

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
April 3, 2012

ATTENDANCE:

Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple
Councilman Surrency
Councilman Thompson
Pres, Zapolski
Mayor Kelly
Mun. Solicitors Baker
Business Administrator Goodreau

CALLED TO ORDER: Pres. Zapolski

STATEMENT OF MEETING NOTICE: Clerk read statement of meeting notice, "Adequate notice of this meeting pursuant to N.J.S.A.10:4-6 giving the time, date, location and agenda to the extent known has been given in the following manner:

1. by posting notice of said meeting on the bulletin board at City Hall Annex, 181 East Commerce Street, Bridgeton, New Jersey on March 30, 2012 at 4:30 p.m.
2. By mailing such notice to the News of Cumberland County and the Press on March 30, 2012 at 4:30 pm.

PRESENTATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

AGENDA REVIEW

H-1 Pres. Zapolski presented information received from residents regarding the Ordinance especially penalties for vacancy for more than 30 days, discussion ensued at the conclusion it was agreed to Table the Ordinance for further consideration also that Council concerns would be forwarded to the Business Administrator.

H-3 Removed from the Agenda due to advertising required time.

J-5 Business Administrator presented changes to the Personnel Policy such as: Union Contract Changes, Sick Day Policy, Excused and Unexcused Absences and Pregnancy Leave.

OTHER BUSINESS/CONCERNS

Taxi Ordinance Amendment, Pres. Zapolski explained the change would limit the number of taxicabs instead of taxi drivers. Council agreed it be placed on Agenda this evening for first reading. Administrator informed Council that a letter went out Monday, April 9, 2012 to taxi company owners stating the ordinance will be enforced, as there has been evidence on non-compliance.

Payment of Yearbook Ad was discussed at the conclusion the Administrator would be reimbursed individually by each Council member.

Zoning Boundary Change, Pres. Zapolski briefed Council on change, Resolution prepared for this evening which Council agreed to place on Agenda this evening as J-6

Best Practices the Business Administrator presented the Best Practices for review by Council.

Trash Collection Fees Pres. Zapolski reviewed fees for the year reflecting a savings which will be applied to surplus.

Alcoholic Beverage Awareness Month Pres. Zapolski presented Resolution declaring April as Alcoholic Beverage Awareness Month which Council agreed to place on this evening's agenda as J-7.

Union Street One Way Pres. Zapolski informed Council Fire Department is okay with change but still waiting for canvass and cost report.

Water Main Break, Administrator distributed picture of break that took place.

Department of Transportation Award, Administrator reported on Financial Aid for Phase II Hampton Street.

Splash Park, Administrator reported RFP being accepted and company chosen and resolution will be placed on next meeting agenda to award and offered Council to take a look at same.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved by Mr. Surrency second by Mrs. Lugardo-Hemple RESOLUTION NO.228-11 to enter into an executive close session to discuss the following:

All areas, Executive Minutes, Attorney Client Privilege New Jersey Ethanol, Real Estate Renewable New Jersey, Litigation-Fire Code Enforcement, and Personnel – Department Head Appointment, Business Administrator, and Public Safety – Alcoholic Beverage License Transfer which motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote. The original Resolution may be found in the Resolution Book.

OTHER BUSINESS/CONCERNS

Fertilizer Usage Pres. Zapolski brought to Council's attention the law enforcing the general policy of companies' use of fertilizers on lawns, after discussion the Solicitor informed Council the city needs to do nothing but enforce the law enacted.

COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS

Councilman Thompson, None

Councilman Surrency, None

Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple reported Iris Santiago as new Board President of the Housing Authority; other members are taking courses and doing well.

Councilman Spence, absent

Pres. Zapolski informed Council that revisions to the Zoning ordinance continue and then asked the Solicitor to explain the process.

PUBLIC PORTION: None

OTHER BUSINESS/CONCERNS

Administrator voiced concern to be careful of remarks to the public in regards to ordinances which should be handled in public forum; discussion was ensued regarding the issue.

Mayor inquired about what Council has in mind in regards to the vacant property ordinance which was removed this evening.

Pres. Zapolski responded that the unfair nature of the proposed restrictions, and fines imposed need to be revisited, and also consider the liability insurance policy vs. demolition bond concerns brought up by Solicitor.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further items of discussion, it was moved by Mr. Thompson and second by Mrs. Lugardo-Hemple that the Work Session be adjourned which motion was carried.

Pres. Zapolski adjourned the Work Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:

Darlene J. Richmond
Municipal Clerk

Michael D. Zapolski, Sr.
Council President