

MINUTES
BEVERLY CITY COMMON COUNCIL
MARCH 22, 2011
7:00PM

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Council President Crespo at 7:00PM.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6)

President Crespo read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement into the Minutes as follows:

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, this is to announce that adequate notice of this meeting was provided in the following manner: *On January 4, 2011 advance written notice of this meeting was: Posted on the public bulletin board in the Beverly City Hall; mailed to The Burlington County Times and to the Camden Courier Post; filed with the City Clerk; mailed to all persona who requested and paid for such notice. **The proceedings of this meeting are being electronically recorded and the tape will be on file in the office of the City Clerk.***

FLAG SALUTE

President Crespo led those present in the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL

Present: President Crespo.

Council Members: Mayor Gail G. Cook, Barbara Kelly, Alfred Desjardins,
Brian Perkins, Hal Robertson.

Solicitor: Albert K. Marmero.

Deputy Clerk/Planning Bd. Of Adjustment Secretary: Donna Snyder

Absent – Martin Bass, Scott Williams; Engineer William H. Kirchner;

Administrator Ken Gerber.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Burlington County Health Department reported on 3/21/11 that the Beverly City Recycle Drop-off Facility is in compliance with regulations for same.

The following 2011 Budget Appropriation letters requesting funding were submitted to Mayor and Council for review:

Beverly-Edgewater Park Emergency Squad – 3/17/11

Beverly Free Library – 3/18/11

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES:

The Minutes from Council's March 8 and February 22, 2011 meetings were approved with a Motion by Mr. Robertson and a Second by Ms. Kelly. Roll Call Vote: All in Favor – Aye. Nays – None. Abstain – None. Absent – Mr. Bass, Mr. Williams. Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

In order to accommodate the delay of Mr. Roman Oben, the Agenda is being adjusted to move the "Advantage 3" Presentation to the latter part of this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE 2011-3: First Reading.

An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Beverly amending Chapter 5, Section 5-13.2(d) of the Code of the City of Beverly to change the time for placement of garbage receptacles curbside to 3:00PM the day prior to collection. Second Reading and Adoption to take place at the Council's April 12, 2011 meeting, at which time anyone wishing to be heard on same will be so heard. Motion to approve – Mr. Robertson; Second – Ms. Kelly. Roll Call Vote – All Ayes. Nays – None. Abstain – None. Absent - Messrs. Bass and Williams. Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION 2011-42:

A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Beverly for the 2009 Recycling Tonnage Grant. Motion to approve – Mr. Robertson; Second – Mr. Desjardins. Roll Call Vote – All Ayes. Nays – None. Abstain – None. Absent – Messrs. Bass and Williams. Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION 2011-43:

A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Beverly authorizing a \$1,000.00 payment to Jerusalem Holiness Temple, pursuant to a Release Agreement as executed by Jerusalem Holiness Temple. Motion to Approve – Mr. Robertson; Second – Ms. Kelly. Roll Call Vote – All Ayes. Nays – None. Abstain – None. Absent – Messrs. Bass and Williams. Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION 2011-44:

A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Beverly supporting a Repeal of Sick Leave Injury, and urging the Legislature to amend 18A:30-2.1 and 11A:6-8 to eliminate SLI programs at all levels of government so that all New Jersey governmental employees are treated in a similar fashion. Discussion was had with explanatory input by Council Member Perkins (currently employed with the State of New Jersey) as well as Beverly Resident

Mr. Mark Schwedes, 612 Wheatley (currently employed with the State of New Jersey Division of Pensions). There were no further questions. Motion to Approve – Mr. Robertson; Second – Mr. Desjardins. Roll Call Vote – All Ayes. Nays – None. Abstain – None. Absent – Messrs. Bass and Williams. Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION 2011-45:

A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Beverly authorizing the Tax Assessor to represent the City of Beverly. Motion to Approve – Mr. Robertson; Second Ms. Kelly. Roll Call Vote – All Ayes. Nays – None. Abstain – None. Absent – Messrs. Bass and Williams. Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION 2011-46:

A Resolution of The Common Council of the City of Beverly for release of lien: Block 77/Lot 6.03: \$18,485.00 (Moorestown RCA). Motion to Approve – Mr. Robertson; Second – Ms. Kelly. Roll Call Vote – All Ayes. Nays – None. Abstain – None. Absent – Messrs. Bass and Williams. Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION 2011-47:

A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Beverly for release of lien: Block 62/Lot 7: \$17,528.00 (Mt. Laurel RCA). Motion to Approve – Mr. Robertson; Second – Ms. Kelly. Roll Call Vote – All Ayes. Nays – None. Abstain – None. Absent – Messrs. Bass and Williams. Motion Carried.

BILLS LIST

The Bills were reviewed by Council. Payment to “Catholic Charities” in the amount of \$280.00 was held pending review of future procedure for this and similar requests for contributions.

Motion to approve all remaining bills as indicated made by Mr. Robertson; Second – Ms. Kelly. Roll Call Vote – All Ayes. Nays – None. Abstain – None. Absent – Messrs. Bass and Williams. Motion Carried.

SOLICITOR’S COMMENTS

None at this time.

MAYOR’S COMMENTS

The Mayor reminded all that March is “Women’s History Month” and summarized a Proclamation which she prepared that is posted on the City bulletin board as well as placed in the March edition of the Beverly Bee.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

No report at this time.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

No report at this time.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Mr. Robertson reported that the Deputy Clerk will be collecting information on the Recodification process and current costs, stating that the City's original codification is dated back to 1989 and that the Code needs to be updated with our amended Ordinances.

Mr. Robertson summarized for Council the last Planning Board of Adjustment meeting on March 16, 2011. He stated that Mr. Raia has received his Approvals relative to his Masonic Temple renovations which required Conditional Use Variances and Preliminary and Final Site Plan approvals. He also advised that the Emmanuel Pentecostal Holiness Temple Conditional Use Variances were given on a month-to-month basis, correlating with the Applicant's month-to-month lease from the property owner, stating that the property owner also opened up the rear of the property for the Applicant's parking. Additionally, there is signage on the opposite side of the street that states "1 Hour Parking", which will be enforced. Mr. Robertson reported that the Church's gatherings would be held on Sundays for Church, Thursdays for Choir, and Fridays for Bible study.

There were no other Council reports.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/PUBLIC SAFETY

*This portion of the meeting provides the Public with an opportunity to ask questions of City Council or to address questions to the Administrator as Direction of Public Safety. **Please clearly state your name and address for the record.** Thank you!*

Amy Bent – 130 Warren Street, Beverly. Ms. Bent asked who was on the Finance Committee and the Economic Development Committee. Mr. Crespo stated that he was on the Finance Committee and that Mr. Robertson was on the Economic Development Committee. Ms. Bent then stated that St. Stephen's Church had received an Historic Trust Grant. Council voiced congratulations to St. Stephen's and to all those who worked to obtain this reward.

Mr. Elsworth – 600 Cooper Street, Beverly. Mr. Elsworth asked who was responsible for cleaning the street drains. He was advised that it was Public Works, but that on Cooper Street it was believed to be in the County Right-of-Way. Mr. Elsworth stated that it is plugged from the street to the drain at the corner of Pine and Cooper. Mr. Crespo advised that we will check with our Engineer, Bill Kirchner, and have him reach out to the County for update.

Mr. Schwedes – 612 Wheatley Avenue, Beverly. Mr. Schwedes questioned that Mr. Raia may have received Variances from the Beverly Planning Board, but what about from COAH? Mr. Crespo advised that Mr. Raia had to get approval from COAH for six out of seven units; he had to get a waiver. It's now 16%, one out of seven. Mr. Raia had applied for RCA's for "Beverly Commons Two" but Council did not approve any for that building. Mr. Raia did not apply for any units for his current project on Cooper Street. Mr. Schwedes then commented that Council Member Bass had been absent from meetings for some time now. Mr. Crespo advised that Mr. Bass' work schedule had been temporarily changed which the Council accommodated. Mr. Bass is supposed to be changing back shortly to his original schedule which allowed meeting attendance.

Amy Bent – 130 Warren Street, Beverly. Ms. Bent asked about the Beverly City Website. Mr. Crespo advised that through our City Solicitor's efforts, we were able to obtain our Password. All Departments/Committees would be on the same Site. If there are certain items that Residents would like to see included on the Website, they should contact the Clerk's Office (609-387-1881, X101).

Mr. Elsworth – 600 Cooper Street, Beverly. Mr. Elsworth asked what the status was on the Chipper, and asked that if and when it's operational that a pickup be made at 601 Elizabeth. He stated that he has about six limbs of good size and that he pulled them back to the yard on Elizabeth. He was advised that this would be taken care of.

Ryan Atkinson – 613 Cooper Street, Beverly. Relative to RCA's, Mr. Atkinson stated that high density hurts us tax-wise. We should be rehabilitating and not promoting absentee landlords. Mr. Crespo advised that if one qualifies for the Program, then the Credits must be given. Residents can come in and see if they qualify, but it's to the City's benefit to get rid of these remaining units as soon as possible. We have completed over 225 units; after ten years the liens are released.

Kevin Mickle – 807 Third Street, Beverly. Mr. Mickle brought up the parking problem during snow removal. He was assured that Council was already discussing solutions for next winter.

There being no further comment, Public Session was closed at 7:44PM.

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PRESENTATION BY MR. ROMAN OBEN OF “ADVANTAGE 3”:

Mr. Oben, Northeast Regional Director, reviewed in detail exactly how his Company assists municipalities in asset assessment and sponsorship of funding opportunities as an alternative means of revenue for the City. After questions by Council and the Public were presented to and answered by Mr. Oben, it was decided that all forms and paperwork would be forwarded to our Solicitor for review. Solicitor Marmero would then report back to the Council and a vote would be taken relative to participation.

Council President Crespo at this time advised those in attendance that there will be a **Joint Meeting of the Beverly City School Board and the Council on April 5, 2011, at 7:00PM here at City Hall.** The meeting will be advertised in both the Burlington County Times and the Courier Post.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Motion to Adjourn was made by Mr. Robertson with a Second by Mr. Perkins. All in Favor – Aye. Motion Carried. Council adjourned at 8:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Snyder, RMC/CPM
Deputy Clerk
Planning Board of Adjustment Secretary

Date

APPROVED

Mayor Gail G. Cook