

September 1, 2004

The works session of the Riverton Borough Council was held on the above date. Mayor Martin presiding.

**PRESENT:** Council members Daniel, Villari, Smyth, Gilmore, Cesaretti, Alls-Moffatt and William Martin, Esquire, filling in for Solicitor Bruce M. Gunn

The following statement was read by Mayor Martin:

Public notice of this meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, has been given by the Municipal Clerk in the following manner:

(a) Having written notice of all meetings to be held in 2004 published in the Burlington County Times on January 13, 2004

(b) Posting written notice on the official bulletin board on January 13, 2004

**Streets & Roads Issues: a. Update Re: Livable Communities Grant Application.**

Mrs. Villari reported that Engineer, Rick Arango has informed us that his firm's fee to prepare this application would not exceed \$500.00. Mrs. Villari stated that it is the recommendation of her committee and the Public Works Manager that any grant monies obtained be utilized to offset the costs associated with our recent purchase of a new fire truck as well as designated road work in the Borough. Mayor Martin asked if any potential grant monies could be used for the installation of stop signs at various locations throughout town. Mrs. Villari responded no; however she will talk to Mr. Arango to find out if any such grants exist. Mr. Cesaretti asked the Chief if there was a safe streets grant available for stop sign purposes. The Chief stated that he didn't know if there was such a grant available. The Chief further stated that the Highway, Traffic and Safety Department have many grants that we could look into. After a short discussion, it was the consensus of Council to agree with the recommendation of the Public Works Committee regarding this application. Mrs. Villari stated that the application needs to be submitted by September 30, 2004.

**RESOLUTION 84-04**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ENGINEERING FIRM OF REMINGTON, VERNICK AND ARANGO TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR THE STATEWIDE LIVABLE COMMUNITIES GRANT (IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

The above Resolution was read by title only by Mrs. Villari, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mrs. Alls-Moffatt. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mrs. Villari aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Gilmore aye, Mr. Cesaretti aye and Mrs. Alls-Moffatt aye.

**B. Required resolution to include Municipal Stormwater Grant (\$6882.00) in 2004 Municipal Budget.** Mrs. Villari explained that this grant money was received after the budget had been adopted. Our Auditor has informed us that a formal Resolution needs to be done asking that the Director of Local Government Services approve this amount and to include it in our 2004 Municipal Budget.

**RESOLUTION 85-04**

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE APPROVAL OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE BOROUGH BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2004 (IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

The above Resolution was read by title only by Mrs. Villari, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mr. Smyth. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mrs. Villari aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Gilmore aye, Mr. Cesaretti aye and Mrs. Alls-Moffatt aye.

**c. Correspondence from Alaimo Associates Re: Broad Street Parking Proposal.**

Mrs. Villari reported that we have received notification from Alaimo Associates that the approval of the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) is not required for the

Broad Street Parking Proposal. Mrs. Villari commented that when we had previously submitted this proposal to the Burlington County Bridge Commission for their consideration, they had informed us that we needed NJDOT approval. Chief Norcross and Mr. Cesaretti commented that the Bridge Commission is in receipt of the recent correspondence from the NJDOT on this issue. Council will be kept informed.

**Recommendation from Finance Committee Re: Purchase Order System.** Mr. Smyth reported that the Finance Committee as well as the Ad Hoc Residents' Advisory Committee has determined there exists a legitimate need to implement standard purchasing procedures for the Borough of Riverton. Mr. Smyth reviewed these suggested procedures with Council and asked that they be approved.

#### **RESOLUTION 86-04**

### **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF STANDARD PURCHASING PROCEDURES FOR THE BOROUGH OF RIVERTON (IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

The above Resolution was read by title only by Mr. Smyth, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mrs. Villari. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mrs. Villari aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Gilmore aye, Mr. Cesaretti abstained and Mrs. Alls-Moffatt aye.

**Update Re: Cross Acceptance Meeting.** Mr. Gilmore reported that this required meeting would be held on September 10 at 7:30pm in Borough Hall. Various County officials will be present. Mr. Gilmore reported that the following representatives from Riverton are scheduled to attend. They are Mr. Smyth, Mrs. Alls-Moffatt, Mr. Gilmore, Solicitor Bruce Gunn, Engineer, Rick Arango, and representatives from both the Planning and Zoning Boards. Planner Tamara Lee is unable to attend the meeting; however, she will lend whatever assistance is needed. Council will be kept apprised of this issue.

**Smart Growth Grant: Review of draft letter requesting permission from the State to utilize these funds for redevelopment purposes.** The Clerk reported that this draft letter, prepared by Planner Tamara Lee, was received yesterday. After a short discussion, it was the consensus of Council that more time was needed to review this letter before approval is given for its submission to the State. The Clerk was asked to place this issue under old business for next week's meeting.

**Resolution authorizing the unused zoning escrow refund for Mr. & Mrs. Walch.** Council reviewed a request form the Zoning Board of Adjustment asking the Governing Body to authorize this refund. After a short discussion, it was the consensus of Council to agree with this recommendation.

#### **RESOLUTION 87-04**

### **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF AN UNUSED ZONING ESCROW BALANCE OF \$95.20 TO ROBERT AND JOANNA WALCH, 624 LIPPINCOTT AVENUE, RIVERTON, NEW JERSEY (IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

The above Resolution was read by title only by Mr. Smyth, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mr. Cesaretti. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mrs. Villari aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Gilmore aye, Mr. Cesaretti aye and Mrs. Alls-Moffatt aye.

**Possible resolution urging the New Jersey Legislature to strengthen the balanced budget provision of the State Constitution.** The Clerk reported that this sample Resolution had previously been distributed to Council for their review. After a short discussion, it was the consensus of Council to place this Resolution on the agenda for consideration at next week's meeting.

**Preliminary agenda for September 8.** The Clerk reviewed this with the Governing Body.

**Meeting open to the public.** There was no public comment at this time.

**The property located at 519 Howard Street (owner Robert Stelling) and**

**Redevelopment.** Mr. Gilmore reported that this property has gone through the foreclosure process. Mr. Gilmore stated that he recently met with the new owners, who are working to clean up the property. Mr. Gilmore commented that the new owners would be willing to sell this property to the Borough for \$90,000.00. Mr. Gilmore asked that Council consider purchasing this property, keep the building, and then utilize the space for additional parking (around 5 spaces.). Mr. Gilmore stressed the importance of having a redevelopment plan on the books to give the Borough more control over potential developers. Mr. Gilmore cited the current application before the Zoning Board for the development of the Sitzler property on Main Street as an example of not having anything on the books to protect the Borough. Mayor Martin commented that at the last redevelopment sub-committee meeting both Tom Coleman, our Redevelopment Solicitor and Tamara Lee, Planner, both thought this proposed redevelopment plan should be reviewed thoroughly before proceeding. Mayor Martin feels that their professional guidance needs to be followed. Mrs. Alls-Moffatt commented that at the last Zoning Board meeting it was mentioned by Zoning Board Member, Edward Smyth, that the original variance that went with the Sitzler property a number of years ago, (which was for 16 townhouses) is null and void because it only has a life span of two years. Mrs. Alls-Moffatt would like to see the original variance application. The clerk reported that there may be documents on this issue in our archival facility. Mr. Gilmore reported that he has asked Tom Coleman to write up an addition to our redevelopment plan regarding the new affordable housing rules and regulations. To date this has not been done. Mr. Gilmore expressed concern over the fact that some of the Borough's professionals do not follow through. Mr. Cesaretti then asked if Mr. Stelling still lived at 519 Howard Street. The Chief of Police commented that the sheriff's office would begin the process of removing Mr. Stelling from this property. Mrs. Alls-Moffatt asked if we would be making arrangements to assist Mr. Stelling. The Chief responded that it is not the Borough's responsibility. The County court is handling this issue. Mrs. Alls-Moffatt asked if the court would appoint a social work to help Mr. Stelling. Chief Norcross did not know. A discussion ensued regarding this issue. Council will be kept apprised of this situation.

**Possible elimination of one Council meeting in August of each year.** Mrs. Alls-Moffatt asked Council to consider the elimination of one meeting in August from next year's meeting schedule. Mrs. Alls-Moffatt feels that many people take vacation during this time and are unable to attend. The Clerk stated that Council would at least need to meet once during the month of August to address any business that would require action by the Council and to approve the bills for payment. Mr. Smyth suggested that this issue be discussed further when the calendar is determined for next year's Council meetings.

**Update Re: Possible acquisition of the Riverton Post Office.** Mr. Smyth reported that representatives from Duca, Huder & Kumlin, the architectural firm appointed to complete the schematic phase of this project, recently met with various Department Heads from the Borough to determine what their office needs would be should the Borough acquire this building. Council will be kept informed.

**Update Re: Website.** The Clerk reported that our website is currently under construction. The Clerk also reported that the Borough's code book can now be accessed from our website at [www.riverton-nj.com](http://www.riverton-nj.com). Council will be kept informed of the website's progress.

**Update Re: Possible reassessment of all properties.** The Clerk reported that the County Tax Administrator was unable to attend tonight's meeting to discuss this issue with Council. The Clerk reported that he will be present for Council's October 6 work session. The Borough's Tax Assessor will also be present at this time.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Cesaretti moved that the meeting be adjourned. This was seconded by Mrs. Villari, with all present voting in the affirmative.

Mary Longbottom, RMC  
Municipal Clerk