

**BOROUGH OF LAUREL SPRINGS
MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MONDAY, MAY 11, 2015
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE BOROUGH HALL
MAYOR THOMAS A. BARBERA PRESIDING
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SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND MOMENT OF SILENCE was led by Mayor Barbera

OPEN MEETING ACT– Mayor Barbera stated that adequate notice of this meeting was given by emailing the Central Record and the Courier-Post on January 7, 2015 and posting on the website and bulletin board in the Borough Hall, also on Borough’s website.

ROLL CALL recorded as present: Letts, McCunney , Mochel, Cruz, and Redstreak; absent: DiGregorio

ENGINEER’S REPORT

CAPITAL ITEMS

1. 2013 Road Improvement Program – East Maple, West Elma, West Atlantic & Arch Avenues

Work on the project is complete. The project was completed \$47,833.32 under the bid amount because of savings on project final as built quantities. Pay Estimate #3, Final and Change Order #1, Final were submitted to the Borough under ERI cover letters of October 31, 2014. NJDOT has approved the Change Order and the Borough should be receiving a check for the final 25% of the grant amount in the near future.

2. Safe Routes to School Application – FY 2014

An NJDOT Safe Routes to School Grant Application was submitted on June 27, 2014 for the reconstruction of sidewalk and associated improvements along both sides of Stone Road between Washington Avenue and Broadway.

The Borough received a letter from NJDOT dated March 17, 2015 indicating that the project was not selected for funding.

3. NJDOT Municipal Aid Grant Applications – FY 2015

Our office submitted FY2015 NJDOT Municipal Aid Grant Application for the reconstruction of Washington Avenue between Grand Avenue and Chestnut Avenue and also submitted a FY2015 NJDOT Safe Routes to Transit Application for the reconstruction of sidewalk along both sides of Stone Road between Washington Avenue and Broadway. A letter from NJDOT dated April 20, 2015 indicated that funding was denied for the Washington Avenue project. We will apprise Council of the status of the Stone Road SRTT Application once we receive information from NJDOT.

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OTHER PROJECTS

4. Stone Road Reconstruction

Camden County is currently preparing Contract Documents to bid the resurfacing of Stone Road and associated work for future construction.

5. Tax Map Digitization / Revisions

The State Division of Taxation comments and requested revisions have been incorporated into the tax maps and a revised set of maps was sent to the State under our cover letter of April 13, 2015. Once the revisions have been accepted by the State and finalized we will begin work on the GIS mapping.

6. Sewer Main Repair – West Atlantic Avenue

At the request of the Borough Administrator our office investigated a sanitary sewer main break behind the Spring Garden Apartments. Dave Kennedy, the licensed operator, was also present. After the site visit we contacted Root24 to have the pipe jetted and televised. The TV inspection revealed a break in the top of the main, which is in a concrete encasement. Root24 indicated that it may be possible to make the repair using a stainless steel clamp point repair. If the stainless steel clamp does not completely seal the break it will be necessary to also install a polyethylene liner point repair, which will seal the joint. The price quoted for the jetting, televising and stainless steel clamp repair is \$5,933.15. Due to the emergent nature of the repair, our office, the licensed operator, the Administrator and CFO all agreed that Root24 should be authorized to complete the repair immediately. If the polyethylene liner is necessary it will be subject to an additional quote, which can be expected to cost approximately \$7,000.00.

MATTERS REQUIRING OFFICIAL ACTION

- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Work Session Meeting of April 13, 2015 - The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak, was seconded by Councilwoman Mochel, with Mochel, Cruz, Letts and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and McCunney abstaining.
- **RESOLUTIONS**

- **#064-2015 - AUTHORIZING SALE OF BOROUGH OWNED ITEMS ON ONLINE PUBLIC AUCTION**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Laurel Springs owns and/or has title to the following items and/or fixed assets:

- 11 Avaya Phones
- 2 Tailgate Salt Spreaders
- 4 Motorola Portable Radios
- 11 Mobile Radios
- Bicycles

WHEREAS, the use of the above items are defunct and of no practical or useful life based upon the capacity for which they were used by the various Departments of the Borough of Laurel Springs; and

WHEREAS, said items will be offered for public auction on GovDeals.com, an on-line public auction site, the terms and conditions of which are available on said website and in the office of the Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the sale is being conducted pursuant to Local Finance Notice 2008-9; and
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Laurel Springs that the sale of the aforementioned Borough fixed assets and/or Borough-owned items is approved:

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- The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilwoman Mochel, with Mochel, Letts, McCunney, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.
- **#065-2015- TO REFUND RECREATION COMMISSION REGISTRATION FEES**
WHEREAS, the following fees were received for Softball/Baseball registrations that were subsequently withdrawn:

Giordano	\$100.00
Fox	\$100.00
Dickinson	\$ 50.00
Smith	\$100.00

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Laurel Springs that amount indicated be refunded.

- The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilwoman Mochel, with Mochel, Letts, McCunney, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

- **#066-2015- APPROVING PROPOSAL OF ROOT 24, INC. FOR SEWER REPAIRS**

WHEREAS, a crack was identified in sewer piping requiring an emergency repair; and

WHEREAS, quotes to repair the damage were solicited, received and reviewed by Borough Engineer and Council President; and

WHEREAS, Root 24, Inc. was contractor available and capable of completing the repair;

WHEREAS, there are fund available in the Sewer Capital Account; a

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Laurel Springs that the proposal for the sewer repair be approved in the amount of \$5,545.00 by Root 24, Inc. 130 Ferry Avenue, Suite B, Camden, NJ 08104.

- The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilwoman Mochel, with Mochel, Letts, McCunney, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

- **#067-2015- AUTHORIZING MEMBERSHIP IN A MUTUAL AID AND ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WITH PARTICIPATING UNITS**

WHEREAS, mutual aid and assistance agreements between municipalities, counties, law enforcement agencies police, Emergency Medical Service, fire departments, fire companies or EMS organizations and fire departments situated in fire districts operated by a Board of Fire Commissioners, are permitted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:14-26 and 40A:14-156.1; and

WHEREAS, the President in Homeland Security Directive (HSPD) – 5, directed the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to develop and administer a National Incident Management System (NIMS), which would provide a consistent nationwide approval to Federal, State, local and tribal governments to work together more effectively and efficiently to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from domestic incidents, regardless or cause, size or complexity; and

WHEREAS, “The New Jersey Civilian Defense and Disaster Control Act” App. A9-33 et seq., provides for the health, safety and welfare of the people of the State of New Jersey during any emergency by centralizing control of all civilian activities having to do with such emergency giving the Governor control over the resources of each and every political subdivision to cope with any condition that shall arise out of such emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Director of the Division of Fire Safety in the Department of Community Affairs promulgated rules in accordance with the “Fire Service Resource Emergency Deployment Act,” N.J.A.C. 52:14E-11 et. seq., commonly referred to as the “Fire Service Resource Emergency Deployment Regulations” N.J.A.C. 5”75A et. seq.; and

WHEREAS, it is deemed to be in the best interests of the residents of this municipality to enter into a mutual aid and assistance agreement with the County of Camden and other municipalities including (but not limited to) municipal police, Emergency Medical Service or fire departments, volunteers fire companies or EMS organizations and/or fire districts to provide additional protection against loss, damage or destruction by fire, catastrophe, civil unrest, major emergency or other extraordinary devastation damage or destruction to personal and property, in those situations when outside aid and assistance is needed.

RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Laurel Springs, County of Camden, State of New

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Jersey the following:

1. That the appropriate Borough officials are authorized and directed to enter into the Camden County Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement Between Participating Units. to sign and directed to enter into the Camden County Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement Between Participating Units.
2. That the Mayor and the Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute said Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement on behalf of the Borough of Laurel Springs.
3. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded, as well as an executed copy of Schedule A of the agreement to the offices of the Camden County Office of Emergency Management for review and filing by the appropriate Fire, EMS and County Prosecutor or his designee as appropriate.

- The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilwoman Mochel, with Mochel, Letts, McCunney, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

▪ **#068-2015- SUPPORTING ASSEMBLY BILL A-4235**

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill No. A-4235 supplementing chapter 4 of Title 54, R.S.54:4-65 and designated the "Transparent Tax Act of 2015" is being considered for adoption by the New Jersey State Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the amendment would permit the local jurisdiction to print separate tax bills to each taxpayer, one showing the amount of property taxes due and payable for municipal tax purposes, the other shall state the amount of property taxes due and payable for county purposes, school purposes, fire district purposes, and for the purposes of any other special district on behalf of which the municipality collects property taxes; and

WHEREAS, both bills shall include a brief tabulation showing the distribution of the total amount to be raised by taxes; and

WHEREAS, A-4235 would require the municipal tax collector to send notice of the pro rata share, if any, of the property tax appeal refunds paid by the municipality during the tax year to the county, school districts, and fire districts for inclusion in their annual budgets; and

WHEREAS, in the following tax year in which the refunds were paid, the municipal tax collector is then required to deduct the applicable pro rata share of the property tax refund from the amounts to be paid to the county, and each school and fire district; and

WHEREAS, these amendments, if adopted, will assist the general public to understand the tax bill, the structure of the taxes, and the level of support for each agency, and will further provide a more equitable structure to share the obligation of paying approved tax appeals as the title states, creates transparency in the tax supporting local assessments.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Morris, in the County of Morris, in the State of New Jersey, hereby supports Assembly Bill A-4235 amending Title 54:4-65 and urges the Legislature to approve and pass the bill for the reasons expressed herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Majority Leader of the NJ State Assembly, the President of the NJ Senate, and the Governor of the State of NJ, the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, and Morris County municipalities.

- The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilwoman Mochel, with Mochel, Letts, McCunney, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

▪ **RESOLVED TO PAY \$549,573.92 FROM CURRENT ACCOUNT AND \$44,126.37 FROM TRUST AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS**

- The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilman Mochel with Mochel, Letts, McCunney, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

▪ **ORDINANCES**

▪ **FIRST READINGS AND INTRODUCTION**

- **#790-2015- AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 105 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF LAUREL SPRINGS ENTITLED "CURFEW"**

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- The motion to Introduce by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilman McCunney with McCunney, Letts, Mochel, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.
- Second Reading, Public Hearing and Motion to Adopt will be held on Monday, June 8, 2015, 7 pm in the Borough Hall.
- **#791-2015 - AN ORDINANCE CREATING CHAPTER 23 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF LAUREL SPRINGS ENTITLED "HEALTH"**
 - The motion to Introduce by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilman McCunney with McCunney, Letts, Mochel, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.
 - Second Reading, Public Hearing and Motion to Adopt will be held on Monday, June 8, 2015, 7 pm in the Borough Hall.
- **#792-2015 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 253 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF LAUREL SPRINGS ENTITLED "TOWING"**
 - The motion to Introduce by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilwoman Mochel with Mochel, Letts, McCunney, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.
 - Second Reading, Public Hearing and Motion to Adopt will be held on Monday, June 8, 2015, 7 pm in the Borough Hall.
- **Second Readings, Public Hearing and Motion to Adopt**
 - **#783-2015 - ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 229 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF LAUREL SPRINGS ENTITLED, "STREETS AND SIDEWALKS"**
 - Public Hearing – Mayor Barbera opened the meeting to the public for questions and comments. Hearing none, he closed the meeting to the public.
 - The Motion to Adopt by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilwoman Mochel with Mochel, Letts, McCunney, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.
 - **#788-2015 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 270 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF LAUREL SPRINGS ENTITLED "ZONING"**
 - Public Hearing – Mayor Barbera opened the meeting to the public for questions and comments. Hearing none, he closed the meeting to the public.
 - The Motion to Adopt by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilman McCunney with McCunney, Letts, Mochel, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.
 - **#789-2015- AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 188 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF LAUREL SPRINGS ENTITLED "PEDDLING AND SOLICITING"**
 - Public Hearing – Mayor Barbera opened the meeting to the public for questions and comments. Hearing none, he closed the meeting to the public.
 - The Motion to Adopt by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilman McCunney, with McCunney, Letts, Mochel, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, BOARDS, SERVICES-** Council President Redstreak read the Sewer Utility Report for the Month of April. He reported on two repair problems on Walnut and then behind Spring Garden Apartments. The one behind Spring Garden is encased in concrete, as it encroaches on the stream. There has been no contamination. In fact water is coming into the pipe not the other way round. An emergency repair is needed. Representatives from the Borough, the Engineer and the

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Sewer Utility met at the site and came up with the emergency plan to remediate the situation. He also read the Public Works Report for the month of April, 2015. He reported that there was no meeting with regard to the Land Use Board.

- **DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS & GROUNDS** – Councilman McCunney reported on a small issue at the Ballfield related to the bathrooms at the Candy Stand. The matter was corrected by Bommer Plumbing.
- **DIRECTOR OF MUNICIPAL COURT** – Councilwoman DiGregorio’s Report was submitted as part of the record, a copy of which is on file and available for review.
- **DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE** – Councilman Letts read the CFO’s Report for the Month of April, 2015 as submitted by CFO Ciminera, a copy of which is on file and available for review.
- **DIRECTOR OF RECREATION** – Councilman Cruz read the Recreation Commission Report for the month highlighting on Laurel Springs Day.
- **DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY – POLICE AND FIRE** - Councilwoman Mochel read the Police Report for the Month of April, 2015 as submitted by Chief Carmen Rabottino, a copy of which is on file and available for review. She also read the Fire Department report for the month of April, 2015, a copy of which is on file and available for review. She read a letter announcing that Chief Rabottino was recently made 2nd Vice President of the Camden County Police Chiefs’ Association. She thanked both the Fire and Police Department for their job well done at Laurel Springs Day.
- **MAYOR’S REPORT** – Mayor Barbera read his report which reviews his activities from the date of the last regular Meeting, a copy of which is on file and available for review.
 - **SCHOOL FINANCE REFORM ACT** - Mayor Barbera explained the content of a meeting he attended in Woodbury about the School Finance Reform Act, which was developed as an outgrowth of the Abbott School district concept. The New Jersey formulated the SFRA based upon student needs. SFRA was never fully funded and for some time has been executed at 86%. However, each school district does not receive it’s 86%. The New Jersey Department of Education funding varies and Laurel Springs is only receiving 55% not the 86%. Mayor Barbera distributed material to Council enumerating each school district and what funding each district receives. The State average is 85%, however, some districts get less some get more than their 85% allotment. If Laurel Springs got it’s 85% it would get an additional \$1,020,000. If it got the 100% the New Jersey Legislature formulated the district needed it would receive over \$3,000,000. The various towns’ allotment were reviewed with regard to legislative and/or Regional High School districts. Obviously, this is a difficult topic for State Legislators to take up as their various districts are in various levels, or lack thereof, of funding. Mayor Barbera reviewed the position that the Department of Education takes. There was discussion of whether it is political or errors or first come first serve. It is very odd and Mayor Barbera is going to attempt to stay engaged with the effort.
 - **SCHOOL BUDGET** – There was discussion of the current Laurel Springs School Budget. They discussed current enrollment levels and accordingly tuition to Stratford and Sterling. There was discussion of calendar versus fiscal years and special needs students that are sent out of district. Support services and student transportation costs are expected to go up next year as well.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Financial Disclosure Statements**- 100% of the submitted roster have filed.

CORRESPONDENCE

- From NJDOT with regard to denial of Laurel Springs’ 2015 application.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Tuesday, May 12, 2015 @ 7 pm, Whitman Stafford Committee @ the Farmhouse
- Monday, May 18, 2015 @ 7 am, Camden County Tax Court @ Borough Hall

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- Wednesday, May 20, 2015 @ 7 pm, School Board @ Laurel Springs School
- Thursday, May 21, 2015 @ 7 pm, Combined Land Use Board @ Borough Hall
- Friday, May 22, 2015 @ 7 pm, Miss Laurel Springs Pageant @ Sterling High School
- Monday, May 25, 2015 @ 10 am, Memorial Day Rededication Service @ War Memorial
- Tuesday, June 2, 2015 @ 6 am – 8 pm, Primary Election @ Recreation Center
- Wednesday, June 3, 2015 @ 7 pm, Recreation Commission @ Recreation Center
- Thursday, June 4, 2015 @ 5 – 8 pm, Market Night @ Laurel Springs Downtown
- Friday, June 5, 2015 @ 6 pm, Town Wide Campout @ Ballfield
- There is no Work Session Meetings in the month of May, June, July or August
- Monday, June 8, 2015 @ 7 pm, Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council @ Borough Hall

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- **Ken Lippincott- 510 Park Avenue-** Memorial Day Wreath order to be submitted tomorrow. Mr. Lippincott reviewed the various efforts ongoing to prepare for the event.

CLOSED SESSION - Be it resolved to have a "Closed Session" following adjournment/recess of the meeting to discuss pending litigation under public meeting act 10:4-12, B-8. Disclosure to the public will be forthcoming when a decision is made by the Mayor and Council. The motion to recess into Closed Session by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilwoman Mochel with Letts, McCunney, Mochel, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

Mayor Barbera reopened the Meeting at 7:57 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT –There being no further business a motion was made by Councilman Redstreak, which was seconded by Councilwoman Mochel to adjourn at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn T. Amadio, RMC
Municipal Clerk