

**The May 3, 2021** 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 John Casagrande  
Councilman William Graetz  
Councilwoman Sara King  
Councilman Christopher Willms  
Mayor Christopher Campion

#### Absent:

Councilman Leonard Capristo  
Councilman Peter Gallo

#### Also attending:

Dennis Collins, Borough Attorney  
John Barrett, Borough Administrator

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

### **APPROVE MINUTES - April 19, 2021**

On a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Willms, the minutes for April 19, 2021 were approved by the following vote:

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

### **PRESENTATIONS – None**

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS – None**

### **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mrs. King – happy to report that we had a pre-construction meeting at Joseph Robertson Park; work will begin May 10/completed May 28; all trees will be planted at once. While construction is going on, please stay out of area; staging area is in back by Little League shack. Mrs. King thanked committee.

Mr. Graetz – no report

Mr. Willms – reported that we are looking for new members of Planning Board – one or two spots need to filled: email Barbara, Planning Board Secretary. Also – there's a resolution tonight to hire a new DPW employee to replace one who left.

Mr. Casagrande – excited to introduce 2021 budget; John Barrett, borough administrator will present details; capital for several needed items part of that budget; continuing to keep tax rate flat but at the same time keeping up with all services.

Mayor Campion – pointed out that Governor has loosened restrictions; please be compliant with and supportive of local businesses. The County has vaccines available, go to

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visitmonmouth.com; assistance is available for those who are home-bound is also available. Mayor Campion stated that the parking at Allaire Rd. Park, particularly the back area behind field is for coaches & umpires only, please be respectful of that & park in front.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (Any Item)**

On a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Willms, the public comment section was opened by the following vote:

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

Kate Blasco, 2415 Kipling Ave., stated that she missed the last meeting but was insulted by comments regarding tree-planting plan; committee was made up of residents from all areas of town. Mayor pointed out that individuals at last meeting were interested in fields; explained Mr. Willms had residents approach him with those ideas which he, in turn, brought to meeting. Mr. Willms added it was also fact that all phases were approved to be completed at once. Mayor added that we are looking into other recreation field opportunities.

Michele McKenna, 569 Atlantic Ave., stated that she had sent Mr. Capristo a letter. Mr. Collins stated that there is a TORT claim; explained to Ms. McKenna that she can make a comment but that there will not be any response tonight.

On a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Willms, the public comment section was closed by the following vote:

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

**SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS - None**

**REPORTS, NOTICES & CORRESPONDENCE**

- NJ Transit Public Notice May 28, 2021 Re: Fiscal Year 2021 Request for Federal Financial Assistance
- County of Monmouth Bd of Chosen Freeholders Resolution No. 2021-0289, Opposing NJ State Assembly & Senate Forest Management Bills
- County of Monmouth Bd of Chosen Freeholders Resolution No. 2021-0290, Opposing In Person Early Voting

**ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS**

- **Ordinance No. 2021-06** - Ordinance Amending & Supplementing Section 22-603 of the Revised general Ordinances of the Borough of Spring Lake Heights entitled "Prohibited Uses

On a motion by Mr. Graetz, seconded by Mrs. King, Ordinance No 2021-06 was introduced by the following vote:

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

The Public Hearing is set for June 7, 2021

▪ **Ordinance No. 2021-07** – An Ordinance Establishing Salary and Wages for 2021

Mr. Casagrande explained this considers the minimum wage increase.

Mr. Barrett added that Steve Dodd is our licensed water operator; salary range was omitted so we are setting the established range for this position.

Mrs. King asked if there is a back-up for Steve Dodd; Mrs. Gillis responded yes.

On a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Casagrande, Ordinance No 2021-07 was introduced by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Casagrande, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Gallo

The Public Hearing is set for May 17, 2021.

▪ **Ordinance No, 2021-08** – Bond Ordinance Providing for Various 2021 Capital Improvements, Appropriating 1,000,000 Therefore & Authorizing issuance of \$950,000 Bonds or Notes of the Borough to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mrs. King, Ordinance No 2021-08 was introduced by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Casagrande, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Gallo

Mr. Barrett reviewed the budget:

- 3 DOT grants for Lake, Emerson/Woodland & Ocean Roads; need matching funds from Borough; \$515,000 for this road repair work; 2 grants in 2021.
- Sanitation truck at end of useful life; \$250,000 needed for new truck.
- Update for digital tax map; \$100,000 needed to start this process.
- Purchase of misc. DPW equipment (lawn mowers, fencing etc.) \$95,000.
- Fire Dept gear \$40,000.

The Public Hearing is set for May 17, 2021.

**CONSENT AGENDA Resolutions R2021-76 to R2021-79**

*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.*

- **R2021-76**, Approving use of the Cornelius V. Kelly Community Center-The Commons Condo Assoc.
- **R2021-77**, Approving use of the Cornelius V. Kelly Community Center-Circle of Friends
- **R2021-78**, Authorizing Release of Designated Escrow Deposits
- **R2021-79**, Appointing a Probationary Employee as a Public Works Laborer

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

Ayes: Mr. Casagrande, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Gallo

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## RESOLUTIONS

- **R2021-80**, Governing Body Certifying Compliance with the US Equal Employment Opportunity Commissions "Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest & Conviction Arrests in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964"

On a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Graetz, Resolution No. 2021-80 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Casagrande, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Gallo

- **R2021-81**, Authorizing the Self-Examination of the Budget for 2021

Mr. Barrett explained self-examination process: auditor has reviewed our budget, CFO has signed off on it, less paperwork to send to state and can adopt in a timely fashion.

On a motion by Mr. Graetz, seconded by Mr. Willms, Resolution No. 2021-81 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Casagrande, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Gallo

- **R2021-82**, Approving the 2021 Municipal Budget

Mr. Barrett announced that there is a published draft of the budget on Borough's website; 2021 spending plan totals about \$7 million, (less than last year); increase in pension bills, increase in capital improvements portion; calls for a 38.5 cents tax rate (same rate as 2019 or earlier). There will be an informal budget review/Q & A session for residents on May 12, 2021, can log-on to our "Go to" meeting on our website.

The public hearing and potential adoption is June 7, 2021. Mayor thanked administrator and team for all the work that keeps Spring Lake Heights running at its best.

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mrs. King, Resolution No. 2021-82 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Casagrande, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Gallo

- **R2021-83**, Approving the payment of the itemized claims as set forth on the April 28, 2021 bills list

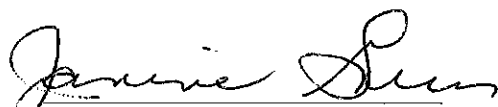
On a motion by Mr. Graetz, seconded by Mr. Casagrande, Resolution No. 2021-83 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Casagrande, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Gallo

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Casagrande, the meeting was adjourned without objection at 7:47p.m.

  
Janine Gillis, Borough Clerk

Approved: May 17, 2021