

Work Session Minutes
Borough of Allendale
Mayor and Council
April 9, 2015

A Work Session of the Mayor and Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor White.

Mr. Valenzuela announced that the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act were met by the required postings and notice to publications. In addition, this evening's meeting is being recorded.

The following individuals answered roll call: Council members Bernstein, Homan, McSwiggan, Wilczynski and Mayor White. Mr. Sasso arrived at 7:45 p.m. Mr. Strauch was absent. Mr. Valenzuela and Mr. Wiss were also present.

Public Comment

Mayor White opened the meeting to the public for comments.

Ms. Kelly Schroeder told the Council that she appreciated the Borough's assistance in making sure a neighboring property was cleaned up.

When there were no further comments, the meeting was closed to the public.

Farmers Market

Chief Scherb said a Farmers Market has been held in Allendale for the past few years but the vendors believe they would be more successful if the Market had a more visible location. It has been suggested that the vendors set up on the grass in front of the Borough Hall with pedestrian customers being able to access the vendors from the front driveway. Vehicles will enter the Borough Hall/Library parking lot in the normal way from Crescent Avenue, but the driveway access in front of the building will be blocked.

Mrs. White noted that the proposed new location near the Library and the schools would provide an extra draw of patrons for the Farmers Market. Also having bathrooms accessible to the public at the Borough buildings would be an advantage.

Although most of the vendors don't need electricity, there is an outlet by the flag pole and other access to electricity could be available through the Library and the municipal portions of the building.

The topic of moving the Market has not yet been discussed with the businesses that are in the current Farmers Market location. However it was noted that there have been comments that shoppers for the Farmers Market take up a large number of parking spaces that the business customers could otherwise use.

The Chamber of Commerce stated that they are considering adding a theme every week such as a bouncing house or a petting zoo, that would draw more patrons to the Farmers Market. The activity for children would be located closer to the parking lot entrance with the Farmers Market portion closer to the stop sign at the driveway exit to Crescent Avenue. There will be no merchants facing the school or

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the street. Mr. Bernstein said he believes the location is great but he is concerned about the traffic in front of Borough Hall. He suggested that a buffer put in place to prevent any children from letting go of a parent's hand and running toward the traffic.

Mrs. McSwiggan asked if there will be enough parking for the vendors, the Library patrons and the Farmers Market patrons.

A representative from the Chamber of Commerce responded that the vendors will park across the street leaving the other parking places open for shopping and Library patrons.

Mayor White suggested the Chamber speak with Father Michael about having access to the church parking lot for parking the larger vendor vehicles.

Mayor White said she is in favor of the proposed location. She polled the Council members and everyone was in favor of allowing use of the grass in front of the Borough Hall for the Farmers Market.

It was noted that last year there were six directional signs around town to direct people to the Farmers Market. Mrs. Wilczynski asked if the banner would be put up in the same location near Coldwell Banker again this year. A representative of the Chamber responded that they would like to put up the same signs as well as the banner and add a sandwich board sign on the front lawn to indicate the Farmer's Market is open.

Mayor White indicated that the book and plant sales that are held at this location during the summer will be an additional advantage for the Farmers Market.

Agenda Review

Mrs. White stated that the Regular Session minutes from January 22nd will be removed from this evening's agenda.

Ordinance 15-08

Adoption of Property Maintenance Code – Fire Hydrants

Mayor White said this amendment will ensure that snow is removed from a three foot area around fire hydrants within 24 hours of a snowfall. Mr. Wiss looked into who is responsible for the snow removal around the hydrants, and it is the resident's responsibility.

Resolutions off the Consent Agenda

Mayor White noted that there are five resolutions that are not on the Consent Agenda and all of them have to do with the refinancing of bonds. The Council will vote on each of these resolutions separately. It is hoped that this will be a very successful sale.

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Consent Agenda

Resolution 15-137 Approval of Agreement with Tru-Green for 2015 Turf Program

Mayor White said that this resolution authorizes a fertilizing program for the fields. The Director of Operations received three quotes and this year's price is significantly below what it was last year.

Resolution 15-138 Approval of Agreement with High Mountain Landscaping for Orchard Commons

This resolution authorizes an agreement with High Mountain Landscaping to maintain the grounds of Orchard Commons for 2015.

Resolution 15-140 Approval of fees for Crestwood Lake and Beach and Kayak Rentals

Mrs. Wilczynski explained that this year the rates have gone back to a family membership basis. The 2015 rates show a very slight increase in membership fees, but this is the first time there has been an increase in five or six years. A membership for a family for four will be \$385 which is a great value for a summer membership. Everything else such as kayak rentals and Red Barn rentals will remain the same. Mrs. Wilczynski said the price for Crestwood membership is the best value in the area and is at least 25% lower than other towns. The only town lower in price than Allendale is Waldwick but that location is a pool without all the activities that Crestwood provides.

Resolution 15-144 Resolution Endorsing the Allendale Senior Housing Complex

This resolution endorses a grant application for the Allendale Senior Housing Complex. The application is for a Bergen County Community Development Grant to retrofit the bathrooms in the Senior Housing Complex.

Second and Final Notice Renewal of Dog License

Mr. Valenzuela said a notice will be sent to the residents who have not licensed their dogs for 2015. One hundred and ninety eight dogs have not been licensed that were licensed last year. Approximately 400 dogs were licensed in 2014.

Mayor's Report

Mrs. White and Mrs. Wilczynski recently provided a Mayor's Day Meals on Wheels delivery to a number of residents in Allendale. She thanked the Meals on Wheels program for inviting Allendale to participate. On June 10th a number of restaurants will be donating to the Community Meals Program including the AB&G and Savini Restaurant.

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New Jersey Transit is making upgrades to the train station. It is uncertain at this time how long the upgrades will take to complete.

April 14th is Autism Friendly Day at the AB&G. This program gives families who have a family member with Autism a chance to get out and enjoy a public environment.

Mayor White said she has sent an email to the Council members concerning the Teterboro Noise Abatement Advisory Committee. This involves a proposed flight path that will run along Route 17 that may affect Allendale. A meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 22nd at 7:00 p.m. at 90 Moonachie Avenue in Teterboro to discuss this information. Mrs. White encouraged Council members to attend the event.

Mayor White attended the YWCA Bergen County Early Learning Center to celebrate the National Association of Education's Young Children's Week. She had an opportunity to read to the little children and it was a great experience.

On a motion by Mrs. McSwiggan, seconded by Mrs. Wilczynski, the Council voted unanimously to adjourn to the Regular Session at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

Frank Valenzuela
Acting Municipal Clerk