

Mayor Hanics called the Meeting of the Common Council of the Borough of Alpha to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 24, 2015.

Mayor Hanics announced that adequate notice of the meeting was given 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 1, 2015, the Municipal Clerk delivered to the Star Gazette/Express-Times and posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Clerk's office a notice containing the date, time, and place of this meeting of the 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, Councilwoman Grossman, Councilman Pettinelli, Councilman Rooks, Councilman Schwar, and Councilman Seiss. Absent: none. Also present, Borough Attorney Chris Troxell and Borough Clerk, Laurie A. Barton.

#### *Public Comment*

Mayor Hanics made the statement that Public Comment would be restricted to five minutes to allow other people to speak.

Mike Savary, Park Ave., asked if there was any more progress on reimbursement money on the Oswald sewer job.

Charles Bodogh, East Central Ave., stated the dumpster at the park is full to the top. Mr. Bodogh suggested having it locked during the winter months.

Chris Dragotta, Lyons Ct., complained about the abandoned homes on his street and their upkeep.

Thomas Fey, East Blvd stated on West Central and Helen Street there is a big dip in the road and in the alley behind his home.

Mike Savary questioned why a late fee on the mercantile application was not printed on original renewal notice.

Craig Dunwell, 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., questioned the time-line of Council Minutes and the appointment of Ms. Barton as the Utility Collector.

Bob Osborn from Milford, NJ stated that they put a bid in for the portable johns for the Borough and was there to introduce him and his company.

*Ordinances:* None

*Resolutions:*

Motion made by Councilman Cartabona to approve Resolution 2015-43, motion second by Councilman Schwar. Roll Call: Mr. Cartabona, Mrs. Grossman, Mr. Pettinelli, Mr. Rooks, Mr. Schwar and Mr. Seiss. Nays: none.

**RESOLUTION 2015-43  
TAX REDEMPTION REFUND**

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Collector of the Borough of alpha had advised the Mayor and Borough of Alpha, that the following properties have been redeemed within (5) years of the tax sale and a premium was paid at the time of the sale,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Borough of Alpha Council this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March 2015 that refunds been made to the certificate holder as noted:

Arthur Frustaci  
1178 Fifth Avenue  
Alpha, NJ 08865  
Block 21.01, Lot 17  
Certificate #201401  
Premium \$2,000

Motion made by Councilman Cartabona to adopt Resolution 2015-45, motion approved by Councilman Pettinelli. Roll Call: Mr. Cartabona, Mrs. Grossman, Mr. Pettinelli, Mr. Rooks, Mr. Schwar and Mr. Seiss. Nays: none.

**RESOLUTION 2015-45  
TAX REDEMPTION**

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Collector of the Borough of Alpha has advised the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Alpha, that the following properties have been redeemed within (5) years of the tax sale and a premium was paid at the time of sale.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Borough of Alpha Council on this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March 2015 that refunds been made to the certificate holder as noted:

FWDSL & Assoc, LP  
5 Cold Hill Road South, Ste #11  
Mendham, NJ 07945  
Block 29.02, Lot 7  
Certificate #201408  
Premium \$1, 3000

*Approval of Minutes:*

Motion made by Councilman Schwar to approve the regular meeting minutes with corrections of November 25, 2014 and December 16, 2014. Motion seconded by Councilman Rooks, all were in favor with the exception of Councilman Pettinelli abstaining.

*Department Reports:*

*Administration, Councilman Pettinelli:* Councilman Pettinelli stated that he received a quote from Jewell Computer for technical support and the possibility of looking into other companies for additional quotes. Councilman Pettinelli requested five minutes in executive session for contractual. In closing, Councilman Pettinelli approved salaries and wages for his department.

*Finance, Councilman Schwar:* Councilman Mike Schwar reported on communication with Raritan Township and the start date for the new CFO. In closing, Councilman Schwar approved salaries and wages for his department.

*Health & Welfare, Councilman Cartabona:* Councilman Cartabona stated that the company hired for the tree cutting completed their job. Councilman Cartabona requested to attend the recycling coordinator course for the compost course. In closing, Councilman Cartabona approved salaries and wages for his department.

*Public Property, Councilwoman Grossman:* Councilwoman Grossman reported on issues at the water tower with Sprint hiring a company to move equipment and leaving damage on Mr. Knobles property. They are getting estimates and will proceed to rectify the situation. Councilwoman Grossman stated that she and the Engineer would be looking into applying for a grant in regards for walking trails in the Borough and needed a motion to authorize moving forward with the paper work. Councilman Rooks made a motion to approve, Councilwoman Grossman seconded, and all were in favor. Councilwoman Grossman request 10 minutes in executive session for contractual regarding trash receptacles. Councilwoman Grossman asked for a motion to grant Stateliner Youth Association the use of circle field. Councilman Rooks seconded the motion and all were in favor with the exception of Councilman Schwar abstaining.

Mayor Hanics requested a roster and proof of insurance. In closing, Councilwoman Grossman approved all salaries and wages for her department.

*Public Safety, Councilman Rooks:* Councilman Rooks reported that the Phillipsburg Emergency Squad closed on the property. They are in the process of renovating the property and there will be an open house sometime in June. The Easter Egg Hunt will be on April 4, 2015, at 11 am. In closing, Councilman Rooks approved all salary and wages for his department.

*Public Works, Councilman Seiss:* Councilman Seiss reported he received bids for the grouting project. Councilman Schwar suggested having the bid openings here at the council meetings starting at 6:30 pm, prior to Council's regular meeting. All agreed. Councilman Seiss recommended the appointment of Charles Bodogh, Jr. as deputy sewer operator, motion was seconded by Councilman Rooks, all were in favor. In closing, Councilman Seiss approved salary and wages for his department.

*Committee Reports:*

**Shared Services:** Councilman Rooks stated that last month he and Councilman Cartabona met with a representative from the Phillipsburg Police Department regarding police coverage. Mayor Hanics requested 10 minutes in executive session for contractual in regards to the coverage.

*Professionals & Official Reports:*

*Mayor, Edward Hanics, Jr.:* Mayor Hanics stated his appointment of Barbara Ryan who will serve a four year term appointment on the Library Board. Council confirmed appointment with all in favor.

*Police Department, Chief James Faulborn:* Police Chief Faulborn gave the report for the month of February.

*OEM, Hunter Stagg:* Mr. Stagg thanked the Council for appointing Charles Bodogh as the deputy to his department.

*Engineer, Frank J. Seney:* Mr. Seney gave his report for the month of March.

*Sewer Engineer, Jim Hill:* Mr. Hill updated the Council on the grouting bids this morning and forwarded a summary tabulation sheet. Councilman Cartabona motioned authorization for sewer engineer contract. Councilman Seiss seconded, all were in favor.

*Recycling Coordinator, Thomas Fey:* Mr. Fey has not received the report from Waste Management. He requested Councilman Cartabona to call the company for the 2014 report.

*Code Enforcement, Thomas Fey:* Mr. Fey gave his report for the month.

*Library Board – June Heyer:* Library Board Member June Heyer thanked Council for the appointment of Barbara Ryan and announced a spring open house at the Library, in which a date is still being worked on. June Heyer requested permission to hook into our surveillance cameras for safety concerns in the library.

*Payment of Bills & Claims:*

Councilman Seiss made a motion to make the Director's Report part of the minutes. Councilman Rooks seconded the motion, all were in favor.

Councilman Cartabona made a motion that the CFO be authorized to pay all salaries and wages approved by the Director, Councilman Seiss seconded. Roll call: Ayes; Councilman Cartabona, Councilwoman Grossman, Councilman Pettinelli, Councilman Schwar and Councilman Seiss. Nays: none.

*Old Business:*

Motion made by Councilman Seiss to approve Resolution 2015-51, motion seconded by Councilman Cartabona. Roll call: Ayes: Cartabona, Grossman, Pettinelli, Rooks, Schwar and Seiss. Nays: None.

**RESOLUTION 2015-51  
RESOLUTION ALLOWING D.R. HORTON TO  
INSTALL DRY WATER MAIN ON CERTAIN PORTION OF FIFTH AVENUE**

**WHEREAS**, the Council of the Borough of Alpha has determined that a certain area of the 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue in the Borough of Alpha is in need of repair; and

**WHEREAS**, the D.R. Horton owns a Block 96, Lot 5 and presumably has an approved development for said site, requiring a water main to be run to the said property for potable water service through and by Aqua NJ, who has a limited water franchise for said property; and

**WHEREAS**, D.R. Horton seeks to install dry water main on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue from Somerset Street to East Central Avenue only, before the Borough commences pavement work on that portion of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue only.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Borough Council of the Borough of Alpha, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that D.R. Horton is permitted to install dry water main under/on 5<sup>th</sup>

Avenue from Somerset Street to East Central Avenue only, provided it has the Borough Engineer's approval, and provided that this is consistent with all Borough Land Use Board resolutions and D.R. Horton obtains all necessary permits and approvals.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Mayor, Clerk, and/or Borough Engineer are authorized to execute any and all necessary documents related to this resolution.

*Executive Session*

Motion made by Councilman Seiss to approve the following resolution, motion seconded by Councilman Cartabona, 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 35 minutes, allowing for a five (5) minute recess between the regular session and the executive session.

*Regular Session:*

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

Councilman Schwar made a motion to accept Castle Septic bid for the porta-johns. Councilman Cartabona seconded, all were in favor.

*Adjournment:*

Seeing no further business to come before Council, motion made by Councilman Pettinelli to adjourn, motion seconded by Councilman Cartabona , all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

*Laurie A. Barton*

Borough Clerk