

The October 7, 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
Mayor Christopher Campion

Absent:

Councilman William Graetz
Councilman Christopher Willms

Also attending:

Greg Vella, 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.

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

APPROVE MINUTES – September 16, 2024

On a motion by Mrs. Degnan-Spang, seconded by Mrs. King, the September 16, 2024, minutes were approved by the following vote:

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

PRESENTATIONS – Environmental Commission- Award Presentation

Spring Lake Heights Environmental Commission Co-Chair Christine Nevin-Meloro presented the award the commission received for their new logo design that they won from The Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC).

DISCUSSION ITEMS – Best Practice Survey

Mr. Barrett spoke about the best practices survey. He stated that Spring Lake Heights is consistent within the survey and receiving full allocation of state aid in turn.

MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilman Capristo – Mr. Capristo reviewed the grant the Borough received regarding the pickleball courts at Joseph E. Robertson Park including preliminary plans. Mr. Barrett explained the previous plans for the project. Mayor Campion stated he was not in favor of adding lighting to the courts in the plans.

Borough Clerk Janine Gillis – Mayor Campion asked Mrs. Gillis to review the Fall Festival event details. Mrs. Gillis described the two days of events and the Borough's efforts so far. Mayor Campion expressed his excitement for the upcoming event.

Councilman Casagrande – Mr. Casagrande mentioned the two grants on the agenda. He further spoke in favor of the grant the Borough received for the pickleball courts at Joseph E. Robertson Park. He also mentioned the 2024 salary and wage resolution on the agenda.

Councilwoman King – Mrs. King asked for clarification on the American Rescue Plan Firefighter Grant. Mr. Barrett how the resolution came about and apologized to Mrs. King that she wasn't updated. Mrs. King expressed concerns regarding approving the pickleball grant and the tentative plans. Mr. Barrett assured that the grant appropriation is only for the money and not for contracting the work.

Councilwoman Degnan-Spang – Mrs. Degnan-Spang provided an update regarding the paving projects around the Borough.

Councilwoman King – Mrs. King asked Mr. Richard Carragher to speak about the Veterans Luncheon. Mr. Carragher shared the invitation to all Spring Lake Heights Veterans and current military to attend November 11, 2024 at 12:00pm at the Spring Lake Manor. Veterans are allowed to bring a guest as well. Mayor Campion also asked for Veterans to bring in a picture of their time in service for the slideshow to be played during the event.

Mayor Campion – Mr. Campion spoke about the tax reassessment and stated that residents do not have to let the company in their houses. Mrs. Degnan-Spang informed that you can do a virtual tour as well.

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

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Graetz, Mr. Willms

Gaylen Nolan, 1022 Allaire Road, thanked the Mayor for discouraging lighting at Joseph E. Robertson Park. Ms. Nolan stated she believes two courts is sufficient. Ms. Nolan asked for more information on the project and noticing.

Kerry Murray, 710 Shore Road, mentioned receiving a letter regarding the Land Use Board application for Dunkin Donuts. Mr. Vella asserted that the council cannot speak about the application and invited Ms. Murray to the Land Use hearing if she would like to speak on the project. He further explained what a preliminary and final hearing is.

Anna Kuntz, 2005 Parkview Terrace, asked the council to consider adding a walking trail instead of four pickleball courts in Joseph E. Robertson Park. Mr. Capristo thanked Ms. Kuntz for her suggestion and stated the borough would like to optimize the parks to their full potential.

Christine Nevin-Meloro, 107 Maple Drive, expressed confusion regarding tree removals in Joseph E. Robertson Park for the pickleball courts and replacement of the trees.

Margaret Melchione, 2 Jeannette Court, asked the Mayor to repeat his statement on additional lighting in Joseph E. Robertson Park. Ms. Melchione stated she believes the park is too small for four courts and is concerned about replacement of trees.

Susan Careatti, 1 Jeannette Court, asked the council to consider flooding in her neighborhood when adding the courts to the park as well as expressing concern for trees in the park. Mayor Campion thanked everyone for expressing their concerns and will take everything into consideration. Mr. Barrett clarified that the grant was applied for pickleball courts and not a broad open space grant.

Mrs. King explained that the past committee worked hard to have the trees at Joseph E. Robertson Park, the high emotion over the area and how residents care deeply for the grove of trees.

Gaylen Nolan, 1022 Allaire Road, echoed the desire for finishing and creating more walking paths in Joseph E. Robertson Park. She also expressed concern about cars driving on the access paths and how it can be dangerous. Mayor Campion agreed with Ms. Nolan and told Mr. Barrett to have the barricades back securely on the paths.

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

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

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Graetz, Mr. Willms

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

REPORTS, NOTICES & CORRESPONDENCE

- Spring Lake Heights Municipal Court Monthly Report – August 2024
- South Monmouth Regional Sewerage Authority Public Hearing 10/10/24 Re: Amend Service Schedule Charge
- JCP&L Public Hearing 10/15/24 Re: Approval of Deferred Balances
- NJ Water Supply Authority Public Hearing 10/24/24 Re; Proposed Rate Adjustments-July 1, 2025
- Spring Lake Heights Land Use Meeting Public Notice Re: 10/16/24 Re: 7-11 Highway 71

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS - None

CONSENT AGENDA Resolutions R2024-159 to R2024-164

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.

- **R2024-159**, Approving issuance of Alcoholic Beverage Control Social Affair Permit – Second Chance NJ
- **R2024-160**, Requesting Director of NJ Div. of Local Government Services approve amendment to the 2024 budget - \$30,000, American Rescue Plan Firefighter Grant
- **R2024-161**, Requesting Director of NJ Div. of Local Government Services approve amendment to the 2024 budget - \$100,000, Monmouth County Open Space Grant
- **R2024-162**, Authorizing the refund of duplicate payment of property taxes
- **R2024-163**, Authorizing 2024 salaries for designated borough officials and employees
- **R2024-164**, Authorizing agreement for professional services of Russell Finestein, Esquire

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

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

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Graetz, Mr. Willms

RESOLUTIONS

- **R2024-165**, Approving the payment of claims as set forth on the October 2, 2024 bills list

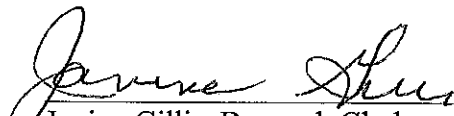
On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Resolution No. R2024-165 was approved by the following vote:

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

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: Mr. Graetz, Mr. Willms

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Casagrande, the meeting was adjourned without objection at 8:00 p.m.


Janine Gillis, Borough Clerk

Approved:  November 18, 2024