

**BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 15, 2014**

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 Daily Record on April 21, 2014 and the Roxbury Register on April 24, 2014; notice was posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Municipal Building on April 16, 2014 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.

3. Flag Salute

The Mayor asked for a moment of silence to remember all those who put themselves in harm's way to protect our freedoms.

4. Roll Call

Councilwoman Danchuk, Councilman Cangiano, Council President Sorge, Councilman Sadow, Councilman Windish, Councilman Stanzilis, Mayor Ondish. Elizabeth Valandingham, Esq., Borough Attorney, and Carolyn Rinaldi, CFO/Municipal Administrator, were also present.

5. Presentations/Mayor's Appointments

None.

6. Approval of Minutes

None.

7. Municipal Administrator's Report

- There have been numerous questions and concerns of residents regarding the sewer fees. Ms. Rinaldi is requesting to draft a letter, to be further reviewed by the Chair of Water and Sewer Committee, Councilman Cangiano, and the Chair of the Finance Committee, Councilman Sadow, to explain the current charges, the rationale behind the charges, and include a copy of the 1993 letter that residents refer to when questioning; this letter would answer some misconceptions resulting from that letter. The letter to residents would give a brief overview of fees, the status of the loan with Musconetcong Sewerage Authority and further bonding due to expansion of the original project. The letter dated 1993 mentions grinder pumps as well but we will address that issue separately in a separate letter. Upon review of the letter, this will be on the June agenda. Council President Sorge stated we should consider some type of give-back to those who are not on the borough water system and have septic's because they have been paying for a service they do not use. Ms. Rinaldi stated they are working on that analysis.

- The Mayor read a letter from the NJ DOT into the record, awarding the Borough \$225,000 for the Succasunna Road Improvement Project; we are the only municipality in Morris County to receive this grant this year. Roxbury was named on the application as part of the project but the award is to Mount Arlington; Bruno Associates worked on this application on our behalf. Council discussed the most recent proposals regarding drainage, road restoration, and additional reductions in the overall cost; presently Mount Arlington's share is \$297,200 and Roxbury's is \$293,000. Budget Consultant Joseph Kovalcik

stated that now that we have the grant letter and after we adopt the budget tonight, we will prepare a Chapter 159 ordinance for the next meeting to liquidate the funds and allow us to start the project, and introduce an ordinance for the road improvements for the municipality.

Motion to Move Forward with the Succasunna Road Improvement Project: Council President Sorge

Second: Councilman Sadow

Roll Call:

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

None Opposed

Motion Approved.

8. Public Comment

None.

9. Ordinances – Second Reading

05-14 An Ordinance of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a CAP Bank (NJSA 40:A4-45.14) for the Calendar Year 2014.

The Mayor opened the Hearing to the Public on Ordinance #05-14 and read the Ordinance by title.

No Public Comment; the Mayor closed the Hearing to the Public.

Councilman Sadow stated, I move for adoption and final passage of Ordinance #05-14.

Second: Council President Sorge

Councilwoman Danchuk stated she does not like raising taxes. Joe Kovalcik stated the COLA ordinance enables the Council to maintain services and meet the expenditures of the state; this allows us to maximize what we have and is totally separate from taxes.

Roll Call:

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

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

10. Resolutions

2014-66 Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Adopting the 2014 Municipal Budget.

The Mayor read the Resolution into the record.

The Mayor opened the Hearing to the Public.

No public comment; the Mayor closed the Public Hearing.

Motion to Approve: Councilman Sadow

Second: Council President Sorge

Roll Call:

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

Opposed: Danchuk

Motion Approved.

The Mayor questioned Councilwoman Danchuk's "no" vote and Councilwoman Danchuk responded she did not want to raise taxes. The Mayor explained why the increase was necessary and stated it is fiscally irresponsible not to raise taxes a little bit every year to keep up with costs. Councilwoman Danchuk stated it took a long time to get the Borough out of debt and said Council is doing a wonderful job but feels the pace is too fast. Joe Kovalcik stated our tax rate went up 2.4 tax points or 3.08% and has been going down every year; we are establishing our reserves, building ourselves much stronger. He

further stated the average household's tax will increase by approximately \$60, probably a little lower. The Mayor thanked Borough Auditor Bill Schroeder who was present, along with Carolyn Rinaldi and Councilman Sadow.

The Mayor read the statement of adoption of the 2014 Municipal Budget into the record.

11. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Councilman Sadow
Second: Councilman Windish
Roll Call:
 All in Favor: Aye.
 None Opposed
Motion Approved.



Linda DeSantis, RMC
Borough Clerk

Minutes approved at Council Meeting of June 5, 2014.



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State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
P.O. Box 600
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0600

JAMES S. SIMPSON
Commissioner

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

May 7, 2014

The Honorable Arthur R. Ondish
Mayor, Mount Arlington Borough
419 Howard Boulevard
Mount Arlington, NJ 07856

Dear Mayor Ondish:

I am pleased to inform you that your community has been selected to receive funding from the New Jersey Department of Transportation's (NJDOT) Fiscal Year 2014 Municipal Aid Program for Succasunna Road Improvement Project in the amount of \$225,000.00.

Each year, NJDOT's Municipal Aid Program becomes more popular and is very competitive statewide. This year's solicitation resulted in 653 applications received totaling more than \$255 million for the \$78.75 million available in funds from the Transportation Trust Fund (TTF).

NJDOT is committed to providing statewide assistance for local governments for improvements to and preservation of the local transportation network. The completion of your project will help achieve this goal and pursue a transportation strategy that provides mobility through managing the local roadway system.

Should you have any questions regarding your grant, please contact the NJDOT Local Aid District Office in your area.

District 1 - Mt. Arlington - 973-601-6700
District 2 - Newark - 973-877-1500

District 3 - Trenton - 609-530-5271
District 4 - Cherry Hill - 856-486-6618

Again, thank you for your support of this program and good luck with your project.

Sincerely,

Chris Christie
Governor

Linda DeSantis, RMC, CI
Borough Clerk

MAY 12 2014

c: Municipal Clerk
Municipal Engineer

Borough of
Mount Arlington