

Mayor LaPietra called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. The Clerk made the following announcement: A This Special Meeting was called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of this meeting was faxed to the Our Town, The Record, The Community News and The County Seat newspapers on December 31, 2007. In addition, copies of this notice were posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building at 15 Park Avenue, filed with the Borough Clerk and distributed to all persons, if any, requesting copies of same pursuant to said act. @

*Special Meeting for the purpose of Discussion of Professional Contracts, along with any other matters that may arise subsequent to this notice given on December 31, 2007.*

**Roll call showed the following members of the Governing Body present:** Mayor LaPietra, Councilpersons Eustace, Savage, Rupp, Fleischmann, and Jengo. Also present: Borough Attorney William F. Rupp, Borough Clerk Jean M. Pelligra, Borough Administrator Thomas Richards, and CFO Chuck Cuccia.

Mayor LaPietra stated this Special Meeting was called for the purpose of reviewing the contracts and the Agenda for the Reorganization Meeting following the Special Meeting.

Councilperson Eustace stated he was not comfortable receiving information regarding contracts and/or Resolutions via email prior to a meeting. Contracts should be discussed and Resolutions should be reviewed at a meeting prior to them being listed on a meeting agenda.

Councilperson Eustace stated that Borough Attorney Rupp serves our Council well; however, he does not agree with a \$40/hour raise at this time. He proposed a \$20/hour raise this year and possibly an additional \$20/hour raise next year.

Councilperson Savage stated the Borough Administrator and/or the Borough Clerk should establish a "follow-up" file so that the issue of contracts and Resolutions can be discussed in October or November.

Councilperson Eustace stated the CFO should prepare a packet of information to be discussed.

Administrator Richards responded that he will ensure this will be done.

Mayor LaPietra stated that individual Council people should not be requesting copies of information. Complete packets should be made available to the entire Council and next year, the CFO and Administrator will be responsible for supplying this information.

Councilperson Savage commented that he has no objection to increasing the Borough Attorney's hourly rate to \$140.00.

Councilperson Fleischmann agreed with the increase of the Borough Attorney's hourly rate and stated it is lower than several other municipalities.

Mayor LaPietra opened the table to discussion of the current By-laws. A discussion amongst the Council ensued.

The Council reviewed the agenda for the Reorganization Meeting in detail discussing appointments, professional contracts and committee appointments.

Councilperson Rupp moved to accept the resignation of John Gargagliano as OEM Director; seconded by Erich Fleischmann and so carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Councilperson Rupp questioned if the appointment of Joseph Iannacone as Official Tax Search Officer. CFO Cuccia Responded.

Mayor LaPietra stated we should advertise in the Our Town for the vacant seats on the Board of Health, Clean Communities, and Historical Advisory Committees.

CFO Cuccia explained Resolution #09-08 regarding Depositories, namely Northfork Bank.

CFO Cuccia explained in detail the Munidex contract in addition to the work performed by the clerk in the absence of the former Tax Collector. CFO Cuccia added that this was a temporary situation.

Mayor LaPietra discussed Petty Cash Resolution #22-08 and stated the Public Assistance line should be deleted in its' entirety.

Councilperson Eustace questioned the Engineer's contract, specifically regarding the retainer. He requested that Attorney Rupp and Borough Administrator Richards arrange a meeting with Neglia Engineering to discuss exactly what is included in their contract.

Mayor LaPietra opened the table for discussion on items that were not included on the Agenda.

Councilperson Eustace inquired if we had a resolution on the stump-grinder. Borough Administrator responded. Attorney Rupp stated that he had not received any information. Mayor LaPietra stated that a resolution for the stump-grinder would be on the agenda for the January 10<sup>th</sup> work session as well as the Inter-Local Agreement for the stump-grinder and that the Certification of Funds for \$13,000.00 be completed.

Mayor LaPietra questioned the "Relay for Life" event sponsored by the American Cancer Society to be held at Memorial Park. Administrator Richards responded and stated he would contact Michael Jordan, Principal, at Memorial School again.

Councilperson Eustace requested that COAH be addressed at January 10<sup>th</sup>'s meeting. Mayor LaPietra responded that it will be on the agenda as well as the appointment of the COAH Administrator.

Councilperson Eustace questioned if we have budgeted funds for the electronic doors. To date, Mr. Csaposs has received seven quotes. Borough Administrator Richards responded.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Councilperson Eustace moved the meeting be adjourned; seconded by Councilperson Jengo and so carried at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Borough Clerk