

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

DECEMBER 8, 2008

The session was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by the President of Council, Ralph DiGuiseppe.

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. Leo Plenski, Jr.
Ms. Betty Rodriguez	Mr. Ralph DiGuiseppe

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

Mr. Jerry Mauro sang a medley of Christmas Carols.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

David Marucci, 1253 Radcliffe Street, felt Council could have reduced taxes because of the elimination of the debt service payment. He wanted to know why the 9½% salary increases for the administrative employees. Mr. DiGuiseppe explained to Mr. Marucci why he is wrong in his conclusions. Mr. Marucci offered to take the Manager outside at anytime.

Andrew States, 128 Taft Street, reported the lights were out along the path off of Radcliffe Street. He also requested trash cans be placed along the path at Pine Grove Street.

Ellen Scancella, Bristol Borough Parade Committee, distributed a letter thanking Council for the donation and continued support of the Bristol Borough Parade Committee.

Mr. Lutz questioned the salary increase of the Administrative Assistant. A discussion followed on the increase and the administrative salaries. The Manager's six page memorandum dated December 8, 2008 in response to Mr. Lutz's memorandum dated December 4, 2008 received on December 8, 2008 was also discussed.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Mr. Harris (Ms. Trunell) moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of November 10, 2008, the Budget Meeting of November 12, 2008, the Special Public Meeting of December 1, 2008, and the Council Work Session of December 1, 2008 as printed. Unanimous

Mr. Harris (Ms. Trunell) moved to accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of October as printed. Unanimous

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

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

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

Mr. Harris (Ms. Trunell) moved to accept the H.A.R.B. Report and Decisions of November 24, 2008 as printed. Unanimous

NEW BUSINESS

**3. MOTION - APPOINT CMS ENGINEERING TO PREPARE BID
SPECIFICATIONS AND INSPECTION OF STUCCO
WALL AT 1520 FARRAGUT AVENUE**

Mr. Lutz moved to appoint CMS Engineering to prepare bid specifications and inspection of stucco wall at 1520 Farragut Avenue.

The motion died for lack of a second.

NEW BUSINESS CONT'D.

4. ORDINANCE - ADOPT RESPONSIBLE CONTRACTOR ORDINANCE.

Mr. Sabatini (Mr. Plenski) moved to adopt the Responsible Contractor Ordinance. Unanimous

Mr. DiGuiseppe asked the Borough Manager to recommend to the Sewer Authority to also adopt the Responsible Contractor Ordinance.

5. ORDINANCE - AMENDING PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE BY EXTENDING THE REQUIREMENT OF HEAT SUPPLY TO ALL RENTAL UNITS—OCTOBER 15 THROUGH APRIL 15.

Ms. Rodriguez (Ms. Trunell) moved to adopt the Ordinance amending the Property Maintenance Code by extending the requirement of heat supply to all rental units—October 15 through April 15. Unanimous

6. MOTION - APPOINT BOROUGH MANAGER AS OPEN RECORDS OFFICER.

Mr. Harris (Mr. Sabatini) moved to appoint the Borough Manager as the Open Records Officer. Unanimous

7. MOTION - APPOINT FIRM TO MANAGE BOROUGH WATER INVESTMENT ACCOUNT.

Mr. Plenski (Mr. Sabatini) moved to appoint PLGIT (Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust) to manage Borough Water Investment Account. Unanimous

8. RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF TAX PARCEL #04-024-035 (1025 ELM STREET) AND TAX PARCEL #04-024-029 (VACANT LOT) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$59,300.00.

Mr. Plenski (Ms. Trunell) moved to adopt the Resolution authorizing the acquisition of Tax Parcel #04-025-035 (1025 Elm Street) and Tax Parcel #04-024-039 (Vacant Lot) in the amount of \$59,300.00. Unanimous

NEW BUSINESS CONT'D.

9. **MOTION - ACCEPT AUDITOR'S PROPOSAL DATED 11-25-08
FROM HELLMANN & COMPANY TO AUDIT 2008 FINAN-
CIAL RECORDS.**
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Mr. Muccie (Mr. Plenski) moved to accept Auditor's proposal dated 11-25-08 from Hellmann & Company to audit 2008 financial records. Unanimous

10. **MOTION - AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT FROM STATE
BID LIST TO TELEVISE BOROUGH MEETINGS AND
PROVIDE PUBLIC INFORMATION.**
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Ms. Trunell (Mr. Muccie) moved to authorize the purchase of equipment from the State Bid List to televise Borough meetings and provide public information in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00.

Mr. Dillon noted the funds to pay for the television equipment was coming from Comcast in the amount of \$17,400.00 and Verizon in the amount of \$9,000.00. The Sewer Authority agreed to pay \$5,000.00 towards the purchase because the Authority will be able to place useful information on the Cable TV Channel. \$8,100.00 is the approximate balance the Borough will have to pay at this time. This equipment should last approximately ten years and is a minimum ten year capital improvement.

Mr. Lutz opposed the motion.

The motion was carried 7-1.

11. **MOTION - ADOPT 2009 BUDGETS.**

Mr. Plenski (Ms. Trunell) moved to adopt the 2009 Budgets.

Mr. Lutz proposed to reduce the millage.

Mr. DiGuseppe said he informed Mr. Lutz during the Budget Meetings if Council proposed a five (5) mill decrease, Mr. Lutz would have wanted a ten (10) mill decrease. He stated Council has not raised taxes in four years and many positive things have been accomplished for the residents.

Mr. Lutz opposed the motion.

The motion was carried 7-1.

NEW BUSINESS CONT'D.

12. ORDINANCE - ADOPT 2009 TAX ORDINANCE.

Ms. Trunell (Mr. Muccie) moved to adopt the Ordinance fixing the tax rate for the 2009 fiscal year. The tax rate is as follows: general Borough purposes 30 mills, street lighting 3.35 mills, special road fund 2.42 mills, interest and sinking fund charges on the indebtedness of the Borough 8.82 mills, maintaining and operating recreation places 3.30 mills, fire protection 1.25 mills, and rescue service 0.75 mills—total 49.89.

Mr. Lutz opposed the motion.

The motion to adopt the Ordinance was carried 7-1.

13. ORDINANCE - IMPOSING 2009 ASSESSMENT FOR THE REMOVAL OF GARBAGE AND REFUSE WITHIN BRISTOL BOROUGH.

Mr. Plenski (Ms. Trunell) moved to adopt the ordinance imposing assessment for the removal of garbage and refuse within Bristol Borough for the year 2009 (\$330.00 per household). Unanimous

OTHER BUSINESS

On behalf of Borough Council, the Mayor, and the Manager, Mr. DiGuissepe wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year.

Bruce Jones thanked Council on behalf of the Operating Engineers and the Philadelphia Building Trade for adopting the Responsible Contractor Ordinance.

Mr. DiGuissepe mentioned the Borough has received the Community Development Grant in the amount of \$184,100.00 to create a playground on Jefferson Avenue at the athletic fields and to improve the current playgrounds.

Mr. DiGuissepe asked if any residents are interested in being on any Borough Boards, Commissions, or Committees, please submit your name to the Borough.

OTHER BUSINESS CONT'D.

Mr. DiGuisepppe advised Council that the Joan Martella request for a Preliminary Hearing with the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission regarding her handicap parking sign was denied and no further action will be taken by the Commission in this matter.

Mr. Muccie (Mr. Sabatini) moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m. Unanimous