

The September 21, 2020 regular session of the Borough Council of the Borough of Spring Lake Heights, Monmouth County, New Jersey was called to order by Mayor Campion at 7:00 p.m. in the Frank E. Adams Municipal Building with a moment of silence and a salute to the flag.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Councilman Leonard Capristo
Councilman John Casagrande
Councilman William Graetz
Councilwoman Sara King
Councilman Christopher Willms
Mayor Christopher Campion

Absent:

Councilman James Shuler

Also attending:

Dennis Collins, Borough Attorney

Mayor Campion and council members were present in the municipal building, along with Borough Attorney Dennis Collins, the meeting was also available via virtual means.

Mayor Campion announced: Pursuant to the requirements of New Jersey's Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting was included in the Annual Meeting Notice filed in the Office of the Borough Clerk; posted on the Borough website and in the Municipal Building; published as a legal notice in the Coast Star newspaper; and mailed to those requesting notice and providing payment.

APPROVE AGENDA

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mrs. King, the agenda was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Shuler

APPROVE MINUTES - September 8, 2020

On a motion by Mr. Graetz, seconded by Mr. Willms, the minutes of September 8, 2020, were approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Shuler

PRESENTATIONS – Presentation to Retired Captain Robert Shafer

Police Chief Gunnell congratulated Captain Bob Shafer on his retirement and thanked him for his years of service to SLH Police Dept. He added that Bob helped to advance the department to accreditation standards; he will be missed. Captain Shafer thanked the Board of Education, mayor and council, front office staff and John Barrett. He said he was most proud of 3 things: his family, his work with the Avon BOE, and the Police Dept. accreditation. He Congratulated his fellow officers; praised Chief Gunnell for his hard work, advised mayor and council to “never let him go”. Mayor, council members and Mr. Barrett thanked Captain Shafer, congratulated him and wished him well.

- **R2020-134**, Granting Permission to Receive Service Firearm to Robert Shafer

On a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Graetz, Resolution No. 2020-134 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Shuler

DISCUSSION ITEMS – None

MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Willms – no report

Mr. Capristo – no report

Mr. Graetz – no report

Mr. Casagrande – no report

Mrs. King – reported on the tree committee work for Allaire Road Park tree replanting. She explained that the borough received approval on Green Acres \$75,000 grant on 10/23/19. The committee has been meeting for almost a year trying to devise a plan. At last council meeting, she reported on the plan to plant/remove trees referred to as phase 1. She advised that Burke Environmental & engineer Lou Lobosco have volunteered their own time putting a plan together with the cost of the first phase coming to about \$28,000. We adopted a resolution to appoint a QPA. She stated that Mr. Barrett had said we would meet with borough attorney; we did not meet but council did receive a memo from Mr. Barrett. Mrs. King spoke with borough attorney about project which included whether to move forward with this phase of project or wait and do total project; a decision the committee would need to decide.

Mayor clarified we have not delayed the project; he was curious if we can get possible extension of grant due to unusual circumstances under COVID.

Attorney Collins explained contract law is affecting timeline of project: we spoke of hiring a QPA which would increase the bidding threshold; QPA advised that the project would require another written quote. Mr. Collins explained that we cannot piecemeal a project to avoid the bidding threshold. The committee had only come to a decision of phase one of the project. The committee and council need to decide to either move forward with phase one and then wait 12 months for further work OR come up with a complete plan for entire project, get bids and plant in Spring.

Mayor asked when the best planting season is; Mrs. King responded August to November or March to July. Mr. Collins advised to keep in mind lead-time required in getting bids etc. Mayor asked if we should act now to exercise a certain \$ amount.

Mr. Barrett apologized for miscommunication about meeting; his understanding was that he would get back to Mrs. King with information. Mr. Barrett advised that we make it an open and fair process of getting bids; recommended a thorough plan focusing on development of entire property.

Mr. Capristo asked if we aren't under a time constraint, is it best to go with the bidding process; we need to find the best course of action.

Mr. Barrett suggested Mrs. King go back to committee, get a consensus on plans, bring them forward, get bid specs done and be ready for Spring planting. Funds will be there in Open Space Trust next year; will get written confirmation that grant will be there as well.

Mrs. King responded that the committee did in fact have preliminary plans for phase 2, she will get information to Mr. Barrett.

Mr. Casagrande thanked Mrs. King for all her hard work on committee; frustrating to delay planting but looking at whole scope of project and respecting procurement law is advisable.

Mr. Graetz clarified with Mrs. King that area of planting does not include grove area; echoed opinion of other council members, would rather see us look at entire scope of project, get everything done at once, even if it is in the Spring.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Any Item)

On a motion by Mr. Graetz, seconded by Mr. Casagrande, the public comment section was opened, by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Shuler

Anna Kuntz, 2005 Parkview Terrace, stated that she had spoken with Chief Gunnell about the streetlights that are off in neighborhood and that JCP&L has been unresponsive. Mayor Campion will connect and follow up with them. Mr. Casagrande stated that residents can call JCP&L; Ms. Kuntz replied yes, they have. In respect to tree project, Ms. Kuntz asked who will pay for drawings. Mrs. King added there are plans and tree choices. Mr. Barrett responded we would have to hire someone, and use Open Space Trust funds. People have asked when we are planting according to Ms. Kuntz.

Peg Melchione, 2 Jeanette Ct., thanked Mrs. King & council for discussion; disappointed the committee did not get good advice at beginning. She added that people enjoy park, the plan includes possible trails and benches too. Asked about paying Burke for his time and services. Mr. Barrett said he was a volunteer; there was no authorization to pay anyone at this point. Mr. Collins replied volunteers cannot expect to get job. Mrs. King said there was no promise on our part that Burke would get contract to do job.

Ms. Kuntz asked about box to deliver ballots for upcoming election. Mrs. Gillis responded that there will be 17 boxes throughout Monmouth County. Residents are permitted to drop off their ballots here at borough hall on Election Day.

Eileen Eilenberger, 1213 Pond Road, mentioned we pay JCP&L for streetlights. Mayor will be reaching out tomorrow. Also mentioned she worked with Bob Shafer on "Friday gym nights" years ago, which were very successful and fun for the kids, she appreciated all of his volunteerism.

Mayor reminded all about hydrant flushing this week.

On a motion by Mr. Graetz, seconded by Mr. Casagrande, the public comment section was closed, by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Shuler

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS - Ordinance No. 2020-04

An ordinance repealing Chapter XXII, Article II entitled "Creation of Boards" and adopting a new Article II to be entitled "Creation of Land Use Board"

On a motion by Mr. Graetz, seconded by Mr. Willms, the public hearing was opened, by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Shuler

Attorney Collins said he received comments/corrections in wording of ordinance; corrections were made but there were no substantive changes.

Eileen Eilenberger asked if rules and regs will be adopted. Mr. Collins said board will adopt them. Mrs. Eilenberger commented that a positive of combining boards is that Master Plan will be followed; does not necessarily mean there will be great monetary savings; also residents and

businesses may have to wait 2-3 months to appear before board; lastly, several members will have to be told we do not need their services any longer.

Fred Manger, 61 Wyckham Road, thinks it is a good idea to combine boards; people may have to wait a long time; possibly will need to have a 7-11pm meeting time; some applications may take multiple meetings to come to a decision.

Mayor Campion and Mr. Collins said it will be up to board to decide meeting schedule, there could be 2 meetings a month.

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mr. Willms, the public hearing was closed, by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Shuler

On a motion by Mr. Willms, seconded by Mr. Casagrande, Ordinance No. 2020-04 was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Shuler

REPORTS, NOTICES & CORRESPONDENCE -

- Spring Lake Heights Police Department – August 2020 Report
- Spring Lake Heights Municipal Court Report – August 2020
- Spring Lake First Aid Squad Report – August 2020
- Independent Fire Co. #1 Report – August 2020
- JCP&L Public Hearing September 21, 2020 Re: Service Charges
- Borough of Deal Resolution Opposing All Mail In Ballot Election
- Township of Colts Neck Resolution Opposing All Mail In Ballot Election
- Township of Millstone Resolution Opposing All Mail In Ballot Election
- Borough of Shrewsbury Resolution Opposing All Mail In Ballot Election
- Spring Lake Heights Board of Adjustment Public Hearing September 24, 2020
- Spring Lake Heights Board of Adjustment Public Hearing September 24, 2020
- NJ Transit Public Hearing October 13, 2020 RE Senior Citizen/Disabled Residents Assistance Program

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS - None

CONSENT AGENDA Resolutions R2020-135 to R2020-137

Consent Agenda items are considered routine and will be enacted with a single motion; any items requiring expenditure are supported by a Certification of Availability of Funds; any item requiring discussion will be removed from the Consent Agenda; all Consent Agenda items will be reflected in full in the minutes.

- **R2020-135**, Approving designated memberships in the Independent Fire Co. No. 1
- **R2020-136**, Authorizing the refund of overpaid or cancelled water-sewer charges
- **R2020-137**, Authorizing the release of designated Escrow Accounts

On a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Graetz, the consent agenda was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Shuler

RESOLUTIONS

- **R2020-138**, Approving Change Order #3 for the REMA Pump Station Rehabilitation project with Shorelands Construction by \$4,500.00

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mr. Graetz, Resolution No. 2020-138 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Shuler

- **R2020-139**, Authorizing the release of the designated Performance Bond – Shorelands Construction

On a motion by Mr. Graetz, seconded by Mrs. King, Resolution No. 2020-139 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Shuler

- **R2020-140**, Authorizing the Acceptance of the designated Maintenance Bond – Shorelands Construction

On a motion by Mr. Graetz, seconded by Mr. Willms, Resolution No. 2020-140 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Shuler

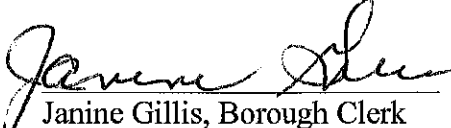
- **R2020-141**, Approving payment of the itemized claims as set forth on the September 18, 2020 bills list

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mr. Graetz, Resolution No. 2020-141 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Shuler

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Graetz, the meeting was adjourned without objection at 8:25p.m.


Janine Gillis, Borough Clerk

Approved: October 5, 2020