Mayor Hanics called the Meeting of the Common Council of the Borough of Alpha to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 25, 2014.

Mayor Hanics announced that adequate notice of the meeting was given to the Star Gazette and/or 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 8, 2014, the Municipal Clerk delivered to Star Gazette and/or 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 Rooks, Councilwoman Schwar, Councilman Schwar, Councilman Seiss and Councilman Zikas. Also present, Attorney Christopher Troxell and Laurie Barton, Clerk.

Councilman Cartabona started the meeting with introducing applicants for the Fire

Department. Appearing before Council with a brief summary of their information were: Michael

Mecsey, Matt Silva, Brielle DePue and Nate Fillebrown (sic).

Motion made by Councilman Cartabona to approve the firemen's applications, motion seconded by Councilman Rooks. Roll call: Ayes: Cartabona, Rooks, C. Schwar, M. Schwar, Seiss and Zikas. Nays: none.

Public Comment

Louis Cartabona stepping down from the dais and speaking as a resident, 1159 5th Ave., read a prepared statement before Council regarding the pool.

Mike Stockwell, owner of a business servicing pools, stated that as a teenager he worked on the pool and knows the condition and how it runs.

Ryan Sokoloski, representative of the Phillipsburg Police Benevolent Association, offered the Borough their volunteer service to work on the pool citing skilled volunteers willing to work with the Borough to open it back up.

Mr. Sokoloski also mentioned using community service workers to help maintain the pool.

Mr.Sokoloski stated that this is their way of giving back to a community by offering their resources to assist the Borough.

Officer Cupon, Phillipsburg Police Department, stated the negative if a skate park is still being considered comparing it to their present skate park.

Mayor Hanics announced that representatives from Greenwich and Pohatcong were here tonight to have input of a possible shared service with the pool. Mayor Kern announced at this time they are only at the meeting to listen.

Lengthy discussion involving past referendums of the pool and cost of repairing it ensued.

Representative from Greenwich (Mayor Tauriello and Elaine Emiliani) also stated that they too came to the meeting to listen.

Tim Mellert, North Blvd., stated he is not against the pool or a skate park but recommended having both but with a smaller skate park. Mr. Mellert stated he would like to see something happen with the area.

Jack Price, Vulcanite Ave., inquired about why the Borough doesn't get large donations like Lopatcong and stated the Borough needs some form of gathering place for the community.

Hunter Stagg, West Central Ave., asked if anyone had a business plan for the pool.

Discussions of a proposal for the pool drafted by Councilman Cartabona ensued.

After lengthy discussions regarding the pool form residents, Mayor Hanics announced that he will have a committee to work on this matter further. Mayor Hanics stated he is pulling Resolution 2014-48 off the agenda.

Tim Mellert, North Blvd., inquired about Safe Routes to School update. Engineer, Frank Seney responded that they will meet with the DOT in an interview to convince them the Borough is worthy of getting another grant for the sidewalks.

Representatives from G.J Oliver came before Council to discuss their concerns on Avenue A near their business at Industrial Park.

An addition to one of their buildings is needed; to do this they would need to encroach on borough property on Avenue A. They would need to purchase part of Avenue A to add the addition.

Attorney Troxell stated he will reach out to the Land Use Board's Attorney to discuss this, and stated this would need to be publicly bid.

Beth Toth, South Blvd., asked who is responsible for checking that the sidewalks are clear of snow. Councilman Zikas responded that the Code Enforcement Officer is working on the issue.

Charles Bodogh, East Central Ave., discussed the snow emergency ordinance and parking issues.

Discussions ensued regarding the snow emergency ordinance with different ideas of enforcement being considered.

Tim Mellert, North Blvd., discussed the subject of cameras at the salt shed to catch those dumping illegally.

Sharon Decker, Sigsbee Ave., expressed her concerns with Argyle Alley not being plowed and nowhere else to park her car during a snow emergency.

Christine Boulous, East Central Ave., stated her concern over parking and the alleys not being plowed.

Joey Fore, Morris St., inquired about the pile of snow still on the corner of his street.

Councilman Seiss stated that the owner of the business was spoken to and they were supposed to have their contractor come back and get rid of the pile.

Hunter Stagg, East Central Ave., discussed the issue of why nothing was being done if they have witnesses taking plate numbers of persons dumping illegally.

Jim Pfeiffer, East Central Ave., stated that the gate has been open due to the salt trucks delivering salt to the borough, which he was told to keep the gate open.

Ordinance

Motion made by Councilman Zikas to open the public hearing for Ordinance 2014-02, motion seconded by Councilman Seiss, all were in favor.

ORDINANCE 2014-02 BOROUGH OF ALPHA ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF ALPHA AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CODE SECTION 248 LICENSED OCCUPATIONS

WHEREAS, the Council of the Borough of Alpha desires to amend a portion of Chapter 248, Licensed Occupations and amend its Code accordingly;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Borough of Alpha in the County of Warren and State of New Jersey that "Section 248, Licensed Occupations" be amended, in part, and supplemented as follows:

§ 248-1 Terms defined.

Commencement of Business

Commencement of a business shall be defined as the first instance when a business communicates with the public either by sign, flyer, advertisement or any other form of communication whether electronic, verbal or printed that their business entity has a product or service available while located within the Borough limits.

§ 248-3 Appointment; term; powers and duties.

The Borough License Officer shall be the Code Officer of the Borough of Alpha and shall be appointed for a term of one year by the Mayor and confirmed by the Council of the Borough of Alpha, and, when so appointed, he shall exercise the powers and duties prescribed in this chapter. The Council of the Borough of Alpha may, by resolution, fix the salary to be paid to such Borough License Officer or may incorporate same in the Code Officer's salary.

§ 248-25 Mercantile license fees.

- B. Any continuing business that fails to renew their license by January 31st shall be subject to a late fee of \$75. Any continuing business that further fails to renew by February 28th shall also be subject to an additional late fee of \$25 for each month thereafter.
- C. Any new business, subject to this section, that has not obtained the required license within 30 days of the commencement of the business, shall be subject to a late fee of \$50 and an additional late fee of \$25 for each 30 day period thereafter.
- D. In addition to late fees to be imposed pursuant to above subsections, B and C, any individual or entity that conducts business without a license after being notified in writing, of the requirement to obtain the same, shall be subject to the fines and penalties outlined in Section 248-31, Violations and Penalties.

§ 248-31 Violations and penalties.

In addition to the provisions for revocation, the Borough License Officer, Code Officer, the Chief of the Borough's police provider, any police officer of the Borough's police provider, or any taxpayer or resident of the Borough may make complaint in the Municipal Court of the Borough of Alpha for any violation of this chapter or any article, section, paragraph or provision thereof. Upon conviction in such case, for each and every violation, the person or entity committing, taking part or assisting in such violation or violations shall be subject to a fine not exceeding \$1,250, a period of community service not exceeding 90 days, or any combination thereof, in the discretion of the Judge of the Municipal Court. Each day that a violation is permitted to exist shall constitute a separate offense.

This Ordinance shall take effect after adoption and publication thereof as provided by law.

Motion to close the public hearing made by Councilman Zikas, motion seconded by Councilwoman Schwar, all were in favor.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-02 made by Councilman Zikas, motion seconded by ouncilman Cartabona. Roll call: Ayes: Cartabona, Rooks, C. Schwar, M. Schwar, Seiss and Zikas. Nays: none.

Motion made by Councilman Zikas to open the public hearing for Ordinance 201-04, motion seconded by Councilman Seiss, all were in favor.

ORDINANCE 2014-04 BOROUGH OF ALPHA

ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF ALPHA AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CODE SECTION 125 ALARM SYSTEMS

WHEREAS, the Council of the Borough of Alpha desires to amend a portion of Chapter 125, Alarm Systems and amend its Code accordingly;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Borough of Alpha in the County of

Warren and State of New Jersey that "Section 125, Alarm Systems" be amended, in part, and supplemented as

follows:

§ 125-2 Registration permit required.

- A. Any person who desires to own, operate, lease or maintain an alarm system within the Borough shall file a registration permit annually for a fee of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) to be paid to the police service provider. The permit shall contain the location of the alarm system, the installer's name and address, the type of device, information relating to false alarms and testing procedures, a list of names and addresses and telephone numbers of persons to be contacted, and those who will respond in the event of an alarm, and such other information as may be required by the police service provider.
- B. The police service provider shall issue a registration permit or make the appropriate internal account for the ownership, operation or maintenance of an alarm system to any person desiring to own, operate, lease or maintain an alarm system if the police service provider is satisfied that the registration information is complete and that the alarm system is capable of being operated in conformance with this chapter. Special conditions may be made, if this is deemed necessary.
- C. A registration permit shall be valid only for the calendar year in which it is issued, provided that all required amendments thereto have been filed. A registration permit shall automatically terminate upon a change in occupancy for the premises for which the permit was issued.
- D. Any permit granted thereunder shall be accepted upon the express condition that the registrant shall indemnify and hold the Borough harmless from and on account of any and all damages arising out of the activities of the registrant or its alarm contractor.

§ 125-3 Definitions.

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

ALARM SYSTEM

Any device employed to call attention to or provide warning by any person or by fire, smoke, flood or other peril, whether the same provides a visual or audio response, alarm or warning.

AUDIBLE ALARM

An alarm system which when activated emits a sound which can be heard beyond the boundaries of the premises on which it is located.

DIAL ALARM

That type of automatic telephone dialing service using the telephone system to transmit an alarm of intrusion, fire, smoke, flood or other peril to the police service provider or any third party.

DIRECT ALARM

An alarm device which has a direct line to the police service provider.

FALSE ALARM

Any alarm or signal of an alarm activated by inadvertence, negligence, the intentional or unintentional act of a person other than an intruder, and including alarms caused by mechanical failure, malfunction or improper installation of the alarm system and related equipment. False alarms shall not include activations caused by power or phone line interruptions, where such interruptions have been reported to the Borough of Alpha or its police service provider.

LOCAL ALARM

Any alarm device, other than a direct or dial alarm, which when activated produces an external emergency signal.

PERSON

Any individual, person, firm, association, partnership, corporation, organization, business entity or club.

REGISTRANT

Any person owning, operating, leasing or maintaining an alarm system within the scope of this chapter, who has been issued a registration permit or completed and submitted the proper documentation to the police service provider to operate and maintain such alarm system.

§ 125-4 Applicability.

The provisions of this chapter shall apply to any person who owns, operates, leases or maintains any alarm system situated within the Borough if the alarm system has an audible signaling device which requires a response by the police service provider, Alpha Fire Department, Emergency Squad or other Borough agency. The provisions of this chapter shall in no way prohibit service by a private source to persons within or outside the Borough, so long as such activity is not in violation of this chapter, and provided further that any person owning, operating, leasing or maintaining a premises protected by an alarm system shall be responsible for the registration thereof in accordance with this chapter.

§ 125-5 Alarm console.

Intentionally Deleted.

§ 125-6 Maintenance of system; disconnection of malfunctioning systems.

All components of an alarm system shall be maintained in good repair and shall operate in a proper manner. When evidence exists that there has been failure to comply with the maintenance and operation requirements of this chapter, the police service provider shall then be authorized to demand that such alarm system be disconnected until such time as compliance with the provisions of this chapter has been established. The police service provider shall have the right to disconnect any malfunctioning equipment from any alarm system until such time as the malfunction has been corrected and the alarm system is operating in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

§ 125-7 Time limit for audible alarms.

All audible signaling devices shall be equipped with a timing device to limit the sounding of the signaling device to 15 minutes or less.

§ 125-8 False alarms.

- A. In the case of a false alarm or of improper maintenance or operation of an alarm system, any person having knowledge thereof shall immediately notify the police service provider. The police service provider shall cause an investigation to be made of all false alarms and of all improper maintenance or operation of alarm systems and shall keep a record of such false alarms on file. For such alarms, the following penalties shall prevail:
 - 1. For the first and second false alarm in the same calendar year, a warning will be issued.
 - 2. For the third and fourth false alarm in the same calendar year, a service fee of \$50 per false alarm shall be paid to the Borough.
 - 3. For the fifth and/or all subsequent false alarms in the same calendar year, a service fee of \$100 per false alarm shall be paid to the Borough.
- B. Where the investigation of the police service provider discloses a continuous disregard by the owner for taking remedial steps for avoiding false alarms or for continuous failure to maintain or operate an alarm system properly, the police service provider shall have the right to require disconnection of the alarm system for a limited or permanent time, giving the owner an opportunity to show cause to the police service provider why such action should not be taken. A person aggrieved by the decision of the police service provider shall have the right to appeal said decision to the Borough Council within 10 days of the decision.

§ 125-9 Violations and penalties.

Any person or entity found to violate any of the terms or provisions of this chapter or who shall commit or do any act or thing prohibited in this chapter shall, upon conviction thereof before the Municipal Court, be subject to a fine not exceeding \$1,250.

Motion to close the public hearing made by Councilman Zikas, motion seconded by Councilwoman Schwar, all were in favor.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-04 made by Councilwoman Schwar, motion seconded by Councilman Cartabona. Roll call: Ayes: Cartabona, Rooks, C. Schwar, M. Schwar, Seiss and Zikas. Nays: none.

Resolutions

Motion made by Councilwoman Schwar to approve Resolution 2014-47, motion seconded by Councilman Zikas. Roll call: Ayes: Cartabona, Rooks, C. Schwar, M. Schwar, Seiss and Zikas. Nays: none.

RESOLUTION 2014-47 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.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Councilman Zikas to approve the minutes of 12/10/2013 and 12/30/2013. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Schwar, all were in favor.

Motion made by Councilman Zikas to approve and hold executive session minutes of 12/10/2013, motion seconded by Councilwoman Schwar, all were in favor with the exception of Councilman Seiss abstaining.

Department Reports

Administration, Councilman Harry Zikas: Councilman Zikas requested 15 minutes in executive session for personnel. In closing, Councilman Zikas approved bills, salaries and wages for his department.

Finance, Councilman Michael Schwar: Councilman Schwar stated a budget meeting is scheduled for March 10th at 6:30 PM. Councilman Schwar stated he met with the fire department and the treasurer of the fire department to set a long term budget. Councilman Schwar asked that all Directors meet with their departments to see what their needs are.

Insurance meeting was canceled and rescheduled to March 5th. In closing, Councilman Schwar approved bills, salaries for his department. Councilman Schwar requested five minutes in executive session for litigation and personnel.

Health and Welfare, Councilman Millard Rooks: Councilman Rooks stated he would like to submit a proposal to the Borough tonight of a new community committee called Helping Hands of Alpha. This is a volunteer program to assist residents in need of help with weather events. This would help the elderly and handicap who cannot help themselves. In closing, Councilman Rooks approves bills, salaries and wages for his department.

Public Property, Councilwoman Carol Schwar: Councilwoman Schwar reported on the leak in the copy room caused by snow on the roof. The contractor came in and fixed the spout.

Update on the HVAC system, the representative that came last month from Trane never did go on roof to inspect due to weather. The representative needs plans to the building and the amount of employees who work in building.

Councilwoman Schwar is meeting with JHM Signs to go over details on a new Industrial Park sign.

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

Public Safety, Councilman Louis Cartabona: Councilman Cartabona reported on the meeting he attend at the 911 center.

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

Public Works, Councilman Tom Seiss: Councilman Seiss reported on the meeting he had with the Engineer over the heater upgrades at the Alpha Street pump house. The pipe needs to be replaced and two more quotes are needed for the job but added that it may have to go out to bid.

The water softener vessel came back with two quotes over the threshold. The redundancy bid came in too high and will need that to be re-advertised.

Motion made by Councilman Seiss to authorize the Engineer to rebid for the Redundancy project, motion seconded by Councilman Zikas, all were in favor.

Motion made by Councilman Seiss to put out to bid for the water softener vessel, motion seconded by Councilman Zikas, all were in favor.

Councilman Seiss reported on a water break on Dewey Avenue citing that the pipes were laid on hard rock which contributed to the break. In closing, Councilman Seiss approved bills, salaries and wages for his department.

Professionals and Officials Reports

Police Chief, James Faulborn: Chief Faulborn gave the report for month of January. The Chief stated he met with the Attorney to go over the snow ordinance. Discussions of the snow ordinance ensued.

Emergency Squad: Twenty calls were received last month with 17 of those being medical emergencies. The Philipsburg Squad acquired an ATV type vehicle to their equipment.

The Phillipsburg Squad thanked the Borough Council for their donations and stated that they are still in need of volunteers.

OEM, *Hunter Stagg*: Mr. Stagg reported on the code red alert that went out for the snow emergency. Mr. Stagg stated he would like to meet with the Police Chief and transfer information over to Code Red. Mr. Stagg discussed what he does in preparation of an impending storm and what preparations would need to be taken in case of an emergency.

Mr. Stagg stated that the borough shelter is the firehouse with Phillipsburg having one in case of overflow.

Attorney, Christopher Troxell: Mr. Troxell requested 25 minutes in executive session for personnel, litigation and contractual.

Engineer, Frank Seney: Mr. Seney stated he has a hard copy of the storm water study. He received approval from the County regarding the cross walk on High and Lee streets; paper work will be submitted hopefully in March and April.

Mr. Seney discussed the grant process for a generator in the amount of \$5,000.00 and will get more information regarding the grant and the process.

Pennbower will be in next week to start the water project.

Recycling Coordinator, Tom Fey: Councilman Rooks stated that Mr. Fey is working gathering information to file his report for municipal waste.

Library, June Heyer: Ms. Heyer reported that they are still working on their budget but they need some figures regarding the administration fees. Ms. Heyer also asked which Council member would the library be working or falling under. Councilman Zikas stated that the library falls under Administration.

Ms. Heyer reported on the Extreme Couponing program they recently had.

An essay contest will be upcoming for the 4th and 5th graders.

Public Comment

Charles Bodogh, East Central Ave., commented on the snow ordinance and parking.

Bills and Claims

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

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

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

February 21, 2014 02:51 PM	Bi	BOROUGH OF ALPHA 11 List By P.O. Number			Page	No: 1
P.O. Type: All Range: First t Format: Condensed	O Last FINAL BILL LIST		Open: N Rcvd: Y Bid: Y	Paid: N Held: Y State: Y	Void: N Aprv: N Other: Y	Exempt: Y
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Old Business

Councilman Cartabona discussed the company on Edge Road who requested the status of them

signing a service contract for the Frace Street water plant. Councilman Seiss stated it hasn't gotten that

far yet.

Executive Session

Motion made by Councilman Zikas to approve the following resolution to go into executive

session for 45 minutes. Motion seconded by Councilman Rooks, 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 45 minutes, allowing for a five (5) minute

recess between the regular session and the executive session.

Return to Regular Session

Motion made by Councilman Zikas to return to regular session, motion seconded by Councilman

Rooks, all were in favor.

Councilman Cartabona discussed handing out literature regarding shared services drafted by him

and felt offended by some of the comments. Councilman Cartabona stated his belief of his right to email

and writing letters as long as it wasn't on letter head.

Attorney Troxell cautioned that although it was Councilman Cartabona's literature it could be

interpreted that it's an official document from the Borough.

Councilman Cartabona stated that this was a personal project of his and not representative of the

Borough but sent it to the Attorney for review. Councilwoman Schwar stated to Councilman Cartabona

that it makes it appear that he is acting alone.

Councilman Seiss added that he will be out of town next week.

Adjourn

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

Councilman Zikas and seconded by Councilwoman Schwar this meeting adjourned at 10:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Saurie A. Barton, R.MC

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