

BYRAM TOWNSHIP SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING - MAY 31, 2011

CALL MEETING TO ORDER - The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT - Adequate notice of this meeting has been made in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, NJS.A 10:4-6.

ROLL CALL

Councilman Olson, here; Councilwoman Raffay, here; Councilman Rafferty; here; Councilman Thompson, absent; Mayor Oscovitch, here; Township Manager Joe Sabatini and Municipal Clerk Doris Flynn were also present. Department Head Terry Vervaet, Adolf Steyh, and Janet Meisner were also in attendance.

FLAG SALUTE

STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

Township Manager Joe Sabatini reviewed the report prepared by Public Works Superintendent Adolf Steyh, which outlined all the Township-owned facilities. The report depicted the age of the structures, type and condition of utilities and the upgrades that are needed.

Councilman Olson stated that he does not want to see the Township put money into our existing municipal building if we are going to rehab it in the near future. The other Council members agreed.

Joe Sabatini suggested that we could have an architect review our existing building at 10 Mansfield Drive and provide us with a conceptual plan. Joe thought we could review the information gathered in previous reports regarding each department's needs and we could provide this information to an architect. The Mayor and Dan Rafferty thought this was a good idea.

The council members discussed the possibility of enlarging the CO Johnson Field House. Janet Meisner commented that she had met with an architect at the Field House, and the architect had said that an expansion was definitely feasible and could be done economically.

There was consensus among the members that it was not feasible to rehab the Civic Center. The Council would like to move forward with auctioning. The oil tanks at the Civic Center will be removed as soon as the NJDEP issues the permits. Jim Oscovitch stated that he would like to walk through the house at Jones Lane with an architect to see if the house is salvageable.

Joe Sabatini had a few suggestions if the Municipal Building was rehabbed. He would like to see a cashier's window, administration centralized, and the phone system updated. The Council asked Joe to check with other towns such as Hardyston and Denville since they built new municipal buildings. Joe and staff could work on an RFP.

Scott Olson would like to see some cosmetic improvements done at the Lee Hill Fire House. Joe Sabatini said he would look into that. Joe reported that our DPW will be repairing the sidewalks in front of the tax/court offices. Scott Olson asked about prior recreation committee requests to put in a new well at CO Johnson.

Joe and the Council discussed the fields and the infrastructure expenses, such as port-a-johns and the upkeep. It is possible that at some point these expenses may have to get passed on to the sporting organizations. The Council commented on how great the fields look. Adolf Steyh credited Matt Pinkerton on his staff that is in charge of field maintenance. Adolf told the Council that Matt is working towards his degree in Field Management and has been doing an excellent job.

Open to the Public – Motion by Councilman Olson, second by Councilwoman Raffay to open to the public. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

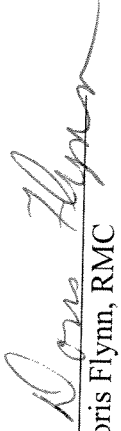
Skip Danielson, 18 Hunter Lane, commented on the two reports done by architects on our facilities that could be helpful.

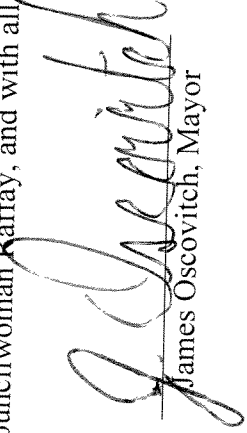
Peg Swentzel, 3 Francis Terrace, commented on the Architectural report done on the Consolidated School. The price tag on what needed to be done was extremely high.

Councilwoman Raffay made a motion, seconded by Councilman Olson, to close to public. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

On the motion by Councilman Olson, second by Councilwoman Raffay, and with all members in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.


Doris Flynn, RMC


James Oscovitch, Mayor