

98. Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Haworth held on May 13, 2014 at the Municipal Center

Present: Hon. John Dean DeRienzo, Mayor

Councilmembers: Vincent Iacobino
Glenn Poosikian
Mary Anne Groh
Andrew Rosenberg
Anthony Volpe
Michael Bain

Borough Attorney: Robert T. Regan

Mayor DeRienzo called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and upon roll call all members of the Council were present. The Mayor then stated: "This is the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Haworth. I am informed by the Clerk that adequate public notice has been provided by mailing notice to the Star Ledger and The Record, by posting a notice on the bulletin board in the Municipal Center, by filing a copy of the notice in the office of the Municipal Clerk and by mailing notice to all persons who requested same and prepaid the cost fixed by the Council."

Salute to Flag

Mayor DeRienzo led those present in the pledge of allegiance.

Presentation – Land Use Ordinance Proposed Amendments

Mr. Rosenberg introduced Dr. Thomas Ference, chairman of the Planning Board and Mr. Michael Hakim, Borough Planner in connection with additional clarification requested by the Council for these proposed amendments, referring to Mr. Hakim's memo of February 2014.

Dr. Ference noted the Planning Board was requested to look at a number of items for the proposed amendments, they conducted a review and that some questions which were raised state law super-cedes municipal law. He said the Board is still doing some research on various items which should be resolved by July and they have agreed that some changes should be made for several items as follows:

26-902 Fences – deer fences have been added – invisible mesh; a number of homes were visited with these type of fences. Plastic mesh netting attached to stakes or posts; not to exceed nine feet.

26-301 Surface Water – definition. Suggest deletion of the "...adjacent areas.." which will require governing body action.

Presentation – Land Use Ordinance Proposed Amendments – cont'd.

26-502. Communication Towers – locations permitted. They looked at the FCC regulations and expanded some of the wording.

26-301 Conditional Use – definition. Correct the word “speed” to “specified”.

Dr. Ference said other errors in punctuation, grammar, etc. have been corrected and the Planning Board is recommending adoption of these various corrections into an ordinance.

Mrs. Groh thanked Dr. Ference and Mr. Hakim for their presentation, memo and the Planning Board for their efforts. She then questioned the definition for swimming pools (residential) in connection with the White Beeches pool. Dr. Ference responded they would have to review that.

Mrs. Groh then suggested possibly contacting legislators regarding revising the State’s Land Use Law.

Mr. Hakim responded the legislature does look at this on a regular basis and issue updates periodically regarding the law.

Mrs. Groh then referred to consideration as to whether parking requirements should be established in the Municipal Use Zone.

Mr. Hakim commented there are many different uses in this zone and it would be difficult to have different types of requirements since they are all municipal uses.

Mrs. Groh referred to parking issues in connection with library building project which she said she hoped could be addressed.

Dr. Ference replied there have been in the past appropriate dialogues on this issue particularly with parking at the school when projects there were undertaken and noted concern with the down town area as planning issues as opposed to regulatory issues.

Mr. Hakim added that as a courtesy in the past the library and school have come to the Mayor and Council and Planning Board for input on these issues.

Mr. Volpe referred to the deer fencing, height of poles and impact on other wild life.

Dr. Ference said they have not found any evidence of wild life situations with the mesh fences.

Mr. Volpe then asked if the Borough Engineer has looked at this issue.

Presentation – Land Use Ordinance Proposed Amendments – cont'd.

Dr. Ference responded the engineer was consulted during last year's action.

Mayor DeRienzo thanked the Planning Board for their efforts on the amendments to the ordinance.

Correspondence

<u>Letter From</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Referred to</u>
Haworth Public School	Information re. Change in Crossing Guard Schedule/Assignments	All Council
Boswell Engineering	Proposal – Groundwater Remedial Investigation	All Council
NVRHS District	2014-15 Budget Statement – Tax Levy Certification	All Council Finance
Department of Transportation	Notification of Award - Downtown Revitalization Grant - \$149,000.	All Council Engineer

Mayor DeRienzo referred to the grant award from the DOT for the Downtown Revitalization and suggested a group to work on this with Mr. Rosenberg as liaison and including Mr. Posen from the Zoning Board and Mr. Pearce and Dr. Kahn.

Mr. Volpe commented that the engineer suggests applying for Phase 2 of this project and combining the projects.

Mrs. Groh referred to the Boswell proposal and noted that Mr. Statile will submit a competitive estimate for this work.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of Councilman Groh

Seniors

Mrs. Groh reported the seniors will be meeting on May 20th with 5th Graders from the Haworth School and noted the senior van was recently serviced.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – cont'd.

Report of Councilman Groh – cont'd.

Recycling

Mrs. Groh thanked the DPW for the receptacles they recently placed at the path to the tennis courts.

Tennis

Mrs. Groh reported the courts opened on May 3 and thanked the DPW for their assistance with repair of the sign up board and placing benches at the courts and also thanked Mr. Layne for his repair of shingles at the facility.

Finance

Mrs. Groh reported on the following:

She has requested a posting update regarding the budget; due to several requirements for a proposal to obtain a Cosco charge account that proposal has been dropped; there is a new control procedure regarding purchase orders to eliminate a problem with outstanding PO's and a new format for questions placed on the front of purchase orders.

Mrs. Groh further reported the 2013 Audit has been completed and a meeting will be scheduled to discuss the Audit. She said work is continuing on the Capital Budget and noted the Fire Department is not pursuing their request for radios.

Mrs. Groh then noted that \$17,500 is the correct number for the bid threshold as opposed to what was reported at a prior meeting.

Report of Councilman Iacobino

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Mr. Iacobino noted the Zoning Board did not meet.

Swim Club

Mr. Iacobino reported that membership is now past 130 families and the senior service high school students will be cleaning, etc. at the pool.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – cont'd.

Report of Councilman Iacobino – cont'd.

Shade Tree

Mr. Iacobino noted the Commission is discussing a problem with trees being taken down and they are considering raising the fine for cutting down Borough trees.

Report of Councilman Volpe

Fire Department

Mr. Volpe reported the following;

The Department responded to 15 calls last month – 3 activated fire alarms in Haworth, 8 mutual aid alarms in Demarest, 2 hazardous conditions and 2 CO conditions. Activities consisted of department drills, meetings, work night/trainings, continued training at a house on Park Street which is being demolished and bailout techniques.

Two members were removed from the Department due to lack of attendance. The Department will be participating in the Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony on May 26th.

Parks and Playgrounds

Mr. Volpe reported members participated in plantings at Terrace Street with local businesses being involved; a beautification of the pond area is underway with local landscapers donating their time; mulch has been spread at the playgrounds; local landscapers will also be donating their time to build a new sign at the railroad crossing and a request has been made to the Local Board of Realtors for donations to various projects.

Website

Mr. Volpe reported the Borough has contracted with a new vendor and photos are being solicited from residents for the site.

Board of Education

Mr. Volpe reported that Officer Saudino was successful in increasing a grant for drug education at the school; Ms. Montessano was welcomed to the school as the new superintendent starting in July; improvements to windows in the building are being undertaken; on April 29th a special meeting was held for the budget which was approved with an impact of \$131 per year for the average assessed home.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – cont'd.

Report of Councilman Volpe – cont'd.

Board of Education – cont'd.

Mr. Volpe referred to benefits received from the Home and School Association, i.e., they handle the lunch program, donated a sound system, hold a book fair, offer an enrichment program and scholarships for which he commended them for their efforts.

Report of Councilman Bain

Environmental Commission

Mr. Bain reported the Commission has been discussing deer crossing signs and the County has requested from the police incidents involving deer. Also, a tree ordinance they have been working on will be sent to the Council for review.

Recreation

Mr. Bain reported the Commission sponsored the recent Egg Hunt and Fishing Contest and thanked the DPW for their assistance during these events; the Commission is discussing the Summer Recreation Program activities, etc. and Music and Arts is sponsoring a Shakespeare program on May 17.

Library

Mr. Bain reported a meeting was held to review progress on the addition which is on schedule and one change order for electrical service was approved.

Report of Councilman Poosikian

Ambulance Corps

Mr. Poosikian reported the Ambulance Corps responded to 27 calls last month – 18 daytime calls; 294 miles, three motor vehicle calls, man hours – 98, total year to date 1164; 32 gallons of fuel used and five bids were received for the building addition.

Board of Health

Mr. Poosikian reported the Board is planning their Spring Health Fair on June 14 at the Swim Club; a presentation was given at their last meeting in connection with “Tobacco Free New Jersey”, the Board is considering a smoke free park and recreation areas and are reviewing a number of ordinances in this connection.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – cont'd.

Report of Councilman Poosikian – cont'd.

NVRHS District Board of Education

Mr. Poosikian reported this Board passed their budget with a 2.36% increase amounting to \$161 tax on the average assessed home.

Department of Public Works

Mr. Poosikian noted the Department is servicing and storing their winter equipment, conducting pot hole repairs, spring clean-ups, grass cutting, etc. and assisted at the recent Flea Market, planted 30 trees at the Tree Farm and mulched several areas throughout the town.

Report of Councilman Rosenberg

Planning Board

Mr. Rosenberg reported the Board conducted a review of the land use ordinance and heard an initial application for the expansion of the Allesandro Restaurant and site plan and drawings are in progress for this application.

Ethics Board

Mr. Rosenberg noted the Board is conducting an analysis of neighboring towns' ordinances for discussion at their next meeting in June.

Police Department

Mr. Rosenberg reported the following:

The Police Chief has been involved at the high school regarding their upcoming senior prom; the Operation Take Back held recently for residents to bring in old drugs was successful; the Department is participating in the Ticket and Click-it Program with special patrols; 463 gallons of fuel were used and 70 summonses issued last month.

Mayor's Report

Mayor DeRienzo reported the following:

The Fire Department Pancake Breakfast will be held this Sunday; the I&I Study by Boswell Engineering is one half completed for which the response has been excellent from the residents; landscaping at the school by the DPW has be discussed; several trees on county roads

Mayor's Report – cont'd.

have been taken care of; there is a continuing situation with several homes being demolished in town for which a protocol is needed and the Shade Tree Commission wants to see site plans for new construction.

Proposal for Review of Appraisal

Mr. Rosenberg explained this is a rebuttal appraisal in connection with the Haworth Country Club tax appeal for which funding has been included in this year's budget.

A motion was offered by Mr. Rosenberg, seconded by Mrs. Groh and unanimously carried to retain Integra Realty Resources of Whippany, NJ to conduct a review of a preliminary analysis and appraisal of the Haworth Country Club for a fee not to exceed \$5,000 for Phase 1 with additional fees if necessary as outlined in their proposal dated March 20, 2014.

Basketball Court – Asphalt

Mr. Volpe reported he met with his committee in connection with the renovation of the court and has received two bids for the paving.

A motion was offered by Mr. Volpe, seconded by Mr. Bain and unanimously carried to approve the proposal submitted by Peter Englishman at a cost not to exceed \$8500 for the paving of the basketball court at Memorial Field.

Mr. Volpe noted he has donated his time to remove the old asphalt at the court and discussed the method for disposing of that material noting it had been suggested that the DPW dispose of it however, it appears that would be more expensive in connection with dumping fees and the Department's time.

A motion was offered by Mr. Volpe, seconded by Mr. Poosikian and unanimously carried to hire Westphal Waste Services of Norwood, NJ to dispose of the asphalt at a cost of \$500 per 20 yard container.

Mrs. Groh thanked Mr. Volpe for his assistance with this project.

Field Treatments

Mr. Volpe reported on the much needed maintenance at the fields and explained the process to achieve the results.

A motion was offered by Mr. Volpe, seconded by Mrs. Groh and unanimously carried to approve the estimate of Tri State Athletic Field Services & Supplies, Allendale, NJ in the amount of \$9,710.14 to conduct repairs and maintenance at the Borough's fields.

Ambulance Corps Building Addition Bids

The following motion was offered by Mr. Poosikian, seconded by Mrs. Groh and unanimously carried:

WHEREAS, bids were received by the Municipal Clerk on May 6, 2014 for an addition to the Haworth Ambulance Corps Building; and

WHEREAS, five bids were received at that time and all bids exceeded the funds available for this project.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Mayor and Council hereby reject the bids received for the addition and authorize the re-bidding of this project, inasmuch as the proposals exceeded available funds and cost estimates.

Appointment to Fire Department

Mr. Volpe noted that he was happy to welcome back a former member of the Department. A motion was offered by Mr. Volpe, seconded by Mrs. Groh and unanimously carried to appoint Patrick Conner a member of the Haworth Fire Department.

Open Meeting to Public

The meeting was opened to the period of public discussion.

Ms. Cynthia Soroka, Whitman St. referred to earlier discussions this evening regarding taxes and asked when the town budget will be approved.

Mrs. Groh responded that a special meeting has been scheduled to amend the budget and discuss further reductions.

Ms. Soroka then said she sent photos last year to the Borough's website and suggested forming a group for ideas to reduce taxes.

As there were no other comments, the meeting was closed to public discussion.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was offered by Mrs. Groh, seconded by Mr. Rosenberg and unanimously carried to accept the minutes of the executive meeting of April 2 and the regular meeting of April 8, 2014.

Approval of Payment of Bills

The following resolution was offered by Mrs. Groh, seconded by Mr. Poosikian and unanimously carried with the deletion of the payment to the Haworth Apothecary:

FOR COPY OF RESOLUTION AND BILL LIST
SEE PERMANENT MINUTES
PAGES 108A – 108T

A motion was offered by Mr. Rosenberg and seconded by Mr. Bain to approve the payment to the Haworth Apothecary.

Mrs. Groh explained an issue regarding medical supplies for the Police Department as some items are personal in nature. She suggested guidelines for departments as to what is customary.

Mr. Rosenberg responded that the Police Chief has indicated these supplies were appropriate.

Mrs. Groh discussed items in regard to being in parity with other departments.

Mr. Rosenberg noted the Police Department has a \$300 budget in a medical line item and discussed prior purchasing of these items through another company which included several items they did not need.

On voice vote all members voted in the affirmative with the exception of Mrs. Groh who voted no. Declared carried.

Capital Requests

Mayor DeRienzo noted changes to this budget including addition of \$15,000 in connection with mitigation work required at the DPW yard and an increase cost for playground equipment for the Swim Club which will be funded through surplus with no down payment required.

Close Meeting to Public

The following resolution was offered at 9:00 PM by Mr. Poosikian, seconded by Mr. Iacobino and unanimously carried;

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Haworth, as follows:

1. That the Governing Body, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, shall exclude the public from the next portion of this meeting in order to discuss matters pertaining to pending litigation and a police matter.
2. That the items under discussion in the closed meeting will be disclosed to the public at the conclusion of the matter.

Reopen Meeting to Public

The meeting was reopened to the public at 9:15 PM

Police Department

A motion was offered by Mr. Rosenberg, seconded by Mr. Posingian and unanimously carried to authorize the Police Chief to advertise for two patrol positions for the Department.

As there was no further business to come before the Council the meeting adjourned at 9:15PM on motion duly offered, seconded and carried.

Ann E. Fay, RMC, CMC
Clerk-Administrator

