

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Township Council of the Township of East Hanover held on Tuesday, January 20, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. in the Municipal Building, 411 Ridgedale Avenue, East Hanover, New Jersey.

The Clerk called the meeting to order.

Present: Councilmembers Tedesco, Jocher, DeRosa, Jandoli, and Mayor Pannullo

Also Present: Administrator C. Richard Paduch and Township Attorney Matthew O'Donnell

The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilman Tedesco gave the Invocation.

Mayor Pannullo read the Public Announcement in which he stated that the meeting had been advertised, the press notified, and the notice posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building.

Adoption of **December 9** and **December 30, 2009** Minutes:

Motion by Councilwoman Jandoli, seconded by Councilman DeRosa to adopt said minutes.

Ayes: Councilmembers Tedesco, Jocher, DeRosa, Jandoli, and Mayor Pannullo

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

1. Ron Montrose, 11 Beach Street, questioned and voiced concerns with regard to the budget, diminished health benefits for new hires, and property tax reimbursement forms. He again addressed a hazardous traffic situation at Castle Ridge Plaza when cars exit to turn left onto River Road. This extremely dangerous area he further said was exacerbated by cars exiting from Daffy's making a left-hand turn. The Administrator indicated that many attempts were made in the past to correct this safety issue, but was ineffective since this portion of River Road was regulated by the state. The Mayor stated that the Township Engineer would appeal to the State Department of Transportation for support in this regard.

2. Lois Sullivan, 4 Courter Lane, addressed a dangerous icy condition on her street. She was advised today by the Administrator that Courter Lane would no longer be sanded because it was unlawful to do so since it was a private road. Mrs. Sullivan claimed that Courter Lane was not private since the road was never closed and the Township had been providing services. On behalf of the other five homeowners, she felt that the road should be sanded and properly maintained by the Township. The Mayor replied that a report was pending from the Engineer, and further discussion in this matter would continue at the next meeting.

3. Bernard Radomski, 6 Courter Lane, explained that the road was maintained for approximately ten years because Ray Grossmann, Superintendent of Public Works at that time, said Courter Lane qualified under the NJ Municipal Services Act as a "fee simple community" eligible for Township services. Mr. Paduch unequivocally stated that Courter Lane was not a qualified community under the statute.

4. Tom Hill, 223 Willows Road, Fredon, addressed the Council on behalf of *Stop The Lines*, a committee formed in opposition to the Susquehanna-Roseland Power Line Project. Essentially, he said the purpose of *Stop The Lines* was to create public awareness and garner support from local, state, and government officials to stop the project. A brief discussion followed.

Motion by Councilman Tedesco, seconded by Councilman DeRosa to close the public input.

Ayes: Councilmembers Tedesco, Jocher, DeRosa, Jandoli, and Mayor Pannullo

**COUNCIL INPUT:**

Councilman Tedesco thanked former Board members Linda Musso, Barbara Keating, and Philip Maenza for their dedicated service to the community. He gave a Recreation Department report providing information for upcoming programs.

Councilman Jocher recommended that the Council have a work session one hour prior to a regular monthly meeting because he felt this would afford the Council to work as a team on important issues. The Mayor felt this was unnecessary since any matters that needed discussion would be considered in public session and not behind closed doors.

Councilman Jocher then mentioned priorities that he would actively pursue this year; a supermarket in the community, institute a consistent employee hiring process, improve the Recreation Department, control the construction and minimize the impact of congested roads; and most importantly, budget meetings with department heads to improve financial efficiencies.

Councilman Jocher likewise thanked the former board members, which he said the Mayor solely decided not to reappoint. He wished the Mayor had shared those appointments in a timelier manner as he would have liked to have input. Councilman Jocher concluded with a First Aid Squad report and announced that the Mayor and Councilman DeRosa supported the efforts of the Squad to explore options in order to provide the best emergency medical service to residents. One option considered was an outside fee to residents for emergency services, and said that this matter would be discussed at the next First Aid Squad meeting.

Councilman DeRosa addressed Councilman Jocher's suggestion for a closed door session prior to a regular meeting and also his reference to a potential fee to residents for outside emergency medical services. First, he was at a loss as to why Councilman Jocher would want a closed door session when he has clearly advocated for a "transparent" government. Secondly, Councilman DeRosa indicated that he has and would continue to strive for better service to residents, and firmly believed that it was a gross miscarriage of justice to our residents to wait for an outside agency for emergency medical services. He clarified that he did look into the services of an outside agency at no cost to residents, other than what their insurance would pay.

In conclusion, Councilman DeRosa emphasized that budget cuts were necessary, especially in the areas of overbilling on overtime for DPW employees. Also, he felt department heads should be present at meetings to initiate a more efficient moving government. Councilman DeRosa gave a Police Department report and commended Patrolman Chris Cannizzo and Lt. James Monaghan for an excellent job during a bank robbery pursuit.

Councilwoman Jandoli reported on the reorganization meeting of the Special Improvement District and said that the new president was Mario Accumanno. She wished all the high school winter sport teams good luck for a successful season.

Mayor Pannullo directed his remarks to Councilman Jocher in response to the Councilman's comments regarding mayoral appointments. He pointed out that changes occur with every new administration, and he presented those appointments in a timely manner. The Mayor clearly stated that he never said there was wrongdoing with any of the former board volunteers, and he appointed individuals that he felt would best serve his administration. Furthermore, he was always available to discuss the appointments with Councilman Jocher. The Mayor expressed that there would be more harmony amongst the Council once Councilman Jocher realized there was no great conspiracy or back-door politics going on and also, there are certain things the Mayor has sole power to do with our form of government.

In conclusion, Mayor Pannullo gave a Fire Department report and extended get well wishes to Carmine Davino, Fire Official.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Matters listed within the Consent Agenda have been referred to members of the Township Council for reading and study, are considered to be routine, and will be enacted by one motion of the Township Council with no separate discussion. If separate discussion is desired, the item may be removed from the Consent Agenda by Council action and placed on the regular agenda under new business.

Motion by Councilman Jocher, seconded by Councilman Tedesco to add Resolution No. 1n-2009 and remove Resolution No. 3-2009.

Ayes: Councilmembers Tedesco, Jocher, DeRosa, Jandoli, and Mayor Pannullo

- 1a-2009 - Resolution Re: RL:1360 - HSA Burnet Hill School
- 1b-2009 - Resolution Re: RL:1361 - HSA Burnet Hill School
- 1c-2009 - Resolution Re: RL:1362 - HSA Burnet Hill School
- 1d-2009 - Resolution Re: RL:1363 - PTA Amos W. Harrison School
- 1e-2009 - Resolution Re: RL:1364 - PTA Amos W. Harrison School
- 1f-2009 - Resolution Re: RL:1365 - PTA Amos W. Harrison School
- 1g-2009 - Resolution Re: RL:1366 - EH Italian American Club
- 1h-2009 - Resolution Re: RL:1367 - PTA Hillside Elementary
- 1i-2009 - Resolution Re: RL:1368 - PTA Hillside Elementary
- 1L-2009 - Resolution Re: RL:1371 - Caldwell College
- 1m-2009 - Resolution Re: RL:1372 - Caldwell College
- 1n-2009 - Resolution Re: RL:1373 - Holy Family Catholic Church
- 2 -2009 - Resolution Re: Appointments to Municipal Alliance

4 -2009 - Resolution Re: Participation in Morris County Adaptive Recreation

Motion by Councilman DeRosa, seconded by Councilman Tedesco to adopt the foregoing resolutions.

Ayes: Councilmembers Tedesco, Jocher, DeRosa, Jandoli, and Mayor Pannullo

**COMMUNICATIONS and DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

The Administrator apprised the Council that the Construction Official ordered the garage at Loew's Theatre closed because the stairways where the concrete was falling to the level below were impassable. This was an ongoing situation for the past eight months because of a disagreement between the owners as to responsibility.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**3-2009 - Resolution Re: Authorize Mayor as Agent to Execute Documents for Sewer Extension Permits**

The Administrator explained that basically the resolution was a yearly ministerial act that would give the Mayor, as the chief executive of the Township, the authority to execute any and all documents in connection with DEP applications for sewer extension permits. Councilman Jocher requested that the resolution be carried to the next meeting so that he would have ample time to review applicable documents.

**5-2009 - Resolution Re: Closed Session**

Motion by Councilman DeRosa, seconded by Councilwoman Jandoli to adopt said resolution.

Ayes: Councilmembers Tedesco, Jocher, DeRosa, Jandoli, and Mayor Pannullo

The Council went into Closed Session at 8:50 P.M. The meeting reconvened at 10:15 P.M.

Present: Councilmembers Tedesco, Jocher, DeRosa, Jandoli, and Mayor Pannullo

**PAYMENT OF BILLS:**

Motion by Councilman DeRosa, seconded by Councilman Jocher to pay bills in the amount of \$5,023,103.52.

Ayes: Councilmembers Tedesco, Jocher, DeRosa, Jandoli, and Mayor Pannullo

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Councilman DeRosa, seconded by Councilman Jocher to adjourn meeting.

Ayes: Councilmembers Tedesco, Jocher, DeRosa, Jandoli, and Mayor Pannullo

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 P.M.

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MARILYN J. SNOW  
Township Clerk

We attest these minutes to be true and correct:

\_\_\_\_\_ MAYOR PANNULLO  
\_\_\_\_\_ COUNCIL PRESIDENT JANDOLI  
\_\_\_\_\_ COUNCILMAN DEROSA  
\_\_\_\_\_ COUNCILMAN JOCHER  
\_\_\_\_\_ COUNCILMAN TEDESCO