

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
BOROUGH OF CLOSTER

WORK SESSION NOTES – JANUARY 28, 2009 - 7:30 P.M.

Mayor Heymann called the meeting to order at 10:44 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

The following persons were present:

Mayor Sophie Heymann

Councilpersons: John C. Glidden, Jr., Thomas Hennessey, John Kashwick,
David Barad, Cynthia L. Tutoli, Victoria Amitai

Borough Attorney, Edward T. Rogan

Borough Clerk, Loretta Castano

Borough Engineer, Nick DeNicola

Chief of Police, David Berrian

The following people were absent:

Acting Administrator/Treasurer, John DiStefano

2. PROVISIONS OF OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Mayor Heymann declared that the meeting was being held in compliance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. FINANCE AND TECHNOLOGY - KASHWICK (GLIDDEN/HENNESSEY)

- 1) STATUS REPORT RE CAPITAL BUDGET/CAPITAL PLAN
(RM 7/9/08) – met with various department last night; another meeting next week.
- 2) STATUS REPORT RE TRANSPORTATION MEETING HELD IN
ENGLEWOOD 6/30/08
- 3) STATUS REPORT RE CLOSTER WEBSITE
- 4) STATUS REPORT RE IN-KIND MATCH OF \$25,000 FOR COMMUNITY
FORESTRY GRANT (Work to be done by DPW) RM 6/27/07
- 5) REPORT – Mr. Kashwick reported on the following :
 - a. Shade Tree Commission – The Report for 2008 has been completed and they

CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL
WORK SESSION NOTES – JANUARY 28, 2009 – 7:30 P.M.
are set for another year

b. Environmental Commission – The trails subcommittee has prepared new signs for the trail entrances which should be installed in a couple of weeks. Mayor circulated sign prepared by Steve Isaacson.

c. Historic Preservation- is moving forward with the district and there would probably be a vote in the Spring.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY - GLIDDEN (TUTOLI/HENNESSEY)

1) REPORT – no report

C. PUBLIC WORKS - HENNESSEY (AMITAI/GLIDDEN)

1) REPORT – Brief meeting with Bill Dahle and all is well. He questioned if the Borough Engineer would get involved with certification of storm water and was advised in the affirmative. In March of each year certification is provided to the DEP on stormwater requirements.

D. ORDINANCE - BARAD (KASHWICK/AMITAI)

1) STATUS REPORT RE ORDINANCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS - The Committee will be meeting 2/3/09. They invited Erik Mattes from the CIC to attend via Borough Attorney.

2) STATUS REPORT RE DISCUSSION WITH CABLEVISION FOR RENEWAL OF ITS MUNICIPAL CONSENT - PH held 9/10/08

3) STATUS REPORT RE PREPARATION BY BOROUGH ATTORNEY OF AMENDMENT OF BOROUGH RECYCLING ORDINANCES TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL MATERIALS AS DESIGNATED RECYCLABLES (PER BERGEN COUNTY DISTRICT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT (3. M.L. 10/2/08) – Discussed RM 10/6/08; DEADLINE: On or before 3/31/09 - Borough Attorney advised it will be on for next meeting

4) REPORT – Dr. Barad reported on the following:
a. The schools are aware this will be a tight budgetary year. Jan Furman is looking at simplifying administrator positions. They have to cut some of the positions there. Mr. Glidden advised that the two principals are switching.
b. Lou Apa's retirement dinner is tomorrow night.

Mayor Heymann reminded that the Fireman's ball is on Saturday night.

CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL
WORK SESSION NOTES – JANUARY 28, 2009 – 7:30 P.M.

E. HUMAN RESOURCES - TUTOLI (KASHWICK/BARAD)

- 1) STATUS REPORT RE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETINGS – telephonically meeting weekly until things settle down.
- 2) REPORT – She would be submitting to the Borough Clerk a resolution for the next Regular meeting. NJSLOM promoting reading day and on the other hand promoting a reduction in funding for Libraries.

F. LAND USE AND CONSTRUCTION – AMITAI (BARAD/HENNESSEY)

- 1) REPORT – Mrs. Amitai reported on the following:
 - a. CIC – Budgeting for the previous year is being reviewed; but in the absence of the Acting Administrator, they have questions on the status of Riley’s outdoor decorations which they believe has put them in the red.

It was requested that she speak to Building Dept. and ask for stricter enforcement of the sign regulations. The ordinance committee will meet on the sign ordinance to tighten up the regulations on various things.

She expressed her gratitude to David Watkins for his contribution to maintain the clock in town for the next 5 years.

They are looking into Rotary and Lions club to help participate in the Christmas decoration funds; and, hopefully, to have the Chamber of Commerce become active again.

- b. The Flamm property acquisition should happen as soon as the funding is in place tentatively scheduled for the first week in February.

Problem with sign board; whereby it was difficult for volunteers to post message unless someone shovels around it. We need some type of system for messages to be given to the public on the different sign boards. Mayor added that the school asked us to put on Borough sign board about kindergarten registration to begin 2/5/09. CIC did not take kindly to it. The point is that potential kindergarten parents do not go to the school and they pass by Main Street.

Lastly, she questioned how they can get a list of current businesses or building owners to try to contact them; and the Mayor indicated that the Fire Prevention Bureau said the list is not given to the public. She said that each business could be approached. Borough Attorney suggested a mailing could be sent out to the general address without the specific name of the tenant. The owners of the property are public record and could be obtained from the Tax Office; and Mayor Heymann suggested approaching the Tax Assessor who

CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL
WORK SESSION NOTES – JANUARY 28, 2009 – 7:30 P.M.

separates the commercial from residential properties.

At this time, Mr. Hennessey advised the Chief, who was unaware that the Stop and Shop fire protection was out of commission, that the sprinkler system pipes broke and there is no electricity to the building because O&R cut the power to the building. Chief Berrian said he would advise Plaza Management.

Relative to the 2009 Road Program, Nick DeNicola questioned if there was anything needed to be done in order to proceed such as a preliminary plan to any agency involved in the funding. . Mayor Heymann said that authorization was given to do the road program and we have already gone into the bonding part and have made overtures but that she did not want to invest anything unnecessarily at this time.

Mayor Heymann reminded those who did not attend the JIF Training seminar, that since we need the \$250 for everyone who goes, she scheduled the seminar at Borough Hall for 2/25/09 at 6:30 p.m. before the Council meeting. Registration is in packets.

The Mayor said that the errors in the newspaper will be corrected on the web site.

Constituents interested in goose control can attend a meeting on 1/30/09 and please call it to the attention of anyone concerned.

Ms. Amitai asked whether the animal picture she sent to all was a fox or a coyote; and Mayor Heymann said she thought it was a coyote even though it looked like a fox.

The Mayor said the grant proposal spoken about earlier needs to be revised and corrected. She has a Resolution to deal with it; and if it is o.k. with them, it will be included on the RM Agenda for 2/11/09

4. OLD BUSINESS
5. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. ALPINE SEWER CONNECTION FEES (Discussed WS 12/22/08)
6. ANY OTHER MATTER WHICH MAY PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE GOVERNING BODY
7. OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

Motion was made by Councilwoman Tutoli and seconded by Councilman Glidden to open the meeting to the public.

CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL
WORK SESSION NOTES – JANUARY 28, 2009 – 7:30 P.M.

8. DISCUSSION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS, IF APPROPRIATE

Hugh Johnson questioned the framing of mayors. Mayor Heymann informed that Maryann Farrell is taking care of it; and as soon as they are completed, they will be posted.

Hugh Johnson questioned if there are employees who are taking the Acting Administrator's place being recompensed for the additional time. Mayor Heymann said that there are no employees taking additional time to do the Administrator's work. The people who are doing the extra work are contracted to Closter anyway; and if they are doing extra work, they will be compensated accordingly.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Work Session at 11:01 p.m. was made by Councilwoman Tutoli seconded by Councilman Kashwick and declared unanimously carried by Mayor Heymann.

Provided to the Mayor and Council
on March 5, 2009 for approval at the
Regular Meeting to be held
March 11, 2009.

Loretta Castano, RMC
Borough Clerk

Prepared by Carol A. Kroepke, RMC
utilizing recording and Borough Clerk's
notes

Approved at the Regular Meeting held March 11, 2009
Consent Agenda Item No. 25b2)

