

# Borough of Jamesburg

## Council Meeting Minutes

September 9, 2009

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**Call to Order:** 7:00pm – Council President Barbara Carpenter called the meeting to order and announced that same is being held pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act of 1974 and all provisions of that Act have been met. Any contracts awarded tonight require the contractor to comply with N.J.S.A. 10:5-3.1 et. seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:17. Also announced, in the event of a fire and pursuant to the NJ Uniform Fire Code, the members of the audience were requested to take notice of the exits at the front and rear of the Council Chambers as well as the main hallway.

**Flag Salute:** Led by Council President Carpenter

**Roll Call:** Present: Council President Carpenter  
Council member Deans  
Council member Grimes  
Council member Longo  
Council member Ludas  
Council member White  
Attorney Raffetto

Those absent: Mayor LaMantia  
Administrator Jawidzik

### **Amended 2009 Mayoral Appointments not requiring the Advice and Consent of the Borough Council**

I, ANTHONY LAMANTIA, MAYOR DO HEREBY APPOINT THE FOLLOWING AS INDICATED:

< *RUSSELL WHITE TO THE SOUTH CENTRAL MIDDLESEX COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION FOR THE YEAR 2009.*

### **ORDINANCES – FIRST READING**

#### **ORDINANCE #17-09**

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE SEWER SYSTEM AND APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$70,000 THEREFORE. AUTHORIZED IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF JAMESBURG, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY

COUNCIL	MOTION	VOTE
Carpenter		Y
Deans		Y
Grimes		Y
Longo		Y
Ludas	1st	Y
White	2nd	Y

**ORDINANCES - PUBLIC HEARING/SECOND READING:**

The following ordinances were approved on first reading at the meeting of the Mayor and Council held on May 13, 2009, and published in the May 29, 2009 edition of the Cranbury Press. Copies have been posted on the municipal bulletin board and made available to the public since introduction.

**ORDINANCE #16-09**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF JAMESBURG TO ACCEPT THE DEDICATION OF A SANITARY SEWER EASEMENT UPON, OVER AND ACROSS THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 28, LOTS 1 AND 2.03**

**WHEREAS**, in connection with development approvals that were granted concerning certain property located on East Railroad Avenue, more commonly known and designated as Block 28, Lots 1 and 2.03 (collectively referenced as the "property"), the property owner was required to dedicate a sanitary sewer easement (the "easement") to the Borough upon, over and across the property, as a condition to the said approvals; and

**WHEREAS**, the area that is subject to the easement is set forth in more detail in a legal description prepared by David H. Smith, PLS, dated May 10, 2007, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof; and

**WHEREAS**, a proposed Sanitary Sewer Easement Agreement concerning the area in question is also attached hereto and made a part hereof; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Local Lands and Buildings Law, N.J.S.A. §40A:12-1, *et seq.*, authorizes a municipality, through the adoption of an Ordinance, to acquire any interest in real property which is deemed to be in the best interests of the municipality, including an easement.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Jamesburg, in the County of Middlesex and State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. That, pursuant to N.J.S.A. §40A:12-1, *et seq.*, the Borough is hereby authorized to accept the dedication of the above-referenced easement, as set forth in the attached documents.
2. That the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute, and the Borough Clerk to attest, the attached Sanitary Sewer Easement Agreement on behalf of the Borough, or one which is substantially similar thereto and which meets with the approval of the Borough Attorney, as well as any additional documents that may be necessary in order to effectuate the purposes of this Ordinance, so long as said documents are in a form satisfactory to the Borough Attorney.
3. That, upon the adoption of the within Ordinance, the attached Sanitary Sewer Easement Agreement shall be executed and recorded with the Middlesex County Clerk's Office.
4. That if any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provisions of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to the section, paragraph, subdivision, clause, or provision as adjudged and the remainder of this Ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.
5. That all other Ordinances and provisions thereof that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance shall be and are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.
6. That this Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and publication in accordance with the law.

FIRST READING DATE: August 12, 2009

COUNCIL	MOTION	VOTE
Carpenter		Y
Deans		Y
Grimes	1st	Y
Longo		AB
Ludas	2nd	Y
White		Y

DATE PUBLISHED IN THE CRANBURY PRESS: August 21, 2009

DATE PUBLIC HEARING HELD: September 9, 2009

DATE SECOND READING HELD: September 9, 2009

COUNCIL	MOTION	OPEN	MOTION	CLOSE	MOTION	ADOPT
Carpenter		Y		Y		Y
Deans		Y		Y		Y
Grimes		Y		Y	1st	Y
Longo	1st	Y	1st	Y		Y
Ludas	2nd	Y		Y	2nd	Y
White		Y	2nd	Y		Y

**CONSENT AGENDA DEFINED:**

All matters listed on tonight's consent agenda are to be considered as one vote by the Borough Council and will be enacted by one motion. Any resolutions listed on the agenda with \*\* next to their respective number are to be considered as part of the consent agenda. There will be no discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately.

**RESOLUTION #168-09-09-09\*\***

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING MONTHLY REPORTS

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Jamesburg that the following reports be and are hereby received and filed:

Tax Collector	July, 2009
Sewer Administrator	July, 2009
Finance	July, 2009
Investment	July, 2009
Chief of Police	July, 2009
Library	June 15, 2009 and July 20, 2009

COUNCIL	MOTION	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Carpenter</i>		X			
<i>Deans</i>		X			
<i>Grimes</i>		X			
<i>Longo</i>	1st	X			
<i>Ludas</i>		X			
<i>White</i>	2nd	X			

**RESOLUTION #169-09-09-09\*\***

APPROVE PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS

**WHEREAS**, The Chief Financial Officer has certified and submitted a consolidated bill list for the payment of claims; and

**WHEREAS**, all vouchers listed herewith have been encumbered and sufficient funds are available for payment; and

**WHEREAS**, the required signatures of the Department Head or the Committee Chair, the Finance Chairperson, the Vendor, and the Chief Financial Officer, have all been obtained on each voucher on the attached list.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Jamesburg, that the voucher list submitted is hereby approved for payment in the total amount of \$885,964.36.

COUNCIL	MOTION	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Carpenter</i>		X			
<i>Deans</i>		X			
<i>Grimes</i>		X			
<i>Longo</i>	1st	X			
<i>Ludas</i>		X			
<i>White</i>	2nd	X			

**RESOLUTION #170-09-09-09\*\***

AUTHORIZE REFUNDS OF TAX OVERPAYMENTS

**WHEREAS**, overpayments of taxes have been received by the Tax Collector's office in the aggregate amount of one thousand five hundred one dollars and ninety-eight cents (\$1,501.98); and

**WHEREAS**, these payments have been certified by the Tax Collector as overpayments;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Jamesburg that the Tax Collector be and is hereby authorized to make such refunds and the Chief Financial Officer is hereby directed to issue such checks in accordance with the certification(s) attached hereto.

COUNCIL	MOTION	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Carpenter</i>		X			
<i>Deans</i>		X			
<i>Grimes</i>		X			
<i>Longo</i>	1st	X			
<i>Ludas</i>		X			
<i>White</i>	2nd	X			

**RESOLUTION #171-09-09-09\*\***

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DEDUCTION ALLOWANCE

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Collector has certified that the attached properties are qualified and entitled to a Property Tax Deduction; and

**WHEREAS**, the tax account for these properties need to be adjusted to reflect the granting of these Property Tax Deductions.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Jamesburg that the Tax Collector be and is hereby authorized to adjust the tax accounts per the attached certifications

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that if such adjustment causes the property to be overpaid, the Tax Collector be and is hereby authorized to issue such refund.

COUNCIL	MOTION	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Carpenter</i>		X			
<i>Deans</i>		X			
<i>Grimes</i>		X			
<i>Longo</i>	1st	X			
<i>Ludas</i>		X			
<i>White</i>	2nd	X			

**\*\*End of Consent Agenda**

**RESOLUTION #167-09-09-09**

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING MINUTES**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the following minutes be and are hereby accepted and filed:

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL**  
August 12, 2009

<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>MOTION</b>	<b>AYES</b>	<b>NAYS</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<i>Carpenter</i>		X			
<i>Deans</i>		X			
<i>Grimes</i>		X			
<i>Longo</i>				X	
<i>Ludas</i>	2nd	X			
<i>White</i>	1st	X			

Resolution # 167-09-09-09 was pulled off the Consent Agenda by Councilmember Longo. The Councilman stated that he was abstaining from voting on the minutes of August 12, 2009 because he was absent from that meeting.

**RESOLUTION #172-09-09-09**

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING IDENTITY THEFT POLICY**

**WHEREAS**, The Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act of 2003, an amendment to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, required rules regarding identity theft protection to be promulgated; and

**WHEREAS**, Those rules become effective May 1, 2009, and require the Borough of Jamesburg to implement an identity theft program and policy, and

**WHEREAS**, The Borough of Jamesburg in the County of Middlesex has determined that the following policy is in the best interest of the borough and its citizens.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Jamesburg that the attached Identity Theft Policy be and is hereby adopted.

<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>MOTION</b>	<b>AYES</b>	<b>NAYS</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<i>Carpenter</i>		X			
<i>Deans</i>		X			
<i>Grimes</i>		X			
<i>Longo</i>	1st	X			
<i>Ludas</i>	2nd	X			
<i>White</i>		X			

**COUNCILMATIC COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Police Committee, Library Committee & Holiday/Memorial Day Parade Committee – Council President Barbara Carpenter**

**Police Committee**

- The Police Committee discussed preparations for the upcoming Fall Festival.
  - § Parking will not be permitted during the Fall Festival on West Railroad Avenue from Hillside to Forsgate Drive. Advanced notice will be given to residents and merchants.
  - § Chief Horvath will meet with Fall Festival Committee prior to the event.
- Prior to opening day, Chief Martin Horvath gave briefings on school security to all teachers in Jamesburg schools.

- There are two (2) school emergency lock-downs planned for both schools in the next month or so; one will be announced and the other will be a surprise.
- All Crossing Guards have reported to their scheduled locations.

#### Library Committee

- The interview process for a new Library Director is on-going, and the search committee plans on presenting a final candidate to the Board of Trustees soon. The goal is to have a new Director in place by the first of the year.
- The Summer Remedial Program concluded on August 20<sup>th</sup> with a visit by Scott Kraus from Assemblywoman Linda Greenstein's office. The letters that the children wrote expressing their views and thoughts on the topics of the environment and pollution were read out loud. Would like to post the children's letters in the hallway leading into the Council Chamber for all to see.
- The Harry Potter Night at the Library on Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup> with Reverend Gary Filson as a Wizard performing magic tricks was a great success.
- Friends of the Jamesburg Public Library are holding a Fund Raising trip to the Show Boat Casino in Atlantic City on Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>.

#### Holiday/Memorial Day Parade Committee

- The Holiday Tree Lighting will be held on December 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM at Veterans Park.
- The stage for the tree lighting has been reserved from the County and donations to cover the rental cost are still needed.
- Chris Ives, owner of Sir Ives Catering Co., will once again donate hot chocolate to the event.
- Gary Clayton, owner of Jamesburg Hardware Store, will donate the use of their popcorn machine.
- Thank you again to the Jamesburg Fire Department for their generous donation to this event.

#### Middlesex County Transportation Committee

- Additional funding has been secured to expand the county bus service from Jamesburg to the Princeton Junction Train Station. Riders will also be able to take the bus from Jamesburg directly to the new Princeton University Hospital. Ridership in Jamensburg has dramatically increased especially on Saturdays.
- Steve Fittante, Executive Director of Middlesex County Transportation, would like to come to a future Council Meeting and give a presentation to the Mayor and Council on the expanded services and schedules for Jamesburg.
- Would like to commend Councilman Brian Grimes and the members of the Fall Festival Committee; Councilwoman Ludas and Elliot Stroul for their tireless efforts to make this year's festival a reality.

#### Homeowner Relations Committee – Councilwoman Brenda Deans

- In the process of setting up a program where speakers from the local utility companies will come and provide information to residents who are struggling to pay their utility bills in this current economy on what assistance is available and also on ways to save on energy usage. PSE&G is tentatively scheduled for a presentation on their "Go Green" initiative on October 14<sup>th</sup> after the Council meeting has concluded.
- Would also like to schedule a Saturday forum featuring representatives of the NJ Clean Energy Program, which is part of the conservation group of the BPU.
- Will speak with the Mayor to further discuss these informational energy programs.
- Board of Public Utilities' 2009 NJ Clean Energy Conference will be on October 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, and lots of good information regarding energy will be available at the event.

**Fall Festival Committee & Committee on Finance and Budgeting – Councilman Brian Grimes**

Fall Festival Committee

- Thank you to fellow Fall Festival committee members, Councilwoman Daria Ludas and Mr. Elliott Stroul for all their help and hard work.
- Several significant donations were received and we thank all of these generous donors:
  - § The Law Firm of Ansell, Zaro, Grimm and Aaron
  - § Remington, Vernick and Vena Engineers, Inc.
  - § Century 21 Realty
  - § Dr. Mukesh K.Singh of University Geriatrics & Internal Medicine
- Twenty-three (23) vendors have been confirmed at this time with ten (10) more expected.
- There will be the following events at the Fall Festival:
  - § Ice cream eating contest sponsored by Mendoker's
  - § Pizza eating contest sponsored by Jamesburg Pizza
  - § Battle of the Bands sponsored by the Academy of Music in Spotswood
  - § A bigger and better Car Show is also part of the day's activities
- West Railroad Avenue will be closed down for the festival.
- To date \$1,035.00 has been raised, with an additional \$120.00 expected from vendors, and expenditures of \$697.00. All funds raised will be donated to the Presbyterian Church's Board of Deacons Food Cupboard.
- Fall Festival Volunteers need to report at 8:00AM, and T-shirts will be handed out at that time. All Council members are welcome to volunteer.
- The Fall Festival will begin at 11:00AM and end at 6:00PM and will be held rain or shine.

Committee on Finance and Budgeting

- The transition process will begin shortly for next year's Finance and Budgeting Chair.
- The Borough's goal is to keep property tax increases to a minimum by providing a sound budget and not allowing any pet projects.

**Committee on Personnel/Negotiations and Buildings/Grounds – Councilman John Longo**

Personnel/Negotiations

- Evaluations for each of the borough's employees have been completed as required.
- There are no issues with any personnel at this time.

Bucklew House

- In August, the Borough Council approved the hiring of an architect for Bucklew House.
- The HPO (NJ's Historic Preservation Office) & DEP determined after further review that additional work on the study and plans would have to be generated by the project's professionals in order for the project to move forward.
- The goals at this point are to address the questions raised by the DEP and revise the scope of work:
  - § Revise the Heating and Ventilation project to provide for heating of the building only and to exclude the Air Conditioning at this time.
  - § Utilize already purchased new boiler and tie it into existing piping and radiators.
  - § At this time we need to remove all ductwork from the plans.

- § Conduct archeological work as requested by DEP and respond to their concerns and questions. Architect and Engineer were at the site yesterday working on the surveys and plans. They will also be preparing the specs for the bids going out in the Fall.
- § Sprinklers will also not be included in the plans at this time.
- Key Dates for the Buckelew House:
  - § Plans completed by October 1, 2009 and submitted to HPO by November 1, 2009
  - § Pre-qualify Bidders – November 1, 2009.
  - § Bids go out in January 2010, and award by March 1, 2010. Construction will begin as soon as possible after award of contract.
  - § Looking to be back in the building by late summer/ early fall 2010.
- It is important that this project is done correctly and in full compliance with all requirements as the borough will be looking for additional grant monies in the future to complete the work.
- Critical time for this project and once shovel goes in the ground we need to petition the agencies that have jurisdiction over the project to keep it moving forward and to continue seeking out grants and aid through the County and State.
- The taxpayers of Jamesburg will not be paying for this project and the County knows that we will be coming back for funding for Phases II and III.
- All the furniture is still in a climate controlled storage facility.

#### Buildings/Grounds

- The Zoning Officer has been active in enforcing the BOCA maintenance codes, and summonses have been issued to those not in compliance after their being noticed.

#### Jamesburg/ Monroe Area Chamber of Commerce

- The organization is having a rebirth due to a new slate of officers and active members who are heavily involved in promoting area businesses. All businesses interested in joining should contact President Robert Gough of Corinthian Capital Group, Inc.
- Next event will be held at Spotswood's Party Place located at 491 Manalapan Road at 11:30am.

#### **Committee on Public Works – Councilman Russell White**

- During the week of August 17th there were sewer backups in or near:
  - § The intersection of Front Street & West Railroad Avenue
  - § Lincoln Avenue by St. James Presbyterian Church
  - § Public Works Department cleared the backups and cleaned the sewer lines 500' in both directions from the backups.
- A couple of manholes were repaired by contractor, S&G Paving.
- Emphasis has been on sewer repairs and grass cutting.
- School crosswalks were repainted prior to the opening day of school.
- All departmental equipment is in good shape and is operational.

#### **Education Committee – Councilwoman Daria Ludas**

- The Cycle I preliminary NJ ASK test scores have been received and the Math scores are much higher than the Language Arts scores. The Cycle II scores are due on September 14<sup>th</sup>.
- An Education Leadership Conference, led by Principal Albert Perno, was held on August 18<sup>th</sup> at the JFK School.
- Superintendent Dr. Gail Verona recently attended a State meeting on H1N1 influenza. Local Board of Health officials will be in charge on a local level.

- St. James agreed to rent space at GMB School for their CCD classes. Commend the BOE for this excellent example of community outreach.
- Encourages Jamesburg residents to attend the Board of Education meetings held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month for updates on the new high school.

SERV

- There was no meeting scheduled for September, and the next meeting will be on October 5<sup>th</sup>.

South Central Middlesex County Flood Control Commission

- At the meeting of September 8<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Thomas Barlow of Spotswood was elected Chair of the Commission.
- The Commission has thirty days to respond to the Proposed Draft of Preliminary Flood Damage Mitigation report

**PRESENTATION**

Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant from FEMA

John Ferguson  
 Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator  
 Middlesex County's Office of Emergency Management

Mr. Ferguson's presented the Middlesex County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan:

- Introduction
- Project History
- Hazard Mitigation Planning Overview
- Project Types Overview
  - § Risk Assessment
  - § Goals & Objectives
  - § Examples of Action
- Next Steps
- Comments and Questions

The following questions were asked by council members:

Councilman Brian Grimes: Will the flood maps be changing and will the Borough of Jamesburg be added? *No, if the maps were being changed then the County and the Borough would have to be notified.*

Councilman John Longo: The Borough's Combined Land Use Board is in the process of reexamining the Master Plan, should we incorporate any new maps as part of this? *Yes, the Master Plan should show the delineation of any flood plains and /or wetlands within the Borough.*

Councilman Russell White: Could a Feasibility Study be a project for the Borough of Jamesburg? *Yes, that is a possibility for the Borough.*

**OPEN TO PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Motion: Longo  
 Second: White  
 All in Favor

Elliott Stroul – 110 Mendoker Drive

- Fall Festival
- Buckelew House/ Jamesburg Historical Association
- Board of Education
- Patriotic Committee is now Memorial Day Parade Committee
- Farmers Market

**CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Motion: Longo  
Second: White  
All in Favor

**ADJOURN: 8:14PM**

Motion: Longo  
Second: White  
All in Favor

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Lauren Vande Vaarst, RMC  
Municipal Clerk