

**BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 21, 2008**

1. Call to Order

Mayor Arthur Ondish welcomed all in attendance and called the meeting to order.

- 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 Roxbury Register and the Daily Record on Thursday, December 20, 2007; notice was posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Municipal Building on December 11, 2007 and has been available to the public; notice of this meeting is on file in the office of the Borough Clerk

3. Flag Salute

Mayor Arthur Ondish led the flag salute.

Mayor Ondish also asked for a moment of silence for our troops over seas.

4. Roll Call

Council President Driscoll, Councilman Sorge, Councilwoman Galate Goodman, Councilwoman Mulligan (not present – ill), Councilwoman Cerasoli, Councilman Doran, Mayor Ondish.

5. Old Business

1. Discussion about Memorandum from Diane Perillo, dated September 27, 2007, regarding Dial-A-Ride. Councilman Sorge had some grammatical changes, as did Councilman Doran and Councilwoman Galate Goodman. Councilman Sorge asked to discuss the number of bags a person can carry on the bus. Also, stated his concern that the driver, as a courtesy, carries the passenger's grocery bags to their door, and if the driver is hurt carrying the bags, is the Borough responsible? Diane Perillo spoke and said she is trying to get passengers to carry their own bags on the bus, no more than they can carry, and place them on their laps. Also stated she is trying to avoid the passengers expecting the driver to load their bags on the bus for them.

Borough Attorney, Matthew Giacobbe suggested drafting an ordinance that would put in place guidelines for the Dial-a-Ride program preventing Borough liability while providing proper service to the residents. Councilman Doran suggested tabling this topic until the Borough Attorney can present a proper sample ordinance for council review.

The Mayor and Borough Attorney reiterated putting this into an ordinance for first reading for the February 11, 2008.

6. New Business

Mayor stated that we will discuss at the next meeting: Bringing Jack Marchione in to discuss the Tax Appeal and we will review the Borough's OPRA fees. The Mayor stated that if anyone had any questions on this, they could call the Borough Administrator, JoAnne Sandler.

- 7. Utility Receipt Report** for the month of December, 2007
Tax Collector's Report for the month of December, 2007
 Assistant to the Borough Clerk, Tina Mayer read into the record:
 Utility Receipt Report for the month of December, 2007 the grand total is: \$47,723.64
 Tax Collector's Report for the month of December, 2007 the total receipts: \$161,203.22.
- 8. Finance Report** for the month of December, 2007
 Assistant to the Borough Clerk, Tina Mayer read into the record:
 The ending balance is \$1,316,896.42
- 9. Open to the Public**
 The Mayor opened the floor to the Public.
 The Mayor told Ms. Silkes she had no more than five minutes to speak.
- **Veronica Silkes, Succasunna Road** –
 - Ms. Silkes had a question about the bill list regarding a charge for NJWW loan payment. Borough Administrator explained it was a wastewater loan.
 - Ms. Silkes pulled offline from the DCA information that Mt. Arlington received \$50,000 for Homeland Security. Mayor Ondish stated that she would need to speak with the Finance Office. Borough Attorney, Matthew Giacobbe stated that the purpose of a council meeting is public comment on the meeting, if you want a specific answer, you are free to contact the finance office during the day to ask the finance officer who is charged with knowing that specific question. The council meeting is not a question and answer session. Borough Attorney, Matthew Giacobbe explains the Open Public Meeting Act to Ms. Silkes.
 - Ms. Silkes had questions regarding escrow invoices. The Mayor and Borough Attorney explain to Ms. Silkes the different types.
 - **Gayle Ann Livecchia, 29 Brookside Lane** –
 - Ms. Livecchia had a question about the bill list regarding credit card fees.
 - Ms. Livecchia noted two listings and asked if the Borough has two credit cards. The Mayor stated it has to do with the courts. The Administrator stated that the Borough does not have credit cards and the Borough accepts court fees from people by credit cards.
 - Ms. Livecchia had a question regarding cell phone use. She has called several state agencies, and was told if cell phones are used for personal use the individual should be paying tax on it.
 - **Kevin O'Brien, 126 Rogerene Way**
 Signed in but did not realize it was for speaking.
 - **Marlene Ackerman, 56 Rogerene Way** –

- Ms. Ackerman wanted to thank Mayor and Council for the new road around Lake Rogerene. Ms. Ackerman wanted to alert the Mayor to some drainage issues that were created as a result of the construction and that the Borough Engineer is aware of these issues.

- Ms. Ackerman also wanted to discuss the road that leads in and out of Lake Rogerene. She mentioned the car accident involving the Borough Clerk and a recent accident involving another resident of Lake Rogerene. Ms. Ackerman inquired about straightening the road or improving visibility to increase safety. The Mayor stated that the road would be handled with the Orben Drive Phase I Reconstruction Project. Ms. Ackerman inquired about moving the mailboxes to a safer location and placing speed bumps or a no speeding sign to help improve safety. The Mayor stated the pros and cons. The Mayor asked Council President, John Driscoll to discuss the speed bumps with Police Chief Richard Peterson.

- Margarete Wilson, 536 Curtis Road –

- Ms. Wilson addressed Ms. Silkes and Ms. Livecchia in the audience about a Community Leadership Seminar given by Washington D.C. every two years that helps a person to understand the hierarchy of Municipal Government. Certifies a person as a community leader. Ms. Wilson thought it would help them to understand local government better based on some of the questions they ask.

10. Approval of Minutes

November 26, 2007 – Regular Meeting

Motion to Approve: Councilman Doran

Second: Council President Driscoll.

Roll Call: Council President Driscoll, Sorge, Cerasoli, Doran

Motion Approved.

11. Resolutions

2008-24 Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, Authorizing Receipt of Bids for Orben Drive Roadway & Drainage Improvements – Phase I.

Motion to Approve: Council President Driscoll

Second: Councilman Sorge

Roll Call: Council President Driscoll, Sorge, Galate Goodman, Cerasoli, Doran

Motion Approved.

2008-25 Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, Authorizing Receipt of Bids for Parker/Circle/Southard Sanitary Sewer Improvements.

Motion to Approve: Councilman Sorge

Second: Councilman Doran

Roll Call: Council President Driscoll, Sorge, Galate Goodman, Cerasoli, Doran

Motion Approved.

- 2008-26** Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, Authorizing Transfer of Funds.

Motion to Approve: Councilman Driscoll

Second: Councilman Sorge

Roll Call: Council President Driscoll, Sorge, Galate Goodman, Cerasoli, Doran

Motion Approved.

- 2008-27** Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, Approving the Check Register Dated January 14, 2008.

Motion to Approve: Councilman Sorge

Second: Councilwoman Cerasoli

Roll Call: Council President Driscoll, Sorge, Galate Goodman, Cerasoli, Doran

Motion Approved.

- 2008-28** Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, Authorizing Execution of Interlocal Service Agreement with the County of Morris.

Motion to Approve: Council President Driscoll

Second: Councilman Doran

Roll Call: Council President Driscoll, Sorge, Galate Goodman, Cerasoli, Doran

Motion Approved.

- 2008-29** Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, Authorizing Receipts of Bids for Renovations to 404 Howard Boulevard.

Motion to Approve: Councilwoman Cerasoli

Second: Councilman Doran

Roll Call: Council President Driscoll, Sorge, Galate Goodman, Cerasoli, Doran

Motion Approved.

- 2008-30** Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, Authorizing Receipts of Bids for Renovations to the Howard Boulevard Firehouse.

Motion to Approve: Councilman Sorge

Second: Councilwoman Cerasoli

Roll Call: Council President Driscoll, Sorge, Galate Goodman, Cerasoli, Doran

Motion Approved.

12. Ordinances

None.

13. Motions

None.

14. Mayor's Report

-1/11/08 - JoAnne Sendler, Daren Phil, Councilwoman Nita Galate Goodman and the Mayor met with Eileen Swan, the Executive Director of the Highlands Council to discuss some informational updates on the draft master plan maps.

-1/11/08 - Councilwoman Nita Galate Goodman and the Mayor met with Turtle & Hughes, a large electrical supply firm, who had representatives there from a large solar company.

-1/13/08 - The Mayor attended the Birthday party for Mildred Burns who turns 100 on January 31, 2008. Another member of the Bethlehem Congregation, from Randolph, also turned 100 on the 13th. Mayor Napiello was in attendance to give a proclamation to his 100 year old resident.

-1/14/08 - The Mayor met with NJT to go over the train station ceremony.

-1/16/08 - JoAnne and I attended Mayors Legislative day in Trenton.

-1/16/08 - The Mayor attended Governor Corzine's presentation of his new Toll plan at County College of Morris

-1/17/08 - The Mayor received a call from George Markou, owner of Pub 199 that he has finally been granted permission to hook the Pub to the municipal sewer system. This was a 7+ year dispute with the DEP and it has finally come to fruition. This process was started by Mayor LoPonte. We can all be pleased with the final outcome,

-1/18/08 - The Mayor attended the retirement party for Alan Dickinson.

-1/20/08- The Mayor attended the official opening of the new Mount Arlington Train Station. The Mayor thanked all the people who contributed to making the opening a success. As read into the record by the Mayor, "I was very pleased with the turnout and am delighted that we now hold a place on the NJT literature. For those who did not make the event, it went very well. The tent made the event tolerable with the 10 degree temperatures. Thanks once again to Congressman Frelinghuysen for all he did to make the station a reality including being the last one there, on Sunday, folding chairs and helping with the clean up. Thanks to NJ Transit for working with us and making it our day. I want to be sure and thank Matthew Zuccaro who is a Mount Arlington resident, and Joe Soriano of Roxbury Twp for honoring us by playing our National Anthem on their trumpets. I would also like to thank our own Cub Scout Pack 60 for being a part of the ceremony and raising the American and State Flags."

“Thank you to Mayor Tim Smith from Roxbury for singing God Bless America and to Pastor Roderick for doing both the Invocation and the Benediction. I want to thank Patty Simari for coordinating the event as well as Rena Crane, from Suburban Consulting, who helped with the coordination. I know Tina Mayer had a hand in helping as well. Thank you JoAnne Sendler for all you did to make this a reality as well. Thanks to Daren Phil for his help in the planning as well as our Police Chief and Detective, Fire Chief, Officers and members of the Fire Department, and St. Clare’s EMS for being there to proudly represent Mount Arlington Borough. Thanks to Jim Garland who has been filming the evolution of this train station from the groundbreaking, the tunnel installation and every aspect including being there yesterday to document the entire event. I am really looking forward to seeing that final product.”

“I believe, at one time or another, all the Borough employees touched this project in one way or another so thank you to everyone that had a hand in making this event a success. I want to thank Pomodoros for catering and doing a great job of making sure there was enough for everyone. A special thank you to our Postmaster, Anthony Albanese for putting the “icing on the cake” by coming up with a commemorative stamp and post mark for this event. I have to say, I believe everyone was thrilled to have this token to remember this special day. I heard many saying they had never been given such a nice commemorative. I know the Congressman and I were asked to sign many of the envelopes and I thought that was really special. Thank you so much Anthony.

“I did here some negative comments about the fact there isn’t enough parking spaces. To those who could only find the negative and not be so pleased with the positive event, I truly feel sorry for you. We will work with New Jersey Transit to address parking in the future. There are several avenues we will go down and we will find the best solution. For now, it is great to have the station open and operating. All it all I believe it was a totally successful day, despite the cold weather! We can all be proud to live in Mount Arlington, a thriving community, always improving, yet still the great community it has always been and will continue to be!!!”

-The Mayor wanted remind everyone about the Pinewood Derby at Decker School this Saturday, January 26, 2008 at Decker School.

-The Mayor wanted to remind everyone about the Blue and Gold Dinner on Feb 24, 2008. The Mayor and Council will be doing proclamations for the Arrow of Light award winners.

Added Review of Communications Packets

- January 4, 2008 Communications

#32 – Letter to Daren Phil from Warren Stein – Administrator JoAnne Sendler stated that one of the Borough Attorneys, Mitch Jacobs took care of this letter.

#34 – NJLM Announcement regarding Louis Bay 2nd Future Municipal Leaders Scholarship Conference Competition. The Mayor asked if anyone would be interested in getting involved in forming a committee.

#39 – Mayor wanted to note letter Borough received regarding NJDOT grant for \$160,000.

- January 18, 2008 Communications

#20 – Letter from Roxbury Township requesting that NJ Transit rename the Mount Arlington Train Station the Mount Arlington/Roxbury Train Station. Council discussion of the train station. Station is full of Mount Arlington History and is clearly located in the Borough of

Mount Arlington. The Mayor publicly thanked Councilwoman Cerasoli for all of her work on the train station.

15. Borough Administrator's Report

None.

16. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Council President Driscoll

Second: Councilman Sorge

All in Favor-Aye; None Opposed

Motion Approved.

Tina Mayer
Assistant to Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved at Council Meeting on March 10, 2008.