

**BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 28, 2011**

1. Call to Order

Councilman Sadow thanked Jane Jameson, Stuart Mason and the Board of Education for the opportunity to utilize the microphone system.

- 2. Adequate notice** of this meeting of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows: Notice was published in the Daily Record on June 18, 2011; notice was posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Municipal Building on June 16, 2011 and has been available to the public; notice of this meeting is on file in the office of the Borough Clerk.

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-1 et seq.). The Borough Council opens every public meeting for comments of the public. However, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 : "Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit the discretion of a public body to permit, prohibit or regulate the active participation at any meeting....."

Speakers at Borough meetings shall have five minutes to present their comments to the Borough Council so as not to consume time that would otherwise be allotted to other persons who wish to speak. Speakers shall be courteous to the Council and other persons attending the meeting. Offensive remarks or unruly behavior will not be allowed and anyone who violates this policy will be barred from participating in the meeting.

3. Flag Salute

The Mayor asked for a moment of silence to remember our troops and those that put themselves in harms' way to protect our freedom.

4. Roll Call

Councilwoman Danchuk, Council President Sorge, Councilman Sadow, Councilman Cangiano, Councilman Windish, Councilman Stanzilis, Mayor Ondish. Matthew O'Donnell, Esq., Borough Attorney, and Carolyn Rinaldi, Acting CFO, were also present.

5. Executive Session

2011-202 Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, Authorizing An Executive Session of the Mayor and Borough Council and Excluding the Public from That Portion of the Meeting.

Action May Be Taken.

Motion to Withdraw #2011-202: Council President Sorge.

Second: Councilman Sadow.

All in Favor – Aye; None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

6. Presentations/Mayor's Appointments

1. Mayor's Appointment of Sharon McDonald to the Recreation Committee.

The Mayor appointed Sharon McDonald to the Recreation Committee and Maria Rotondella to the Green Team.

Motion to Approve Appointments: Council President Sorge.

Second: Councilman Stanzilis.

All in Favor – Aye; None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

2. Discussion regarding Mount Arlington Police Department and Roxbury Police Department.

Councilwoman Danchuk, Chair of the Police Committee:

The Borough is looking into merging our police with Roxbury Township. Roxbury Police Chief Noll and Captain Simonetti, soon to be Chief upon Chief Noll's retirement in June, presented a power point presentation regarding the services Roxbury Township has to offer; costs and cost savings were not discussed at this meeting. Acting Chief Keith Licata was also present.

Council President Sorge requested the meeting be adjourned by 10:30 p.m.; Council agreed.

Council President Sorge asked if the Police Matron would move over to Roxbury as well; Captain Simonetti stated that was not in the mix but can be discussed. Council posed several questions to Captain Simonetti including number of retirements scheduled in Roxbury, actual date our officers will move to Roxbury, viability of project regarding any deal breakers, usage of our fairly new police station, and relativity of manpower to patrol zones. Mayor Ondish stated that Mount Arlington has mutual aid with Roxbury now, we have a DARE officer, we have a detective, and we have the Alive 25 Program.

7. **Open to Public**

Joanne Wiseberg, 87 Ridgeview Lane:

Ms. Wiseberg stated this meeting is premature because she would have liked to hear numbers and without them, she cannot comment on whether this is good or bad for the Borough. She is very pleased with our Police Department and the care for our residents is phenomenal.

Wendy Mahler, 75 Mountainview Avenue:

Ms. Mahler does not see the benefits to Mount Arlington at all; unless the Borough is going to save thousands and thousands of dollars, she would like to keep our Police Department.

Charles Squires, 26 Birch Terrace:

Mr. Squires questioned the patrol zones, response times and the Borough's Police Station. Mr. Squires inquired as to the amount Mount Arlington would have to budget for this merger and the final savings amount.

Veronica Silkes, Succasunna Road:

Ms. Silkes thanked Councilwoman Danchuk for indicating that this was one of a few meetings to come with regard to the police; thanked the Council for the transparency. Ms. Silkes stated she was speaking on behalf of the active members of CARMA and distributed an information packet to the Council entitled, "Concerns Regarding the Possible Police Merger". She stated the Police Department should be disbanded as a last resort. Ms. Silkes also discussed various financial aspects of the Borough, with relation to the costs of maintaining our police, and urged Council to better utilize tax dollars.

With regard to transparency and spending, Council President Sorge stated that the Council will not revert to the ways of the past.

Marlene Ackerman, 56 Rogerene Way:

As a resident of Lake Rogerene, her property is closer to Roxbury than Mount Arlington and she would welcome the Police Department consolidation.

Sheila Studint, 88 Ridgeview Lane:

Ms. Studint stated she would love to save the Mount Arlington Police but questioned how our Police Department felt about this possible merger. Acting Chief Keith Licata stated that he has been informed and involved since the beginning of this process and the professional opinion of the Department is to do what is best for the residents of Mount Arlington. Chief Licata stated that from the beginning, this was discussed as a merger, which means bringing over all the officers at their current rank and seniority; that concept has not been discussed at these meetings. The officers want their seniority to be protected with the merger and not be

hired as a contracted service. Chief Licata stated that a deal breaker would be the hiring of the Police Matron.

Pat Hehir, 541 Dell Road:

Mr. Hehir reiterated Chief Licata with regard to whether our police will go to Roxbury as rookies or at their current rank, and further questioned salary and benefits for our officers. Councilwoman Danchuk stated that Roxbury needs help soon; they need a commitment from us or start hiring officers. She further stated that Roxbury's Chief Noll has highly commended the Mount Arlington Police force. We started talks with Roxbury as a merger but when we received Roxbury's figures, they included contracted figures only because they were afraid another municipality would come in at a lower price. No other town has approached Roxbury. Mr. Hehir also questioned future coverage for Mount Arlington if the merger is complete; Captain Simonetti said Mount Arlington will have one officer assigned but five officers available at all times, but the whole Department will be working for both Roxbury and Mount Arlington.

Lee Conover, 638 Reba Road:

Mr. Conover is a former Mount Arlington first aid squad member and stated our police officers are our first line of security. Mr. Conover is against any merger, which will deeply fragment our community. Councilman Sadow stated that the process will now move from the Police Committee to the Finance Committee; this is not a done deal and there will be future public meetings, affording the public complete transparency.

Terri Dominick, 600 Barbara Road:

Ms. Dominick questioned the positions and security of our present officers if merged with Roxbury, and stressed that our officers should be protected. Councilwoman Danchuk stated that our officers will go to Roxbury with their same rank.

Council President Sorge stated that Council will keep the public apprised of their actions; we are dealing with two different unions, FOP and another, and he has heard that the officers in Roxbury are not happy with this merger. Council President Sorge stated he would like to have a question on the next election as to the public's opinion on such a merger.

Motion to take a Break: Councilman Stanzilis.

Second: Councilman Windish.

All in Favor – Aye; None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

Motion to Return to Open Session: Councilman Stanzilis.

Second: Councilman Windish.

All in Favor – Aye; None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

8. Approval of Minutes

May 3, 2011

Regular Meeting

Motion to Approve: Council President Sorge.

Second: Councilman Windish.

Roll Call:

Aye: Danchuk, Council President Sorge, Sadow, Cangiano, Windish, Stanzilis.

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

9. Mayor' Report

The Mayor read his report into the record.

10. New Business

Council President Sorge stated he has estimates from the Fire Department for needed equipment and asked the Clerk to distribute to Council for further discussion.

The Mayor asked the Clerk to add the discussion with the NJDOT regarding parking at the train station to the next meeting agenda.

11. Old Business

Councilman Sadow stated we have received additional funding from Clean Energy NJ from our direct install program.

With regard to the Road Management Study, Councilman Cangiano stated that he would like Suburban Consulting to give the Borough a written scope of work prior to beginning the work; he will contact Daren Phil. Carolyn Rinaldi stated there was a roadway study done in 2000 that mapped our mileage in the Borough but was unsure as to what information was included in that study. Councilman Sadow stated he reviewed the previous study which basically showed the Borough is responsible for approximately 17+ miles of road, 2 miles of state highway and some mileage of county roadway; that study needs to be updated. Council advised Carolyn Rinaldi hold the purchase order for the Road Management Study.

12. Resolutions

2011-198 Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption/Distribution and Club Licenses for the Licensing Period Commencing July 1, 2011.

Motion to Approve: Council President Sorge.

Second: Councilman Stanzilis.

Roll Call:

Aye: Danchuk, Council President Sorge, Sadow, Cangiano, Windish, Stanzilis.

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

2011-199 Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Requesting Approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriation, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87.

Motion to Approve: Councilman Sadow.

Second: Council President Sorge.

Roll Call:

Aye: Danchuk, Council President Sorge, Sadow, Cangiano, Windish, Stanzilis.

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

2011-200 Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Establishing Swimming Lesson Fees for the Year 2011.

Motion to Approve: Council President Sorge.

Second: Councilman Stanzilis.

Carolyn Rinaldi explained the Borough pays the lifeguards \$100 per session and charges the residents \$60 for lessons, per child; in a typical year we have five children taking lessons.

Roll Call:

Aye: Council President Sorge, Cangiano, Windish, Stanzilis.

Nay: Danchuk, Sadow.

Motion Approved.

- 2011-201** Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Confirming Receipt and Review of the Annual Report of Audit for 2010.

Motion to Approve: Councilman Windish.

Second: Councilman Sadow.

Roll Call:

Aye: Danchuk, Council President Sorge, Sadow, Cangiano, Windish, Stanzilis.

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

Council signed the Affidavit acknowledging receipt of the Audit Report.

13. Ordinances – Introduction

None.

14. Ordinances – Second Reading

None.

15. Motions

1. Vendor's Permit Application for Dovid A. Spaner to sell light up and glow products at Borough events.

Motion to Approve, Stipulating No Sales During Borough Ceremonies and

Observances: Councilman Sadow.

Second: Council President Sorge.

Roll Call:

Aye: Danchuk, Council President Sorge, Sadow, Cangiano, Windish, Stanzilis.

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

Added Resolution:

- 2011-204** Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, Authorizing The Solicitation and Receipt of Proposals and Qualifications for a Grant Writer.

Motion to Approve: Council President Sorge.

Second: Councilman Sadow.

Roll Call:

Aye: Danchuk, Council President Sorge, Sadow, Cangiano, Windish, Stanzilis.

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

16. Executive Session

- 2011-203** Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, Authorizing An Executive Session of the Mayor and Borough Council and Excluding the Public from That Portion of the Meeting.
Action May Be Taken.

Executive Topics: Green Acres Property
Executive Minutes - Withdrawn

Motion to Go Into Executive Session: Councilman Windish.

Second: Council President Sorge.

All in Favor – Aye; None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

Motion to Return to Open Session: Councilman Windish.
 Second: Council President Sorge.
 All in Favor – Aye; None Opposed.
 Motion Approved.

Added Resolution:

2011-205 Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, Awarding Contract for Beach Improvement Project – Phase I.

Motion to Approve: Councilman Cangiano.
 Second: Councilman Windish.
 Roll Call:

Aye: Danchuk, Council President Sorge, Sadow, Cangiano, Windish, Stanzilis.

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

Motion to Cancel the July 5, 2011 Council Meeting and Re-Schedule to July 12, 2011: Council President Sorge.
 Second: Councilman Sadow.
 All in Favor – Aye; None Opposed.
 Motion Approved.

Council President Sorge stated he is trying to keep everyone informed; the Mayor stated he is available as well and call at any time.

Council discussed they will be meeting about the police issue prior to the next Council meeting. Councilwoman Danchuk suggested Carolyn Rinaldi and Roxbury Manager Chris Raths meet regarding the possible merger. Councilman Sadow stated that Acting Chief Licata stated tonight that the issue of the Matron was a deal breaker and since our Borough Hall staff is extremely thin, he feels we can find a place for that position. The Mayor stated there is no room for more staff and in order to hire, we need a point person.

The Mayor left the meeting.

Councilman Sadow stated we are trying to do a police merger; does that include trying to salvage that person's job. Councilman Stanzilis stated Chief Licata is trying to salvage that person's job but that is not part of Roxbury's charge to us; the money has to be calculated into the equation. Councilman Stanzilis stated he would like to see the cost per \$100,000 ratable savings, i.e., apples to apples numbers; we need numbers that the public can easily understand. Councilman Sadow stated that we only have two officers for the police protection because no one answers a domestic with only one officer; the second officer that is patrolling is here for the police, not for the public. Carolyn Rinaldi has to be involved with the numbers; the issues that remain is whether or not we have dollar issues that do not make sense. Councilman Cangiano stated a merger is clearly the preferable route but we need a cost differential between merger and contract. Councilman Windish stated we need two items to proceed; find out from Roxbury what is the charge for police services and what are will become of our officers. From a public safety standpoint, this is doable; now we need to find out what it takes to make a merger occur. Councilman Stanzilis stated both the Wharton Police Chief Fernandez and a retired police chief are excellent resources on the Committee.

17. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Councilman Stanzilis.
Second: Councilman Cangiano.
All in Favor – Aye; None Opposed.
Motion Approved.



Linda DeSantis, RMC
Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved at Council Meeting of September 6, 2011.

Contracted Police Services
Mt. Arlington Boro

Goal:

Provide Outstanding Law Enforcement Services.

Objective:

To lower costs of running a police department and maintain or improve on the current services provided.

To provide the citizens a more efficient and financially prudent service.

To have a smooth and successful transition into providing law enforcement services to the residents of Mt. Arlington Boro.

Improvements:

Patrol Division: There will be an increase in officers available to the patrol officer assigned to Mt. Arlington Boro. There will be a squad currently consisting of (5) five patrol officers and a supervisor. There will be an improvement of response time and back-up requests. Instead of stacking calls a free officer will be assigned to handle calls if the officer assigned to Mt. Arlington is on a call.

Detective Division: A full service Detective Division currently staffed with (5) five detectives and a supervisor. A unit dedicated to major case investigations. There will be a detective on call 24/7 to handle any major investigation that occurs in Mt. Arlington.

Traffic Division: This a unit dedicated to handle serious motor vehicle accidents, citizen complaints of high speed areas and traffic counts. They develop plans for major events and assist in coordinating traffic patterns and detours.

Community Service Unit:

This unit provides the community with several programs that assist the school system DARE, Every 15 Minutes, Alive at 25 and School Resource Officers.

This unit also provides the training for the department and with a larger department the training opportunities increase because scheduling is less difficult.

Savings: There will be a savings monetarily due to the ability to downsize the amount of officers currently staffed. There will also be a savings in the equipment area due to less officers and the most expensive item which is vehicles can be dramatically reduced.

Optimum Time:

This is the perfect time to assist Mt. Arlington Boro in being able to reduce their manpower and still receive the same if not more police service at a lesser cost. They will realize lower costs due to downsizing without layoffs because the officers will be absorbed by Roxbury Township who is need of officers.

Mayor report for 6/28/11

Since our meeting on 6/14/11:

6/20/11- Attended DARE graduation at MAPS.

6/21/11- Attended the planting of the rain garden at MAPS. A big thank you to all involved. It took great organization but it all came together perfectly. Check it out.

6/24/11- Presided over a continuing education seminar put on by the State League of Municipalities at County College of Morris. The focus was on website, internet and email security. What I learned is that we need to do some upgrading to our Borough system. We received a letter from a local firm offering to upgrade our website at no cost. One of the presenters at the seminar was Shawn Hopkins who works for Jefferson Twp and takes care of their system. He also offered to meet with us to offer help. I believe this should be addressed by the Technology Committee.

6/24/11- Attended and addressed our 8th grade graduating class at Decker School

6/25/11- Officiated my Niece wedding.

6/28- this afternoon, attended Governor Christies signing of the pension and healthcare reform Bill in Trenton. This will provide some relief to our budget and larger municipalities will see larger relief. The Governor said, after the budget is

struck, the next focus will be on Civil Service reform. This will make it much easier for municipalities to share services and consolidations.