



Mayor and Common Council Borough of Flemington

April 28, 2014

Council Meeting Room

Work Session Agenda (6:45 pm)

This meeting is being held in conformance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

A. Discussion: 2014 Budget Update (All)

Mayor Edwards gave a budget update, noting it is close to being wrapped up and sent to the auditors. Ms. Edwards stated the plan at this point is to introduce the budget at the May 28th Council meeting.

Ms. Edwards noted that though the Borough's 2014 budget will come in under the 2% cap, in order to obtain budget by which there will be no tax increase Council would need to cut \$360,000. Ms. Edwards said that, while the sale of 90-100 Main Street is likely to occur soon, there would need to be a signed contract in hand by the time the budget is introduced in order to be able to anticipate the proceeds of the sale in this year's budget, which is not likely.

Council President Swingle said he is working on ideas to drive down the numbers with possible cuts in Emergency Services. Mr. Swingle stated that Council needs to make cuts where feasible while still providing value to residents. Mr. Swingle said it is unrealistic to believe the total \$360,000 can be eliminated.

Regarding the purchase of large ticket items, such as vehicles, Councilman Greiner said Council must preplan so that the money is being put aside over time.

Mayor Edwards informed contractual employment dollars cannot be cut. She went on to say that a 25% decrease across all budgets would be needed to achieve a \$360,000 reduction, which is not feasible. Ms. Edwards said Council may need to wait on certain budgeted requests.

Council members spoke of always being on the lookout for grants.

Lois Stewart, 26 Spring Street - asked if the money from the sale of 90-100 Main Street will be used to pay down the current debt.

Council Vice President Velella said that "money is cheap" right now, so any income would likely be used to keep taxes flat. Mr. Velella reminded the Borough is obligated

until the end of June to negotiate only with the Union Hotel owners, so contracts most likely won't be signed before the budget presentation on May 28th.

Ms. Stewart - said she has concerns that nothing is happening at the Hotel.

Mr. Greiner informed there was a delay in receiving necessary building materials for the slate roof last fall, plus the harsh weather did not allow outdoor work to be done.

Elaine Gorman, 34 New York Avenue - spoke of the Hotel owners applying for grants if they were to acquire more properties.

Councilman Gorman said it needs to be determined whether to reduce the debt service or balance the budget.

Mayor Edwards said the Borough needs to increase revenue through growth.

Ms. Stewart - inquired about progress with the Cut Glass project.

Mr. Greiner informed there has not been any recent contact with the owners.

B. Discussion: Mayor's Business Roundtable (Edwards)

Mayor Edwards informed she is reinitiating the Mayor's Business Roundtable, which was started by former Mayor Ken Kutscher. Ms. Edwards said she is planning to hold monthly breakfasts at Borough Hall, with 20-25 members of the business community, as a forum to hear their concerns and ideas.

Council Vice President Vellella questioned this plan, as he feels it may be in conflict with the FBID.

Mayor Edwards said the FBID Chairman would be invited, adding other attendees may also be FBID members. Ms. Edwards said this not a duplication, but instead an additional strategy to stay connected with Borough business owners.

Council President Swingle said that, while the FBID is a partner, Council still needs to keep their own ears open to what business owners have to say.

Michelle Oberst, 68 Broad Street - said she, a business owner, attends FBID board meetings, noting she is the only non-member there.

Councilwoman Fine said she thinks smaller groups are a good way to get things done.

Mayor Edwards said the intention is to rotate Council members in and out on a monthly basis.

Both Ms. Fine and Ms. Stewart noted they have heard grumbling from business owners concerning the FBID.

Mr. Velella said he would like to meet with these business owners. Mr. Velella inquired what would be done with information acquired from the roundtable meetings.

Mayor Edwards stated, as the plan is to employ multiple efforts to enhance the business climate, she would be sharing this information with the FBID.

Mr. Greiner said we should not be going to great lengths to uncover complaints if people do not want to come forward with them.

Ms. Stewart, citing budget concerns, stated she doesn't agree with the plan to hold 12 breakfasts.

Mayor Edwards said she respectfully disagrees, saying this will be money well spent.

Motion To: Close the Work Session 7:30 pm

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Brian Swingle, Council President
SECONDER:	Phil Greiner, Councilman
AYES:	Fine, Gorman, Greiner, Swingle
EXCUSED:	Phil Velella
ABSENT:	Joey Novick

Regular Meeting Agenda (7:35 PM)

This meeting is being held in conformance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Flag Salute

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Dorothy Fine	Councilwoman	Present	
John Gorman	Councilman	Present	
Phil Greiner	Councilman	Present	
Joey Novick	Councilman	Late	
Brian Swingle	Council President	Present	
Phil Velella	Council Vice President	Excused	
Erica Edwards	Mayor	Present	

Motion To: Amend the Agenda to Add Resolution 2014-91

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Phil Greiner, Councilman
SECONDER:	Phil Velella, Council Vice President
AYES:	Fine, Gorman, Greiner, Velella, Swingle
ABSENT:	Joey Novick

Public Comments -- Session I (up to approximately 3 minutes each, for a maximum of approximately 30 minutes)

Elaine Gorman, 34 New York Avenue - gave an update on events being held by the Samuel Fleming House.

Lois Stewart, 26 Spring Street - requested a list of shared services in which the Borough participates.

Mayor Edwards said she would supply the list by the end of the week.

Ms. Stewart - inquired about Arbor Day activities in the Borough.

Council Vice President Velella informed a tree had been planted in Tuccamirgan Park.

Ms. Stewart - inquired about energy saving efforts by the Borough.

Mayor Edwards informed Council had been consumed with redevelopment activities. Ms. Edwards said this and other items will now be a focus.

Ms. Stewart - asked about the status of the administrative assistant hire, adding Council should look into using volunteers for the position.

Mayor Edwards informed Council decided to wait on the hire until budget discussions were concluded, noting funding for the position is already in the budget. Ms. Edwards added that it is not realistic to expect a volunteer to do the work needed.

Ms. Stewart - inquired about the status of 144 Main Street and the Borough owned lot on Capner Street.

Mayor Edwards and Councilman Velella responded both are still pending.

Ms. Stewart - inquired as to the cost of the Governor's visit.

Council President Swingle informed he had touched base with the Police Chief and will provide the numbers when he has them.

Ms. Stewart - inquired about the new hire at Fleming Castle.

Elaine Gorman of the Fleming Castle Board - informed she works 6 hours per week at \$15 per hour, noting this is paid by the Friends of the Castle.

Ms. Stewart - questioned the policy of employees taking vehicles home.

Council informed her that historically this has been part of compensation for employees of departments that may have to come in for emergency situations.

Tony Previte, 45 North Main Street - inquired about property maintenance issues and a dead tree at the Hunter Hills complex.

Councilman Greiner informed the Borough does not get involved with trees on private property, but said Property Maintenance would look into his other concerns.

Mr. Swingle noted there will be a new, onsite manager at Hunter Hills.

Mr. Previte spoke about issues at the corner of North Main Street and Park Avenue.

Mayor Edwards and Mr. Swingle informed they would follow up on his concerns.

Al Brewer, 1 Coppermine Village - gave his opinions on how to improve the banner pulley system on Main Street.

Steve Karpew, 32 Allen Street - spoke of concerns with the Link stop at the corner of Court and Main Streets.

Mr. Previte - spoke of the unsightly concrete stump at the Monument on Main Street.

Councilman Gorman said he will look into taking it down, as it may not be necessary anymore.

Mrs. Gorman -also gave her opinions on the pulley system and the issue at the corner of Court and Main.

Mayor's Report (up to approximately 3 minutes)

Mayor Edwards restated her plans for initiating a monthly Mayor's Business Roundtable, which she had discussed during the Work Session.

Regarding the Memorial Day Parade, Ms. Edwards stated she would like to encourage veterans and active members of the armed forces from our community to march with Council. Ms. Edwards said it would be an honor to have them.

Council Members' Reports (up to approximately 3 minutes each)**Councilwoman Fine**

Councilwoman Fine informed the Environmental Commission has been working on Sustainable Jersey recertification.

Ms. Fine attended the recent poetry reading sponsored by the Tricentennial Committee, noting that, while it was wonderful, it was not very well attended. Ms. Fine suggested looking into better ways to communicate these types of events to the public.

Councilman Gorman

Councilman Gorman gave an update on the work being done on Spring Street.

Mr. Gorman informed he had attended a recent Tricentennial event at the Lindbergh House.

Mr. Gorman gave an update on the pending projects on Walters Lane and Stangl Road.

Mr. Gorman informed Borough employee Bob Godown would be retiring, noting how much of an asset he had been to the town. Mr. Gorman said he appreciates Mr. Godown's time with the Borough.

Councilman Greiner

Councilman Greiner informed he had attended the recent Cultural Series event with Oz Perlman, noting it was a great show.

Mr. Greiner informed he had attended a seminar on working with equity investors, noting it was very informative.

Mr. Greiner informed the HPC had heard and approved 2 applications at their last meeting.

Mr. Greiner informed there is a need for a volunteer on the library board.

Regarding the Planning Board meeting on 4/29, there will be discussion of the outdoor dining and banner ordinances, as well as the TerraNoble study.

Councilman Novick

Councilman Novick was not present.

Council President Velella

Council Vice President Velella informed he had met with the owner of 54 East Main Street, and was shown plans for environmental remediation of the property. Mr. Velella said the owner would like to donate the property to the Borough. With the possibility of grants, the Borough could turn it into usable space.

Mr. Velella informed he had met with the Union Hotel owners to discuss their anticipated proposal regarding the Union Hotel redevelopment area, noting a meeting would be up-coming between the owners and the redevelopment committee.

Council President Swingle

Regarding school security, Council President Swingle informed he is still waiting for a finalized plan from the Schools Superintendent.

Mr. Swingle informed work is being done on the Rescue Squad budget.

Mr. Swingle gave an update on the Police Officer who was hurt when his gun accidentally discharged, informing he is back to work. Mr. Swingle said the incident is under investigation.

Mr. Swingle informed he and members of the Police Department had met with Hunter Hills management, stating they are implementing changes in their screening process. Mr. Swingle also noted there are plans to have an onsite manager.

Approval of Minutes

Motion To: Minutes March 24, 2014

RESULT:	APPROVED [3 TO 0]
MOVER:	Phil Greiner, Councilman
SECONDER:	Dorothy Fine, Councilwoman
AYES:	Dorothy Fine, Phil Greiner, Brian Swingle
ABSTAIN:	John Gorman
ABSENT:	Joey Novick
EXCUSED:	Phil Velella

Motion To: Minutes April 16, 2014

RESULT: APPROVED [3 TO 0]
MOVER: Phil Greiner, Councilman
SECONDER: Brian Swingle, Council President
AYES: Dorothy Fine, Phil Greiner, Brian Swingle
ABSTAIN: John Gorman
ABSENT: Joey Novick
EXCUSED: Phil Velella

RESOLUTION 2014-85: SUPPORTING A NO PASSING ZONE ON ROUTE 31

RESULT: TABLED [UNANIMOUS] **Next: 5/12/2014 7:30 PM**
MOVER: John Gorman, Councilman
SECONDER: Phil Greiner, Councilman
AYES: Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner, Brian Swingle
ABSENT: Joey Novick
EXCUSED: Phil Velella

RESOLUTION 2014-87: APPOINTING REBECCA NEWMAN, BOROUGH CLERK, AS THE RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT FOR THE STATEWIDE INSURANCE FUND

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Brian Swingle, Council President
SECONDER: Phil Greiner, Councilman
AYES: Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner, Brian Swingle
ABSENT: Joey Novick
EXCUSED: Phil Velella

RESOLUTION 2014-88: AUTHORIZING THE REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE # 2013-006 HELD ON BLOCK 2 LOT 45 Q0013 AND INSTRUCTING THE CFO TO ISSUE A CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,649.96 PLUS A PREMIUM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$18,100.00 TO US BANK CUST FOR BV001 TRUST

RESULT: **ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER: Dorothy Fine, Councilwoman
SECONDER: Brian Swingle, Council President
AYES: Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner, Brian Swingle
ABSENT: Joey Novick
EXCUSED: Phil Veleva

RESOLUTION 2014-89: AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF REBECCA P. NEWMAN, BOROUGH CLERK, AS THE FUND COMMISSIONER FOR STATEWIDE INSURANCE

RESULT: **ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER: Brian Swingle, Council President
SECONDER: Phil Greiner, Councilman
AYES: Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner, Brian Swingle
ABSENT: Joey Novick
EXCUSED: Phil Veleva

RESOLUTION 2014-90: AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF ACCUMULATED SICK LEAVE

RESULT: **ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER: John Gorman, Councilman
SECONDER: Brian Swingle, Council President
AYES: Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner, Brian Swingle
ABSENT: Joey Novick
EXCUSED: Phil Veleva

RESOLUTION 2014-91: ACKNOWLEDGING AND THANKING JAMES ROBINSON AND CENTURY LINK FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE BOROUGH OF FLEMINGTON AND ITS BANNER PROGRAM

RESULT: **ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER: Phil Greiner, Councilman
SECONDER: Brian Swingle, Council President
AYES: Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner, Brian Swingle
ABSENT: Joey Novick
EXCUSED: Phil Veleva

Motion To: Open Public Hearing Concerning Ordinance 2014-09

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Phil Greiner, Councilman
SECONDER: Brian Swingle, Council President
AYES: Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner, Brian Swingle
ABSENT: Joey Novick
EXCUSED: Phil Verella

Public Hearing

Lois Stewart, 26 Spring Street - questioned when the bonds would be paid off.

CFO Hance informed the 2 bonds would be paid off in 2017 and 2024, respectively.

Motion To: Close Public Hearing Concerning Ordinance 2014-09

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Phil Greiner, Councilman
SECONDER: Brian Swingle, Council President
AYES: Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner, Brian Swingle
EXCUSED: Joey Novick, Phil Verella

ORDINANCE 2014-9: SECOND READING: REFUNDING BOND ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF FLEMINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (THE "BOROUGH") PROVIDING FOR (I) THE REFUNDING OF CERTAIN OUTSTANDING 2002 AND 2004 BONDS OF THE BOROUGH AND (II) AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$2,250,000 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS OF THE BOROUGH TO EFFECT SUCH REFUNDING AND APPROPRIATING THE PROCEEDS THEREFORE

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Phil Greiner, Councilman
SECONDER: Brian Swingle, Council President
AYES: Fine, Gorman, Greiner, Novick, Swingle
EXCUSED: Phil Verella

ORDINANCE 2014-10: FIRST READING: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER III POLICE REGULATIONS BY ADDING SECTION 3-27 ESTABLISHING THE LICENSING OF TOWING OPERATORS IN THE BOROUGH OF FLEMINGTON AND TOWING STORAGE FEES ALONG WITH REQUIREMENTS

Mayor Edwards reminded that the second reading and public hearing on this ordinance and ordinances 2014-04 to 2014-08, which were introduced at the last Council meeting, on April 16th, would be at the May 12 meeting.

RESULT:	INTRODUCED [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 5/12/2014 7:30 PM
MOVER:	Brian Swingle, Council President	
SECONDER:	Phil Greiner, Councilman	
AYES:	Dorothy Fine, John Gorman, Phil Greiner, Brian Swingle	
ABSENT:	Joey Novick	
EXCUSED:	Phil Veleva	

Public Comments -- Session II (up to approximately 3 minutes each, for a maximum of approximately 30 minutes)

Steve Karpew, 32 Allen Street - inquired who owns 144 Main Street.

Mayor Edwards informed it is the Hinline Garage.

Lois Stewart, 26 Spring Street - concerning the trees on Spring Street, informed she had not called Mr. Ozimek, of the Borough Roads Department, as Mayor Edwards had suggested during the last meeting. Ms. Stewart stated that, as Mr. Ozimek is not a certified arborist, he is not qualified to decide the fate of the trees. These trees are along the sidewalks which are scheduled to be replaced on Spring Street.

Councilman Gorman informed the Roads Department will work to keep as many trees as possible during construction.

Ms. Stewart had other questions concerning the project, and it was suggested she speak with Mr. Gorman directly sometime after the meeting.

Al Brewer, 1 Coppermine Village, School Board Member - relayed an email message he had received from Tony Critelli concerning the upcoming school budget vote.

Council President Swingle informed he is planning to attend this meeting.

Tony Previte, 45 North Main Street - voiced his concerns with signage at the intersection of North Main Street and Park Avenue. Regarding the Police Officer whose gun accidentally discharged, injuring him, Mr. Previte said he is happy to hear the Officer is okay.

Attorney Report

No Attorney Report

Executive Session For Any Other Applicable Matter Identified During the Regular Meeting (Action May Be Taken)

No Items for Executive Session

Payment of the Bills

Motion To: Pay The Bills

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Phil Greiner, Councilman
SECONDER:	Joey Novick, Councilman
AYES:	Fine, Gorman, Greiner, Novick, Swingle
EXCUSED:	Phil Velella

Adjournment

Motion To: Adjourn at 9:05 pm

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Joey Novick, Councilman
SECONDER:	Brian Swingle, Council President
AYES:	Fine, Gorman, Greiner, Novick, Swingle
EXCUSED:	Phil Velella

May 12, 2014

Robin M, Hughes
Acting Deputy Clerk
Borough of Flemington