

Mayor Hanics called the Meeting of the Common Council of the Borough of Alpha to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 28, 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. Also present Attorney Christopher Troxell and Deputy Clerk, Ellen Piperata.

Public Comment

Lengthy discussions regarding mercantile late fees ensued after complaints received from merchants. Council decided to refund any late fees paid to date by merchants for the current year.

John D 'Angelo (AYAA), Springtown Rd., discussed having activities for the children of the Borough and requested use of the pavilion to hold a picnic and requested waiver of pavilion fee.

Discussions ensued regarding the condition of the pool house.

Mike Savary, Park Ave., thanked Council for reimbursing the late mercantile fees. Mr. Savary inquired once again regarding the lateral issue and stated there is a video showing the lateral already installed on his property.

Craig Dunwell, 7th Ave., inquired about no second public comment on agenda. Mr. Dunwell asked why the chemical used for odor control was changed.

Mr. Dunwell inquired about the resurfacing of County 519 and asking the Freeholders for more catch basins.

Mr. Dunwell discussed the AYAA and the lack of communication and needing better organization.

Mr. Dunwell discussed the grass mowing contract. Discussions of the maintenance of the fields ensued.

(Name inaudible, Phillipsburg Resident) discussed an outreach program to help local children with Autism and a walk is scheduled for May 16th.

Public Hearing: Schley Avenue Sidewalk Improvements-NJDOT Safe Routes To School Phase II (West Vulcanite to North Boulevard)

Motion was made by Councilman Rooks to open the public hearing, motion seconded by Councilman Schwar, all were in favor.

Borough Engineer, Frank Seney presented to Council Phase II of the NJDOT grant the Borough received as part of the sidewalk improvement project. Mr. Seney reviewed the timeline of the grant submission and process time of getting it started.

Public Comment: Mike Savary asked about curbing. Craig Dunwell asked about having the road made longer and asked who the LPA for this project is.

Motion made by Councilman Cartabona to close the public hearing, motion seconded by Councilman Rooks, all were in favor.

Resolutions

Motion made by Councilman Rooks to table Resolution 2015-55, motion seconded by Councilwoman Grossman, all were in favor.

Motion made by Councilman Seiss to approve Resolution 2015-62, motion seconded by Councilman Schwar. Roll call: Ayes: Grossman, Pettinelli, Rooks, Schwar and Seiss. Nays: Cartabona.

RESOLUTION 2015-62 EXTEND GRACE PERIOD FOR PAYMENT OF WATER/SEWER BILLS

WHEREAS, the 2015 quarterly water/sewer bills will be mailed out beyond the April 1, 2015 date, as a result in a delay in circumstance unforeseen; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpha this 28th day of April 2015 that the grace period allowed for payment of the April 1, 2015 quarter be extended to May 13, 2015 and any payment received after said date will be charged interest from the original April 1, 2015 due date.

Motion made by Councilman Seiss to approve Resolution 2015-63, motion seconded by Councilman Schwar. Roll call: Ayes: Cartabona, Grossman, Pettinelli, Rooks, Schwar and Seiss. Nays: none.

**RESOLUTION 2015-63
RESOLUTION TO ADOPT TEMPORARY
EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS #1**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-20 provides that an addition to temporary appropriations necessary for the period prior to the adoption of the budget and regular appropriations, the Governing Body may, by resolution adopted by 2/3 vote of the full membership thereof, make emergency temporary appropriations for any purpose for which the appropriations may lawfully be made for the period between the beginning of the current fiscal year and the date of the adoption of the budget for said year.

WHEREAS, the total emergency temporary resolutions adopted in the year 2015 pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-20) including this resolution total of Current Fund \$556,450 and Utility 456,350.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of Alpha, that in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-20, the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to make the following emergency temporary budget appropriations in the 2015 current fund temporary budget and that said amounts be included under the correct headings in the municipal budget as adopted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that one certified copy of this resolution be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services and one certified copy with the Chief Financial Officer.

Current Fund		
<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>S&W</u>	<u>OE</u>
Admin & Exec	6,000	10,000
Elections		700
Municipal Clerk	20,000	1,000
Tax Collector	6,000	5,000
Tax Assessor	5,000	1,000
Legal		8,000
Engineering		5,000
Planning	5,000	
Payroll		2,700
Streets & Roads	40,000	20,000
Group Health Ins		33,000
Garbage	1,000	50,000
Buildings & Grounds	1,000	
Electric		10,000
Telephone		2,000
<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>S&W</u>	<u>OE</u>
Propane		5,000
Gasoline		2,000
PERS		45,350
Social Security		8,700
Bond Principal		60,000
Bond Interest		64,000
Animal	1,000	
Recreation		1,000
Court		5,000
Building Inspector	7,000	
SUI		1,000
Library	14,000	
Inter Local Police Services		105,000
Fire		5,000
TOTAL	\$106,000	\$450,450
CURRENT FUND TOTAL:	\$556,450	

Water/Sewer Utility		
<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>S&W</u>	<u>OE</u>
S&W	30,000	
OE		182,000
Bond Principal		70,000
Bond Anticipation Notes		80,000
Interest on Bonds		75,500
Interest on Notes		17,600
Social Security		1,000
SUI		250
TOTAL	\$30,000	\$426,350
UTILITY TOTAL:	\$456,350	
GRAND TOTAL:	\$1,012,800	

Motion made by Councilman Cartabona to table Resolution 2015-64, motion seconded by Councilman Schwar, all were in favor.

Department Reports

Administration, Councilman Peter Pettinelli: Councilman Pettinelli stated that the Clerk's office is still working on catching up. Councilman Pettinelli reminded everyone of the financial disclosure statements that are due to be filed online by the 30th. In closing, Councilman Pettinelli approved bills, salaries and wages for his department.

Finance, Councilman Michael Schwar: Councilman Schwar apologized for missing the last meeting. Councilman Schwar reported on the small shortfall in the budget and discussed options of cutting budgets or considers a tax increase. Discussions of setting up a budget meeting ensued.

Councilman Schwar introduced Charlie Daniel as the Borough's new Acting CFO.

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

Health and Welfare, Councilman Louis Cartabona: No report. In closing, Councilman Cartabona approved bills, salaries and wages for his department. Discussions of wild animals in resident's yards ensued. Discussions regarding what the Animal Control Officers duties are to these types of situations also ensued.

Public Property, Councilwoman Grossman: Councilwoman Grossman reported on nails that were found at the pavilion and will have the DPW remove them. Councilwoman Grossman reported on an issue of the playground equipment recently installed.

Councilwoman Grossman reported on the road to the quarry that is being installed and stated that it is still ongoing.

Councilwoman Grossman reported on getting estimates for landscaping on Borough property.

Discussions of using millings for the road at the quarry ensued. In closing, Councilwoman Grossman approved bills, salaries and wages for her department.

Public Safety, Councilman Millard Rooks: Councilman Rooks reported on the Emergency Squads upcoming Open House to be held in June. Councilman Rooks reported on the flushing of the fire hydrants that is scheduled and a code red alert will be done to notify the residents.

Councilman Rooks discussed recent vandalism in the area and urged residents to call the police if anyone notices ATV's on any of the fields. In closing, Councilman Rooks approved bills, salaries and wages for his department.

Public Works, Councilman Thomas Seiss: Councilman Seiss reported on the following: chipping will start up again this week, the 5th Avenue project will start on May 11th and the County Route 519 paving project will be starting sometime this summer. Councilman Seiss requested 15 minutes in executive session for contractual.

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

Professionals and Officials Reports

Mayor, Edward Hanics: Mayor Hanics reiterated the DOT letter awarding the Borough. Mayor Hanics read the letter received from the PTO regarding the annual town wide yard sales and stated permits will be sold at the library. Mayor Hanics reported on the resignation of the building service worker, in which May 8th will be her last day.

Police Chief, Jim Faulborn: Chief Faulborn gave the report for the month of March.

Attorney, Christopher Troxell: Mr. Troxell discussed the resolution that he sent and distributed to Council regarding 7th Avenue. Motion made by Councilman Schwar to approve Resolution 2015-65, motion seconded by Councilman Rooks. Roll call: Ayes: Grossman, Pettinelli, Rooks, Schwar and Seiss. Nays: none. Abstain: Cartabona.

**RESOLUTION 2015-65
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BOROUGH ENGINEER TO
PROVIDE CONSULTING ENGINEERING SERVICES
FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF 7th AVENUE – PHASE II
FY2015 NJDOT MUNICIPAL AID**

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 engineering services in regard to the Reconstruction of 7th Avenue - Phase II (FY2015 NJDOT Municipal Aid Grant) for the contemplated scope of work in accordance with the firm's proposal April 22, 2015 (attached hereto) and in an amount not to exceed \$51,025.00, upon written certification of funds by the Borough CFO.

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

Mr. Troxell in ending his report requested 10 minutes in executive session for litigation.

Engineer, Frank Seney: Mr. Seney summarized the Engineers report previously distributed to Council. Mr. Seney reported on the project on 5th Avenue that D. R. Horton did with installing saddles.

Sewer Engineer, Jim Hill: Mr. Hill gave his report summarizing ongoing sewer projects and a proposed ordinance he is suggesting to Council to adopt (grease traps).

CFO, Charles Daniel: Mr. Daniel reported that he is schedule to take the CFO test on June 1st.

Payment of Bills & Claims:

Councilman Cartabona made a motion to make the director’s reports part of the minutes. Councilman Rooks seconded the motion, all were in favor.

Councilman Seiss made a motion that the CFO be authorized to pay all bills authorized by the director. Councilman Cartabona seconded the motion. Roll call; Ayes; Cartabona, Grossman, Rooks ,Pettinelli, Schwar, and Seiss. Nays: none.

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

April 23, 2015 12:00 PM		BOROUGH OF ALPHA Bill List By P.O. Number			Page No: 1		
PO #	PO Date	Vendor	PO Description	Status	Amount	Void Amount	PO Type
14-00734	12/30/14	JEWELL	JEWELL COMPUTING SOLUTIONS LLC	12/30 IT Improvements	Open	6,332.94	0.00
15-00137	03/07/15	HOME	HOME DEPOT/GEFCF	cleaning prod/keys/light/stapl	Open	152.35	0.00
15-00146	04/16/15	VITAL	VITAL COMMUNICATIONS, INC	MOD IV	Open	100.00	0.00
15-00147	04/16/15	ALLIED	ALLIED OIL, LLC	4/7/15 PREMIUM GASOLINE	Open	819.15	0.00
15-00149	04/21/15	JCPL	JCP&L	200 000 030 060 - 4/8/15	Open	2,971.02	0.00
15-00152	04/21/15	AQUA	AQUA NEW JERSEY	HYDRANTS 12/29/14-3/27/15	Open	66.87	0.00
15-00153	04/21/15	FINCH	FINCH FUEL OIL CO., INC.	FUEL	Open	1,214.52	0.00
15-00154	04/21/15	FREY ENG	FREY ENGINEERING, LLC	ORDINANCE REVIEW	Open	3,307.50	0.00
15-00155	04/21/15	LSI	LINE SYSTEMS, INC	TELEPHONE 3/1/15-3/31/15	Open	653.72	0.00
15-00156	04/21/15	MGL	MGL PRINTING SOLUTIONS	TAX SUPPLIES	Open	54.00	0.00
15-00157	04/21/15	DOG	NJ DEPT OF HEALTH & SENIOR SER	FEB DOG REPORT	Open	51.00	0.00
15-00159	04/23/15	NJPLAN	NEW JERSEY PLANNING OFFICIALS	MANDATORY CLASSES	Open	160.00	0.00
15-00160	04/23/15	EXCLUSIV	Exclusive Accounting Services	Special Payroll Run	Open	61.84	0.00
15-00161	04/23/15	LSI	LINE SYSTEMS, INC	4/1/15-4/30/15 BILLING	Open	688.00	0.00
15-00164	04/23/15	METZE	METZ & SON ELECTRICAL, INC	SERVICE CALL TO REPAIR	Open	533.96	0.00
15-00167	04/23/15	ELIZGA	ELIZABETHTOWN GAS	GAS BILLING	Open	291.40	0.00
15-00172	04/23/15	PUBLI	PUBLIC ALLIANCE INS. COVERAGE	WORKERS COMP,LIABILITY	Open	43,612.00	0.00
Total Purchase Orders: 17				Total P.O. Line Items: 0	Total List Amount: 61,070.27	Total Void Amount: 0.00	

New Business

Motion made by Councilman Schwar and seconded by Councilman Rooks to approve the pavilion permit for Tracy Grossman with alcohol for May 30th, all were in favor with the exception of Councilman Cartabona and Councilwoman Grossman abstaining.

Executive Session

Motion made by Councilman Rooks to approve the following resolution, motion seconded by Councilman Pettinelli, 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 Seiss to return to regular session, motion seconded by Councilman Cartabona, all were in favor.

Motion made by Councilman Pettinelli to approve Resolution 2015-66, motion second by Councilman Rooks. Roll call: Ayes: Cartabona, Grossman, Pettinelli, Rooks, Schwar and Seiss. Nays: none.

**RESOLUTION 2015-66
WAIVER OF LATE FEES FOR MERCANTILE LICENSES
AND REFUND OF ANY LATE FEES PAID FOR THE YEAR 2015**

WHEREAS, the Borough Council amended an ordinance to assess late fees for those businesses located in the Borough of Alpha required to pay a mercantile licensing fee of \$100.00 annually; and

WHEREAS, the renewal notices that went out this year (2015) did not contain a due date for said payment and did not mention the late fees; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council seeks to be fundamentally favor in dealing with the merchants and businesses in the Borough.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council hereby waives any and all late fee assessments related to payment of the \$100.00 mercantile license fee required for 2015 by the Borough and hereby also authorize the refund of any late fee(s) paid by the businesses related to the Mercantile License paid of 2015.

The CFO and Clerk are hereby authorized to execute all documents necessary and related to this.

Adjournment:

Seeing no further business to come before Council, motion made by Councilman Pettinelli to adjourn at 10:00 p.m., motion seconded by Councilman Rooks , all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie A. Barton

Borough Clerk