be fenced. Mr. May reported drainage is being addressed; the Ocean Road restrooms are being renovated to match those at Allaire Road which were renovated two years ago; and no fence is currently planned.
- Mr. Tienken suggested the contract award be held until the next meeting.
- **2014 Municipal Budget Review**
  - Borough Administrator Delaney noted the budget proposes a 1.5 cent tax rate increase and begins the process of restoring full funding for Borough operations and capital needs. Mr. Seaman and Mr. Barrett were introduced to answer any technical budget questions.
  - Councilwoman Cindea questioned the level of revenues which are being anticipated, particularly in the grants section, and the projected costs for pensions and health insurance, noting large increases in these areas in previous years.
  - Councilman O'Brien requested a detailed listing of the Fire Department appropriation and total costs.
  - Councilwoman King questioned Chief Petriken on the condition of the various police vehicles; and requested background on the shared services costs.
  - Councilwoman Cindea requested an explanation of the increased utility revenues and the surplus available. Mr. Barrett provided a 3-year history of water-sewer revenues and noted the utility operated at a deficit two years ago.
  - In response to questions from Councilman Tienken, John Barrett, PM Consultants, provided an explanation on the Budget Cap Index ordinance and recommended such an ordinance be adopted. Mr. Barrett described the budget as "bare-bones." Borough CFO Seaman stated his agreement with the proposed budget. Councilwoman Cindea expressed support for the Cap ordinance.
  - Councilman Tienken requested a resolution be prepared regarding State Aid and the loss of energy tax revenues; and requested funding for his salary be split among the Beautification and Environmental committees.
  - Mrs. King requested the Mayor and Council salaries be maintained as in previous years and not increased.
  - Councilman O'Brien stated his goal to provide a realistic budget to fund the town's needs.
  - Councilwoman Cindea requested the Beautification Committee be budgeted at \$5,000.

**PUBLIC COMMENT.** There were no public comments or questions.

**ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Mrs. King, the meeting was adjourned without objection at 8:45 p.m.

  
Joseph J. Delaney, Jr., Borough Clerk