

**BOROUGH OF JAMESBURG
GOVERNING BODY MEETING
MINUTES
OCTOBER 21, 2015
7:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER: This meeting is being held pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act of 1974 and all provisions of that Act have been met. Any contracts awarded require the contractor to comply with N.J.S.A.10:5-31 et.seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27. Also, in the event of a fire and pursuant to the N.J. Uniform Fire Code, members of the audience are requested to take notice of the exits at the front and rear of the Council Chambers as well as in the main hallway.

FLAG SALUTE: Led by Mayor Lowande

ROLL CALL: Mayor Lowande
Council Member Gibbons
Council Member Ludas
Council Member Rutsky
Council Member Spillane
Council Member Sussman
Council President Busco
Administrator Jawidzik
Borough Attorney – Raffetto *-ABSENT*

PRESENTATION ON LAKE MANALAPAN BY TOMMY EMENS:

Mayor Lowande introduced Tommy Emens who gave the Mayor and Council a quick overview of his project on Lake Manalapan; Mayor Lowande and Council thanked Mr. Emens for his presentation and commended him for all of his hardwork on this project.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS FOR THE CHURCH STREET CREEK PROJECT CLEAN-UP BY MAYOR LOWANDE & COUNCIL:

Mayor Lowande thanked our DPW, Monroe Twp. DPW, the Mosquito Control Commission, EPA, DEP and Council Members Rutsky and Ludas, as well as, Bill Maresca for all of their hardwork on this ongoing project.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – ANY ITEM - EXCLUDES ORDINANCES (they have their own public hearing): Members of the public wishing to address the Mayor and Borough Council must approach the podium and state their name and address for the record. There is a five (5) minute time limit for all comments and questions.

Motion Open to Public Comment:

Proposed By: Sussman
Seconded By: Rutsky
All in Favor

Jeffrey Houle – 13 Brookview Circle: Mr. Houle asked why the Mayor could not attend the fundraiser for the students; Mayor Lowande responded that political and campaigning questions can be addressed outside of the council meeting as this is not the appropriate forum to answer his questions. Mayor Lowande did respond that she was unavailable for that day the fundraiser was held. Mr. Houle continued to ask politically driven campaign questions to which the Borough Clerk addressed and advised Mr. Houle that this was not the appropriate platform for those issues to be addressed. He then asked about the Mayor’s stance on redevelopment within the Borough, to which Mayor Lowande clarified that she did not speak about redevelopment but that the downtown is important in bringing new businesses and in the past four years we have brought a lot of new businesses in the Borough and added a Business Liaison.

June Rizza – 5 Birchwood Road & Diane Bruno – 25 Ridgeview Road, Fit Girls: Mrs. Rizza & Mrs. Bruno gave a recap of the 5K and thanked the Mayor, Council, DPW, JPD as well as, Hearthstone Grill and the local businesses for supporting the event.

Rose Spillane – 29A Lincoln Avenue: Ms. Spillane commented on the Fall Festival and the positivity and happiness it brought to the Borough. She gave the Mayor pictures that she took that day and reiterated that it was a wonderful day enjoyed by all who attended.

Elliot Stroul – 110 Mendoker Drive: Mr. Stroul asked about the progress with the Buckelew Mansion Rehabilitation; Mayor Lowande responded she has Freeholder Rios looking into it. He also addressed the Mayor and Council regarding the lawsuit against the Borough last year by Council Member Gibbons and requested his resignation effective immediately.

John Ritter – 5 East Church Street: Mr. Ritter brought up his concerns about the last house on his street that is illegally dumping into the creek and onto Monroe Twp. property. Mayor Lowande advised she will have our zoning officer look into this matter again and address. Council Member Ludas commented that she has been in touch with Mr. Maresca regarding this issue and they are currently looking into this and working on a solution.

Joe Scillieri – 23 Brookview Circle: Mr. Scillieri commented on the creek clean up and shared his concerns with how the project was being taken care of, commenting that he thinks this is only a band-aid fix to a bigger problem. He feels that nothing gets done until it is read about on their website and asked why the Mayor and Council could not come up with their own ideas instead of taking theirs; Mayor Lowande and Council Member Ludas responded and addressed Mr. Scillieri's concerns and clarified when the creek project began and all who were involved in making this project happen. Mr. Scillieri and Mayor Lowande continued the discussion until the Borough Clerk advised Mr. Scillieri that his time was up.

Brian Taylor – 11 Hillside Avenue: Mr. Taylor thanked all who participated in the creek clean up project. He addressed the Mayor and Council about the lawsuit last year and a letter that was published in the September 16th Home News & Tribune. Mr. Taylor asked Council Member Gibbons if he would reimburse the Borough for the legal costs of this lawsuit, to which Council Member Gibbons responded that he would speak with Mr. Taylor after the meeting.

Matt Gibbons – 35A East Railroad Avenue: Mr. Gibbons asked the Mayor and Council why they are against solar energy; Mayor Lowande responded. Mr. Gibbons continued speaking of the importance of solar energy and how he feels this is being ignored by the Mayor and Council; Mayor Lowande read a local finance notice which explains what is needed in order to consider solar energy in a municipality. She explained that it is not up to her but up to the Council to decide if they want to pursue. Mr. Gibbons proceeded to continue speaking over the Mayor and snapped his fingers at the Mayor and Council asking for attention to be on him. Council Member Rutsky commented that he was being disrespectful and exhausted with Mr. Gibbons peacocking. Council Member Sussman agreed that Mr. Gibbons was being disrespectful and reminded him that this was not the appropriate place for campaigning. Mr. Gibbons loudly responded that he was not campaigning but talking about the importance of solar within the Borough, particularly at the schools. Mayor Lowande, Council Members Rutsky, Ludas and Sussman all responded. Mr. Gibbons continued and asked how the schools were going to be made better and continued questioning the Mayor as to what her plan was; the Borough Clerk advised him that his time was up, to which he responded he will be back.

The Borough Clerk also advised Mr. Stroul that he had to remain seated throughout the rest of the meeting.

Council Member Sussman requested that when the public comes up to address the Mayor and Council that they do so respectfully; Mr. Gibbons, from the crowd, shouted at Council Member Sussman. The Borough Clerk explained to Mr. Gibbons that his actions will not be tolerated and he can address his concerns after the meeting and to please sit down or leave if he could not stay in control.

Tom Van de Sande – 2 Fernwood Lane: Mr. Van de Sande asked how being in a drought affects the sewage flow and asked if the rates go down; Administrator Jawidzik responded that flows go down in that instance. Mr. Van de Sande asked that with campaign season occurring and Halloween approaching that caution is made on Maple Drive when driving, running and walking.

Sue Tisicure – 17 Buckelew Run, East Brunswick: Mrs. Tisicure congratulated Council Member Spillane for a wonderful Fall Festival. She had a great time and it was a pleasure being a part of the Fall Festival. Mrs. Tisicure wanted to note that the display that Council Member Gibbons had was a creative, professionally done and an informative display on solar energy and she congratulated him on a job well done.

Mr. Gibbons attempted to approach the podium once more; the Borough Clerk advised him that he could not speak again as he had his turn earlier.

Council Member Gibbons asked to take the opportunity to respond to Mr. Taylor’s question as to whether he intended on paying the Borough back for the lawsuit; Council Member Gibbons said he will never repay the Borough as he enacted as Chairman of the Republican Party and did so to ensure that all voters in Jamesburg have candidates on the ballot. Council Member Gibbons proceeded to comment that he finds it appalling that Mr. Taylor’s concern is with a \$3,000 repayment of a lawsuit instead of his concern, while on the council, with the lack of signage at several intersections in this Borough. He finds that the Council is negligent in their management of this issue.

Shouting erupts from the crowd by Mr. Gibbons followed by Council Member Gibbons yelling about the lack of signage throughout the Borough. Several members of the public stand up and begin shouting back and forth with Mr. Gibbons and Council Member Gibbons. Mayor Lowande attempts to regain control of the meeting, while the Borough Clerk excuses herself to ask the police to come upstairs.

Motion to Close to Public Comment:

Proposed By: Sussman
 Seconded By: Spillane
 All in Favor

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.

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

#121-10-21-15** Approve Payment of Vouchers

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 \$1,386,927.69.

COUNCIL MEMBER	MOTION	2nd	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
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Council Member Gibbons			X			
Council Member Ludas		X	X			
Council Member Rutsky			X			
Council Member Spillane			X			
Council Member Sussman	X		X			
Council President Busco			X			
Mayor Lowande						

#122-10-21-15**

Accept Monthly Reports – August & September 2015; Tax Sale Report – October 2015

RESOLUTION #122-10-21-15**

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:

Investment Report	August & September 2015
Finance Report	August & September 2015
Report of the Tax Collector	August & September 2015
Report of the Sewer Administrator	August & September 2015
Tax Sale Report	October 2015

COUNCIL MEMBER	MOTION	2nd	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Council Member Gibbons			X			
Council Member Ludas		X	X			
Council Member Rutsky			X			
Council Member Spillane			X			
Council Member Sussman	X		X			
Council President Busco			X			
Mayor Lowande						

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Jamesburg.

Tanya Pannucci

Tanya Pannucci
Registered Municipal Clerk
Borough of Jamesburg

#123-10-21-15**

Authorize Senior Deduction

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DEDUCTION ALLOWANCE

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has certified, on the letters of request attached hereto, that certain tax accounts are eligible for a senior’s property tax deduction; and

WHEREAS, the tax bill for these accounts do not currently reflect the appropriate deduction and must be adjusted.

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 as specified in the attached letters of request.

COUNCIL MEMBER	MOTION	2nd	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Council Member Gibbons			X			
Council Member Ludas		X	X			
Council Member Rutsky			X			
Council Member Spillane			X			
Council Member Sussman	X		X			
Council President Busco			X			
Mayor Lowande						

#125-10-21-15** Authorize Refunds of Tax Overpayments
AUTHORIZE REFUNDS OF TAX OVERPAYMENTS

WHEREAS, overpayments of taxes have been received by the Tax Collector’s office in the aggregate amount of five hundred dollars (\$7292.22); 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 MEMBER	MOTION	2nd	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Council Member Gibbons			X			
Council Member Ludas		X	X			
Council Member Rutsky			X			
Council Member Spillane			X			
Council Member Sussman	X		X			
Council President Busco			X			
Mayor Lowande						

NON-CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

#124-10-21-15 Accept Meeting Minutes – September 16, 2015
RESOLUTION ACCEPTING MINUTES

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING MINUTES BE AND ARE HEREBY ACCEPTED AND FILED:

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

September 16, 2015

COUNCIL MEMBER	MOTION	2nd	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
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Council Member Gibbons			X			
Council Member Ludas	X		X			
Council Member Rutsky		X	X			
Council Member Spillane			X			
Council Member Sussman					X	
Council President Busco			X			
Mayor Lowande						

COUNCILMATIC COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council Member Rutsky

No Report.

- EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Council Member Gibbons

Council Member Gibbons explained that at the last Board of Education meeting the Board President spoke about the need to align the Jamesburg elementary curriculum with Monroe Twp.’s stating that we have gaps within our curriculum and that the longer we wait to align our curriculum the further and further behind our students will be.

Council Member Gibbons commented that the schools need solar energy and it will increase the savings to the school and he has discussed this with the Board of Education, the Mayor and Council and is asking the public to get behind this idea. He has asked the Council to look at the proposals, he has someone who would write an RFP for free and does not understand the silence on this project; Mayor Lowande responded and explained that it has to be an independent person to do this as we cannot have this done for free. We need to involve our engineering department. Council Member Gibbons addressed Mayor Lowande and said that he has asked for this to be put into the budget and on the agenda for consideration and it never has been and he does not understand why she is opposed to this idea; Mayor Lowande responded. Council Member Gibbons asked the Council if they liked the idea of solar energy; Council Member Sussman agreed that they liked the idea but that a process needs to be followed before further involvement. Council Member Gibbons asked again what the process is; Mayor Lowande answered. Council Member Gibbons continued speaking about the importance of solar energy and the need to have it in the budget; Mayor Lowande explained.

- POLICE COMMITTEE
Council Member Sussman

Council Member Sussman reported that it is has been pretty quiet and thanked the Police Department for their presence at the Fall Festival. He commented that the Fall Festival was a great success. Council Member Sussman commented that he appreciates Council Member Gibbons passion for solar energy but explained that there is a process to be followed and he trusts that Administrator Jawidzik has the best interest in the Borough in following through with what is necessary and feasible for the Borough.

Council Member Gibbons asked to add to the report as a former member of the Police Committee; he explained that the signage issue was brought up last year and he was told that it is an issue handled with Buildings and Grounds, as well as, the Police. Mayor Lowande asked if this was addressed with the Chief of Police; Council Member Gibbons responded yes. He asked if the need for signage has been addressed with the Police Committee this year. Mayor Lowande suggested that Council Member Gibbons give a list of the signs needed. Council Member Sussman asked if we could print up the signs needed or if further permission is needed; Mayor Lowande responded. Council Member Sussman has explained that he has spoken with the Chief of Police, as well as, Administrator Jawidzik and continued to explain that there is a process that needs to be followed first. Council Member Gibbons started to give a run down of the signs missing; Mayor Lowande explained.

The Borough Clerk asked Council Member Sussman if his Police committee report was

finished, to which he responded yes; she advised Council Member Gibbons that he could continue addressing his list of streets needing signage after the meeting or via email as we are moving on to the next committee report.

- **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**
Council Member Ludas

Council Member Ludas had no personnel issues to address at this time. She attended the Monroe Twp. Green Fair which was well attended. She advised that all SERV issues were resolved at the meeting held earlier in the month; Mr. Maresca was in attendance and introduced himself to the members of SERV. Council Member Ludas congratulated Council Members Spillane and Rutsky on a job well done with the Fall Festival. Lastly, she added that other towns have contacted her regarding the creek clean up project and have discussed their interest in participating.

- **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**
Council President Busco

Council President reported that DPW has continued to do maintenance on all Borough properties and are ready to roll out the new leaf machine. Leaf schedules can be found at Borough Hall. He thanked all who participated in the creek clean up project.

- **PUBLIC EVENTS COMMITTEE**
Council Member Spillane

Council Member Spillane thanked everyone involved with the Fall Festival. She added that the Public Events Committee will be meeting soon to discuss the tree lighting ceremony and next year's events.

- **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**
Denise Jawidzik

No Report

- **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE/MAYOR'S REPORT/CONSOLIDATION COMMITTEE**
Mayor Marlene Lowande

Mayor Lowande reminded everyone that wrestling sign-ups are tomorrow evening at Borough Hall at 7pm and basketball sign-ups will be held on the 26th. She extended thanks to all involved in the Fall Festival.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Proposed By: Sussman

Seconded By: Ludas

All in favor.

TIME OF ADJOURNMENT: 8:09PM

Tanya Pannucci
Registered Municipal Clerk

