Mayor Hanics called the Meeting of the Common Council of the Borough of Alpha to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 22, 2013.

Mayor Hanics announced that adequate notice of the meeting was given to the Star Express-Times and posted on the bulletin board in the Clerk's office satisfying the requirements of the Open Public Meeting Act:

NOTICE

Pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been given. On January 3, 2013, the Municipal Clerk delivered to The Express-Times and posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building, a notice containing the date, time and place of this meeting of the Alpha Borough Council. Also, said notice has been mailed to persons requesting the same.

Mayor Hanics led prayer and the salute to the flag.

Roll Call: Present: Councilman Cartabona, Councilman Dunwell, Councilman Savary, Councilwoman Schwar, Councilman Schwar and Councilman Zikas. Also present Borough Clerk, Laurie A. Barton, Engineer Stephanie Cuthbert and Attorney Christopher Troxell.

Ordinance

Motion made by Councilman Dunwell to introduce the following Ordinance with the public hearing scheduled for February 12, 2013. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Schwar, roll call: Ayes: Dunwell, Savary, C. Schwar, M. Schwar and Zikas. Nays: none. Abstain: Cartabona.

ORDINANCE 2013-01

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FUNDING FOR SEWER IMPROVEMENTS AND APPROPRIATING \$20,000 OF UTILITY CAPITAL FUND BALANCE FOR SUCH PURPOSE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF ALPHA, IN THE COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AS FOLLOWS:

- <u>Section 1</u>. The Borough of Alpha, in the County of Warren, in the State of New Jersey, authorizes the sewer improvements including but not limited to, camera analysis and improvements of the sanitary sewer system in the Borough of Alpha to be funded from the sources specified in Section 2 of the Ordinance.
- Section 2. The amount of 20,000.00 is hereby appropriated from the Utility Capital Fund Balance for the purpose stated in Section 1 of the Ordinance.
- Section 3. In connection with the purpose and the amount authorized in Sections 1 and 2 hereof, the Borough determines the purpose described in Section 1 hereof is not a Current Expense and is an improvement which the Borough of Alpha may lawfully make as a general improvement.
- Section 4. All ordinances or parts of ordinances which are inconsistent with the terms of this Ordinance be and the same are hereby repealed to the extent of their inconsistency.
- Section 5. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon due passage and publication according to law.

Resolutions

Motion made by Councilman Zikas to approve to following resolution, motion second by Councilman Savary. Roll call: Ayes: Dunwell, Savary, C. Schwar, M. Schwar and Zikas. Nays: Cartabona.

RESOLUTION 2013-12 RE-APPOINTMENT OF ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER FOR THE BOROUGH OF ALPHA

WHEREAS, the position of Animal Control Officer exists within the Borough of Alpha and on the Salary Ordinance and Salary Resolution; and

WHEREAS, the term of office shall be one-year term commencing on February 1, 2013 and ending December 31, 2013.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body of the Borough of Alpha hereby appoints Vincent Catalli as Animal Control Officer with the salary for 2013 to be set at \$5,665.00.

Motion made by Councilman Dunwell to approve the following resolution, motion seconded by Councilman Savary. Roll Call: Ayes: Cartabona, Dunwell, Savary, C. Schwar, M. Schwar and Zikas. Nays: none.

RESOLUTION 2013-26 RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR INSTALLATION OF FLOW METER AT FRACE STREET WATER TREATMENT PLANT

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpha have determined that certain improvements are needed for the Borough's potable water system, including but not limited to installing a flow meter(s) at the Frace Street water treatment plant; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpha had openly and publicly bid such contract for said improvement work – specifically installing a flow meter(s) at the Frace Street water treatment plant – twice, pursuant to New Jersey law; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and the Council of the Borough of Alpha had rejected all bids by resolution(s); and

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A.*40A:11-1, *et seq.*, specifically 40A:11-5(3), allows for negotiating where the contract had been bid twice and bids were rejected twice for being too high or a combination of factors; and

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A.* 40A:11-5(3) provides that two thirds the members of council must vote to pass a resolution to negotiate a contract on similar terms and conditions like those in the contract that had been bid and rejected twice, and same has occurred; and

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A.* 40A:11-5(3) provides that the negotiated price must be lower than the lowest responsible bid that had been rejected.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Alpha, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that the said water system improvements contract for contemplated work, construction and improvements to the Borough's potable water system – including but not limited to installing a flow meter at the Frace Street water treatment plant – is hereby awarded to Penn Bower, Inc. of High Bridge, New Jersey, in an amount of \$25,000.00 for said work, with which the Borough Council agrees, upon written certification of funds by the Borough CFO.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough will do some of the original work itself with the total cost of the project to not exceed \$45,000.00, a substantial savings compared to the lowest responsible bid.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor, Clerk, Borough Attorney, and/or Borough Engineer are authorized to execute all necessary documents to effectuate the contract.

Motion made by Councilman Cartabona to approve the following resolution, motion seconded by Councilman Dunwell. Roll Call: Ayes: Cartabona, Dunwell, Savary, C. Schwar, and M. Schwar. Nays: Zikas.

RESOLUTION 2013-27 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BOROUGH ENGINEER RETAINER

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Alpha, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that the firm of Remington & Vernick Engineers is hereby authorized to act as the Borough Engineer and proceed with the construction management, inspection services and consulting engineering services for small Borough projects in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00, upon written certification of funds by the Borough CFO.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor, Clerk, Borough Attorney, and/or Borough Engineer are authorized to execute all necessary documents to effectuate the services.

Motion made by Councilman Dunwell to approve the following resolution, motion seconded by Councilwoman C. Schwar. Roll Call: Ayes: Dunwell, Savary, C. Schwar, M. Schwar and Zikas. Nays: none. Abstain: Cartabona,

RESOLUTION 2013-28
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BOROUGH ENGINEER TO PROVIDE CONSULTING ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR PIPING AND VALVE UPGRADES (FRACE ST. WATER TREATMENT PLANT)

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Alpha, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that the firm of Remington & Vernick Engineers is hereby authorized to act as the Borough Engineer and proceed with the consulting engineering services in regard to piping and valve upgrades at the Frace Street Water Treatment Facility in the Borough for the contemplated scope of work in accordance with the firm's proposal of January 18, 2013 (attached hereto) and in an amount not to exceed \$19,850.00, upon written certification of funds by the Borough CFO.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor, Clerk, Borough Attorney, and/or Borough Engineer are authorized to execute all necessary documents to effectuate the services.

Department Reports

Administration, Councilwoman Carol Schwar: Councilwoman Schwar stated that she asked the two employees in the Clerk's office to track their activities and how much time they spend on their activities. Councilwoman Schwar requested five minutes in executive session for personnel regarding the code enforcement officer and 15 minutes in executive session for personnel regarding office hours.

In closing, Councilwoman Schwar approved bills, salaries and wages for her department.

Finance, Councilman Michael Schwar: Councilman Schwar briefed the Mayor and Council on his email from Susan Weiner from the Joint Insurance on an upcoming seminar, which can save the Borough some money by having Department Heads and Council members attend.

In closing, Councilman Schwar approved bills, salaries and wages for his department.

Health & Welfare, Councilman Harry Zikas: Councilman Zikas reported that he left a message for Greg at Waste Management regarding Mrs. Mendolsons garbage can that was recently damaged.

In closing, Councilman Zikas approved bills, salaries and wages for his department.

Public Property, Councilman Michael Savary: Councilman Savary reported on damage at the park to the bubble ride that has since been repaired.

New lights were installed in the foyer and are supposed to be on a timer or a different switch so they are not on during the day. Councilman Savary reported on someone dumping concrete in the brush area. The video needs to be reviewed to see if identification can be made. Councilman Dunwell stated that he will contact the Phillipsburg Police Department regarding the matter.

Councilman Savary received a call from the insurance company regarding estimates on storm damage.

Councilman Savary requested five minutes in executive session for potential litigation regarding damage to a resident's property.

In closing, Councilman Savary approved bills, salaries and wages for his department.

Discussions ensued regarding better signage at the gate to the brush dump area.

Public Safety, Councilman Louis Cartabona: Councilman Cartabona reported on a meeting he had with the 911 Administrator and the Police Chief that was held on January 10th.

Councilman Cartabona stated he visited the communication center to view how calls from Alpha are handled.

Councilman Cartabona reported that OEM Coordinator, Hunter Stagg had a follow up meeting with FEMA.

Councilman Cartabona reported he reviewed a video pertaining to crossing guard safety and will review with the Police Chief.

Councilman Cartabona stated he is pursuing having a crossing guard on corner of High Street and Lee Avenue.

Councilman Cartabona stated that he would like to be included on the grant committee with the Fire department for fire truck grants.

Councilman Cartabona reported attending a seminar at the Phillipsburg Middle School regarding cyber bullying.

Councilman Cartabona gave the Fire Department report and stated there were 13 fire calls for January.

In closing Councilman Cartabona approved bills, salaries and wages for his department.

Brief discussions on the DARE bills listed on the bill list ensued.

Public Works, Councilman Craig Dunwell: Councilman Dunwell stated he spoke to individuals with the DEP about the Leigh Fuel situation. Emergency response team removed all hazardous containers from the location. The DEP is working with the property owner. Councilman Dunwell reported on a meeting with Stan Schrek regarding the Safe Routes to School project. The crosswalk at the intersection on corner of Lee and High street will need to wait until Spring. Norfolk Southern is staging new rail road ties along the railroad. An April window is being considered to install the ties. This would be our opportunity to have the bridge taken down.

Councilman Dunwell mentioned an irate phone call that came into the finance office, regarding lawn damage along 7th Avenue due to the project. Asphalt restoration, grass seed and mulch will be done by the contractor in the spring and he asked the public to be patient until project is complete.

Councilman Dunwell stated he is working on converting the pump house to gas heat. Contracts were received from Elizabethtown Gas Company. Motion made by Councilman Dunwell authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to execute contract for the installation of gas supply to the Pursel and Alpha Street pump houses. Motion seconded by Councilman Savary, roll call: Ayes: Cartabona, Dunwell, Savary, C. Schwar, M. Schwar and Zikas. Nays: none.

Councilman Dunwell stated that there is an error on the bill list for purchase orders # 12-00917 made payable to Remington & Vernick in the amount of \$45,360.00. This should read payable to Lance Electric.

Councilman Dunwell added that the approval for payment to Penn Bower in amount of \$35,113.40 is to be added to the bill list. This was not processed and put on the bill list and the CFO advised him to mention this at the meeting to be added.

In closing Councilman Dunwell approved bills, salaries and wages for his department.

Councilman Dunwell added that bill # 12-00736 payable to Roto Rooter will continue to be held.

Councilman Dunwell discussed the issue of areas that were jetted which identified areas that need immediate attention. Jim Hill has received bid quotes and is in the process of making sure paperwork is correct. It will be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. Motion made by Councilman Dunwell to award this project in the amount not to exceed \$15,000.00 to the lowest responsible bidder. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Schwar, roll call: Ayes: Dunwell, C. Schwar and M. Schwar. Nays: none. Abstain: Cartabona, Savary and Zikas. Motion failed.

Councilman Dunwell requested 10 minutes in executive for contractual concerning sewer to discuss this matter further.

Councilman Savary inquired about the Storr tractor and the repairs needed. Lengthy discussions ensued regarding the purpose of the tractor and the costly repairs that are needed.

Councilman Savary asked the Mayor if the Firehouse was still interested in the generator at Alpha Street pump house. Mayor Hanics responded that the Firehouse is no longer interested.

Committee Reports

Councilman Dunwell distributed a list to the Governing Body regarding proposed committees. There were some changes to Councilpersons being appointed to certain committees.

Mayor Hanics read into the record the following committees:

Computer Committee

Councilman Cartabona, Chairperson

Councilman Dunwell

Councilwoman Schwar

Employee Contract Committee

Councilman Schwar, Chairperson

Councilman Dunwell

Councilwoman Schwar

Green Acres/Recreation Committee

Councilwoman Schwar, Chairperson

Councilman Cartabona

Councilman Schwar

Historical Committee

Council Zikas, Chairperson

Councilman Cartabona

Councilman Savary

Insurance Committee

Councilman Schwar, Chairperson

Councilwoman Schwar

Councilman Zikas

Open Space Committee

Councilman Savary, Chairperson

Councilwoman Schwar

Councilman Zikas

Personnel Manual Review Committee

Councilwoman Schwar, Chairperson

Councilman Dunwell

Councilman Schwar

Police Coverage Committee

Councilman Cartabona, Chairperson

Councilman Dunwell

Councilman Savary

Public Information/Newsletter Committee

Councilwoman Schwar, Chairperson

Councilman Cartabona

Councilman Zikas

School Board Budget Committee

Councilman Cartabona, Chairperson

Councilman Schwar

Councilman Zikas

Shared Services Committee

Councilman Savary, Chairperson

Councilman Cartabona

Councilman Dunwell

Town Celebration/Community Day Committee

Councilman Zikas, Chairperson

Councilman Savary

Councilman Schwar

Water & Sewer Committee

Councilman Dunwell, Chairperson

Councilman Cartabona

Councilman Savary

Town Budget Committee

Councilman Schwar, Chairperson

Councilman Dunwell

Councilman Savary

Motion made by Councilman Dunwell to approve the forgoing committees, motion seconded by Councilman Cartabona. Roll call: Ayes: Cartabona, Dunwell, Savary, C. Schwar and M. Schwar. Nays: none. Abstain: Zikas.

Committee Reports

Budget-Councilman Schwar stated he will need to get a date from members on when to have a budget meeting.

Insurance- Councilman Schwar stated that the PAIC meeting has been rescheduled for February 26^{th} .

Budget- A budget meeting date was set for January 31st and Councilman Schwar stated he will speak with the CFO regarding this.

Professionals & Officials Report

Mayor, Edward Hanics: Mayor Hanics reported on the correspondence he received from the Warren County Board of Health concerning a draft shared services contract for local health services. Attorney Troxell stated he will review the contract.

Police, Chief James Falbourn: Chief Falbourn stated a summary of the report was emailed to Councilman Cartabona. A total of 136 calls for December. The police conducted six crash investigations. Chief Falbourn discussed briefly a press release regarding an incident in the 900 Block of Pursel Street for a suspicious person.

Chief Falbourn warned the Governing Body and the citizens of people posing as Elizabethtown Gas representatives and stated this is a possible scam. The gas company was contacted who confirmed that they did not have anyone in the area going door to door.

Chief Falbourn stated his department will provide temporary coverage of crossing guards.

Fire Department, Charles Bodogh: Chief Bodogh questioned Council if there was any meeting scheduled regarding expansion of the Firehouse with the Emergency Squad. Engineer, Stephanie Cuthbert, reported on an estimate of the expansion that was conducted by her office, which comes out to approximately \$500,000.00.

Attorney, Christopher Troxell: Mr. Troxell requested five minutes in executive session for personnel and five minutes for litigation.

Councilman Dunwell requested 10 minutes in executive session for potential litigation.

Councilman Cartabona requested five minutes in executive session for contractual in relation to the resolution for the emergency vessel.

Mayor Hanics also requested five minutes in executive session for contractual.

Engineer, Stephanie Cuthbert: Mrs. Cuthbert gave a summary of report that was distributed to Council regarding various projects throughout the Borough.

Recycling Coordinator, Tom Fey: Mr. Fey reported on tonnage reports needed from Industrial Park companies, which will boost the Borough's tonnage amount.

Councilman Savary stated that he does not recycle at his shop and asked Mr. Fey if he needs to submit a recycling report from his business.

Mr. Fey responded that a report regarding used oil should be submitted.

Stickers regarding verbiage to be placed at residents home were discussed briefly, with Mr. Fey stating he will work on getting these done.

Public Comment

Tim Mellert, North Blvd., reported damage to boards on the benches at the playground.

Mr. Mellert once again approached the topic of Safe Routes to School grant money.

Mr. Mellert reported on kids playing at the swimming pool an asked about the status of filling in the pool.

Mr. Mellert inquired about the Willever bill on the bill list.

Payment of Bills and Claims

Motion made by Councilman Dunwell to have the director's reports part of the minutes, motion seconded by Councilman Savary. Roll call: Ayes Cartabona, Dunwell, Savary, C. Schwar, M. Schwar and Zikas. Nays: none.

Motion made by Councilman M. Schwar to have the CFO authorized to pay all bills approved by the director's, motion seconded by Councilman Savary. Roll call: Ayes Cartabona, Dunwell, Savary, C. Schwar, M. Schwar and Zikas. Nays: none.

Motion made by Councilwoman Schwar that the CFO be authorized to pay all salaries and wages approved by the Directors, motion seconded by Councilman Cartabona. Roll call: Ayes Cartabona, Dunwell, Savary, C. Schwar, M. Schwar and Zikas. Nays: none.

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New Business

Motion made by Councilman Zikas to approve the following pavilion permit:

Pavilion Permit with alcohol: July 20th-Bernard Caccese

Motion seconded by Councilman Savary, roll call: Ayes: Dunwell, Savary, C. Schwar,

M. Schwar and Zikas. Nays: none. Abstain: Cartabona.

Executive Session

Motion made by Councilman Zikas to go into executive session for one hour (1) and fifteen (15) minutes, motion seconded by Councilwoman Schwar, all were in favor:

EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

- 1. The public shall be excluded from discussion(s) of the hereinafter specified subject matter(s).
- 2. The general nature of the subject matter(s) to be discussed is: Personnel, Litigation and/or Contractual,
- 3. It is anticipated at this time, that the above stated subject matter(s) will be made public when it is no longer a matter of confidentiality.
- 4. Action may or may not be taken after executive session.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the governing body of the Borough of Alpha that the public shall be excluded from an executive session for approximately, one-hour and 15- minutes, allowing for a five (5) minute recess between the regular session and the executive session.

Back in Regular Session

Motion made by Councilman Zikas, to return to the regular session, motion seconded by Councilwoman Schwar, all were in favor.

Motion made by Councilman Dunwell to approve the following resolution, motion seconded by Councilman Zikas. Roll call: Ayes: Cartabona, Dunwell, C. Schwar, M. Schwar and Zikas. Nays: none. Abstain: Savary.

RESOLUTION 2013-29 RESOLUTION CONCERNING AN EMERGENCY CONTRACT

WHEREAS, the Council of the Borough of Alpha is reluctant to enter into emergency contracts, but nonetheless realizes same are sometimes necessary; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the Borough of Alpha desires to list a chain of command for such emergency contract situations; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Alpha, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that the Mayor shall be authorized, upon proper notification and analysis, to award an emergency contract. In the Mayor's patent absence, the Council President shall be so authorized to award an emergency contract. Each shall base his or her decision on the analysis and recommendation of the department director or Borough professional and shall consult with the Borough CFO; said emergency contract(s) shall not be awarded unless the Borough CFO provides written certification of funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor, Council President, CFO, and/or Clerk are authorized to execute all necessary documents to effectuate the contract.

Motion made by Councilman Zikas to approve the following resolution, motion seconded by Councilman Dunwell. Roll call: Ayes: Cartabona, Dunwell, Savary, C. Schwar, M. Schwar and Zikas. Nays: none.

RESOLUTION 2013-30 RESOLUTION AWARDING AN EMERGENCY CONTRACT FOR A WATER SOFTENER PRESSURE VESSEL (EMERGENCY) REPLACEMENT AT THE FRACE STREET WATER TREATMENT PLANT

WHEREAS, the Council of the Borough of Alpha has determined that certain improvements are needed for the Borough's potable water system, now including but not limited to installing a water softener pressure vessel in an emergency at the Frace Street water treatment plant; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the Borough of Alpha has not openly and publicly bid such contract for said improvement work; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the Borough of Alpha has received analysis and recommendation from the Borough Engineer to award an emergency contact to have said pressure vessel constructed; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the Borough of Alpha agrees with the Borough Engineer's opinion that an actual or imminent emergency exists related to the vessel (or need therefor) that affects public safety, health, and welfare.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Alpha, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that the said water softener pressure vessel contract be awarded as an emergency contract, based on the analysis and recommendation of the Borough Engineer as attached and made a part hereof (1/22/2013), to G.J. Oliver, Inc., 50 Industrial Drive, Alpha, New Jersey, for \$51,924.00 upon written certification of funds by the Borough CFO.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor, Clerk, Borough Attorney, and/or Borough Engineer are authorized to execute all necessary documents to effectuate the contract.

Motion made by Councilman Dunwell, authorizing Jim Hill to award a contract for emergency repairs to the Borough's sanitary sewer system not to exceed \$14,0000 pending availability of funds from the CFO (emergency sewer repairs on 7th Avenue between Warren Street and East Vulcanite) Roll call: Ayes: Cartabona, Dunwell, C. Schwar, M. Schwar and Zikas. Nays: none. Abstain: Savary.

Councilman Dunwell approached the subject again of Klara Tarsi being the honorary chairwoman of the Historic Commission. Mayor Hanics added that a thank you card was received from Klara Tarsi for the flowers and plaque presented to her at her last Council meeting.

Councilman Cartabona discussed the State Mandate regarding the 911 Coordinator and is speaking with Frank Wheatley regarding this. Councilman Zikas stated that the title of 911 Coordinator was rolled in the title of Emergency Management Coordinator.

Motion made by Councilman Zikas to approve the following resolution amending the

salary of the Code Enforcement Officer from \$2,500.00 to \$3000.00. Motion seconded by

Councilman Savary. Roll call: Ayes Dunwell, Savary, C. Schwar, M. Schwar and Zikas. Nays:

none. Abstain: Cartabona.

RESOLUTION 2013-49 AMENDING RESOLUTION 2012-15 CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SALARY

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpha, County of Warren, and State of

New Jersey as follows:

Hire William D. Santawasso as Code Enforcement Officer for a one year appointment at the rate of \$3,000

per year to commence on January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before Council at this time, on motion made by

Councilman Zikas and seconded by Councilman Dunwell, this meeting adjourned at 10:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie A. Barton, RMC

13