

The Public Meeting of the Mount Olive Township Council was called to order at 7:07 pm by Council President Nicastro.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT ANNOUNCEMENT

Miss Masser: According to the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been given to the Daily Record. Notice has been posted in the Municipal Building, 204 Flanders-Drakestown Road, Mount Olive Township, New Jersey and notices were sent to those requesting the same.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mr. Amianda, Mr. Ferrante, Mrs. Labow, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Roman and Mr. Nicastro

Absent: Mr. Mania

Also Present: Michelle Masser, Township Clerk; Dawn Sullivan, Township Attorney; Sherry Kolody, CFO and Laura Harris Business Administrator

Mrs. Labow: Mr. Nicastro.

President Nicastro: I'm sorry, yes Mrs. Labow.

Mrs. Labow: We have a young lady here whose here for her...with the Girl Scouts.

President Nicastro: Yes.

Mrs. Labow: Can we just explain what the Workshop is and the Public Meeting because a lot of people don't come to the meetings and it gets confusing. I will explain. It used to be that we'd have a meeting every single week and one week we would have a Workshop or a Work Session, we would discuss what we're going to be voting on and the following week we would have a meeting to vote on it. In effort to save time and money, and so on and so forth we decided to have both meetings in the same evening now. In the first meeting that we just finished, is our Workshop Session, so if there is any discussion on anything, we would do a lot of the discussion, that type of thing and then the second meeting is what's called the Public Meeting where the official votes take place on each item. We finish one meeting and we're into the second meeting and this is the actual meeting. Well the other one was an actual meeting too, but this one is the certified public portion. Thank you.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

February 9, 2016 WS & PM (absent: J. Mania)

President Nicastro: Thank you Colleen. Mr. Amianda, would you approve the Minutes from the February 9, 2016 Workshop and Public Meeting?

Mr. Amianda: I have to motion, right?

President Nicastro: Yes.

Mr. Amianda: I make a motion for approval of the Minutes of the previous meetings on February 9, 2016, Public Meeting and Work Session.

Mr. Roman: Second.

Mrs. Labow: Second.

President Nicastro: Any discussion? None. Roll Call please.

Roll Call: **Passed unanimously**

CORRESPONDENCE

LETTERS FROM RESIDENTS/ORGANIZATIONS/ OTHER TOWNS

1. Email received February 9, 2016, from Sustainable Jersey regarding February Sustainability Hero Announced.
2. Email received February 11, 2016, from Raritan Headwaters regarding Should You Be Concerned about Lead in Your Water?
3. Email received February 12, 2016, from Sustainable Jersey regarding Save the Date: 2016 New Jersey Sustainability Summit.
4. Email received February 16, 2016, from Sustainable Jersey regarding Good News: PowerSave schools, Caroline Ehrlich spotlight, regional hubs, nature-based mitigation strategies and more!
5. Email received February 17, 2016, from Jack Gerard, API regarding Hydraulic Fracturing is Driving Force Behind Energy Revolution.

STATE AGENCIES

6. Letter received February 8, 2016, from State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection regarding Mount Olive Professional Park (Block 8200, Lot 4) Upper Raritan Water Quality Management Plan Determination.
7. Email received February 9, 2016, from Department of Community Affairs regarding 2016 CY Transitional Aid Application.
8. Email received February 11, 2016, from FEMA regarding Press Release – SBA to Close Some Recovery Centers in New Jersey; Last Chance for One-on-One Assistance.
9. Email received February 12, 2016, from State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection regarding Get Your Earth Day Events Posted on the NJDEP Website.
10. Letter received February 16, 2016, from Fennelly Environmental Associates, LLC regarding Removal of Regulated Underground Storage Tank Systems Conducted Between December 9-24, 2013, 285 Route 206 (Block 6100, Lot 1).
11. Email received February 16, 2016, from Department of Community Affairs regarding GovConnect Update: February 16, 2016.
12. Email received February 18, 2016, from State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection regarding NJDEP Press Release – Christie Administration Approves More than \$1.1 M in Recreational Trails Grants.

MORRIS COUNTY

13. Email received February 11, 2016, from County of Morris regarding Sheriff Retires. Bill O'Reilly Zika Donor Day!
14. Email received February 18, 2016, from County of Morris regarding Judge Gannon Passes. Heroin Summit. Marshall Tucker!

President Nicastro: We have 14 letters of Correspondence, any questions on those? Seeing none. I open to hearing from the public on Ordinance #2-2016,

ORDINANCES FOR PUBLIC HEARING

Ord.#2-2016 An Ordinance of the Township of Mount Olive, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Amending Ordinance #40-97 Regarding the Proceeds From Sale of Excess Municipal Lands.

President Nicastro: Mr. Ferrante.

Mr. Ferrante: Sorry. I make a motion for adoption and final passage of Ordinance #2-2016.

Mrs. Labow: Second.

President Nicastro: Any discussion? Seeing none. Roll call please.

Miss Masser: You have to open to the public.

President Nicastro: Sorry. Anyone from the public wish to be heard? Seeing none. Closed to the public.

Miss Masser: Roll Call.

President Nicastro: Roll call.

Roll Call: Passed unanimously

President Nicastro: Ordinance #2-2016 is passed on the second reading and hereby direct the Clerk to forward a copy of the same to the Mayor and publish a notice of adoption as required by the law. I open the hearing to the public on Ordinance #3-2016,

Ord. #3-2016 An Ordinance of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Amending Chapter 375, Section 13 Providing for the Installation of a Stop Sign at the intersection of Washington Street and Carson Road.

President Nicastro: Mrs. Labow.

Mrs. Labow: Thank you Mr. President. I move for adoption and final passage of Ordinance #3-2016.

Mr. Amianda: Second.

President Nicastro: Any discussion? Note of the correction. Anyone from the public? Seeing none. Closed to the public. Roll call please.

Roll Call: Passed with the exception of Mr. Roman

President Nicastro: Ordinance #3-2016 is passed on second reading and I hereby direct the Clerk to forward a copy of the same to the Mayor and publish the notice of adoption as required by law. Next item on the Agenda for first reading Ordinance #4-2016,

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING – 2nd reading March 8, 2016

Ord.#4-2016 Bond Ordinance Providing for Various Improvements to the Water Utility in and by the Township of Mount Olive, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, Appropriating \$2,372,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$2,253,400 Bonds or Notes of the Township to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof.

President Nicastro: Second reading to be scheduled March 8, 2016. Mr. Stewart.

Mr. Stewart: I move that Ordinance #4-2016 be introduced by title and passed on first reading and that a meeting be held on March 8, 2016 at 7:00 pm at the Municipal Building, 204 Flanders-Drakestown Road, Budd Lake, New Jersey for a public hearing, consideration of second reading, and passage of said Ordinance and that the Clerk be directed to publish, post and make available said Ordinance in accordance with the requirements of the law.

Mrs. Labow: Second.

President Nicastro: Discussion? None. Roll Call please.

Roll Call: Passed unanimously

President Nicastro: Next item on the Agenda for first reading is Ordinance #5-2016,

Ord.#5-2016 Bond Ordinance Providing for Various Capital Improvements in and by the Township of Mount Olive, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, Appropriating \$4,016,400 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$3,602,830 Bonds or Notes of the Township to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof.

President Nicasro: Mr. Roman.

Mr. Roman: I move that Ordinance #5-2016 be introduced by title and passed on first reading and that a meeting be held on March 8, 2016 at 7:00 pm at the Municipal Building, 204 Flanders-Drakestown Road, Budd Lake, New Jersey for a public hearing, consideration of second reading, and passage of said Ordinance and that the Clerk be directed to publish, post and make available said Ordinance in accordance with the requirements of the law.

Mrs. Labow: Second.

President Nicasro: Discussion? None. Roll Call please.

Roll Call: Passed unanimously

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING – 2nd reading March 22, 2016

President Nicasro: Next item on the Agenda for first reading is Ordinance #6-2015,

Ord.#6-2016 Township of Mount Olive, Morris County, New Jersey Calendar Year 2016 Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Cost of Living Allowance and to Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A-4-45.14)

President Nicasro: Second reading to be on March 22, 2016. Mr. Amianda.

Mr. Roman: Correction it was 2016, you said 2015.

President Nicasro: 2016.

Mr. Amianda: Yes Mr. President. I move that Ordinance #6-2016 be introduced by title and passed on first reading and that a meeting be held on March 22, 2016 at 7:00 pm at the Municipal Building, 204 Flanders-Drakestown Road, Budd Lake, New Jersey for a public hearing, consideration of second reading, and passage of said Ordinance and that the Clerk be directed to publish, post and make available said Ordinance in accordance with the requirements of the law.

Mr. Roman: Second.

Mr. President: Any discussion? Roll call please.

Roll Call: Passed unanimously

CONSENT RESOLUTIONS AGENDA:

Resolutions on the Consent Agenda List are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Township Council and will be approved by one motion (one vote). There will be no separate discussion or debate on each of these resolutions except for the possibility of brief clarifying statements that may be offered. If one or more Council member requests, any individual resolution on the Consent Agenda may be removed from the Consent Agenda List and acted on separately.

CONSENT RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Adopting Prequalification Regulations in Connection with Bids for Phase III Interior Restoration and Rehabilitation of the Mount Olive Baptist Church.
2. Resolution of the Township of Mount Olive Authorizing the Extension of Completion of the Contract for Coating of the 1.0 MG Tinc Farm Water Storage Tank Awarded to U.S. Tank Painting, Inc.
3. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Approving a Vendor Service Contract on a “Fair and Open” Basis Pursuant to the “Pay-to-Play” Law (Hardman Construction)
4. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Approving a Vendor Service Contract on a “Non-Fair and Open” Basis Pursuant to the “Pay-to-Play” Law (Cablevision Lightpath)

5. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Authorizing the Use of a Purchasing Contract (GE Capital/Kyocera)
6. Resolution Authorizing Temporary Capital Budget for Various Water Projects and Various General Projects.
7. Resolution to Introduce the 2015 Municipal Budget.
8. Resolution to Introduce the 2015 Solid Waste Collection District Budget.
9. A Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive, in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Release of Performance and Cash Bonds, with Conditions for the Work Performed at Block 102 Lot 11, CON-4 and Lot 14. **REVISED**

President Nicastro: We have nine Consent Resolutions. Would anyone on Council like to move any to Non-Consent? Mrs. Labow?

Mrs. Labow: Number seven.

President Nicastro: Number seven. Mr. Roman?

Mr. Roman: Number eight.

President Nicastro: Number eight. Anyone from the public wish...yes. Anything on the Resolutions? Seeing none. Closed to the public. Do we have...Mr. Ferrante?

Mr. Ferrante: Sure, I make a motion to move Consent Resolutions one through six and number nine.

Mrs. Labow: Second.

President Nicastro: Any discussion? Roll Call please.

Roll Call: **Passed unanimously**

President Nicastro: Do I have a motion to move Resolution number seven?

Mrs. Labow: So moved.

President Nicastro: Do we have a second?

Mr. Stewart: Second.

President Nicastro: Any discussion? Mrs. Labow?

Mrs. Labow: Yes, I just wanted to have it moved to Non-Consent just to bring attention to the fact that we once again have zero increase for the municipal budget and I want to thank Sherry and our Business Administrator and our Mayor and the rest of our staff for doing such a phenomenal job and bringing together a really, really good budget for our residents and all our businesses in town. Thank you.

President Nicastro: Mr. Roman, did you have something?

Mr. Roman: Ditto on Mrs. Labow's comments.

President Nicastro: Anyone from the public? Seeing none. Closed to the public. Roll call please.

Roll Call: **Passed unanimously**

Mr. Roman: I make a motion to Non-Consent Resolution number eight.

Mrs. Labow: Second.

President Nicastro: Discussion? Seeing none.

Mrs. Labow: Basically the same thing for the other one.

President Nicaastro: Anyone from the public? Seeing none. Closed to the public. Roll Call please.

Roll Call: **Passed unanimously**

MOTIONS

1. Bill List.

President Nicaastro: Mr. Ferrante, would you please move the Bill List?

Mr. Ferrante: Sure, I make a motion to move the Bill List.

Mr. Amianda: Second.

President Nicaastro: Discussion? None. Roll Call please.

Roll Call: **Passed with the exception of President Nicaastro abstained check #1103**

President Nicaastro: Administrative Reports, Laura anything?

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Miss Harris: I'm going to briefly give you a rundown of some grants that we have coming up. I already mentioned the Baptist Church Phase III; we will be applying to the County for that. The deadline is the end of March so I should hopefully have a Resolution for that on the next Agenda. I am going to have my first CBDG presentation on Monday evening. I will be attending with Tim to the County, so we'll keep our fingers crossed on that and then I'm just finishing up an application for a Planning Grant for the DOT, it's a Bicycle and Pedestrian Assistance Grant. Basically, it's going to be a plan that, it's broken out in three sections, so they do mapping and a narrative of the trails that we already have in Mount Olive, proposed trails and how they can be connected to existing trails, opportunities for where they should be, and then the third section is an implementation plan which basically explains how it should be done, gives you time lines, potential funding sources. I have done it in other towns, it's a really nice quality product and basically it's an in-kind grant, the DOT sends one of their consultants to come down. It's about a 12 to 18 month process, but they look at all your documents, they hold public hearings, they get input from all the State Holders and then they develop a plan with mapping, overlays, descriptions and things like that so I'll have the Resolution on the next Agenda for that as well.

Mr. Stewart: Quick question, do they also evaluate the ones that we've already done?

Miss Harris: Yes.

Mr. Stewart: Oh great!

Miss Harris: Yes and they'll do like a comprehensive map. I know we have pieces of the trails on our website right now but,...they'll take, I think it was the Land Conservancy and the Open Space Committee that put together sort of...they did a really nice job, but it's a really great document that I think this will build on and provide more comprehensive planning.

Mr. Stewart: Neat, well done!

Miss Harris: Thank you. It's a nice project. Then the only other thing I wanted to mention is that we have been discussing in light with what happened in California and of course other kinds of tragic events, we've been discussing building security. I think Councilman Roman had asked, we have \$50,000 in the budget. That's basically going to be for installing some egress doors throughout the building where we don't currently have any. We're also going to be doing some training, we're going to be doing basically Active Shooter Response Training and basically emergency medical training, how to do a tourniquet, how to use an AED, things of that nature. If Council members would like to attend, I'll let you guys know...I think the first one, which would be an Active Shooter training is going to be on March 16, 2016 tentatively, I am still waiting on confirmation...

Mr. Stewart: Is the Captain doing it?

Miss Harris: Yes.

Mr. Stewart: Great, because he did a great job for the Chamber members in the fall.

Miss Harris: Yes, it's the same. They've done it for the schools and they've done it for Givaudan and I think a couple others...

Mr. Stewart: Siemens, they just did it at Siemens.

Miss Harris: Yes. Yes, so I think it's going to be very similar training, but it's one of those things that occurred to us, we're giving it to the community, we probably should be getting that education ourselves.

Mr. Stewart: The Captain did a phenomenal job for us from the business community.

Miss Harris: Yes, we've already have gotten kind of a little taste of this presentation and it's definitely...it kind of brings things home to you how important and critical this information is, so there are going be two sessions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon just to make sure everyone has the opportunity to attend.

President Nicastro: Mrs. Labow?

Mrs. Labow: I think, Laura that's really a great idea and a great thing for all of our staff because some people who know me well know that about three years ago in my office, Exit Realty in Mountain Lakes, we had a murder suicide. One of the associates in our office came in, acted perfectly normal like you know and he...within...that was about 4:45 pm he came in, the one girl, Maria, she left and our office manager, she was still there and next thing you know 5:05 pm he shot her 12 times. One of the owners was in his office just 20 feet away, didn't even know anybody was in the office until he heard the gun shots.

Miss Harris: It's really...

Mrs. Labow: You just don't know.

Miss Harris: ...the potentials behind it are really terrifying and we're also putting an intercom system in so we can notify our co-workers in other offices who may not know that something like that is happening. The point that Captain Beecher made to us and I'm sure the people he's given this education to is that the police do not have enough time to respond to something like this. It all happens in less than five minutes so you know, the only way lives are going to be saved is if people know how to be prepared and how to respond to it.

Mrs. Labow: Even if you are prepared you really...it's just there is no way to know...

Miss Harris: How prepared can you be?

Mrs. Labow: To walk in my office and see all bullet holes in the wall, your just like "Oh My God," you know, and one of your best friends was massacred and for no reason and you just don't know why people...and there was no reason, nobody could figure out why he did it and he ended up being killed in the parking lot. It was very tragic.

Miss Harris: Very sad.

Mrs. Labow: I'm glad we're doing this and getting it all...everybody geared up just in case.

Miss Harris: Hopefully we will never need it but...

Mrs. Labow: Absolutely.

Mr. Stewart: The Captain does a phenomenal job, so perfect speaker for it.

Miss Harris: Yes he is very good.

Mrs. Labow: He's good.

President Nicastro: Anything else?

Miss Harris: That's it.

President Nicastro: One quick question for you Laura, can you find out any updates on the pool status with the Board of Education and all that's going on because on local media I want to report to them and just let them know what's going on.

Miss Harris: Yes, I'm actually working on that and right now I'm getting basically cost estimates to develop plans for the pool.

President Nicastro: That's good, yes I just want to send them an update, doesn't....

Miss Harris: I just spoke with somebody today....

President Nicastro: Good.

Miss Harris: ...one contractor about getting a cost...

President Nicastro: Please tell them we're working on something...

Miss Harris: I need to find a couple more...its kind of a specialized field but...

President Nicastro: Yes I know, but thank you. Let me know.

Mr. Amianda: Mr. President, to follow up on your question, what preparations are you making for the opening of the pool?

Miss Harris: We're not at that stage yet. When we have the funding in place and the plans in place and then we'll talk about, I guess a ground breaking and then a ribbon cutting.

Mr. Amianda: I'm saying that I have some information from the community; they say they expect the park to be crowded and it's going to be...

Miss Harris: You mean the splash pad.

Mr. Amianda: The splash pad.

Miss Harris: Okay, that's something that we can probably start looking at now.

Mr. Amianda: Right and the...we should be looking about the crowd control and how we are going to manage because this is going to be open, our park is going to be open to our neighboring districts and it may be crowded with traffic. How are we going to control that? We are going to probably need...this is going to be more work for the police because they have to write incident reports because most of our customers are going to be kids and we are likely to have....

Miss Harris: Right, and of course the Police Department will be involved also with crowd control and traffic direction and things like that, so we'll definitely make sure that we're prepared for that.

Mr. Roman: I say if you want crowd control we just all show up in speedos.

Mr. Stewart: That will clear it out, picture that.

Miss Harris: Can I get a pass on that?

President Nicastro: Anything else? That's it. Thank you Laura. Do we have any Old Business? Do we have any New Business? Do we have any Legal Matters?

OLD BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS - none

LEGAL MATTERS

Miss Sullivan: Yes, Fred asked me to just give the Council an update that the negotiations for the 57-acres continues. We should have a status update for you for the next meeting and for that we may need an Executive Session since it'll entail the old matters and contracts.

President Nicastro: Very good. Thank you.

Miss Sullivan: You're welcome.

President Nicasastro: Yes.

Mr. Roman: Is there any progression on Cobblestone?

Miss Sullivan: I do not know, I'm sorry. I could find out.

Miss Harris: I think they just finished the second round of testing the wells this week, so I guess they'll be issuing a report on whatever their findings will be...I know I got an email that the drilling itself was successful, so I think we're waiting on a report for that.

Miss Sullivan: If there is anything further to that I will let you all know.

President Nicasastro: I appreciate it.

Mrs. Labow: On the Cobblestone, since it just came up that I...if it gets the point where we're going...before they tear that building down, I really want to take a tour for historical aspects. I do have somebody in town who does historical pictures who would like to take pictures of it. Thank you.

Miss Sullivan: Sure.

President Nicasastro: Greg?

Mr. Stewart: No.

President Nicasastro: I saw your hand, that's why I was asking.

Mr. Stewart: I figured I was blocking her for a minute.

Mrs. Labow: He was helping me.

President Nicasastro: Council Reports. Mr. Amianda, anything from the Board of Education or Seniors?

COUNCIL REPORTS

Board of Education Liaison Report

Mr. Amianda: Yes Mr. President. The Board of Education met February 22, 2016, 6:30 pm at the Administration Building. Dr. Larrie Reynolds, Superintendent of Schools, gave a report on student's achievements. He also gave a report on Violence and Vandalism in our schools for the period of September 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015 as required by the State law. He also provided information for punishment of offenders, which concerned the parents. The Board took actions on other matters; personnel, curriculum and instructions, business, administration and policy matters. The Board presented a banner to Tinc Road School for being in the top ten percent of achievers in the State of New Jersey. Public comments included parents concern for student assessments, discipline and lack of communication between teachers and parents. The Board confirmed that there will be a Special School District Election to be held on September 27, 2016. This will be a two part Election Referendum for a full day kindergarten and the funding needed for teachers' salaries and health benefits. That's the end of my report.

President Nicasastro: Thank you Mr. Amianda. Anything....

Senior Citizen Liaison

Mr. Amianda: Did you say...I say something about the Seniors?

President Nicasastro: Seniors.

Mr. Amianda: Seniors held their Social Meeting today and the next meeting will be March 1, 2016 and that will be a Business meeting.

President Nicasastro: If they're having a pizza party, my mother-in-law might sign up.

Mr. Amianda: Okay.

President Nicasastro: Mr. Ferrante anything Environmental, Lake or Library?

Environmental Committee

Lake Issues - none

Library Board Liaison

Mr. Ferrante: Nothing for Lake or Library. Environmental met a few weeks ago and I have the update. Some issues that they're looking at for 2016 are the storm water run offs to the lake, lake treatment and dredging, the well water contamination from the land fill area, property demolition and landscaping on Town property, they want to insure that the planting plan is reviewed before the implementation. That's all.

President Nicastro: Thank you. Mrs. Labow, anything on Economic or TNR?

Mr. Roman: John, do you have any update as to whether the Library is going to be looking at the possibility of sharing their Librarian with the Board of Education in order not have to hire a...Librarian?

Mr. Ferrante: Yes, I think they're looking at all options right now and I think that is definitely one of them. I'll get an update. They meet in a couple of weeks.

Mr. Roman: Thank you.

President Nicastro: Mrs. Labow?

Economic Development Committee Report

TNR Program

Mrs. Labow: Thank you Mr. President. The Economic Development Committee, we met last week or two weeks ago I guess it was.

President Nicastro: Correct.

Mrs. Labow: There's one thing that the Mayor has asked of Jeff Stadleman, our Chair, to set up some appointments with businesses in town with vacant properties and to see what we can do to help expedite hopefully new tenants coming in, so that's in the works. The TNR last, two weeks ago, Michelle Lerner who is the Chair, and I went to visit the new vet, the new owner of the Golubs Animal Hospital and we actually got to take a tour of the whole facility and I have to tell you that we were stunned, that place is huge, absolutely huge. She's also a super, super nice lady, Dr. Elia. I can't pronounce it, but she's very, very, very nice and she is looking to possibly...if there is cats that are brought there by TNR, after the seven days they will take them and bring them to another vet and have them spayed or neutered and get all their shots. She is looking at maybe having herself do it since the cats are there, so may as well get the treatment and it'll still come out of TNR's budget, but it would expedite time and save time for the volunteers and everybody all over the place. It was a really, really great visit and it was nice to meet her and was even nicer to tour that facility and I couldn't believe how big it was. So, that's it.

Board of Health Report

President Nicastro: Thank you. The Board of Health met last week, there's nothing new. It was a short meeting, nothing exciting happened, just a regular meeting going through reports. Next one is scheduled for the third Wednesday of March. Open Space, Mr. Roman, and Recreation?

Open Space Committee Report - none

Recreation Liaison Report - none

Mr. Roman: I have nothing to report on Open Space and/or Recreation.

President Nicastro: Mr. Stewart, anything on Mount Olive TV?

MOTV Committee Liaison

Mr. Stewart: No, except for its progressing with the internship from the high school, working with a couple of Chamber members that will be representing the business community and some other activities in town.

Legislative Committee Report – none

Planning Board Report - none

PUBLIC PORTION

President Nicastro: Thank you. Anyone from the public wish to be heard? Please get up and state your name and address at the mic please.

Mrs. Labow: Joe, one last thing I want to say is that Dr. Golub Animal Hospital, she is going to be changing the name to Roxbury Animal Hospital...something to do with Roxbury.

President Nicastro: Thank you. Name and address for the record.

Brian Perkins, 19 Parkway Drive, Mount Olive Township.

Miss Masser: Brian, what's your last name again?

Mr. Perkins: Perkins

Miss Masser: Perkins? Thank you.

Mr. Perkins: I just have one item tonight, I would like to throw upon what Councilman Amianda already touched on. The splash pad that's being installed up at Turkey Brook Park, I do have some concerns, more questions that I'm seeking answers to, just to get some clarity around what's going on with the splash pad. When you offer such a feature as a splash pad water feature in a town it gets a lot of attention, right? It's a great feature not only to the residents of your town, but once the word gets out, surrounding towns I'm sure will want to visit and see what the splash pad is all about and with that you're going to have population in the park itself increase, right? Above and beyond, it's a great attraction, Mount Olive has got a splash pad, let's go there for the day. My concerns really are what plans are being done to accommodate things such as crowd control, health and safety, rules and regulations, over site, garbage collection and disposal, emergencies, the levels of people coming in, the hours of operation, the parking, the maintenance, public picnics, noise pollution possibilities, just some of the items I can see taking place once the popularity of that place increases. I'd like to understand more. What do you envision happening and what are you going to do about those items that I just laid out? What plans have you put in place to try and maintain secure/safe levels? Now the tax payers are paying for this, right, they want to visit it, everybody, it's a free park anybody else can come to it, right? Those are my concerns.

Miss Harris: I think first off, we can't really make definitive plans for anything until we actually understand how it's going to be used. With that said, Turkey Brook, I think is probably one of the most heavily used parks in the region for things like soccer tournaments, lacrosse tournaments and things like that, so you know the scenario that you're describing, the traffic and the heavy use it's not going to be anything new to the staff here, it's just going to be more of a matter of frequency, how often garbage receptacles are checked, what kind of parking regulations are needed to be in place. I don't know that the use of the splash pad is going to be all that different from a major athletic event occurring there, it's just going to be a matter of how much more often we're going to need monitor the factors that you mentioned.

Mr. Perkins: Athletic events are planned, right, you know who's coming, you know the numbers pretty much...

Miss Harris: Yes and no...

Mr. Perkins: ...you know when they start, you know when they stop and you know when people go home.

Miss Harris: ...if you're having a regional tournament with people coming from all up and down the east coast...

Mr. Perkins: Right, so you operate a splash pad...you have a splash pad going over here and you have a tournament going on over here, putting the two together, right?

President Nicastro: I don't necessarily...I don't want to speak out of term, but I don't know necessarily that the splash pad control can be turned on and off. I believe if there's big events in that area that the Recreation Department will not put on the splash pad if we're over crowded. That's one of the things that they can control from anywhere from what I understand, to turn it on and off, if it's too much crowd if something happened, it can be remotely accessed if I'm not mistaken. It's a lot of things/thought that went into that as well, and I understand the concerns because it was brought up at the meeting when we had it. As Miss Harris said, we did look at all that, it's the same type of thing with the events and that would be in coordination with the events. I don't think we'd be running a major east coast tournament and having the splash pad on so we can have...it would be too much. When we put in the Pirates Cove, I think it is the same thing basically with that, we get a lot of people from different areas, but the town uses it tremendously, I know from of a lot of people. It's probably the same thing.....

Mrs. Labow: Dog park.

President Nicastro: What's that?

Mrs. Labow: Same thing with the dog park.

President Nicastro: Yes the dog park turned into a lot. There's a lot of activity there which is good. The splash pad, as the Mayor said, it's another enhanced field, we might get some people in from out-of-town, that's also good for surrounding businesses, it's good for that type of stuff. We'll have to see, I don't think it'll be that....we'll find out.

Mr. Perkin: Right, it's quite a unique feature, let's call it a mini water park, it's a great feature. Just go to Hackettstown Pool one afternoon and you can see how people just take the water. The concerns are for the crowd increases, garbage, noise pollution, people spending all day camping out, why not, what a great feature. A visit for the day, so there's a lot of moving parts there, there's a lot going on.

Miss Harris: I can tell you we have obviously researched other municipal pool complexes and their operations and I've worked in two municipalities that did have municipal pools, so we can't promise you there aren't going to be fits and starts and maybe some errors at the start. It's just a matter of getting another rhythm of understanding, how it is going to be used by residents and taking it from there, but I do think the procedures, our staff is outstanding when it comes to managing the huge events I don't really see any major problems. I think the biggest problem that we're going to have probably will be parking.

President Nicastro: Mrs. Labow?

Mrs. Labow: Yes, I just want to say when the dog park opened up, it was from what I heard from people, it was like the best dog park to bring your dogs to. We have people coming from miles around and they will camp out all day long, they'll bring lunch for themselves and so forth and in the beginning there were some issues. I remember getting some calls from residents complaining about this one or that one. The Animal Control Officer had to kind of make sure the rules were being enforced and tweak something here or there and the same thing with Mount Playmore. In the beginning when everybody started coming it was really stressed that you couldn't bring drinks and food into the park area and they were really enforcing that for a very good reason, you don't want food or stuff all over. As time went on you tweaked and got a little better, so for the water park until its actually opened and operational we have our basic guidelines and rules that the Recreation Department and the Building and Grounds will follow, but until its open and people start coming we don't really know what we'll have to tweak here and there. It's not going to be something we're just going to be open and people are going to run amuck and do whatever they want. It will be policed and it will be ten to two and make sure that everything is running smooth. As far as the garbage goes, our guys kind of like... don't we have somebody who is going be there when it opens up?

Miss Harris: We are going to have...there is going to be somebody on site at all times.

Mr. Perkins: There is.

Mrs. Labow: There's going to be somebody on site who's going to be taking care of all that, yes. We tried to think of anything and everything that could possibly come up but there's going to all those unknowns that we'll be ready to deal with when it comes about.

Mr. Perkins: Great.

President Nicastro: Mr. Roman.

Mr. Perkins: Thank you.

Mr. Roman: Even though I was the only Council person that was against the splash pad, I have nothing but the up most confidence in our Buildings and Grounds personnel to be able to keep on top of the garbage and the refuse. In previous discussion, we already made accommodations that when there are major regional tournaments that there's going to be signage indicating that the splash pad will be shut down as sometimes we also shut down the dog park.

Mrs. Labow: Dog park.

Mr. Perkins: That was another question I had, will there be a sign saying hey it's closed so don't come in, right?

Mr. Roman: In being that it's a splash pad and not a pool I highly doubt that we're going to see a lot of 12 and 13 year old and up kids hanging out for the splash pad and the noise concern, with all due respect, I think hearing kids scream and laugh is probably one of the best sounds to hear. When Mount Playmore went in it was great to hear...

Mr. Perkins: It's not the noise pollution, I'm referring to stereos and that kind of stuff. Escalation of...you never know what's going to develop once something gets people to start coming, you never know what and how it's going to mushroom and how it develops, you need plans in place to counter that and if it gets a little out of hand.

Mr. Roman: Luckily our Police Department will be there if any situation where somebody's enjoyment is impacting somebody else's. I'm pretty sure we already have... the police are going to be on top of it to make sure that there isn't....and this is not...I do not admit the same things that your eluding to or some of the same things that were said when we were talking about putting Mount Play More in place. I don't envision the problems that you might be seeing and again its one of those things where if there's things that we need to adjust to, I am more than confident in our Buildings and Grounds, our Police Department and our Administration to address all those fears. Nobody is going to be allowed to park on the grass. I guarantee you, yes within the first week; will you have people parking on the grass, yes you will. A few minutes after that, their car will be towed away after they have received that ticket, I'm pretty sure words going to get out do not park on the grass. We are definitely a very active enforcer of our laws and so I do not see scofflaws getting away with too many things for too long.

Mr. Perkins: Thank you.

President Nicastro: I'm really confident, as Miss Harris said, we've done the research and the Recreation Department did a lot of research with other towns similar that have similar parks and we know somewhat what to expect. As Mr. Roman said sometimes things happen, but I think everything has been put in place like we can and like they said with Mount Play More it was the same thing, we get big crowds there. They'd hang out there and people are there for a long time, but everything seems to be very good but in the beginning we'll monitor it we'll keep an eye on it. They're all good valid points, but we did address a lot of those when we first looked at this, we'll see. You can't really judge it until we see what happens.

Mr. Perkins: Thank you for your time. I'm coming in at the tail end of this so I just needed to get some clarity around that, so I appreciate the responses.

Mrs. Labow: Thanks Brain.

President Nicastro: Thank you. Anyone from the public?

Josh Deeney: I just have a quick question.

President Nicastro: You have to get up at the thing and just state your name and address. Name and address for the record.

Josh Deeney: 108 Kemper Court, Independence.

Miss Masser: What's your last name?

Josh Deeney: Deeney, D as in David E-E-N-E-Y.

Miss Masser: Thank you.

Mr. Deeney: Actually I'm here for R&J, I just had a quick question related to that just out of curiosity. You know you talked about the park possibly being... the splash pad being shut down for events, I was just curious would there be a way for people to find out online if that were to happen. Just because with a seven year old daughter...I'm imagining somebody piling their kids in the car, showing up and going "oh its closed" and obviously having an issue with that. I was just curious how parents and residents would find out before coming to the park.

President Nicastro: One hundred percent. I know we'll have it online, the Mayor puts out on the page, the Facebook page where a lot of people follow, there definitely would be enough advertising for that to let them know.

Miss Harris: Everbridge.

President Nicaastro:... I think we're looking at something, road signage in front of the park, eventually that will go up, maybe not this year, but there will be signs there. So we'll get it out...

Miss Harris: Our Everbridge System.

President Nicaastro: That's right. We can send it out.

Miss Harris: We can put that on there so you sign up for alerts from the Township and get texts...

Mr. Deeney: Got it. Thank you.

President Nicaastro: Thank you, that's a good point. Anyone else from the public? Seeing none. Closed to the public. Any Council Comments? Mr. Amianda.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Amianda: Yes I wanted to share with you with what I did last week. I attended Morris County League of Municipalities meeting which was held at the Birchwood Manor in Whippany, New Jersey on February 16, 2016. The program started at 6:15 pm with a roll call followed by election of ten officers. The program was well attended by elected Councilpersons, Freeholders, State Elected Officials and guests. I was glad to represent Mount Olive Township. I heard good comments about Mount Olive Township. I met a former member of BASF Board of Directors who told me that BASF employees were very happy commuting and working in Mount Olive Township compared it to where they moved to. I also heard good comments about our Mayor. The theme of the Conference was "State of the State." Mr. Michael Darcy, Executive Director New Jersey League of Municipalities was the guest speaker. He spoke of the issues that are facing Municipalities; balancing budgets, funding pensions and funding of employee's health benefits. Mr. Darcy urged the audience to stay engaged and focused on issues that concern them. Mr. Darcy gave us a summary of what is happening in Trenton. State Assembly is working on a Restoration Bill that would restore costs of... that would reduce cost of pensions and health insurance. The bill would also allow Municipalities to rehire retired police officers at a reduced health cost. The Governor's proposal for savings is to share costs with Municipalities. The League would like the State to share the cost of snow removal without strings attached. Mr. Darcy spoke of the States obligations to fund the Pension and Transportation Trust. That's the end of my short summary of the meeting.

President Nicaastro: Thank you very much. Mr. Ferrante?

Mr. Ferrante: Nothing this evening.

President Nicaastro: Mrs. Labow?

Mrs. Labow: Nothing. Thank you.

President Nicaastro: Mr. Stewart?

Mr. Stewart: I would like to recognize and thank the installation of all our new officers for our Fire Departments, as well as the Ambulance Squad that we had the opportunity to participate last weekend. Again, thank you for everything all you guys do.

President Nicaastro: Mr. Roman?

Mr. Roman: I'd like to publically express my regret for not attending that dinner. I heard the dancing was awesome, by a few people.

President Nicaastro: Thank you. I wasn't dancing so I don't know but, thank you. Nothing for me. Do we have a motion to adjourn?

ADJOURNMENT - Motion made and seconded. All in favor, none opposed, the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 pm.

Joe Nicastro, Council President

I, Susan Gouveia, Deputy Township Clerk of Mount Olive do hereby certify that the foregoing Minutes are a true and correct copy of the Minutes approved at a legally convened meeting of the Mount Olive Township Council duly held on March 8, 2016.

Susan Gouveia, Deputy Township Clerk

mvm