

The March 4, 2024 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:

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. Casagrande, seconded by Mrs. King the agenda was amended to add resolution R2024-66 and R2024-67 to the agenda by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Graetz

APPROVE AMENDED AGENDA

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

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Graetz

APPROVE MINUTES - July 17, 2023 Executive Session

On a motion by Mr. Willms, seconded by Mrs. King, the July 17, 2023 executive session minutes were approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Graetz

APPROVE MINUTES - September 5, 2023 Executive Session

On a motion by Mr. Willms, seconded by Mr. Casagrande, the September 5, 2023 executive session minutes were approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Casagrande, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: Mr. Capristo, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mrs. King Absent: Mr. Graetz

APPROVE MINUTES - November 20, 2023 Executive Session

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mr. Willms, the November 20, 2023 executive session minutes were approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Casagrande, , Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: Mr. Capristo, Mrs. Degnan-Spang Absent: Mr. Graetz

APPROVE MINUTES - February 5, 2024 Regular Session

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mrs. King, the February 5, 2024 regular session minutes were approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mrs. King
Nays: None Abstain: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Willms Absent: Mr. Graetz

PRESENTATIONS – Howard Rockhill – Review of Annual First Aid Report-2023

Mr. Rockhill presented the year-end report for the First Aid Squad. The Squad recently celebrated 96 years of service. Currently, there are 39 active members, but the squad is always looking for new members. Mr. Rockhill reviewed the breakdown of calls for the year of 2023 for Spring Lake and Spring Lake Heights' Fire and First Aid Squad. Mayor Campion calculated the breakdown of volunteer hours spent by the First Aid Squad and it equals two volunteers for every hour for last year. Mr. Rockhill continued to explain the levels of volunteering and how people can get involved. The First Aid Squad will have an open house in April for any interested parties.

DISCUSSION ITEMS – None

MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilman Capristo – Mr. Capristo reviewed the resolution regarding recreation fees. He also noted to follow Recreation on social media for updates and signups are done through CommunityPass.

Councilman Casagrande – Mr. Casagrande reviewed the cap ordinance scheduled for public hearing. He also explained that March will start the budget process and in April there will be a budget workshop for the public.

Councilwoman King – No report

Councilman Willms – Mr. Willms reminded that brush pick up resumes in March. He further stated the Fire Department will be having an open house for membership on March 10, 2024.

Councilwoman Degnan-Spang – Mrs. Degnan-Spang explained current projects Public Works is working on including fire hydrant replacements and drainage improvements at the little league fields.

Mayor Campion – Mr. Campion stated a public reminder that pedestrians have the right of way in crosswalks in New Jersey and asked the Chief of Police to investigate cars going around vehicles stopped for pedestrians on Allaire Road.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Any Item)

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

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Graetz

Don Eilenberger, 1213 Pond Road, thanked the Council for addressing the potholes on Ocean Road. Mr. Eilenberger expressed concern regarding outages of streetlights in town. Mayor Campion, Mr. Barrett and Police Chief Gunnell discussed a plan of action for addressing this. Mr. Eilenberger expressed further concern and need for a four way stop at the intersection of Old Mill Road and Ocean Road. The council discussed Mr. Eilenberger's concern and Mayor Campion will follow up further on the topic.

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

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Graetz

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS - Ordinance No. 2024-01 An Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Appropriation Limits & to Establish a Cap Bank (2024)

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. Degnan-Spang, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Graetz

None presented

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

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Graetz

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded Mrs. King, **Ordinance 2024-01** was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Graetz

REPORTS, NOTICES & CORRESPONDENCE

- Spring Lake Heights Municipal Court Monthly Report – January 2024
- Spring Lake First Aid Squad Report – December 2023 – 2023 Annual Report – January 2024
- Spring Lake Heights Police Monthly Report – January 2024
- South Monmouth Regional Sewerage Authority 2024-2025 Meeting Schedule
- Letter from Sea Girt Planning Board to NJ DEP regarding Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind Project
- Sea Girt Public Notice, March 14, 2024 Re: Ordinance 02-2024 Amending Chp. 17 Zoning; creating new section-Affordable Housing
- Sea Girt Public Notice, March 14, 2024 Re: Ordinance 03-2024 Amending Chp. 17 Zoning; establishing housing overlay zone (AH-3)
- Sea Girt Public Notice, March 14, 2024 Re: Ordinance 04-2024 Amending Chp. 17 Zoning; establishing housing overlay zone (AH-2)
- Sea Girt Public Notice, March 14, 2024 Re: Ordinance 05-2024 Affordable Housing-Implement the borough's 3rd round housing element and fair share plan
- Sea Girt Public Notice, March 14, 2024 Re: Ordinance 06-2024 Amending Chp. 17 Zoning; establishing affordable housing development fee
- JCP&L Public Hearing March 21, 2024 Re: Approval of JCP&L energy efficiency & conservation plan

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS - None

CONSENT AGENDA Resolutions R2024-53 to R2024-58

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.

- **R2024-53**, Approve outside dining and outdoor music on March 17, 2024 St. Stephen's Publick House
- **R2024-54**, Approve outdoor music for The Mill-Lakeside Manor (April-May)
- **R2024-55**, Approve use of the Cornelius V. Kelly Community Center- St. Catharine School
- **R2024-56**, Establish Fees for 2024 Recreation Programs
- **R2024-57**, Authorize the crediting of water-sewer utility charges- 5 Fox Hollow Rd Blk 25.02 Lot36.06
- **R2024-58**, Authorizing the County of Monmouth Control Division to conduct aerial mosquito control operations

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

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Graetz

RESOLUTIONS

- **R2024-59**, Rejecting all bids for the project – North End Sanitary Sewer Lining
Mr. Collins explained the scope of the project and bid and why the Borough is rejecting all bids.

On a motion by Mr. Willms, seconded by Mr. Casagrande, Resolution No. R2024-59 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Graetz

- **R2024-60**, Authorizing the cancellation of expired grant fund appropriated reserves and account receivables

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mr. Willms, Resolution No. R2024-60 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Graetz

- **R2024-61**, Authorizing additional temporary budget appropriations pending adoption of 2024 municipal budget

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mr. Willms, Resolution No. R2024-61 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Graetz

- **R2024-62**, Authorizing the execution of the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Police Benevolent Association for January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2028

Mayor Campion and Mr. Barrett discussed the negotiation process and thanked the PBA for their efforts and for working with the Borough on the agreement.

On a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Willms, Resolution No. R2024-62 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Graetz

- **R2024-64**, Approving the payment of the itemized claims as set forth on the February 16, 2024 bills list

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Resolution No. R2024-64 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Graetz

- **R2024-65**, Approving the payment of the itemized claims as set forth on the March 1, 2024 bills list

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mrs. King, Resolution No. R2024-65 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Graetz

- **R2024-66**, Authorizing the transfer of 2023 Municipal Budget Appropriation Reserves

On a motion by Mr. Willms, seconded by Mr. Casagrande, Resolution No. R2024-66 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Graetz

Mrs. Degnan-Spang left the meeting at 7:48pm

Attorney Collins read the resolution into the record.

- **R2024-67**, Authorizing an Executive Session and Permitting the Governing Body to exclude the public from a portion of a public meeting.

BE IT RESOLVED that the following portion of this meeting dealing with the following generally described matters shall not be open to the public: Collective bargaining, contract negotiations, personnel, attorney client privilege

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is anticipated that the matters to be considered in private may be disclosed to the Public at a later date under the following circumstance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that private consideration is deemed required and is permitted because of the following noted exceptions set forth in the Act:

_____ 1. Rendered confidential by Federal law or that if disclosed would impair receipt of Federal funds.

_____ 2. Rendered confidential by State Statute or Court Rule.

_____ 3. Would constitute an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy.

- 4. Deals with collective bargaining, including negotiation positions.
- 5. Deals with purchase, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds.
- 6. Related to setting of bank rates or the investment of public funds and disclosure could adversely affect the public interest.
- 7. Related to tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public and disclosure may adversely affect the public.
- 8. Related to investigation of violations or possible violations of the law.
- 9. Related to pending/anticipated litigation or contract negotiations in which the public body is or may be a party.
- 10. Falls within the attorney-client privilege and confidentiality is required.
- 11. Deals with personnel matters of public employees and employees have not requested that the matter be made public.
- 12. Quasi-judicial deliberations after public hearing that may result in imposition of a civil penalty or suspension or loss of a license or permit.

On a motion by Mr. Willms, seconded by Mr. Casagrande, Resolution No. **R2024-67** 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

At this time council went into executive session.

On a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Willms, the executive session was adjourned without objection at 8:18 p.m. and reconvene the public meeting by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
 Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz

Mr. Collins announced the council would take formal action on resolution R2024-63.

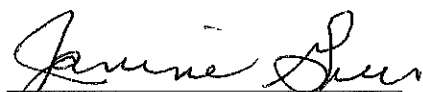
- **R2024-63**, Authorizing Settlement with Fair Housing

On a motion by Mr. Willms, seconded by Mr. Casagrande, Resolution No. R2024-63 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 8:20p.m.


 Janine Gillis, Borough Clerk

Approved: March 18, 2024