

**BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2008**

**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 Tuesday, September 23, 2008; notice was posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Municipal Building on September 22, 2008 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 living in Texas and Louisiana who have suffered damage from the recent hurricanes.

**4. Roll Call**

Council President Driscoll, Councilman Sorge, Councilwoman Galate Goodman, Councilwoman Mulligan, Councilwoman Cerasoli, Councilman Doran, Mayor Ondish, JoAnne Sandler, Borough Administrator, Mitchell Jacobs, Borough Attorney, and Bud Jones, Borough Auditor, were also present.

**5. Open to Public – Not Related to Public Hearing on Budget Amendment**

Veronica Silkes, Succasunna Road:

- Ms. Silkes stated that on September 8, 2008 there was an ordinance on the Agenda to amend and supplement the code regarding salary standards (#15-08). Given the state that the Borough is in regarding the budget, she would think salaries would not be increasing in 2009. The Borough Administrator stated that this ordinance allows them to be paid for the balance of this year; their salaries exceed the present we expanded their range.

Nita Fields, Seasons Glen:

- Ms. Fields stated that tonight's meeting was not advertised in the Star Ledger but last week's meeting was listed in the calendar section of the Star Ledger. The Mayor stated the notice was published in the legal notice section of the Daily Record, which is the Borough newspaper; we also advertised on the electronic signs.

**6. Resolutions**

**2008-140 Public Hearing** on the Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Amending the Introduced Budget.

Motion to **Open to the Public:** Council President Driscoll.

Second: Councilman Sorge.

All in Favor – Aye; None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

The Mayor stated that each individual would have three minutes to speak.

Ruth Morrow, 55 Hickory Way:

- Ms. Morrow stated that about two months ago she had a question regarding the budget; she contacted the Mayor who relayed her message to CFO Joe Kovalcik but she has never heard from Mr. Kovalcik. The Borough Administrator did provide an answer to her question this evening. Ms. Morrow stated that as a taxpayer, her questions should be answered and her complaint is that nobody returns phone calls.

Mike Walraven, 150 McGregor Avenue:

- Mr. Walraven stated his appreciation to the Council for their on the budget.

Charles Squires, 26 Birch Terrace:

- Mr. Squires commended the Mayor and Council on their work on the budget but stated no one wants to see their taxes go up. Mr. Squires stated that he hopes that during the 2009 budget preparation, Council looks closely to cut any little extra's to lessen expenses.

Paula Danchuk, 50 Elizabeth Way:

- Ms. Danchuk stated that at the last meeting, the Mayor stated that the state gave us the waiver of \$143,000 but she wanted to give credit where credit is due; our budget was not cut, our taxes were lowered because our revenue was increased and the Council had no choice about increasing the revenue, it was state mandated. Ms. Danchuk wanted to publicly thank Peter Laue, Gene Paradiso and Mr. and Mrs. Silkes who took time off to be in Trenton for the waiver hearing. Ms. Danchuk stated that she was also at the Trenton meeting and she believes the Mount Arlington budget was cut because of the presentation by Mr. Paradiso and Mr. Laue.
- Ms. Danchuk stated that she recently requested the resolution authorizing the grand opening expenses for the train station but the only record is the resolution and accompanying check register. Ms. Danchuk asked if there was a vote on spending that money, other than the check register resolution. The Mayor stated that this question was not pertinent to the Public Hearing on the budget amendment.

The Mayor stated that the budget was not cut due to residents attending the meeting in Trenton. Councilwoman Galate Goodman reiterated an earlier statement wherein she did not care who cut it or where it was cut, as long as the budget was cut.

Christy Fremgen, 33 Richard Drive East:

- Ms. Fremgen asked where the \$74,000 was cut in the budget. The Mayor stated that this came out of the capital appropriation funds.

Dolores Rivinius, 611 Bensel Drive:

- Ms. Rivinius asked what exactly was amended in the budget resolution. Mr. Jones stated that it was in the capital improvement fund, it was moved from \$114,000 to \$40,000; the capital improvement fund is utilized either to fully fund capital projects or as a down payment for a capital project, so the Borough cut out \$74,000 worth of capital projects, roughly a one-cent reduction.

Nancy Owens, Hickory Way:

- Ms. Owens stated that she has telephoned the Mayor and never received a call back; the Mayor assured Ms. Owens that he does return calls but he is a part-time Mayor with a full-time job as well. Ms. Owens wanted to know if the train station was Mount Arlington's or Roxbury's.

The Mayor closed the Public Hearing on Resolution #2008-140 and Council agreed there was no further Council discussion.

Motion To Approve: Council President Driscoll.

Second: Councilman Sorge.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Council President Driscoll, Sorge, Galate Goodman, Mulligan,  
Cerasoli, Doran.

Motion Approved.

**2008-141** Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Adopting the 2008 Budget.

The Clerk read the resolution into the record.

Motion To Approve: Council President Driscoll.

Second: Councilman Sorge.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Council President Driscoll, Sorge, Galate Goodman, Cerasoli.  
Nays: Mulligan, Doran.

Motion Approved.

## 7. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Councilman Sorge.

Second: Council President Driscoll.

All in Favor – Aye; None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

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Linda DeSantis, RMC  
Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved at Council Meeting of November 10, 2008.