

**BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 6, 2010**

1. Call 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 November 25, 2009; notice was posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Municipal Building on November 23, 2009 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 armed forces fighting for us. The Mayor asked all to remember in prayer our Borough Engineer Daren Phil's father who passed away last week.

4. Roll Call

Councilman Driscoll, Councilman Sorge, Councilman Sadow, Council President Galate, Councilman Windish, Councilman Doran, Mayor Ondish. Matthew Giacobbe, Borough Attorney, and JoAnne Sendler, Borough Administrator, were also present.

5. Presentations/Mayor's Appointments

None.

6. Utility Receipt Report for the Month of February, 2010.

The Clerk read the Utility Receipt Report for February, 2010 into the record.
Grand Total: \$259,272.99.

Tax Collector's Report for the Month of February, 2010.

The Clerk read the Tax Collectors Report for February, 2010 into the record.
Total Receipts: \$2,649,003.05.

7. Finance Report for the Month of February, 2010.

The Clerk read the Finance Report for February, 2010 into the record.
Ending Balance: \$9,950,943.34.

8. Open to Public

Nancy Absalon, 15 Oak Street:

- Ms. Absalon had questions about the budget. Attorney Giacobbe stated that the Public hearing on the budget is scheduled for May and questions are better directed to the CFO, Consultant and the Auditor who will be at the May hearing to answer questions. In response to Ms. Absalon, the Mayor stated our budget runs calendar year. Ms. Absalon asked about raises reflected in our budget. Attorney Giacobbe replied the largest portion of the raises are contractual obligations with the FOP. The Mayor stated the only raise in the 2010 budget is the FPO raise that was negotiated contractually last year. The Borough Attorney emphasized that the 2010 Municipal Budget is a work in progress. The Borough Administrator stated there can be an increase on January 1st in any given year as Council chooses.

Mike Valenti, 33 South Bertrand Road:

- Mr. Valenti attended the budget introduction and noted that we depleted our reserves, depleted special money received from the State and yet Council has did not raise local taxes. Over the past 5 years, there has been a 115% increase in our local property tax plus the million in reserves is gone and the \$325,000 from the State is gone; if we haven't been able to live on the 4% cap at any given year, how can we live on 2.5% if that becomes law.

9. New Business

None.

10. Old Business

1. Council Comments.

- Councilman Windish, Recreation: the Easter Egg Hunt was a big success and Recreation is working in the right direction, moving ahead. The Mayor will be reappointing members in the near future to fill the vacancies.
- Council President Galate, Board of Education: the Board of Education introduced their budget and are looking at about \$61 per average household at \$294,000; there will be another budget meeting on April 13. Schools will be celebrating Earth Day at the end of the month. The Green Team is still working on obtaining their certification.
- Councilman Doran: the Lake level is higher than it has been in ten years and we certainly must maintain and enforce the no wake speed limits; he urged anyone to call the State Police with problems with boaters creating wake on the lake. The Mayor stated the phone number for the State Police is 973-663-3400 but knows the State Police are shorthanded and have no manpower; the only way we can get good coverage is by continually notifying the State Police of problems. Councilman Doran stated we should have marine police paid for by some of the revenues from the county park and the state park systems. Councilman Doran asked all to please sign up for the 21st Annual Gold Outing Fundraiser, on June 14, 2010.
- The Mayor stated that Hopatcong wanted to pull debris from the lake, since it was going to be such a nice weekend, and the Mayor was able to get all four towns on the lake to get a dumpster, called the marinas on the lake and they were all onboard to hold onto debris until DPW picked it up or the marinas brought it to the dumpster. The debris is a safety hazard both for personal injury and damage to boats; the newspapers picked up on the story and the electronic signs were out to alert boaters. The Mayor thanked JoAnne Sendler, Chris Rath in Roxbury, Mayor Petillo in Hopatcong and Mayor Felter in Jefferson. If Lake Commission was being funded, the lake workers would be doing the cleanup as part of their job. The Governors office did offer to make calls to the Commissioners on the Lake Commission to talk about the lack of funding; we might re-address user fees.
- Councilman Sadow reminded everyone to return their census forms; its critical that we get the appropriate numbers so we get the appropriate funding. Councilman Sadow now has a permit to conduct a survey at the train station, thanks to the assistance of Tina Mayer. The intent of the survey is to determine the feasibility and likelihood of success of some form of internal transit system that may involve more towns along with Mount Arlington. NJ Transit is not only cutting trains at all stations, but will not increase trains until we have increased ridership.
- Councilman Driscoll, DPW: the asphalt factory has opened so DPW is going to do all the patching on the roads; they will start doing the roads with a hot patch within the next week.

Motion to Return to Agenda Item #5: Councilman Driscoll.

Second: Councilman Sorge.

All in Favor – Aye; None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

5. Presentations/Mayor's Appointments

The Mayor appointed Councilman Stephen Sadow to the Building Committee.

10. Old Business

2. Master Plan.

- The Borough Administrator confirmed Council's request of using our current planner to provide a relatively simple master plan rather than go out for proposals. Council agreed they wanted to see an estimate of Ms. Holmquist's proposed cost and time frame to prepare a simpler master plan. The Borough Attorney stated the current professional services agreement with Ms. Holmquist is sufficient to perform this function. The Borough Administrator asked if Council wanted to wait to see the estimate prior to Ms. Holmquist beginning the process, reminding Council that any new ordinance for the plan must be introduced in November. Council discussed putting a cap on the money to be spent. The Borough Administrator asked the Clerk to contact Ms. Holmquist to obtain an estimate and advise the other two planners of the Borough's decision.

3. Snow Removal on Windermere Sidewalks.

- The Borough Administrator asked to postpone this discussion; she met with Tax Assessor Jack Marchione who might possibly obtain copies of surveys, as there seems to be discrepancies, and the Borough Attorney to review ordinances.

4. Discussion with Borough Engineer.

- The Mayor stated this discussion will be postponed to a future Council meeting.

11. Approval of Minutes

March 2, 2010 Regular Meeting

Motion to Approve: Councilman Driscoll.

Second: Councilman Doran.

Roll Call:

Aye: Driscoll, Sorge, Sadow, Council President Galate, Windish, Doran.

Nay: None.

Motion Approved.

March 16, 2010 Special Public Forum

Motion to Approve with Corrections: Councilman Sorge.

Second: Council President Galate.

Roll Call:

Aye: Driscoll, Sadow, Council President Galate, Windish, Doran.

Abstain: Sorge.

Nay: None.

Motion Approved.

12. Resolutions

2010-41 Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Approving the Check Register Dated April 6, 2010.

Motion to Approve: Councilman Driscoll.

Second: Councilman Sadow.

Roll Call:

Aye: Driscoll, Sorge, Sadow (abstain #8625), Council President Galate (abstain #8628), Windish, Doran.

Nay: None.

Motion Approved.

2010-42 Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, Endorsing Submission of a Tonnage Grant Application to the NJDEP.

Motion to Approve: Councilman Driscoll.

Second: Councilman Sadow.

Roll Call:

Aye: Driscoll, Sorge, Sadow, Council President Galate, Windish, Doran.

Nay: None.

Motion Approved.

2010-43 Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the 2010 Temporary Budget (4/6/2010 version)

Motion to Approve: Councilman Sadow.

Second: Councilman Sorge.

Roll Call:

Aye: Driscoll, Sorge, Sadow, Council President Galate, Windish, Doran.

Nay: None.

Motion Approved.

13. Ordinances – Introduction

None.

14. Ordinances – Second Reading

None.

15. Motions

1. Letter of Resignation from Kelly Turner, Member of Recreation Commission.
The Mayor read the letter into the record, with regret.
2. Letter from Knee Deep Club, dated March 15, 2010, requesting use of Memorial Pond for Annual Junior Derby and Handicapped Children's Outing on June 12, 2010.
The Clerk will send a letter confirming this event at Memorial Pond.

16. Mayor's Report

The Mayor read his report into the record.

17. Borough Administrator's Report

- The Borough Administrator has an email transmission from Tom Segreto, Esq. regarding servers and asked the Clerk to forward the email to the Mayor and Council. We encumbered the funds for this in 2009; we need to make a final decision.
- The Borough Administrator requested to speak with the Borough Attorney after the meeting regarding the use of audio and video tapes at Council meetings.

18. Executive Session

2010-44 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.

Executive Session Topic: Approval of Executive Minutes.

Action will be taken following Executive Session.

Motion to Go Into Executive Session: Councilman Driscoll.

Second: Councilman Sorge.

All in Favor – Aye; None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

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

Motion to Approve the Executive Session Minutes of March 2,
2010: Council President Galate.
Second: Councilman Doran.
All in Favor – Aye; None Opposed.
Motion Approved.

19. Adjourn

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

Linda DeSantis, RMC
Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved at Council Meeting of May 4, 2010.