

**BOROUGH OF MEDFORD LAKES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 22, 2007**

REGULAR MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Medford Lakes, New Jersey, was held in the Denby Annex of the Medford Lakes Colony beginning at 7:36pm. Mayor Casey presided and 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.

In attendance were Mayor Tim Casey, Councilman Paul Weiss, and Councilman Gary Woodend. Also present were Manager Rich Knight, Deputy Clerk Mark McIntosh, Solicitor Peter Lange, and Police Chief Frank Martine.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Powers, 19 Onondago Trail, asked Council to consider holding a public meeting with regard to the status of the dams. Council agreed to advertise a public meeting.

Joe Aromando, 285 Shingowack Trail, asked Council to update the Borough's web site. Council will consider ways to improve and update the site.

RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Casey introduced Resolution 44-07, seconded by Councilman Woodend.

RESOLUTION 44-07

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF AN OVERPAYMENT FROM THE SEWER UTILITY TO THE PROPERTY TAX

WHEREAS, the owner of a property located at 144 Paupukkeewis Trail, Medford Lakes, New Jersey, also known as Block 30043, Lot 1571, overpaid the sewer utility in the amount of \$252.70; and

WHEREAS, the owner would like to transfer the overpayment from the sewer utility account to the property tax account;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Medford Lakes, County of Burlington, and State of New Jersey, that the tax collector is authorized to transfer \$252.70 from the sewer account to the property tax account for Brett M. & Thomas Summerville, 144 Paupukkeewis Trail, Medford Lakes, NJ, 08055, Block 30043, Lot 1571.

VOTE TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 44-07

Ayes: Casey, Weiss, Woodend

Nays: None

Resolution 44-07 is approved

Mayor Casey introduced Resolution 45-07, seconded by Councilman Woodend.

RESOLUTION 45-07
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF AN OVERPAYMENT

WHEREAS, a refund is due an overpayment of 2007 property taxes as the result of two mortgage companies paying the same first quarter installment; and

WHEREAS, the property is located at 55 Lenape Trail, Medford Lakes, New Jersey, also known as Block 30066, L: 2782; and

WHEREAS, a refund in the amount of \$1,474.89 should be granted to the property owner, Brian L. & Gina L. Smith;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Medford Lakes, County of Burlington, and State of New Jersey, that a check representing the overpayment amount of \$1,474.89 be dispensed to Brian L. and Gina L. Smith, 55 Lenape Trail, Medford Lakes, NJ, 08055.

VOTE TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 45-07

Ayes: Casey, Weiss, Woodend

Nays: None

Resolution 45-07 is approved

Mayor Casey advised those present that, in the future, the meeting agenda would reflect “housekeeping” resolutions, and would be moved and approved as one.

OLD BUSINESS

OAKS HALL – Manager Knight advised Council the logs will be at the site on or before March 19, 2007. The spoke with Heartbilt owner Dwayne Hansen and Rick Ragan and resolved their issues. Architect Paul Adison has agreed to sign off on the designs. Mr. Hansen and roof contractor D.A. Nolt have agreed to share a crane and will also need a forklift.

Council discussed the final bid specs for the interior fit out. They will not be finalized until after Mr. Ragan inspects the erected log structure.

Council directed Manager Knight to discuss the anticipated specs with Mr. Ragan.

Council advised they will discuss the budget for Oaks Hall after the budget is passed. They will consider options for additional funding.

FEMA REINBURSEMENTS – CFO Condo and Manager Knight are preparing packets to submit to FEMA for reimbursement money for dam reconstruction.

Council directed CFO Condo to prepare a current financial report with regard to insurance and reimbursements for flood recovery.

Council discussed hiring someone to handle the FEMA paperwork and considered Dave Matos or Mike Keating.

Council directed Deputy Clerk McIntosh to remove “dam reconstruction”, “Oaks Hall construction”, and “FEMA reimbursement” from the agenda and add them to the Pending List for all future meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Weiss announced the Colony is ready to start culvert replacements on the Mirror Lake side. They will be replacing the piping that runs between the Mirror Lakes. A culvert runs under Oak Drive from Chippewa Trail to Hunters Road. Oak Drive will have to be closed for approximately one week during the work.

Council directed Manager Knight to determine the intended route for the trucks delivering concrete from L&L Concrete on Route 206 to the lakes.

Council directed Deputy Clerk McIntosh to notice residents in the paper as a courtesy.

Council also directed Mr. McIntosh and Chief Martine to work on signage for the area to be affected.

Oak Drive will need to be repaved. An aggregate will be used until asphalt can be poured when the weather is warmer.

The superintendent from Panther Construction will meet with Manager Knight and Police Chief Martine on February 23, 2007, to discuss the proposed work.

Mayor Casey made a motion, seconded by Councilman Woodend, to authorize the temporary closing of Oak Drive between Hunters Road and Chippewa Trail, from February 25, 2007, until the second week of March, 2007.

VOTE ON MOTION

Ayes: Casey, Woodend

Nays: None

Abstain: Weiss

Motion carries

REPORTS

MANAGER – Mr. Knight advised Council that Borough employee Sherry Rockhill fell on Borough property and fractured her ankle in three places. She had surgery this date. Mr. Knight will send flowers from Council and other employees.

Mr. Knight reported that Borough court administrator Rosa Henry resigned, effective March 30, 2007. Manager Knight and Chief Martine will discuss the possibility of merging the court with Medford, and the effect on the police department.

SOLICITOR – Mr. Lange recommended Council accept the settlement agreement the JIF has made with regard to flood litigation. If Council does not accept the settlement, the Borough will stand alone in the litigation – the JIF will have fulfilled its obligation. Council elected to take no action, which has the effect of allowing the settlement to go forward.

PUBLIC SAFETY – Councilman Woodend announced the Medford Lakes Emergency Squad banquet on March 10, 2007, and the Medford Lakes Fire Department banquet on March 17, 2007.

ADMINISTRATION – Mayor Casey advised Council and the department heads have finished the budget workshops. The Medford Lakes 2007 Budget stands at a 0% tax increase, with the exception of the flood recovery increase. The Borough will again apply for extraordinary aid.

Council plans to introduce the budget at the first Regular Meeting in March and have the public hearing at the first Regular Meeting in April.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Council directed Manager Knight to investigate whether or not the Borough pays for dumping concrete.

Mayor Casey made a motion, seconded by Councilman Woodend, to approve payment of the bills on the Bill List.

VOTE TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS

Ayes: Casey, Weiss, Woodend

Nays: None

Bill List is approved for payment

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Casey made a motion, seconded by Councilman Weiss, to adjourn to Executive Session.

RESOLUTION 46-07

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. the Borough Council hereby declares that the general nature of the subject(s) to be discussed by the Borough Council in closed session is Easi property litigation; and
2. 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; and
3. 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: Casey, Weiss, Woodend

Nays: None

Resolution 46-07 is approved

RETURN TO REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Casey made a motion, seconded by Councilman Weiss, to return to the Regular Council Meeting. No official action will be taken.

VOTE TO RETURN TO REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Ayes: Casey, Weiss, Woodend

Nays: None

Motion carries

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Casey made a motion, seconded by Councilman Weiss, to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE TO ADJOURN

Ayes: Casey, Weiss, Woodend

Nays: None

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Knight
Borough Manager

