

The January 2, 2008 Reorganization meeting was called to order by Council President Petillo at 6:08 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 111 River Styx Road, Hopatcong, NJ.

Council President Petillo announced this meeting is held in accordance with the 1975 Open Public Meetings Act, NJSA 10:4-6 et seq., annual notice having been forwarded to the New Jersey Herald/New Jersey Sunday Herald, the Daily Record, The Star Ledger, and posted on the bulletin board maintained in the Municipal Building for public announcements.

Roll Call: Councilmembers present: Richard Bunce, Marie Galate, Estelle Klein, Madeline McManus & Sylvia Petillo. Absent: John Armeno & Richard Hodson. Other present: Attorney John Ursin, Administrator Steven Ward, & Clerk Lorraine Stark.

Councilwoman Klein moved to go into executive session at 6:09 p.m., seconded by Bunce. Those present voted affirmative.

Continue open session at 7:40 p.m.

Mayor-Elect Petillo stated that she was pleased that her two sons were present and asked Michael to give the invocation. Pledge of Allegiance.

Borough Clerk Stark read the Statement of Determination Of The Board Of County Canvassers.

Clerk Stark administered the Oath Of Office to Mayor Sylvia Petillo. Mayor Petillo administered the Oath of Office to Councilmembers Michael Francis & Robert Modick.

Roll Call: R. Bunce, M. Francis, M. Galate, E. Klein, M. McManus & R. Modick.

Remarks by: Mayor Petillo & Councilmembers Francis and Modick.

Councilman Francis thanked everyone attending this meeting; he commented that he planned on doing better than status quo, thanking the people of Hopatcong for this opportunity to serve.

Councilmember Modick thanked the people who voted for him and thanked those in attendance. He wished all a happy and healthy New Year.

Mayor Petillo thanked everyone for coming, and for electing her the first woman Mayor in Hopatcong. She commented that change is inevitable; she would keep an open mind, work at improving the quality of life, and thanked everyone for

exhibiting trust in her. Mayor Petillo stated she had the right viewpoint and an open mind.

Mayor Petillo introduced the following dignitaries in attendance: (others were also present for this meeting)

The Honorable Guy Gregg & Allison Littell McHose; Sussex County Freeholders Hal Wirths, Sue Zellman & J. Parrot; Surrogate Nancy Fitzgibbons; Assemblyman-elect Gary Chiusano; Senator-elect Steven Oroho; Republican Chairman Rich Zeoli; Stanhope Mayor Diana Kuncken; former Hopatcong Mayor Cliff Lundin; former Councilmembers and Borough employees. Mr. Ward introduced James Roberts who would be acting as temporary administrator in his absence.

APPOINTMENTS: (Council Approval)

- A. #1-08 Magistrate - 3 year term: C. Wm. Bowkley, Jr. Motioned by Bunce, seconded by Galate. Roll Call Vote: **YES** – Bunce, Galate, Francis, Klein, McManus, Modick.
- B. #2-08 Fire Inspectors:
 - a. Richard Cook – Fire Marshall
 - b. Frank Steinberg – Deputy Fire Marshall
Motioned by Bunce, seconded by Galate. Vote was unanimous.
- C. #3-08 Fire Officers:
 - a. Fire Chief – Christopher Steinmetz
 - b. 1st Assistant Chief – James Wintermute
 - c. 2nd Assistant Chief – Michael Rahill
 - d. Department Engineer – James Byron
 - e. Department Secretary – James Poland
 - f. Department Treasurer – James Franco
Motioned by Bunce, seconded by Galate. Vote was unanimous.

Boards and Commissions: (Council Approval)

- A. #4-08 Zoning Board of Adjustment: 4 –Years Judith Kracht, Kenneth Trumpore, Linda Hawkins & George Malanga.
- B. #5-08 Board of Health: 3 – Years – Thomas Forbes & Joel Servoss.
- C. Recreation/Open Space Committee:
 - a. Zoning
 - b. Planning
 - c. Environmental
- D. #6-08 Lake Hopatcong Commission Alternate – Joel Servoss (expires 12/31/08). Motioned by Bunce, seconded by Galate. Vote was unanimous.

#7-08 Borough Professionals (1 Year) Professional Services: *(where applicable, only those in compliance with Pay-to-Play Non-Fair & Open regulations can be appointed at this time). Motioned by Klein, seconded by McManus. Galate – ABSTAINED ON 1-3.

1. #8-08 *Prosecutor - A. Arbore, Esq.
2. #9-08 *Borough Attorney - John Ursin, Esq.
3. #10-08 *Special Attorney- Richard A. Stein, Esq. (Laddey, Clark & Ryan)
4. #11-08 *Auditors - David H. Evans, (Nisivoccia & Company, LLP), moved by Klein, seconded by Ryder. The vote was unanimous.
5. #12-08 *Surveyor - Edward Secco
6. *Landfill Well Monitoring - No action taken.
7. #13-08 *Labor Attorney - F. Knapp, Esq.
8. MEL Commissioner - Administrator/Mayor
9. JIF Commissioner - Administrator/Mayor
10. HIF Commissioner - Administrator/Mayor
11. Census Liaison - T. dePierro
12. #14-08 *Quarry Engineer/Inspector - LAN Associates
13. #15-08 *Public Defender - C. Colabella, Esq.
14. *Risk Management Consultant - No action taken. Councilman Bunce asked the Administrator to obtain RFP's. PIA is to be carried over for two months.
15. #16-08 *Bond Counsel - R. Beinfield, Esq. (Hawkins, Delafield & Wood)
16. #17-08 *Sewer Engineer - F. Platt (Hatch Mott MacDonald)
17. Web Master - H. Czubkowski (H.P.C. Business Services)

REORGANIZATION RESOLUTIONS:

- A. #18-08 9 Resolution Resolutions.
- B. #19-08 Authorize Borough Attorney & Tax Assessor to Defend All Tax Appeals.
- C. # 20-08 Approve Temporary Budget; budget to cover first few months of the year while the 2008 Budget is being finished.
- D. #21-08 Approve Temporary 2008 Water Utility Budget.
- E. #22-08 Approve Temporary 2008 Sewer Utility Budget.
- F. #23-08 Appoint EEO Officers: R. Thomas & Administrator.
- G. #24-08 Appoint Agency Compliance Officer: Administrator.

Items A. - G. were moved by Bunce, seconded by Klein. Roll Call Vote: **YES** - Bunce, Klein, Francis, Galate, McManus & Modick.

OTHER APPOINTMENTS - Boards & Commissions (Mayor's Appointment):

- A. Planning Board Appointments - 3 Yr. Term Robert Daddis, IV; Ron Jobeless, II, Alternate - Alan Gilbert.
- B. Environmental Commission - 3 Yr. Term- Bernice Gleason & Mary Takacs.
- C. Council Committees/Liaisons - See Sheet.

- D. Recreation/Open Space Committee – Susan Jones.
- E. Recreation Commission – 5 Yr. Term – John Young & David Barnish.

Committees – Mayor’s Appointment:

- A. SWAT/Municipal Alliance Team. Held at this time.
- B. Emergency Management.
- C. Clean Communities.
- D. Plan Acceptance.
- E. Senior Citizen Advisory.
- F. Firewise.
- G. Quarry Review.
- H. Trails Committee.
- I. Recreation/Open Space.

COUNCIL ELECTIONS: 1 Year

- A. #25-08 Council President – Estelle Klein. Motioned by McManus, seconded by Bunce. Roll Call Vote: **YES** – McManus, Klein, Bunce, Francis, Galate. **NAY** - Modick.
- B. #26-08 Class III Member of Planning Board – Michael Francis. Motioned by Bunce, seconded by Galate. Vote was unanimous.
- C. #27-08 Sussex County Solid Waste Advisory Committee – Howard Baker. Motioned by Bunce, seconded by Galate. Vote was unanimous.
- D. #28-08 Sussex County Water Quality Mgt. Committee – Howard Baker. Motioned by Bunce, seconded by Galate. Vote was unanimous.
- E. #29-08 Recreation/Open Space Committee – Michael Francis. Motioned by Bunce, seconded by Galate. Vote was unanimous.
- F. #30-08 Citizen Member to Recreation/Open Space – Elide Young. Motioned by Bunce, seconded by Galate. Vote was unanimous.

SWEARING IN OF ALL MEMBERS PRESENT OF BOARDS OR COMMISSIONS & BRIEF RECESS. Councilmember McManus moved recess at 8:10 p.m., seconded by Bunce. Those present voted affirmative.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Meeting open to the public for comments on items on the agenda for which no public discussion is provided. (Comments limited to 5 minutes). None was forthcoming.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Meeting held on December 5, 2007, moved by Bunce, seconded by Klein. Those present voted affirmative.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items with an (*) are considered to be routine by the Members of the Borough Council and will be enacted on by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member so requests in

which event the item will be removed from the general order of business and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

- A. #31-08 Approve Payment Escrows.*
- B. #32-08 Approve Outside Lien Redemption for Certificate #2007-1 in the amount of \$6,366.06 plus premium in the amount of \$6,100.*
- C. #33-08 Authorize Mayor & Clerk to execute Animal Control Services Agreement with Borough of Stanhope for 2008.*
- D. #34-08 Authorize Mayor & Clerk to execute Addendum to Radio Communications Agreement between Stanhope & Hopatcong.*
- E. #35-08 Approve Taxi/Limousine 2008 License for Twam's Limousine Service for two vehicles.*

Consent Agenda moved by Bunce, seconded by Galate. Those present voted affirmative.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

A. #36-08 Ord. #1-2008 AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE SALE OF LOT TO CONTIGUOUS PROPERTY OWNER B30306 L20 (Partial). Moved by Bunce, seconded by Klein. Those present voted affirmative.

B. Ord. #2-2008 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 5 ARTICLE II ENTITLED ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION TO ADD TWO MEMBERS No action taken.

RESOLUTIONS:

A. #37-08 Approve Cancellation of General Capital Ordinances.

B. #38-08 Appoint James Roberts as Temporary Borough Administrator.

Items A & B were moved by Klein, seconded by Bunce. The vote was unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Schedule 2008 Budget Hearing Dates with Department Heads. The following dates were selected: 14 January in Board of Health Building & 23 January in Municipal Building at 6 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (Comments limited to 5 minutes). Mike Bengis commented that we are looking for a fresh start in this town, move on to a new direction and see progress.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilmember Galate thanked every one for coming this evening, nice to see the support; wished all a happy and healthy New Year. She is excited about the direction the Borough is taking, and looks for positive things to happen in 2008.

Councilman Francis wished everyone a Happy New Year, and remarked that they would try and get things right.

Councilperson Klein thanked everyone from the bottom of her heart, and congratulated Bob & Mike.

Councilmember Modick thanked everyone, and said that they would try their best for the community.

Councilman Bunce noted that he was excited about the changes, a lot of good things have happened, and there is a bright future with Sylvia as Mayor. He thanked the public and the dignitaries for attending this evening.

Councilwoman McManus congratulated Sylvia, Bob & Mike, thanked Chief Swanson and Ron Jobeless for their support and work in the community. She also thanked the employees who came this evening, along with the dignitaries; wished all a happy New Year.

Mayor Petillo reported that she was going to reach out to the Business Association and engage in joint activities; support each other for the betterment of the community. She said that as a Governing Body they would not always agree, but would respect each other, and is grateful to have a Council like this to work with. Mayor Petillo commented that her door would always be open, and that everyone would be welcome. This body would do what they could for the community, and she was overwhelmed by the support shown this evening.

Councilperson Bunce moved to adjourn at 8:56 p.m., seconded by Klein. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted: