

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

August 4, 2015

ATTENDANCE:

Councilman Edwards arrived late
Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple
Councilman Zapolski
Pres. Surrency
Mayor Kelly
Administrator Dale Goodreau
Municipal Solicitor Bertram

CALLED TO ORDER: Pres. Surrency

STATEMENT OF MEETING NOTICE: Deputy 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 July 31, 2015 at 4:30 p.m.
2. By mailing such notice to the South Jersey Times and the Press on July 31, 2015 at 4:30 pm."

PRESENTATION/S: Administrator Dale Goodreau presented the 2015 Temporary Year Budget to City Council.

AGENDA REVIEW

C- Invocation/Flag Salute- Councilwoman Gladys Lugardo-Hemple

J-1 Amending Resolution 273-11 allocation of UEZ Funding - Councilman Zapolski raised concern over the use of first and second generation funds and feels this use of the money does not follow the UEZ guidelines. Administrator Goodreau disputed that notion pointing out that Kevin Rabago spoke to a representative of the UEZ office who told him it would not be an issue to allocate these funds as intended. Councilman Zapolski stated that he spoke to the same representative as Mr. Rabago, but was unable to get a definitive answer on the topic so would like to wait until we get clarification from the Director of the Division of Local Government Services. Much discussion ensued and it was decided to pull this resolution from the consent agenda and have a separate vote on the matter.

J-5 Awarding bid for required electrical installation and repair services – Councilman Zapolski pointed out that there was an attachment that accompanied this resolution that he did not receive until this evening. He stressed that he would really like to have all agenda items sent together. However, if that is not possible, an e-mail should go out stating there is a pending attachment to accompany the resolution so he could look it over prior to the meeting. Administrator Goodreau stated he would see this gets done in the future.

J-6 Authorizing electrical improvements at Cohanick Zoo approved vendor G.M. White Contractor – Administrator Goodreau stated that by making these electrical improvements at the zoo we will be enhancing our major events there, particularly the Festival of Lights. Mayor Kelly pointed out that rather than having the festival for two days, we will be able to have it an entire week, making it more of a regional event.

ADDITIONS CONSENT AGENDA

Authorizing submission question for non-binding referendum regarding library funding – Administrator Goodreau noted that this is the final meeting for Council to reach a decision on this to meet the timeframe needed for the question to get on the ballot. Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple stated that she has been asking a lot of people at the library if they would like to see such a question placed on the ballot and they would. Mayor Kelly expressed his concern because he stressed that those individuals at the library will vote in favor of funding the library because they enjoy the library, but not all voters will. He also raised concern over the short timeframe available to campaign for the library if it were to go on the General Election ballot. He feels that most of the voters don't utilize the library and would like to have a full-on campaign for it prior to such a question being asked to ensure a positive outcome is achieved. Council President Surrency stated that he also feels the question should be left off of the ballot. Councilman Zapolski contended that he would still like to see it on. Council President Surrency suggested to have a separate vote on the matter and all agreed.

COMMITTEE LIASION REPORTS:

Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple, reported on the library, noting that our Summer Reading Program for the kids is fantastic. Terry does a fine job working and interacting with the children, making the program a great success. She also brought up the many empty buildings in our downtown area which need businesses. Administrator Goodreau verbalized that we just hired a new assistant in Planning and Development who is a real go-getter in addition to a licensed realtor, so we are hoping there are some connections and contacts to be made. Mayor Kelly added that there has been some recent discussion on a new business coming to our downtown area with a proven track record of success. He will keep everyone updated on any progress made.

Councilman Edwards did not have a report, but did note that he had a work obligation that needed to be tended to which caused him to be late this evening.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Administrator stated that City Council needs to be utilizing City e-mail in order to remain compliant with OPRA requirements. Personal e-mail can be used in addition to City e-mail as long as the conversation threads are being sent to both e-mail addresses at all times. If they are not both being used exactly the same, he stressed City Council to forward the messages that did not go through their City e-mail account if it pertains to City business. He also strongly urged City Council to use their City e-mail as their primary e-mail account to alleviate future problems. Administrator Goodreau also brought up that the Rotary Club wants to hold a community wide yard sale in an empty lot downtown which is owned by the City. He stated that Councilman Spence is supposed to provide us with further details on the matter. Councilman Zapolski raised the issue that having such an event violates the definition of

“yard sale” in the ordinance. Administrator Goodreau agreed and noted that this is why City Council would need to give special permission for the event, but warned it may set a precedence in the future.

Administrator Goodreau also asked Council to look over a memo sent to them from Recycling Coordinator, Jerome Cassidy regarding exempt facilities. He informed them that there would be a resolution on the next agenda for Council to approve making our convenience center compliant with County/ DEP regulations.

Administrator Goodreau also brought up a letter he received from the Department of Agriculture addressing the possible need to spray for gypsy moths in our Parks/ Recreation vicinity. He is having them conduct a survey of the recommended area which he will present to Council once it is received.

Administrator Goodreau also addressed the status of the Ethanol facility, noting that we are back on track now that Leo Fisher is back from being out of the country.

Administrator Goodreau raised the issue on the Swedish Village noting the company that was going to take the cabins and relocate them may delay this project for several years. There was discussion on the possibility of the City disassembling them and having them stored or just completely demolishing the cabins all together since they are so dilapidated at this point. All agreed that they are an eye sore in the center of all the great work that has gone into the park project and something needs to be done about it. Mayor Kelly suggested creating a deadline of October 1st for something to happen or the buildings should just be demolished at that point in time so the City can move forward.

Administrator Goodreau informed City Council of a leak that occurred in the library over the weekend due to the water heater rupturing. ServPro was able to remediate the mess that was created.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion by Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple and a second by Councilman Zapolski, RESOLUTION NO. 253-15 was authorized in order to enter into executive session to discuss: Litigation: Delp v. City of Bridgeton and Public Safety: Beer Garden Application. The resolution was adopted by unanimous roll call vote. The original resolution may be found in the Resolution Book.

PUBLIC PORTION: None

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further items of discussion, it was moved by Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple and seconded by Councilman Zapolski that the Work Session be adjourned which motion was carried.

Pres. Surrency adjourned the Work Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:

Jeanne M. Hitchner, RMC
Deputy Municipal Clerk

Jack Surrency, Council President

Date: _____