

**BOROUGH OF LAUREL SPRINGS
MAYOR AND COUNCIL WORK SESSION
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 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 PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW – Mayor Barbera stated that adequate notice of this meeting was given by emailing the Central Record and the Courier-Post on January 6, 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, DiGregorio, Cruz and Redstreak; none absent

ENGINEERS REPORT – Environmental Resolutions

CAPITAL ITEMS

1. **NJDOT Municipal Aid Grant Applications – FY 2016**

Our office is currently preparing FY2016 NJDOT Municipal Aid Grant Application for the reconstruction of Washington Avenue between Grand Avenue and Chestnut Avenue and also for a FY2016 NJDOT Safe Routes to Transit Application for the reconstruction of sidewalk along both sides of Stone Road between Washington Avenue and Broadway. The Applications will be submitted prior to the October 20, 2015 deadline.

OTHER PROJECTS

2. **Stone Road Reconstruction**

Bids for the construction were recently received by the County. According to County Engineering, it is anticipated that construction should begin in Fall 2015, dependent upon Contractor scheduling.

3. **Tax Map Digitization / Revisions**

The State Division of Taxation comments and requested revisions were addressed and the tax maps have been accepted by the State. The tax map revisions are now finalized, hard copies of the maps have been delivered to the Borough Tax Assessor and ERI will be commencing work on the GIS mapping in the coming months.

4. **Glen Avenue Sinkholes**

During the spring sinkholes were observed in the 600 block of Glen Avenue that appeared to coincide with New Jersey American Water's recently abandoned water main. NJAW repaired the sinkholes in June. Another sinkhole was observed in July. Again NJAW excavated to expose their abandoned main and no issues were discovered with the main. The storm sewer and sanitary sewer along the block were televised and no problems were observed. It is possible that the sinkholes were caused by improperly backfilled areas and that the problem took years to manifest itself. The repaired areas will continue to be monitored to determine whether further corrective action will be necessary.

Mr. Hansen said the Stone Road project is a County Project, with no assistance requested from ERI. He said that utility work is usually done first. Borough Administrator Cheeseman said that everything is on

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schedule. They had to sent a survey crew back out to resurvey. The award was for 120 days; however, because of the concrete work and because the storm piping is bad and must be replaced, it may not be done until Spring.

August NJDOT Resol?

MATTERS REQUIRING OFFICIAL ACTION

- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - Regular Meeting of Septmeber14, 2015 - The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreake, was seconded by Councilwoman Mochel with, Redstreake, Mochel, Letts, McCunney, DiGregorio, and Cruz in favor, and none abstaining.

RESOLUTIONS

- **#090-2015- TO CANCEL GRASS TRIMMING CHARGES**

WHEREAS, certain parcels were inaccurately billed for grass cuts performed by the Laurel Springs Public Works Department; and

WHEREAS, certain adjustments are subsequently required to the records of the Tax Collector;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Laurel Springs, County of Camden, State of New Jersey that the following adjustments be approved.

<u>OWNER</u>	<u>ACCOUNT #</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>REASON</u>
CORNERSTONE BANK	Block 4, Lot 1	\$100.00	BILLING ERROR/OWNER ADDRESS

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

- **RESOLVED TO PAY \$48,355.77FROM CURRENT ACCOUNT AND \$14,262.90FROM TRUST AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS**

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

MATTERS FOR COUNCIL DISCUSSION

- LFN-2015-17-CY 2015/SFY 2016 Best Practices Inventory – Mayor Barbera discussed the Best Practices Inventory. He highlighted the number questions answered yes, which equates to no loss in State Aid. The Borough is doing a good job of complying with the Best Practices promulgated by the State of New Jersey. Last year’s checklist saw some questions regarding Hurricane Sandy, which were removed this year. However, in any case the Borough should consider a job well done.
- Stone Road County Project – Councilwoman DiGregorio was questioned by a resident with regard to the sycamore tree at the corner of Stone and Broadway. It was confirmed that the tree is slated to be removed by the County. Stone Road is a County Road and this is a County project. The Borough is on record as stating its stance and adoption of a stricter Community Forestry approach to the County. Apparently, the difficulty with this particular tree involves its immediacy, and perhaps even culpability, in the storm sewer collapse which is causing the deterioration of the sidewalks and roadway. There are some safety concerns with the school yard and walking school district. There was discussion of the advantage of the repaving and sidewalk completion. There was discussion of replanting new trees where any trees unfortunately will be lost.
- 2016 Annual Fee Schedule – There was discussion of reviewing the Annual Fee Schedule and the need to adopt it prior to January, if any changes will be effected to the Mercantile Licenses, which are due in January. As an addendum, per the information collected by the Ordinance Review Committee, their recommendation was \$100 for a term of 90 days for Peddlers and Solicitors License. There was discussion of whether religious organizations going door to door have to apply for Peddlers Licenses. There was confirmation of the difference between a distribution and a solicitation. People are allowed to distribute material door to door without any registration as long as they are not knocking on doors and engaging people. If people are attempting to engage

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residents they have to register. It was confirmed that if they are a non-profit group they don't have to pay a fee, but they do have to register. There was discussion of the Borough issued identification that the ordinance requires. There was discussion of most school and youth groups not allowing their members to go door to door.

- 2016 Council Meeting Schedule – Mayor Barbera highlighted the Council Meeting schedule. There was discussion of scheduling difficulties with Easter, Columbus Day, and Christmas. It was decided that with regard to Easter Monday and Columbus Day, the Regular Meeting would be held on the Tuesday following the holiday. The Work Session in December would be held on the normally scheduled Monday, December 26.
- 2016 Town Calendar – Information from Departments, Directors and Committees should be directed to Municipal Clerk Amadio, so the calendar can be ready for print by the end of October.
- New Mercantile Licenses Pending – Chief Cheeseman related difficulties encountered with two new Mercantile License applications in the storefronts of the same property owner on the White Horse Pike. Neither has passed their Fire Inspection or Tax Office clearance, so they are not meeting the requirements of the Mercantile License code, and currently a Mercantile License Resolution is not being submitted for approval by Council.

CORRESPONDENCE –

- From NJ LOM regarding the League Convention Registration deadline – Council communicated their attendance and various classes, so that the registrations can be filed.

ITEMS RECEIVED AFTER THE AGENDA WAS PRINTED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Tax Sale has scheduled for Wednesday, September 30, 2015 has been delayed and will be rescheduled at a date to be determined.
- Thursday, October 1, 2015 – Market Night Down Town – 5 – 8 pm
- Saturday, October 3, 2015 – Fire Prevention – 11 am – 1 pm @ Lindenwold Park. This event was subsequently rescheduled to Saturday October 10, 2015 due to inclement weather expected.
- Saturday, October 3, 2015 – Fall Town Wide Yard Sale
- Monday, October 5, 2015 - Regular Council Meeting – 7 pm @Borough Hall
- Monday, October 5,2015 – Economic Improvement Committee @6pm

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

ADJOURNMENT –There being no further business a motion was made by Councilman Redstreak, which was seconded by Councilwoman Mochel to adjourn at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn T. Amadio, RMC
Municipal Clerk