

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 11, 2009

The session was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by the President of Council, Ralph DiGuseppe.

Council offered a moment of silent prayer.

The Council then proceeded to salute the flag.

Present were:

Mr. James Lutz	Mr. Anthony Muccie
Mr. Michael Harris	Mr. Patrick Sabatini
Ms. Robyn Trunell	Mr. Ralph DiGuseppe
Ms. Betty Rodriguez	

Absent—Leo Plenski, Jr.

Also present were:

Mayor Joseph Saxton
Mr. James Dillon, Borough Manager
Mr. William Salerno, Borough Solicitor
Chief Arnold Porter, Police Chief
Mrs. Maria Fields, Administrator

Mayor Saxton and Chief Porter presented a Certificate of Commendation to the following members of the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council: Vincent Casmirri, Samantha Kasperitis, Alisa Coughlan, Olga Bonita Blosser, and Mark Paleafico (not in attendance).

Councilman Muccie presented a Certificate of Achievement on behalf of the Council and Mayor to Sabrina Rosta and Thomas Dougherty for completing the 2009 People to People World Leadership Forum in Washington, D.C.

Council Member Robyn Trunell presented a plaque on behalf of the Council and Mayor to the family of Eugene "Gene" D'Emidio, Sr. posthumously recognizing his lifelong service to the Borough.

Mayor Saxton presented a plaque on behalf of the Council and Mayor to the Bristol Senior Athletic Association for providing BSAA Scholarships to the Student Athletes of Bristol High School

Council Member Betty Rodriguez on behalf of the Council and Mayor presented a donation to the Puerto Rican Cultural Association. She also presented a donation to the Bristol Borough Little League President, John Doyle and former President, Joseph Adamson.

Council Member Robyn Trunell on behalf of the Council and Mayor presented a plaque to William (Bill) Pezza recognizing him as Bristol Borough's Literary Ambassador.

Mr. Salerno noted that Bristol Borough Residents are invited to attend the Tuesday, May 12th or Wednesday, May 13th preview performance of Altar Boyz at the Bristol Riverside Theatre and pay what they wish for tickets. He stated this was a way the Theatre could give back to the taxpayers from the Borough donation.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

James Lake, 2010 Trenton Avenue, suggested parcels in the East Ward which could be used as basketball courts. He asked when the Borough will complete making all roads handicap accessible. Mr. Lake also recommended that an individual be offered an incentive if he has an idea or a suggestion which saves the Borough money.

Donald Crohe, 322 Hayes Street, commended Council Member Betty Rodriguez for recognizing the Puerto Rican Cultural Association.

Michael Gerenda, 2210 Wilson Avenue, said he did some research and had lower price trash cans for the playgrounds. He suggested pursuing a revenue generating tournament at the ball fields. Mr. Gerenda recommended the basketball courts on Jefferson Avenue be renovated. He asked who is responsible for a tree if it is on the corner.

Chris Chapman, 355 Washington Street, referring to an anonymous letter he received, asked several questions pertaining to the property located at Wilson and Railroad Avenues.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION CONT'D.

Joseph Nelson, 2416 Wilson Avenue, commended Council Member Betty Rodriguez for recognizing the Puerto Rican Cultural Association. He thanked Mr. DiGuiseppe for the development at Wilson and Railroad Avenues. Mr. Nelson stated he lives across the street from the development and it is a major improvement.

Ralph DiGuiseppe, III, 310 DiGuiseppe Drive, said the projects done by his father's business are in the best interest of the Borough. He stated the developments on Wilson Avenue and Maple Street removed blighted conditions and are major improvements which generate taxes for the Borough.

MAYOR'S COMMUNICATION

Mayor Saxton said the Police Bike Patrol started the week of April 27th as well as the return of the Squad 5 detail that will again focus on quality of life issues in the town. The Mayor, Borough Council, Inspections, Zoning, Police and Fire Departments will all work together to ensure that these efforts are successful.

The Mayor stated the Bristol Borough Community Partnership and the seventh and eighth grade students of Bristol High School will celebrate the memories of longtime Bristol Borough residents on Monday, May 18th, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Bristol Riverside Theatre. He invited the public to attend.

Mayor Saxton congratulated the D.A.R.E. (Drug Alcohol Resistance Education) graduates. The graduation ceremonies were held during the month of April at the local elementary schools. He thanked D.A.R.E. Officer Carlos Rivera for a job well done.

The Mayor urged everyone to vote on Tuesday, May 19th; polls open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m.

Mayor Saxton congratulated the Mayors Youth Advisory Council members for their dedicated service to the community. He noted these young community volunteers have the potential to be our future leaders.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Mr. Harris (Mr. Muccie) moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of April 13, 2009 and the Council Work Session of May 4, 2009 as printed. Unanimous

Mr. Harris (Mr. Muccie) moved to accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of March as printed. Unanimous

Mr. Harris (Mr. Muccie) moved to accept the Police & D.J.'s Report as printed. Unanimous

Mr. Harris (Mr. Muccie) moved to accept the Fire Chief's Report as printed. Unanimous

Mr. Harris (Mr. Muccie) moved to accept the Borough Inspector's Report as printed. Unanimous

Mr. Harris (Mr. Muccie) moved to accept the Planning Commission Meeting Report of April 20, 2009 as printed. Unanimous

Mr. Harris (Mr. Muccie) moved to accept the H.A.R.B. Report and Decisions of April 27, 2009 as printed. Unanimous

Mr. Harris (Mr. Muccie) moved to accept the Zoning Hearing Board Report as printed. Unanimous

NEW BUSINESS

4. MOTION - APPOINT SUSAN RACHLIN TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

Mr. Sabatini (Mr. Muccie) moved to appoint Susan Rachlin to the Bristol Borough Environmental Advisory Committee. The term will expire on March 20, 2011. Unanimous

5. ORDINANCE - AMENDING THE BRISTOL BOROUGH ZONING ORDINANCE BY DELETING LOW-RISE APARTMENTS IN AN R-2 DISTRICT.

Ms. Rodriguez (Ms. Trunell) moved to amend the Bristol Borough Zoning Ordinance by deleting low-rise apartments in an R-2 District. Unanimous

