

BOROUGH OF LAUREL SPRINGS  
REGULAR MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
MONDAY, APRIL 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
MAYOR THOMAS A. BARBERA PRESIDING

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND MOMENT OF SILENCE** was led by Mayor Barbera

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW** – Mayor Barbera stated that adequate notice of this meeting was given by emailing the Retrospect and the Courier-Post on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and posting on the Borough Website and bulletin board in the Borough Hall.

**ROLL CALL** recorded as present: Letts, DiGregorio, Cruz, DelPidio and Redstreak with Mochel absent.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES –**

- Work Session Meeting of Monday, March 25, 2019 - The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilwoman DiGregorio, with Letts, DiGregorio, Cruz, DelPidio, and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and abstaining.

**ORDINANCES- Second Reading, Public Hearing and Adoption-**

**#834-2018- ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF LAUREL SPRINGS, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, REPEALING AND REPLACING ORDINANCE 828-2018, ADOPTED ON OCTOBER 15, 2018, AND AUTHORIZING A TAX EXEMPTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF LAUREL SPRINGS AND MASAKATSU, LLC PURSUANT TO THE NJS A 40A:20-1 ET SEQ. AND CHAPTER 241 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF LAUREL SPRINGS.**

- Mayor Barbera opened the meeting to the public for comments and questions. Hearing none, he closed the meeting to the public.
- The motion to adopt by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilwoman DiGregorio, with Letts, DiGregorio, Cruz, DelPidio, and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and abstaining.

**RESOLUTIONS**

- RESOLVED TO PAY \$345,789.11 FROM CURRENT ACCOUNT AND \$26,435.34 FROM TRUST AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS
- The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilwoman DiGregorio, with Letts, Cruz, DelPidio, DiGregorio and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and none abstaining.

**2019 MUNICIPAL BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,093,000**

- **#048-2019-AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO CONDUCT THE LOCAL BUDGET EXAMINATION**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-78b has authorized the Local Finance Board to adopt rules that permit municipalities in sound fiscal condition to assume the responsibility, normally granted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, of conducting the annual budget examination; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.A.C. 5:30-7 was adopted by the Local Finance Board on February 11, 1997; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.2 through 7.5, the Borough of Laurel Springs has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of Local Government Services, and the Chief Financial Officer has determined that the Borough of Laurel Springs meets the necessary conditions to participate in the program for the 2019 budget year;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Laurel Springs that, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.6a & b and based upon the Chief Financial Officer's certification, the governing body has found that the Budget has met the following requirements:

1. That, with reference to the following items, the amounts have been calculated pursuant to law, and appropriated as such in the Budget:
  - a. Payment of interest and debt redemption charges
  - b. Deferred charges and statutory expenditures
  - c. Cash deficit of preceding year
  - d. Reserve for uncollected taxes
  - e. Other reserves and non-disbursement items
  - f. Any inclusions of amounts required for school purposes
2. That the provisions relating to limitation on increases of appropriations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.2 and appropriations for exceptions to limits on appropriations found at 40A: 4-45.3 et seq. are fully met.
3. That the Budget is in such form, arrangement and content as required by the Local Budget Law and N.J.A.C. 5:30-4 & 5:30-5.

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4. That pursuant to the Local Budget Law:
  - a. All estimates of revenue are reasonable, accurate and correctly stated
  - b. Items of appropriation are properly set forth
  - c. In itemization, form, arrangement and content the Budget will permit the exercise of the comptroller function within the municipality.
5. The Budget and associated amendments have been introduced and publicly advertised in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Budget Law, except that failure to meet the deadlines of N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-5 shall not prevent such certification.
6. That all other applicable statutory requirements have been fulfilled.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

- The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilwoman DiGregorio, with Letts, Cruz, DelPidio, DiGregorio and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and none abstaining.
- **#049-2019- TO READ BUDGET BY TITLE ONLY**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S. 40A:4-8, as amended by Chapter 259 P.L. 1995 § 14, 2015, provides that the budget may be read by title only at the time of the public hearing if a resolution is passed not less than a majority of the full governing body, providing that at least one week prior to the date of hearing a complete copy of the budget has been made available for public inspection, and has been made available to each person upon request; and

**WHEREAS**, these two conditions have been met;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Laurel Springs, County of Camden, State of New Jersey that the 2018 Municipal Budget will be read by title only.
- Mayor Barbera opened the meeting to the public for comments and questions.
  - Doris Walsh-Thanked Council for working so hard and hopes the School Board Budget turns out as well. They have no idea what it may be it will be adopted in May.
  - There being no other comments, he closed the meeting to the public.
- The motion to adopt the 2019 Municipal Budget by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilwoman DiGregorio, with Letts, Cruz, DelPidio, DiGregorio and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and none abstaining.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** – all reports are on file and available for review.

- DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, BOARDS, SERVICES/PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL – Councilman Redstreak- Everything is running smoothly in Public Works. He read the Sewer Report month for March. There was one storm drain needed to be videoed, a resident said there was some damage the Borough was responsible for, but the video proved that was not the case. NJAW required a hook up to the Sewer system, and it looks like at least five connections will be required. The matter is being looked at in connection to CCMUA and Lindenwold Sewer. The Lake Clean-up is this Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. JIF recommendations for the Lake Clean UP the most of which is to warn the volunteers to watch for toxic items such as needles when picking up refuse. Some safety vests will be worn by those cleaning the railroad tracks. Last Saturday was a Poetry Reading at the Stratford Library and a Poetry Reading at the Farmhouse on April 27<sup>th</sup> and WaltFEST on Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. There was conversation about a Walt Whitman impersonator at the Stratford Library that may possibly be available for WaltFEST.
- DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Councilman Cruz- Read the PBG Report highlighting that Recreation Center was been repainting and the outside pillars scraped and painted. .
- DIRECTOR OF MUNICIPAL COURT – Councilwoman DiGregorio read the Court report for February and March
- DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE – Councilman Letts- no report.
- DIRECTOR OF RECREATION – Councilman DelPidio read the Recreation Commission Report dated April 8, 2019 and highlighted the Fourth Friday Café saying they needed a musician and the Car Show expected at Laurel Springs Day.
- DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY – POLICE AND FIRE – Mayor Barbera read the Police Report for the Month of March.
- MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Barbera read report from the last meeting of Monday, March 11, 2019 and added that he will be meeting with the Governor at Camden County College and with the State Legislator and that he had arranged to get Senator Madden for the Memorial Day

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**OLD BUSINESS** – Curbside Trees- Separate Borough Trees from Personal – Mayor Barbera said this discussion may be premature saying that the Borough has to divest itself of curbside trees for one difficult matter or another. Solicitor Botcheos mentioned that a clarification is required in the Tree Ordinance. Councilman Redstreak said that it is a work in progress. There was additional conversation about the green belt area between the sidewalk and street and who owns that property, to which Solicitor Botcheos clarified that the homeowner owns to the curb line. Most towns no longer want to spend public funds on the removal of trees on technically private property. At this time of year the requests for tree removal far, far exceeds the amount the town could possibly budget, so a judgement call has to be made on which trees are in most dire need, which is extremely difficult and problematic.

**NEW BUSINESS/CORRESPONDENCE** – A letter was received from State of New Jersey awarding NJDOT 2019 Municipal Aid in the amount of \$222,000 for road improvement which Mayor Barbera had been previously informed of and mention in his report. There was conversation of Walnut Avenue, to which it was responded that Walnut through Tomlinson are to be repaired due to the work done by New Jersey American Water for water main replacement project. Additionally there was conversation about New Jersey American Water project at the Recreation Complex. Benzene was found in a test well from a very early utility site. They will be meeting to decide how much will be removed and the roadway will need gravel cover for the warm season, but no total closure of the road.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC-**

- **Bill McConney- 233 Mt Vernon Avenue- addressed Council about his neighbors** Fire Pit. He distributed a schematic of the properties with the approximate location of his fire pit. He also provided Council with a sample ordinance from Lindenwold. He has called the Police many times and filed a complaint under the Nuisance ordinance. The fire is approximately 15 feet from his house and when the fire is large the smoke enters his home. The Lindenwold Ordinance needs the fire to be 15 from the property line, which would keep the fire pit further away from his home. He is requesting Council consider changing the Borough Code. Ordinance Review will take a look at it, and Mayor Barbera reiterated the process to pass an ordinance. Mr. McConney said he would keep calling the Police Department, and expressed no problem with the officers and said he would file a complaint with Municipal Court if he needed to. Borough Administrator Cheeseman said he would take look through the State Fire Code to see what might be available to assist. There was discussion of the Nuisance Ordinance and how to file a complaint. He also commented about a tree on Washington and Grand Avenue, and wondered who cut that down and said there is another tree nearby that is in bad shape.
- **Robert Lickfield- 432 Glen Avenue** – Gave further conversation about trees and survey marker. There was further conversation about checking the survey rather than the markers.
- **Cliff Jones** – Saint Paul’s Presbyterian Church – discussed a former survey he had taken of town residents.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Town Watch, Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> @7pm @Recreation Center
- Lake Clean Up, Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> @9am @Crystal Springs
- Spring Cleaning, Monday–Thursday, April 15-19<sup>th</sup>-Special pick up of yard waste piled curbside
- Combined Land Use Board-Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup> @7pm @Recreation Center
- Easter, Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> – Easter Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> Borough Offices are closed.
- Free Rabies and Licensing Clinic-Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> @10am @Firehouse
- Board of Health – Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> @11am @Firehouse

**ADJOURNMENT** –There being no further business a motion was made by Councilman Redstreak, which was seconded by Councilwoman DiGregorio to adjourn at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Dawn T. Amadio, RMC,  
Municipal Clerk