

BOROUGH OF LAUREL SPRINGS
WORK SESSION MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MONDAY, September 24, 2018
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 May 17, 2018 and posting on the Borough Website and bulletin board in the Borough Hall.

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

ENGINEERS REPORT – Jeff Hansen – Environmental Resolutions

CAPITAL ITEMS

1. **Reconstruction of Washington Avenue, Phase 1 - NJDOT FY2016 Municipal Aid Grant**

The Borough received a \$200,000.00 Municipal Aid Grant for the Reconstruction of Washington Avenue, between Stone Road and Central Avenue. The Contractor, Paving Plus, LLC, substantially completed construction in September, 2017.

Our office is currently in the process of closing out the project with NJDOT in order for the Borough to receive the remaining \$50,000.00 of grant money.

2. **NJDOT Local Aid Grant Applications – FY2018**

The Borough was recently awarded a Municipal Aid Grant in the amount of \$195,000.00 for the Reconstruction of Arch Avenue. ERI has completed the field survey work and the base plans. We have started the design work with the intention of having the Plans and Specifications completed in time for a Fall 2018 construction start date.

3. **Roadway Repair - Sycamore Avenue and Glen Avenue**

Quotes were received by ERI on April 27, 2018. Alternate Bid #2 was awarded to RTW Construction, in the amount of \$21,400.00 at the May 14, 2018 Borough Council Meeting. The Contractor has mobilized equipment and will be starting the work on July 5, 2018.

The work has been satisfactorily completed and we have prepared a Final Pay Estimate recommending payment to the Contractor.

OTHER PROJECTS

4. **Municipal Building Redevelopment Plan / Stone Road Redevelopment Area**

The Site Plan for the conversion of the municipal building to twelve (12) age restricted one-bedroom apartments, and associated site work was granted Preliminary and Final Site Plan Approval at the May 17, 2018 Borough Combined Planning Zoning Board meeting. The Site Plan was developed in symmetry with the previously approved Municipal Building Redevelopment Plan. We have completed a conformance review of the Plans and the revisions have been made in substantial conformance with the Board approval. Final Plans for appropriate signatures should be forthcoming from the developer.

There are no improvements within the project that require a performance bond under the new municipal bonding laws that were passed earlier this year. Our office has prepared a construction cost estimate for the site improvements in order to determine the appropriate inspection escrow amount. Once the Plans are signed, all outstanding outside agency approvals are received and escrow is posted a preconstruction meeting can be schedule and the work can proceed.

Borough Council adopted the Stone Road Rehabilitation Plan Plans at their March 26, 2018 meeting.

Engineer Hansen requested the resolution authorizing the grant application be on the next meeting agenda. Mayor Barbera said the Borough had received \$195,000 for Arch and asked if that would be sufficient funding to complete the Arch Avenue Project, to which Engineer Hansen responded he felt there would be.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

• **APPROVAL OF MINUTES –**

- Regular Meeting of Monday, September 10, 2018 – the motion to approve by Councilwoman Cruz was seconded by Councilman Letts with Letts and Cruz in favor, Redstreak abstaining and none opposed.

• **RESOLUTIONS**

- #077-2018 - REJECTING BID FOR CAMDEN COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROJECT FOR REMOVAL OF ARCHITECTURAL BARRIERS – STAIR TOWER ADDITION TO THE CORD MANSION PURSUANT TO NJSA 40A:11-13.2

WHEREAS, on September 18, 2018 the Borough of Laurel Springs received sealed bids for Camden County Community Development Block Grant Project for Removal of Architectural Barriers – Stair Tower Addition to the Cord Mansion in accordance with the bid documents therefor; and

WHEREAS, the lowest bid substantially exceeds the cost estimates the Chief Financial Officer has recommended that all bids be rejected; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Architect has recommended substantial revision of the specifications for the project; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council hereby determine that it is in the best interest of the Borough to reject said bid;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Laurel Springs that the bid received for the for Camden County Community Development Block Grant Project for Removal of Architectural Barriers – Stair Tower Addition to the Cord Mansion is

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hereby rejected pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-13.2 since the contracting unit wants to substantially revise the specifications for the services.

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

- #078-2018 - AUTHORIZING THE PREPARATION OF REVISED DOCUMENTS AND ADVERTISEMENT OF PUBLIC BIDS FOR REMOVAL OF ARCHITECTURAL BARRIERS, LAUREL SPRINGS BOROUGH HALL, FUNDED BY CAMDEN COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM
WHEREAS, on September 18, 2018 the Borough of Laurel Springs received sealed bids for Camden County Community Development Block Grant Project for Removal of Architectural Barriers – Stair Tower Addition to the Cord Mansion, for which the lowest bid substantially exceeded the cost and for which substantial revision of the specifications for the project is desired; and
WHEREAS, the Borough of Laurel Springs is desires to complete such a revised project for Removal of Architectural Barriers at the proposed Laurel Springs Borough Hall, commonly known as “The Cord Mansion”; and
WHEREAS, this is an approved Camden County Community Development Block Grant funded project; and
WHEREAS, Capital Funds have been appropriated for such by the adoption of Bond Ordinance #801:2016;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Mayor and Council of the Borough of Laurel Springs, that the Borough Architect and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to prepare revised public bid documents and advertise for the solicitation of public bids for Removal of Architectural Barriers at the Cord Mansion.

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

- #079-2018 - TO WAIVE OR REDUCE FEES FOR THE JACK H. HAGEN RECREATION CENTER
WHEREAS, there are fees required for the rental of the Jack H. Hagen Recreation Center in the Borough of Laurel Springs, NJ; and
WHEREAS, in certain instances, these fees are reduced or waived;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Laurel Springs that the fees for rental of the Jack H. Hagen Recreation Center be reduced or waived:
Kendra Mochel – September 22nd - Borough Council
Dawn Amadio – October 13th - Borough Employee

- RESOLVED TO PAY \$98,446.10 FROM CURRENT ACCOUNT AND \$13,304.39 FROM TRUST AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS

- The motion to approve by Councilwoman Mochel was seconded by Councilwoman DiGregorio with Letts, Cruz, DelPidio, DiGregorio, and Mochel in favor, none opposed and no abstentions

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION - None.

- Fire Truck - Mayor Barbera asked Chief Cheeseman to announce that the Borough had received a grant from FEMA for \$641,000 to replace a fire truck deemed unfit for service. Mayor Barbera thanked the members of the Fire Company for the work on the successful grant application. Two applications were submitted one was approved and one denied. The next round of grant funding will be open soon.

- Christmas Tree – Mayor Barbera announced that the Borough had received a gift of \$750 from a resident of the town to replace the Christmas Tree with a new Norway Spruce. The existing tree is leaning at a precarious angle, so this gift is welcome.

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CORRESPONDENCE

- From our Lady of Guadalupe Parish Shrine regarding Blue Mass, Saturday, September 29th at 5 pm
– Mayor Barbera read the invitation extended to Police and Fire Departments.

ITEMS RECEIVED AFTER THE AGENDA WAS PRINTED – None.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC –

- **Tim DeMarco** – 618 East Atlantic Avenue read a prepared statement regarding a traumatic incident in which his wife and one month old baby were startled while sleeping by pounding on the door due to attempted notification of utility work adjacent to their home. She refused to open the door as she had a week previously had a frightening encounter with a door to door solicitor. She phoned her husband who hurried home to be met with unmanned traffic detours, which he, not knowing the condition of his wife and child, bypassed, to be detained by a police officer who ticketed him. He described the encounter with he and his wife's encounter with the police officer, which were not to his liking. There was additional conversation about notification and social media notification. Mr. DeMarco alluded to his wife's lifelong relationship with the town. Mayor Barbera responded that he had been made aware of the situation but had been informed that the Police did after the incident apologize to him, to whom he responded that he was not apologized to. Mayor Barbera further said that he was told the incident had been resolved and that in all likelihood he would not be in attendance this evening, to which he reiterated that no one had spoken to him. Mayor Barbera said that he had learned that the responsibility to notify residents belongs to the utility contractors. However, he has instituted a policy that doubles down and requires the police department to also notify the residents. He recollected that one of his firsts acts as Mayor was to walk Lindsay Avenue during a construction project to let the residents know what was happening and what to expect. Mayor Barbera expressed concern about the ticket and that it was a moving violation. Council President Redstreak requested those details be discussed after the meeting, and apologized and said they would do their best moving forward to make sure that a situation like this never happens again. He did not want to make excuses, but said changes would be made, and concurred with Mayor Barbera's approach when he walked Lindsay Avenue.
- **Bob Lickfield**-432 Glen Avenue – commented that the latest newsletter should have included how to dispose of a television set. They cannot be left at the curb for bulk pick up.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Friday, September 28th Fourth Friday Popup Café @ 7pm @Makers' Workshop
- Wednesday, October 3rd Recreation Commission Meeting @7pm @Recreation Center
- Saturday, October 6th Fall Town Wide Yard Sale and Clean Community Day (Dumpsters at the Train Station)
- Monday, October 8th Columbus Day – Borough Offices are closed
- Monday, October 15th Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council, @7pm @Recreation Center.

ADJOURNMENT –There being no further business a motion was made by Councilman Redstreak to adjourn at 7:26 pm with all in favor and none opposed.

Respectfully submitted

Dawn T. Amadio, RMC,
Municipal Clerk