

**BOROUGH OF MEDFORD LAKES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 24, 2005**

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Medford Lakes, New Jersey, was held on the above date in the Denby Annex of the Medford Lakes Colony beginning at 7:30pm. Mayor Wasson presided. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Wasson read the Statement of Compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act. This is to announce that adequate notice in the form of Notice of Meetings was (1) posted on the Administration Building bulletin board, (2) mailed to The Central Record, Medford, NJ, (3) mailed to the Burlington County Times, Willingboro, NJ, (4) mailed to the Courier Post, Cherry Hill, NJ, and (5) filed with the Municipal Clerk. Advance written notice of this meeting was mailed to all persons who requested such notice according to the Clerk of the Municipality.

Answering Roll Call for Borough Council were Mayor Dave Wasson, Councilman Timothy Casey and Councilman Gary Woodend. Also present were Manager Rich Knight, Deputy Clerk Mark McIntosh, Solicitor Jim Vogdes, and Colony representative Paul Weiss.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Wasson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Casey, to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting on February 10, 2005, with minor changes.

VOTE TO APPROVE MINUTES

Ayes: Wasson, Casey, Woodend

Nays: None

Minutes are approved

Mayor Wasson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Casey, to approve the minutes of the Budget Workshop Meeting on February 17, 2005.

VOTE TO APPROVE MINUTES

Ayes: Wasson, Casey, Woodend

Nays: None

Minutes are approved

ORDINANCES

There were no ordinances on the agenda for discussion.

RESOLUTIONS

There were no resolutions on the agenda for discussion.

OLD BUSINESS

Councilman Casey thanked Manager Knight for his report to Council addressing items directed to him for action.

Council directed Manager Knight to make and distribute copies of Edgewater Park's water management study.

Engineer Michael Beach asked to have the footings at the ML fire house exposed, in order that a recommendation can be made to renovate or re-build the structure.

Paul Adison of Holberg & Adison will attend a Council meeting in March to discuss the fire house.

Ken Roberts, President of the Lion's Club, had questions about the food bank, stored in the Lions Building. He asked if the plans for the new Public Works building had an allocated space for the food bank. The organization anticipates receiving a grant in April, part of which they would donate to the Borough for the DPW structure.

Council directed Manager Knight to determine if space for the Lion's food bank is allocated in the plans for the new DPW building.

Manager Knight reported he had received information from Jim Madden, project manager for the Oaks Hall building project. Mr. Madden spoke with a vendor of milled logs. Council discussed the difference between natural and milled logs. Although milled logs are not Council's preference, Councilman Casey suggested obtaining bids for both types.

Manger Knight discussed the pending contract negotiations with the Medford Lakes Police Officer's Association. The MLPOA wants to set a meeting date; Council wants a proposal from them prior to setting a meeting date.

Council directed Manager Knight to set a meeting date with the MLPOA and obtain their proposal prior to the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business on the agenda for discussion.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Department of Transportation is currently reviewing a roadway construction grant which was previously denied.

The Medford Lakes Fire Department was awarded a grant from the Division of Homeland Security in the amount of \$48,000. The funds are earmarked for an exhaust system, an AED with pediatric attachments, a gear washer, and an upgrade of the SCBA fill station. Fire Chief McIntosh will work with Manager Knight to facilitate obtaining the funds.

Both Councilman Casey and Manager Knight praised Chief McIntosh for his hard work, diligence, and persistence in applying for and being awarded the grant.

REPORTS

MANAGER'S REPORT – Mr. Knight is scheduled to take the test for municipal clerk.

Mr. Knight met again this week with the Borough's insurance company with regard to ongoing issues concerning flood recovery.

The bid opening for a cab and chassis resulted in two bids, \$67,000 and \$73,000 plus. DPW Superintendent McCorristan is in the process of obtaining estimates for a re-built truck.

Manager Knight and Council discussed replacing Borough employee Dave Fletcher, who was injured on the job over two years ago. Solicitor Vogdes sent a letter to Mr. Fletcher's attorney, but has not received an answer. Mr. Vogdes told Council that Mr. Fletcher may be seeking a disability ruling, and advised Council it was his suggestion to them to hire a new employee. Former Borough employee Steve Rockhill has expressed an interest in returning to work here. He is a mechanic and fireman, both of which will be a benefit to the town.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – Mr. Vogdes suggested scheduling a meeting for 10:00am on March 11, 2005, with representatives of Sparta Township, New Jersey, to discuss FEMA. The town, similar to Medford Lakes, suffered a flood, causing damage to a park and the destruction of 1.5 miles of roadway. Sparta Township took four years to rebuild their dams.

Council directed Solicitor Vogdes to schedule the meeting with Sparta Township representatives, and to include Paul Weiss and a member of Council.

COUNCIL'S REPORTS – Councilman Woodend asked about a reported accident between a pedalcyclist and a motor vehicle. Fire Chief McIntosh, who was on location, explained the accident to Council.

When the County snow removal crews plowed Stokes Road, they removed the pylons which separate school children from traffic.

Council directed Manager Knight to discuss plowing methods with the Burlington County Highway department.

Councilman Casey discussed the budget workshop, which was attended by all department heads. He suggested another meeting at the Medford Lakes Fire house on Saturday, March 5, 2005, at 9:00am. The budget needs to be introduced at the regular Council Meeting on March 10, 2005.

Council directed Manager Knight to ask Auditor Bob Stewart to attend the meeting.

Mayor Wasson reported he was in Lumberton Township and heard a great recommendation for the Borough's new Chief Financial Officer, Donna Condo, who worked there previously.

Mr. Wasson reminded everyone that the Burlington County 200 Club was hosting an awards dinner on Friday night, February 25, 2005, at Merion Caterers. At such time, Police Chief Frank Martine, Lieutenant Steve Carbone, and Officer Jon Cherby will be given the Meritorious Service Award, for their actions during the flood on July 12, 2004.

Mayor Wasson reported he and DPW Superintendent McCorristan attended a storm water drain seminar. The storm drains are required by Federal mandate, without funding. The Department of Environmental Protection is in discussions concerning leaf collection. A brochure will be included in the re-cycling notice, which will be mailed by April 1, 2005.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Mayor Wasson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Woodend, to pay the bills on the Bill List.

VOTE TO PAY BILLS ON BILL LIST

Ayes: Wasson, Casey, Woodend

Nays: None

Payment of bills is approved

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Wasson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Woodend, to adjourn to Executive Session at the Medford Lakes Fire house.

RESOLUTION 19-05

A RESOLUTION EXCLUDING THE PUBLIC FROM A PUBLIC MEETING

WHEREAS, Section 7.a of Chapter 231, Public Law 1975, otherwise known as the “Open Public Meetings Act” states that, except as provided by in Section 7.a, all meetings of a public body, such as the Borough Council, shall be open to the public at all times; and.

WHEREAS, Section 7.b provides that the Borough Council may exclude the public only from the portion of a meeting at which Borough Council discusses certain subjects which are listed in the aforementioned Section; and.

WHEREAS, the Borough Council desires to discuss certain subject(s) which are listed in the aforementioned section and desires to exclude the public from the portion of the meeting at which the Borough Council will discuss said subject(s); and,

WHEREAS, Section 8 of Chapter 231, Public Law 1975 states that no public body shall exclude the public from any meeting to discuss any matter described in Section 7.b until the public body shall, at a meeting to which the public shall be admitted, first adopt a resolution making certain statements with respect to the subject(s) to be discussed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Medford Lakes, in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. That the Borough Council hereby declares that the general nature of the subject(s) to be discussed by the Borough Council in closed session is as follows:

discussion with experts for flood recovery
payments and re-imbursements
litigation

2. That the Borough Council hereby declares that it’s discussion of the aforementioned subject(s) may be made public at a time when the Borough Solicitor advised the Borough Council that the disclosure will not detrimentally affect any right, interest, or duty of the Borough or any other entity with respect to said discussion.

3. That the Borough Council for the aforementioned reasons hereby declares that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place and hereby directs the Borough Clerk to take the appropriate action to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

VOTE TO ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ayes: Wasson, Casey, Woodend

Nays:

Meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 8:15pm

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Wasson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Woodend, to return to the Regular Meeting. No official action was taken at this time.

VOTE TO RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING

Ayes: Wasson, Casey, Woodend

Nays:

Motion carries

VOTE TO ADJOURN

Mayor Wasson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Woodend, to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE TO ADJOURN

Ayes: Wasson, Casey, Woodend

Nays:

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Knight
Borough Manager