

The April 3, 2023 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  
Councilwoman Michele Degnan-Spang  
Councilwoman Sara King  
Councilman Christopher Willms  
Mayor Christopher Campion

### Absent:

Councilwoman Michele Degnan-Spang  
Councilman William Graetz

### Also attending:

Dennis Collins, Borough Attorney  
Janine Gillis, Borough Clerk  
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.

## **AMEND AGENDA**

On a motion by Mr. Willms, seconded by Mr. Casagrande, the agenda was amended to add R2023-76, R2023-77 & R2023-78 by the following vote:

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

Nays: None      Abstain: None      Absent: Mr. Graetz, Mrs. Degnan-Spang

## **APPROVE AMENDED AGENDA**

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

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

Nays: None      Abstain: None      Absent: Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz

## **APPROVE MINUTES – March 20, 2023**

On a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Casagrande, the March 20, 2023, regular minutes were approved by the following vote:

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

Nays: None      Abstain: Mr. Capristo      Absent: Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Willms

## **PRESENTATIONS – None**

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS – None**

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

Mr. Willms – No Report

Mrs. King – No report

Mr. Casagrande – Tonight we're introducing the budget, this year there are increases to some of our obligations. The auditor asked us to add a new line item, on the utility side, the rates will remain the same. He announced there will be a virtual budget workshop on April 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm, this is open to the public. The public hearing on the budget is May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Capristo – No Report

Mayor Campion commended our first responders; they did an excellent job with that storm. He added the office was open as a charging station, he felt the communication was excellent. So much so, that the County OEM sent accolades on the communication by Spring Lake Heights. Mr. Barrett added that about 2 years ago, Det Willms, received approvals and installed battery backup for the traffic lights in town. He added that he was in town, and they did work.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT (Any Item)**

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

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

Nays: None            Abstain: None            Absent: Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz

None Presented

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

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

Nays: None            Abstain: None            Absent: Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz

## **SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS – None**

## **REPORTS, NOTICES & CORRESPONDENCE**

## **ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS - None**

## **CONSENT AGENDA Resolutions R2023-71 to R2023-73**

- **R2023-71**, Approving use of the Cornelius V. Kelly Community Center – St. Catharine’s School
- **R2023-72**, Approving outdoor music – Richard DeGroot
- **R2023-73**, Authorizing the sale of surplus property

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

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

Nays: None            Abstain: None            Absent: Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz

## **RESOLUTIONS**

- **R2023-74**, Adoption of the 2023 municipal budget

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mrs. King, R2023-74 was approved by the following vote:

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

Nays: None            Abstain: None            Absent: Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz

Mayor Champion commented that there is a tax rate decrease however with assessments going up this could impact taxes. Additionally, if the school and county taxes go up, this greatly impacts the amount of taxes collected. He encouraged residents to attend those budget meetings. The municipal portion of the tax bill is the smallest percentage.

Mrs. King wanted to point out that RDS is in town doing home inspections for the Tax Assessor. She encouraged residents to allow the inspectors in so that each home is properly assessed. She shared an example that her home had incorrect number of bedrooms and bathroom which would have impacted her assessment. Mayor Champion added it is very important to have the inspections.

Mr. Barrett added that homeowners could elect to a virtual inspection using their cell phone.

- **R2023-75**, Approving the payment of the itemized claims as set forth on the March 30, 2023 bills list

On a motion by Mr. Willms, seconded by Mrs. King, R2023-75 was approved by the following vote:

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

Nays: None            Abstain: None            Absent: Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz

- **R2023-76**, Certifying compliance with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commissions Enforcement Guidance

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mr. Capristo, R2023-76 was approved by the following vote:

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

Nays: None            Abstain: None            Absent: Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz

- **R2023-77**, Authorizing Execution of an Interlocal Services Agreement with the Township of Wall for the Wall Township Licensed Water Operator for the Borough of Spring Lake Heights

On a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Willms, R2023-77 was approved by the following vote:

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

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz

- **R2023-78**, authorizing self-examination of the budget for 2023.

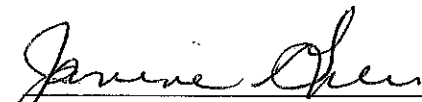
On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mr. Capristo, R2023-78 was approved by the following vote:

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

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, on a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Willms, the meeting was adjourned without objection at 7:51 p.m.

  
Janine Gillis, Borough Clerk

Approved: April 17, 2023