

May 14, 2008

The regular meeting of the Riverton Borough council was held on the above date. Mayor Martin presiding.

PRESENT: Council members Daniel (arrived at 8:45pm), Brown, Smyth & Kinzler

ABSENT: Council members Cairns Wells and Cesaretti

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 2008 published in the Burlington County Times on December 30, 2007

(b) Posting written notice on the official bulletin board on January 4, 2008

The minutes from April 2, April 9 and closed session minutes from April 2 were then presented. Mr. Brown moved that these minutes be approved as submitted. This was seconded by Mr. Smyth. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel absent, Mr. Brown aye, Ms. Cairns Wells absent, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Kinzler aye and Mr. Cesaretti absent.

TREASURER'S, FINANCE REPORT & BILL LIST FOR APPROVAL-Mr. Kinzler

Mr. Kinzler moved that the attached reports for the month of April be approved as submitted. This was seconded by Mr. Smyth. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel absent, Mr. Brown aye, Ms. Cairns Wells absent, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Kinzler aye and Mr. Cesaretti absent.

Mr. Kinzler stated that he would postpone his budget report until Council's June 11th meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY-Mr. Cesaretti

In Mr. Cesaretti's absence, Mr. Brown read a report for the month of April that was submitted by Chief Norcross. Vehicle Mileage 2598, Gas Used 445, Juvenile Arrests 0, Adult Arrests 7 (Criminal Warrants 0, Criminal Summons 1, Traffic Warrants 6, DWI 0 and Other 0), Motor Vehicle Accidents 3, Motor Vehicle Stops 120, Motor Vehicle Warnings 25, Motor Vehicle Summonses 85 (Riverton Officers 85, GD Grant 22, NJ Transit N/A, and Others N/A), Burglar Alarms 14, Assists to Other Police Departments 17, Animal Complaints 1, Fire Calls 14, Arson 0, Ambulance Calls (Riverton) 33, Unattended Deaths 1, Criminal Cases 24, Incidents 226, Domestic 4, Thefts 3, Burglaries 6, (From Residences 0 and From Vehicles 2), Assaults 0, Sexual Assaults 0, Criminal Mischief 4, Robberies 0, Motor Vehicle Thefts 0, Miscellaneous Complaints 0, Miscellaneous Calls 418 and Total Calls 1,005.

Mr. Brown reported that the police radar trap was set on May 6 and May 13. 49 tickets were issued and 20 warnings were issued. The Chief stated that the warnings were issued to all Riverton residents. Mr. Smyth stated that he thought it was previously discussed that no warnings should be given, so he questioned why this was being done. Mr. Kinzler asked if there is a record for warnings. Chief Norcross stated that the warnings are placed on the new system at the county. Mr. Kinzler asked how long a warning lasts. Chief Norcross stated it never comes out of the system. Discussion ensued over revenue issues and the need to do a contractual review of the Borough's present agreement with Cinnaminson regarding the Court.

Mr. Brown read a report for the month of April that was submitted by Deputy Fire Chief Robert Yearly. Fire Calls for the Month 11, Drills 3, Calls in Town 7, Calls Out of Town 7 and Man Hours for the Month 244.4.

PUBLIC WORKS/SEWER/GRANTS/SHARED SERVICES/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-Mr. Smyth

Mr. Gunn reported that both he and Palmyra's Solicitor have reviewed the objections raised by American Asphalt regarding the bid submitted by Meredith Paving for the Morgan Avenue project and have found them to be without merit. Therefore, it is the recommendation that Council can award this contract. Mr. Gunn reported that Riverton would only be responsible for the Morgan Avenue work.

RESOLUTION 50-08

A RESOLUTION AWARDING THE CONTRACT TO MEREDITH PAVING CORPORATION FOR THE MORGAN AVENUE RECONSTRUCTION AND PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$214,489.50 (IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)

The above Resolution was read by title only by Mr. Smyth, who moved for it adoption. This was seconded by Mr. Brown. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel absent, Mr. Brown aye, Ms. Cairns Wells absent, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Kinzler aye and Mr. Cesaretti absent.

Mr. Smyth reported that the Safe Routes to School grant application was recently submitted. Mr. Smyth reported that he and the Clerk will be meeting with Dave Gerken, Planner for the Bridge Commission. We will be talking about additional grants we might want to apply for. Most have a June 20th application deadline. Council will be kept informed.

Mr. Smyth reported that Council adopted a Resolution regarding the police consolidation feasibility study. An application will be submitted to the Department of Community Affairs to obtain funding for a Riverton, Palmyra and Cinnaminson combined study.

Mr. Smyth reported that there is a County Shared Services meeting tomorrow. One topic will be on the mergers of courts.

Mr. Smyth announced that the Porch Club is having a Garden Tour on May 31st. The War Memorial has been added as a site on this tour. Mr. Smyth reminded Council that a video of Riverton was done last year that mostly showed vacant sites. An updated video is being scheduled to show the finished projects (Riverton Square and the Shoppes at Riverton. Mr. Smyth stated that he cannot be involved this year because he is up for re-election. Mr. Smyth asked for another member of Council to volunteer. It was the consensus of Council to ask Ms. Cairns Wells.

ZONING/PARK, CODE ENFORCEMENT, COURT-Mr. Brown

Mr. Brown reported that the Zoning Board met on April 17. The Board heard a request from Robert Recchiuti, 101 Lippincott Avenue for an interpretation of the zoning map as it pertains to his property. Mr. Brown reported that after much deliberation, the Board voted 6-1 not to split zone this property. The boundaries should be along the property lines not dissecting it. The matter was referred back to the Planning Board.

Mr. Smyth asked for an update on the Zoning Ordinance task force. Mayor Martin stated that progress is being made and they will have specific recommendations to put before Council very soon.

Regarding the Park, Mr. Brown reported that he sent a written request to Gary LaVenia, Director of the Bridge Commission, to assist us in obtaining grant funding to upgrade the baseball fields and the recreational areas in the park. Mr. Smyth reported that he has been informed by Freeholder Joseph Donnelly that there would be recreational grant funding available to us. Mr. Smyth will follow up on this and keep Council apprised.

Mr. Brown reported that the Riverton Improvement Association (RIA) is working on the 8th Street gateway project from Cedar Street where the peace pole is located all the way through the park. The RIA will be using their monetary means to do this project.

Mr. Brown reported that Zachary Barth has completed his Eagle Scout project in the park. Mr. Brown had to sign an affidavit of completion so that Mr. Barth could present that to the Scout Board.

Mr. Brown read a report for the month of April that was submitted by Court Administrator Jackie Gleason. The total receipts for the month were \$14,696.00. The total disbursed to Riverton amounted to \$6,761.52.

Mr. Brown reported that a letter was received from the Court Administrator that had to do with holding a special court session regarding Alka testing. Mr. Brown explained that the Supreme Court issued an opinion to determine if it was scientifically reliable. There are costs involved with this. Mr. Brown has conferred with Mr. Gunn on this issue. Mr. Gunn reported that the Administrative Offices of the Court had decreed that all defendants have to come back into open court. Our Municipal Prosecutor believes that most of Riverton's are routine and the defendants will just get the sentence. Mr. Gunn stated that the money would be coming out of the drunk driving fund.

Mr. Brown reported that upgrades continue at the War Memorial. The RIA is formulating a remembrance for Robert Fenton to be held during the Memorial Day celebration. A Proclamation will be prepared.

REQUEST FROM PEACE POLE COMMITTEE

Mr. Brown reported that this committee would like to construct and install two five foot length benches at the area where the Peace Pole is located (corners of Cedar and Eighth. Courtney Ellrich, a local artist and resident has volunteered his time and expertise to the creation of these benches. The committee is asking for Council's approval to do this. Mr. Gunn informed Council that the Committee needs to write a letter offering to donate the benches to the Borough. A Resolution would then need to be done to accept the donation with the understanding that once accepted, the benches become the exclusive property of the Borough. Mr. Brown will inform the peace pole committee.

PLANNING/REDEVELOPMENT-Ms. Cairns Wells

In Ms. Cairns Wells' absence, Mayor Martin reported that Mr. Recchuiti of 101 Lippincott will be presenting before the Board Tuesday night. The Environmental Resource Inventory is moving forward and is scheduled to be completed in July. Tamara Lee, Planner presented the Stream Corridor Buffer Ordinance to Council at last week's meeting. The Ordinance was introduced at that time.

SHADE TREE/BD OF HEALTH/RECYCLING & ENVIRONMENTAL-Dr Daniel
No report

UPDATE RE: TREASURE DAY The Chief reported that this was the first time there were accidents (four of them) and a lot of tickets were issued during the event.

EAGLE STATUS. Mayor Martin reported that the eagle located at the train station is peeling. Mayor Martin stated that we have received two estimates to do the work. Mayor Martin asked Mr. Brown to find out if the RIA could help us with funding for this project.

THOMAS AVENUE STRIPING. Scott Reed, Public Works Manager reported that the striping along the upper portion of Thomas Avenue to the Cinnaminson border is scheduled to be done shortly.

PARKING CONCERN ALONG HARRISON & LIPPINCOTT. Mr. Brown raised strong concern over the parking situation at this location, in particular on the corner. Any vehicles parking at that location cause a blind spot for pedestrians to detect traffic. The Chief stated that he would take a look at that area.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Katy Roussos, 708 Thomas Avenue asked for the status of the placement of stop signs at various locations throughout town. Mr. Gunn commented that a study needs to be done by the State before any stop signs are placed at the Park & Thomas location. Mr. Smyth stated that the other stop sign issues were placed in our recent Safe Routes to Schools Application for possible grant funding to defray the costs. Ms. Roussos also asked for a status report on the possible installation of pedestrian push buttons at the grad crossings. Mr. Smyth responded that Council did a Resolution at last week's meeting supporting this and requesting that the County fund this project.

OLD BUSINESS

UPDATE RE: POLICE CONTRACT. Mr. Brown reported that Stephen Raymond, Solicitor for police matters, informed him that he has not received any response at all from the Police Association's lawyer regarding the Borough's last proposal. Mr. Brown commented that he gave the information to Mr. Raymond on April 9.

BELL ZONE ISSUE. Mr. Smyth commented that there are no new updates regarding the Bell Zone issue at this time. He will be contacting Rae Hutton of New Jersey Transit to try and obtain more information.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE 3-08

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF RIVERTON, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO PROVIDE FOR AND DETERMINE RATES OF COMPENSATION OF EACH OFFICER AND EMPLOYEE OF THE BOROUGH OF RIVERTON

The above Ordinance was read by title only for the first time by Mr. Kinzler, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mr. Brown. Mr. Kinzler stated that this Ordinance provides for a 4% salary increase for all employees except police officers (contractual). A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mr. Brown aye, Ms. Cairns Wells absent, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Kinzler aye and Mr. Cesaretti absent. Second reading and a public hearing on this Ordinance is scheduled for June 11.

RESOLUTION 51-08

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE IN SALARY FOR SCOTT REED (IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)

The above Resolution was read by title only by Mr. Kinzler, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mr. Smyth. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye,

Mr. Brown aye, Ms. Cairns Wells absent, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Kinzler aye and Mr. Cesaretti absent.

CORRESPONDENCE-There was no correspondence presented at this time.

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

Mary Longbottom, RMC
Municipal Clerk