

Borough of Roosevelt
 33 N. Rochdale Avenue
 Roosevelt, NJ 08555

Mayor and Council
 Regular Meeting Minutes of January 17, 2023

Mayor Malkin opened the meeting at 7:05 pm and read the Open Public Meetings Act notice which stated, Adequate notice of this meeting, as required by Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, has been provided by a public notice on December 30, 2022 which was posted on the Bulletin Board Roosevelt Post Office and in the Borough Hall. The notice was published in The Times and Asbury Park Press.

ROLL CALL

	PRESENT	ABSENT	LATE ARRIVAL
<i>Councilmember Robert Atwood</i>	✓		
<i>Councilmember Lou Esakoff</i>		✓	7:06PM
<i>Councilmember Michael Hamilton</i>	✓		
<i>Councilmember Constance Herrstrom</i>	✓		
<i>Councilmember Steven Macher</i>	✓		
<i>Councilmember Joe Trammell</i>	✓		
<i>Mayor Peggy Malkin</i>	✓		

Also in attendance: Christine Malamut, Esq., and Kathleen Hart, Borough Clerk.

MAYOR’S REPORT: None

PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda items only)

M/Malkin opened the meeting to Public Comment for agenda items only at 7:06pm.

1. Claire Burkhart, 14 Tamara Drive - reads a letter she has written to the Borough Council regarding her opposition of new speed humps and to suggest possible alternatives. Ms. Burkhart objections are largely two-fold: 1- the impact on emergency vehicles time and ability to provide care and 2- the negative impact on residents with musculoskeletal and other disabilities.

C/Hamilton makes a motion to re-arrange meeting so the public can speak, with a second offered by C/Trammell, with an All in favor.

2. Celeste Zimmerman, 14 N. Valley Road – states that she is recently retired and asks if Roosevelt has a senior program. M/Malkin states that there is a senior program and it was a very active club. However, it did stop when COVID hit. Solar Village has a senior program for their residents, but residents can attend and Millstone Senior’s Group also allows residents from Roosevelt. The Mayor believes the senior organization will start up again. Ms. Zimmerman has spoken with members of Tai Chi and they all state they are in favor of starting up the senior organization. Ms. Zimmerman asked if the senior program can go to other surrounding towns senior organization as they are much larger and do many more activities. Monroe also has a phenomenal organization. M/Malkin states every time we are ready to start up again, another variant comes up and our seniors hold off. C/Atwood states there are other organizations that have events that are open to any age. C/Herrstrom states she will call East Windsor and Monroe.

M/Malkin closed the Public Comment for agenda items at 7:38pm.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1. Letter received from Roberts Engineering Group, dated January 11, 2023, regarding trickling filter evaluation.
- 2. Letter received from Claire Burkhart regarding speed humps.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- 1. December 12, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

On a motion by C/Esakoff to accept the minutes, with a second offered by C/Atwood the minutes were approved by the following roll call vote:

Roll Call:

AYES: C/Atwood, C/Esakoff, C/Hamilton, C/Herrstrom, C/Macher, C/Trammell

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 23-30 Payment of Bills for January 17, 2023

Resolution 23-31 Resolution Amending Resolution 22-113

C/Esakoff made a motion to adopt, with a second offered by C/Trammell. C/Trammell states that the amended resolution that amends 22-113 was an approval for the Borough’s Engineer to do soil bearings at a cost of \$10,000. However, the cost had an additional component and increased the price to \$2,500, which puts us above the \$10,000 that has been allocated. C/Hamilton asks that we vote on the two resolutions separately. C/Hamilton makes a motion to pull Resolution 23-30 from the Consent Agenda and vote on separately, with a second from C/Trammell.

Roll Call:

AYES: C/Atwood, C/Esakoff, C/Hamilton, C/Herrstrom, C/Macher, C/Trammell

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None

Resolution 23-31 Resolution Amending Resolution 22-113

C/Esakoff made a motion to adopt, with a second offered by C/Atwood, to adopt the Consent Agenda Resolution 23-31, by the following roll call vote:

Roll Call:

AYES: C/Atwood, C/Esakoff, C/Hamilton, C/Herrstrom, C/Macher, C/Trammell

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None

RESOLUTION:

Resolution 23-30 Payment of Bills for January 17, 2023

C/Atwood made a motion to adopt, with a second offered by C/Esakoff, to adopt Resolution 23-30, by the following roll call vote:

Roll Call:

AYES: C/Atwood, C/Esakoff, C/Herrstrom, C/Macher, C/Trammell

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: C/Hamilton ABSENT: None

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Environmental, Health & Safety: No Report

Administration: No Report

Finance: No Report

Community Dev/Code: C/Herrstrom gave an update on the Amphitheater. The RFP was sent out and posted on the Borough website. We had a lot of help from Kathleen Hart, Ana Debevec and others and C/Herrstrom would like to thank them all. Our next project is to come up with objectives for the selection of the consultant. Proposals are due on February 16, 2023 at 2:00pm. We sent out approximately 22 packages. We also have a new member on the committee, Ellen Silverman. C/Trammell compliments C/Herrstrom on the RFP as it was very comprehensive. C/Hamilton states we have a very comprehensive group and all work very well together.

Public Works: No Report

Utilities: No Report on utilities but speaks about the beavers and all the different state agencies that have been contacted.

REPORTS OF BOROUGH OFFICIALS:

Michael Ticktin, 37 N. Valley Road, states as Township Historian, the Borough's population from the last census of 2020 is down to 808. From the census of 2000 the population was 913, which is down 13%.

C/Hamilton states he has reached out to Henry John Alder at Rutgers who reached out to Peter Winkler from the DEP at the Assunpink, who then reached out to me regarding our Beaver problem. He sent a best practices guide, Beavers are a Keystone species – they help our eco system and are crucial. As the temperature rises they help cool the water, they also help fill the aquifers. We need to move carefully and could do more damage if they are removed.

C/Trammell states he contacted the State and they will come out this week. They will trap and remove and will start downstream. There are two different issues, one is the Assunpink, which is the State; they have an interest in keeping the population under control as well as the water flowing. Two is the Borough – which is also an issue for us, because, we do not want the water rising above the effluent from the waste water plant. C/Hamilton states the way he looks at it is the beavers aren't the problem, the flooding is. Since it's our stream it's our responsibility. C/Trammell states the blockage is where all the creeks meet and the Assunpink. C/Hamilton asks if we need some kind of action to hold him off until we do our research more on the Environmental Commission and the Council. M/Malkin states maybe we should cancel Brandon, we have so much new information. C/Trammell states he will do the Assunpink, since that's the State and we should speak with the DEP at the Assunpink and let him know that we are a little hesitant about moving forward.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Use of Borough Hall: A request for use of the Borough Hall for a birthday party on February 4, 2023 from 10am – 10pm (setup and clean up included). Request form on file.

C/Esakoff made a motion to approve, with a second offered by C/Trammell, with an All in Favor.

2. Use of Borough Hall: Tai Chi classes for 2023 as follows: Mondays 11am-12 noon; Wednesdays 9am-10:30am; Thursdays 6pm-7pm. Certificate of Insurance is current.

C/Trammell made a motion to approve, with a second offered by C/Esakoff, with an All in Favor.

3. Use of Borough Hall: A request for use of the Borough Hall for a Family Celebration on January 29, 2023 from 12pm – 9pm. Request form on file.

C/Trammell made a motion to approve, with a second offered by C/Esakoff, with an All in Favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

M/Malkin brings up the speed humps, especially after reading Claire Burkhart's letter, it was very compelling and brought many good points. Because she mentioned the first responders, M/Malkin contacted Captain of the Fire/First Aid in Millstone and asked him to read the letter. He said every one of her points were valid and said first responders despise speed humps and went into detail. He also said in Millstone there are no speed humps because they are so detrimental. They are also frowned upon by snow plows, since they have no idea when they are coming up. M/Malkin states that we should look into alternatives before we make a decision. C/Esakoff states when he was a school bus driver in East Windsor, and they had a lot of speed humps, we had a lot of problems. We told the bus supervisor and she drove it herself and called the East Windsor Council and they took them away. C/Macher speaks about speed humps in other towns. Council continues with additional discussion on speed humps and traffic problems. M/Malkin states she doesn't think anything will prohibit anyone from speeding, we should protect pedestrians and work on how to do that. C/Herrstrom states that in Princeton they use traffic calmers. M/Malkin states we will look at alternatives and research safety; C/Atwood will look into it and will have something for first meeting in March 2023 for unfinished business.

ADJOURNMENT

C/Trammell made a motion, with a second offered by C/Esakoff, to adjourn meeting with an All in Favor.

Time Out: 8:39pm

The audio tape is available in the Clerk's Office at Borough Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Hart, Borough Clerk

Adopted Date: February 21, 2023