

BOROUGH OF FAR HILLS
Borough Council Regular Meeting
MINUTES
September 23, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Vallone called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. at the Far Hills Municipal Building and read the open public meetings statement in accordance with the law.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Vallone led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Carty, Chimenti, Hand, Surks, Tweedie, Vallone

Absent, as Excused: Karner

Absent:

Also Present: Clerk Hicks, Attorney Sordillo, Chief DeCarolis

REPORTS

Councilman Hand – Fire, Water, Light, Buildings & Grounds

Councilman Hand noted that preparations were underway for the VNA Rummage Sale to be held October 4, 5 & 6, 2019.

Councilwoman Tweedie – Health/Sanitation

No report.

Councilwoman Tweedie inquired as to the status of the sewer pipe repair along Route 202. Ms. Hicks responded that the repair was completed last week. Councilwoman Tweedie indicated that since this repair has been recently completed, the Borough Environmental Engineer should be submitting the analysis report from the video surveillance in the near future.

Councilman Surks – Roads

Councilman Surks expressed appreciation to Mayor Vallone for suggesting a potential joint bid proposal for the DeMun Place/Dumont Road Drainage and Ludlow Avenue Road Improvements projects.

Councilman Surks reported that he personally reviewed Lake Road and noted that the Bedminster DPW did an excellent job completing several pothole repairs.

Councilman Carty – Finance/Insurance

No report.

Councilwoman Chimenti – Laws, Ordinances & Elections

No report.

Chief DeCarolis

Chief DeCarolis reported that this was the last day for the collection of donations for the VNA Rummage Sale. He also reported that paving work on Peapack Road was completed this morning.

He also stated that parishioners for St. Elizabeth's Church should disregard the "No Parking" signs along Peapack Road for church services on Saturday and Sunday.

Mayor Vallone

Mayor Vallone reported that he met with CFO, Debra Stern to review the budget for the third quarter and indicated that Council members should begin to plan for the 2020 budget.

Mayor Vallone reported that the PBA negotiations were ongoing with a conclusion anticipated in the next month.

He indicated that Somerset County had begun distributing new larger recycling cans and asked that residents to please be mindful and bring the cans back to the house after collection is completed. He noted that a resident from Pennbrook Road raised a concern as several cans were left out at the curb and had blown into the roadway.

PRESENTATION

Far Hills Race Meeting Association, Inc.

Mr. Ronald Kennedy, Chairman and Mr. Guy Torsilieri, Chairman

Mayor Vallone introduced the representatives of the Far Hills Race Meeting Association, Inc. and acknowledged that this year would mark the 99th anniversary of the event. He also stated that the Borough of Far Hills would be celebrating its 100th year anniversary in 2021.

Mr. Guy Torsilieri indicated the Race Event would be held on Saturday, October 19, 2019. He provided a brief overview of the event indicating that pari-mutuel wagering would be held again this and ticket sales continue to be strong.

Mayor Vallone commented that the event has a strong community relationships and contributes to many local organizations including Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, opioid abuse centers and cancer support organizations. He also noted that, through the large event permit application fees, the event also contributes to the Borough.

PUBLIC HEARING – SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION

New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC ("AT&T") - B18, L1 – 100 Liberty Corner Road, Far Hills, NJ
Temporary Telecommunications Cell Site and Related Cell on Wheels Equipment

Ms. Judith A. Fairweather, Pinilis Halpern, LLP, Counsel for AT&T presented the Special Use Permit Application for the Cell on Wheels (COW) for the Race Event.

New York SMSA Limited Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless - B18, L1 – 100 Liberty Corner Road, Far Hills, NJ
100' Temporary Antenna Structure and Associated Telecommunications Equipment

Mr. Richard Schneider, Vogel, Chait, Collins and Schneider, PC Counsel for Verizon presented the Special Use Permit application for the Cell on Wheels (COW) for the Race Event.

Mr. Sordillo provided a brief overview of the application requirements and the request by each of the applicants for a five year permit time period. He noted that the five year permit would have a condition that there would be no substantial changes in the equipment year to year.

Councilwoman Chimenti inquired who would be responsible to ensure that there are no substantial changes in the equipment to be installed in subsequent years.

Mr. Sordillo responded that a construction permit application would still be required to be submitted each year and any changes from the prior year would be identified at that time.

Mayor Vallone opened the meeting for public comment on the applications.

There being none, Mayor Vallone closed the meeting for public comment on the applications.

REGULAR AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

9/9/19 – Regular Meeting

Motion by Councilman Hand, seconded by Councilman Surks, was unanimously carried that these minutes be approved for content and release. Councilwoman Tweedie abstained.

9/9/19 – Executive Session

Motion by Councilman Surks, seconded by Councilwoman Chimenti, was unanimously carried that these minutes be approved for content only. Councilwoman Tweedie abstained.

ORDINANCES - INTRODUCTION

ORDINANCE 2019-06 – AN ORDINANCE TO FIX AND DETERMINE THE SALARIES, WAGES OR COMPENSATION TO BE PAID TO CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF FAR HILLS, IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Ms. Hicks provided a brief overview of the ordinance.

Motion by Councilwoman Tweedie, seconded by Councilman Hand that Ordinance 2019-06 be introduced.

Roll Call:

Aye: Carty, Chimenti, Hand, Surks, Tweedie

Nay:

Abstain:

Motion Carried.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 19-123 – Authorizing Large Event Permit – Far Hills Race Meeting, Inc.

Motion by Councilwoman Tweedie, seconded by Councilman Hand that Resolution 19-123 be approved.

Councilman Hand inquired as to the police coverage as the State Police would not be involved at this event this year.

Mr. Kennedy, Co-Chair, Far Hills Race Meeting Association, Inc. responded that additional local and county police officers would be providing the coverage this year.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the coordination of police coverage for the event this year.

Roll Call:
Aye: Carty, Chimenti, Hand, Surks, Tweedie
Nay:
Abstain:
Motion Carried.

Resolution 19-124 – Authorizing Issuance of Special Use Permit - New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (“AT&T”)

Motion by Councilman Surks, seconded by Councilman Hand that Resolution 19-124 be approved.

Roll Call:
Aye: Carty, Chimenti, Hand, Surks, Tweedie
Nay:
Abstain:
Motion Carried.

Resolution 19-125 – Authorizing Issuance of Special Use Permit - New York SMSA Limited Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless

Motion by Councilman Surks, seconded by Councilwoman Chimenti that Resolution 19-125 be approved.

Roll Call:
Aye: Carty, Chimenti, Hand, Surks, Tweedie
Nay:
Abstain:
Motion Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

The items listed within the consent agenda portion of the meeting have been referred to the Borough Council for reading and study and are considered routine and will be enacted with one motion of the Borough Council with no separate discussion. If separate discussion is required, the item may be removed from the agenda by Borough Council action and placed on the regular agenda under new business.

1. Resolution 19-126 – Appointment Administrative Assistant – Julie Mistove
2. Resolution 19-127 – Reappointment Plumbing Sub Code Official – Michael Resetar
3. Resolution 19-128 – Redemption of Tax Sale Lien – B6, L33 - 20 Spring Hollow Road
4. Resolution 19-129 – Payment of Bill List

Motion by Councilman Surks, seconded by Councilman Hand that Resolutions 19-126 through 19-129 be approved.

Roll Call:
Aye: Carty, Chimenti, Hand, Surks, Tweedie
Nay:
Abstain:
Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT – *The Mayor and Council welcome comments from any member of the public. To help facilitate an orderly meeting and to permit the opportunity for anyone who wishes to be heard, speakers shall limit their comments to 5 minutes.*

Brigitte Mimms, 321 Pennbrook Road, Far Hills inquired about the distribution of the new recycling cans.

There were no further comments from the public.

Councilman Surks commented upon the unsightliness of the wiring that was secured to the utility pole near Dumont Road. He also stated that there appeared to be some unfinished work at the base of the utility pole on Route 202 near the recently completed sewer repair.

Chief DeCarolis responded that the cable companies sometimes leave extra cable in order to provide slack for additional repairs but offered to look into the matter.

Clerk Hicks was asked to reach out to Adam Stern, Borough Environmental Engineer regarding the timing of the completion of the utility pole work.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

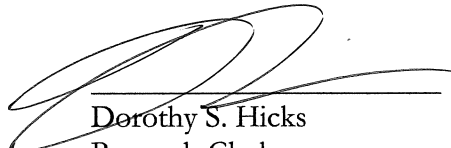
Resolution 19-130 - Attorney Client Privilege – Litigation – Affordable Housing

Motion by Councilwoman Tweedie, seconded by Councilman Surks and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 19-130.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AND ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilwoman Tweedie, seconded by Councilman Carty and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dorothy S. Hicks
Borough Clerk

APPROVED – 10/15/19