

July 28, 2011

A regular meeting of the Borough Council was held in the Municipal Building on July 28, 2011. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Mr. Barra who announced that the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act were met by the required posting and notice of publications.

The Mayor led those present in a salute to the flag.

The following Council members answered roll call: Mr. Bernstein, Ms. LaMonica, Mr. Schoepflin, Mr. Strauch, Mrs. White, Mrs. Wilczynski and Mayor Barra. Also present were Mrs. McCarthy and Mr. Bole.

Minutes

Mrs. White moved, seconded by Mr. Schoepflin to approve the Executive Session minutes of June 23, 2011, and the Work and Regular Session minutes of July 14, 2011. On roll call Mr. Bernstein, Mrs. White, Mr. Schoepflin, Ms. LaMonica and Mrs. Wilczynski voted in favor of the minutes of June 23rd. Mr. Strauch abstained. Mrs. White, Mr. Strauch, Mr. Schoepflin and Ms. LaMonica voted in favor of the minutes of July 14th. Mr. Bernstein and Mrs. Wilczynski abstained.

Public Comment

Mr. Barra opened the meeting to the public for comments. There were none.

Introduction of Ordinances

Ordinance 11-08

Resolution 11-229 – Introduced by Ms. LaMonica, seconded by Mrs. White

Be It Resolved that an Ordinance entitled 11-08, “Amend Chapter 256, ‘Visual Obstructions’ “ by the Borough of Allendale, in the County of Bergen, New Jersey” heretofore introduced, does now pass on first reading, and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage at a meeting to be held on the 25th day of August, 2011, at 8:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached, at the regular meeting place of the Borough Council, and that at such time and place all persons interested be given an opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance, and that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish said ordinance according to law with a notice of its introduction and passage on first reading and of the time and place when and where said ordinance will be further considered for final passage.

On roll call, all Council members voted in favor.

(See copy of Ordinance 11-08 attached and made a part hereof.)

Ordinance 11-09

Mr. Barra stated the Council had decided after discussion to remove this ordinance pending a meeting with the Water Committee. It may be reintroduced at the August 25th meeting.

Ms. LaMonica moved, seconded by Mr. Schoepflin, to pull Ordinance 11-09 from the agenda for this evening. On roll call, Mr. Strauch, Mr. Schoepflin, Ms. LaMonica, Mrs. Wilczynski, Mr. Bernstein and Mrs. White voted in favor.

Ordinance 11-10

Resolution 11-231 – Introduced by Mr. Strauch, seconded by Ms. LaMonica.

Be It Resolved that an Ordinance entitled 11-10, “Amend Chapter 252, ‘Vehicles and Traffic’ “ by the Borough of Allendale, in the County of Bergen, New Jersey” heretofore introduced, does now pass on first reading, and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage at a meeting to be held on the 25th day of August, 2011, at 8:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached, at the regular meeting place of the Borough Council, and that at such time and place all persons interested be given an opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance, and that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish said ordinance according to law with a notice of its introduction and passage on first reading and of the time and place when and where said ordinance will be further considered for final passage.

On roll call, all Council members voted in favor.

(See copy of Ordinance 11-10, attached and made a part hereof.)

Consent Agenda

Resolution 11-232 – Introduced by Mrs. White, seconded by Mrs. Wilczynski

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, that it hereby approves the Bill List dated July 28, 2011.

On roll call, all Council members voted in favor.

Resolution 11-233 – Introduced by Mrs. White, seconded by Mrs. Wilczynski

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, that it hereby approved a salary adjustment for the following individual retroactive to May 28, 2011:

Lifeguard:

Chelsea Andrews \$8.50 to \$9.50 an hour Completion of WSI Training

On roll call, all Council members voted in favor.

Resolution 11-234 – Introduced by Mrs. White, seconded by Mrs. Wilczynski

Be It Resolved by the Governing Body that the Regular Meeting and Work Session of the Council scheduled for August 11, 2011 is hereby cancelled and the Municipal Clerk is authorized to provide notice in accordance with law.

On roll call, all Council members voted in favor.

Resolution 11-235 – Introduced by Mrs. White, seconded by Mrs. Wilczynski

Be It Resolved that the annual Town Wide Garage Sale will be held on September 17 with a rain date of September 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Be It Further Resolved that the Women’s Club will comply with the Borough’s requirements for insurance and hold harmless approval.

On roll call, all Council members voted in favor.

Resolution 11-236 – Introduced by Mrs. White, seconded by Mrs. Wilczynski

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, that the following individual be appointed as a temporary employee:

Name	Department	Appointment Date	Salary
David DenHollander	Public Works	August 1, 2011	\$10/hr.

On roll call, all Council members voted in favor.

Resolution 11-237 – Introduced by Mrs. White, seconded by Mrs. Wilczynski

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, that for the week of August 30 through September 5, salaries for life guards and gate persons will be increased by \$1.00 per hour depending on availability of funds.

On roll call, all Council members voted in favor.

Resolution 11-238 – Introduced by Mrs. White, seconded by Mrs. Wilczynski

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey that Victor Bartoloma be appointed as a full time dispatcher effective August 2, 2011 at the rate of \$32,432.00.

Be It Further Resolved that his hourly rate will be \$15.59 and his overtime rate will be \$23.39.

On roll call, all Council members voted in favor.

Resolution 11-239 – Introduced by Mrs. White, seconded by Mrs. Wilczynski

Be It Resolved by the Governing Body that it hereby authorizes and approve the Linda Fleishcauer Memorial 5K Walk on Sunday, September 25, 2011, which will begin and end at Crestwood Park and take place between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.;

Be It Further Resolved that the organizers of the Walk must receive an acknowledgement of the event from the Allendale Police Chief, Fire Chief, Director of Operations and Ambulance Corps Captain stating they are aware of the event.

Be It Further Resolved that the Woman’s Club will secure appropriate liability insurance and sign a hold harmless agreement with the municipality.

On roll call, all Council members voted in favor.

Resolution 11-240 – Introduced by Mrs. White, seconded by Mrs. Wilczynski

Be It Resolved by the Council of the Borough of Allendale that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to issue the following check on the property listed below and charge same to Overpayment of 2010 Taxes:

Block/ Lot	Name		Amount
Property Location			
701/9	BAC Tax Services Corporation MC: CAO-911-01-03 177 Holston Drive Lancaster, CA 93536 Paluzzi	272 E Allendale Ave	\$1,475.90
905/19	Core Logic Attn: Refund Dept 1 Core Logic Way West Lake, TX 76262 Karvellas	173 Myrtle Ave	\$94.25
905/19.1	Core Logic Attn: Refund Dept	173 Myrtle Ave	\$379.61

	1 Core Logic Way West Lake, TX 76262 Karvellas		
907/1	BAC Tax Services Corporation MC: CAO-911-01-03 177 Holston Drive Lancaster, CA 93536 DePaola	124 Myrtle Ave	\$831.22
1102/3	Zambrotta, Thomas & Almida 13 Surrey Lane Allendale, NJ 07401	74 Donnybrook Dr	\$3,008.74
1710/1.01 C0132	McCann, Eileen 132 Orchard Park Allendale, NJ 07401	132 Orchard Park	\$43.48
2101/9 C0126	Pavlovic, Ilija, Gordana & Sonia 126 Carriage Court Allendale, NJ 07401	126 Carriage Ct	\$2,268.31
2103/15	Bennewitz, Thomas & Christine 9 Eroid Ct Allendale, NJ 07401	9 Eroid Ct	\$86.46
		TOTAL	\$8,187.97

On roll call, all Council members voted in favor.

Resolution 11-241 – Introduced by Mrs. White, seconded by Mrs. Wilczynski

Whereas, competitive quotations have been received for the project known as the 2011 Allendale Inlet and Drainage Repairs;

Whereas, quotations were sought for 17 locations on the condition that the Borough reserved the right to increase, decrease or remove any of the locations set forth therein;

Whereas, the Borough has a funding limitation of \$15,000 in the current capital budget to use for the work;

Whereas, the Chief Financial Officer has attached hereto a Certification that adequate funds have been duly appropriated to pay for a contract not to exceed \$15,000;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Governing Body that it does hereby award a contract to D.S. Meyer of 63 Longview Drive, Waldwick, New Jersey 07463 for a contract amount not to exceed \$15,000 based upon the locations and prices set forth in the specifications as determined by the Director of Operations, which determination is attached hereto and incorporated herein;

Be It Further Resolved that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are authorized to sign the appropriate contract and/or purchase order, as the case may be following legal review.

On roll call, all Council members voted in favor.

Resolution 11-242 – Introduced by Mrs. White, seconded by Mrs. Wilczynski.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, that the following individual is hereby appointed as a part-time, fill-in dispatcher effective August 1, 2011:

Name	Rate of Pay
Brendan Sterbinsky	\$15.59/hour

Committee Reports

Public Safety

Mr. Bernstein said the Public Safety Committee met this morning. For the past two months members of the Ambulance Corps and CERT have been attending those meetings. The missed calls have been down for the Ambulance Corps in recent months and the group seems to be making great strides.

Mr. Barra added that the Ambulance Corps has had a change in leadership and the change has been very positive. The Corps went from a 50-55% response rate to an 82% response rate on calls. Morale, organization and scheduling have all improved.

A resident in town donated \$10,000 to the purchase of two power lifts which will help to prevent back injuries for Police and Ambulance Corps workers.

Public Works

Mrs. White said there have been a couple meetings of the DPW Committee in July. It is hoped the 2011 paving specs will be put out to bid very shortly. The County has paved Allendale Avenue and some of Allendale's street signs have recently been replaced.

Land Use and Construction Code

Mr. Strauch did not have a report.

Water, Sewer and Public Utilities

Mr. Schoepflin said there is a tentative date of August 19th for the next Water Committee meeting.

Administration, Finance and Human Resources

Ms. LaMonica stated her Committee is continuing discussions with the white collar union which they hope to conclude in the near future. They had hoped the contract would have been resolved before now.

Facilities, Parks and Recreation

Mrs. Wilczynski reported that the New Jersey Clean Energy program has been completed with new HVAC equipment. The Library was approved for approximately \$25,000 in lighting but they did not get approved for air conditioning replacement because the program has changed.

Mr. Barra thanked Mrs. Wilczynski for her participation and involvement in helping Allendale benefit from these grants.

Mrs. Wilczynski said there was a successful beach party at Crestwood Lake. Last year 160 people attended and this year almost 300 people attended. This coming Saturday will be one of three free band concerts at the lake. Two lifeguards will be hired to patrol the lake that evening. The band which is made up of local members will start playing at 7:30 p.m. Also coming up will be a free movie night. Teen night was a success and drew an older group of teens from the high school.

The computer system for Lake registration has worked very well and over 70% of people have registered on line and revenue has been great. The rental of the West Beach has been very successful and the water clarity this summer has been excellent. It's been a good year at the Lake.

The movie was originally scheduled to be the original Willie Wonka movie. There is a new Sand Lot movie under consideration also.

Municipal Attorney

Mr. Bole did not have a report.

Administrative Officer/Municipal Clerk

Mrs. McCarthy said that all the deeds have been pulled from various locations in the Borough Hall and placed in the fire proof safe in the Finance Office. Her next summer project is going to be organizing and updating the personnel records.

Public Comments

Mr. Barra opened the meeting to the public for comments.

Mr. Bob Paterson of Stone Fence Road said he came to the meeting this evening to ask questions about the water rate ordinance which has now been tabled. If that ordinance is introduced on August 25th, he assumes there will be a public hearing during September. That would mean that any opportunity to increase the billing for the third quarter would be lost. The fourth quarter would not impact on the year 2011 because any increase made effective October 1st would only be a benefit in the following year.

The good news is that there is still \$200,000 remaining in surplus that should offset any shortfall in 2011.

By his calculations as a result of five successive water increases beginning in April of 2007, his water bill, including the proposed increase for this evening, would have been up 47 percent over 2006. Adding in the finance charge would have meant it was up by 55 percent. Mr. Paterson said there has to be an end to water increases and every shortfall can't be corrected by an increase in the rates. There is a limit to what the taxpaying public will tolerate and when he sees an average increase in excess of ten percent a year for five years running, we have reached that limit.

Of the last five increases, the last two were made across the board. He doesn't know why this proposed increase was decided to be five percent but he assumes that was the amount needed to solve the revenue problem that existed. The previous five percent increase was made because of a lack of time and expertise with which to make the rate change on the basis that he preferred. The type of increase he prefers and previously worked on were assessed by individual categories and groups of customers. One of the purposes in doing the increase in this way was to gradually bring the commercial customers up to the same rates being paid by residential customers. Mr. Paterson still prefers that way of increasing rates and he has determined that the new billing system has the ability to calculate alternative rates which he used to do by using Excel. This process should be fairly quick and easy.

Mr. Paterson asked for the Water Committee to give serious consideration to bringing those customers who are currently enjoying discounted commercial rates up to the same level as the residents.

One new reason why this is desirable is because Allendale's sewage bill is higher than it should be. The sewage flow charge per resident in Allendale is significantly higher than the average for all of the communities in the utility authority. Several years ago he calculated that if we could bring our sewage flow down to the average, it would lower the utility bill by a quarter of a million dollars a year. He questions where the high sewage flow is coming from. The engineers have looked at the lines and have not found anything significant. Mr. Paterson has looked at the nursing home and has looked at the restaurants. Because of the nature of those businesses, he believes it is a good possibility that in the normal course of doing business they are responsible in a large part for the abnormally large sewage flow. It gives him one more reason to be willing to increase the water rate on those businesses rather than give them a discount as we do today.

On another point he has researched Allendale's bond amortization which he believes is paid out of the finance charge. Bond amortization will increase in the future because the amortization table indicates that the amortization expense will be higher in the future than what was budgeted for in 2011. He would like the Water Committee to project future expenses for the Water Utility and to determine what increase is needed based on those projections rather than raising the rate to cover an immediate shortfall. He wants projections to extend out ten years in order to determine what the rates should be. He wants to increase the rate ahead of need, build a surplus and increase the rates less often as a result.

Mr. Paterson said he wanted to address another subject which is really a complaint. He doesn't know if the DPW is short of workers or if someone isn't paying attention but weeds are growing up around the trees in the downtown area. The situation also exists at the top of Park Avenue. He is tired of looking at the weeds and if no one else will take care of the situation he will.

In addition the Borough Hall is poorly maintained. The cupola needs to be painted, the columns need to be painted and the base of the columns needs to be repaired. He believes weeding hasn't been done for two years and mulching hasn't been done for ten years when it was done previously by the Garden Club.

Mr. Barra said Mr. Paterson was absolutely correct. A contractor was retained to replace the columns but he hasn't done the work yet. Other aspects of the Borough Hall will also be inspected including the roof and the cupola. A list of items will be given to the Council to be dealt with in next year's capital budget.

Mr. Barra and Mrs. Wilczynski recently walked the downtown area because they are both appalled by the condition of the weeds.

Mrs. Wilczynski said they have received a quote of \$340 from Harvest Landscaping to kill the weeds on the main street. They have also considered hiring organizations to come in and pull the weeds.

They are in the process of getting garbage cans painted and getting new planters and benches downtown for as little money as possible. There is a beautification campaign going on with some of the downtown merchants.

Mr. Barra said the situation is unacceptable and it will be taken care of as soon as possible. The Borough Hall is a serious concern and the roof is a major issue. These issues will be a priority and something will be done very quickly.

Mr. John Koster asked who in the Allendale Ambulance Corps has been responsible for its improvement.

Mayor Barra said the Ambulance Corps has a new President, Ted Clarke, and Jack Shea is his Vice President. Sharon Acaster is a Captain and Ellen Hillman is another officer

who has been very instrumental. It is a team effort from a group of people who felt a change was necessary. Morale, organization and leadership have all been improved.

Mr. Matt Jackson, the reporter for the Town Journal said he is leaving the newspaper to return to school to study Occupational Therapy. He thanked the Council and particularly the Mayor for being responsive to his phone calls over the time he has worked with Allendale.

Mayor Barra thanked Mr. Jackson for his fair and accurate reporting. On behalf of the Council he wished him the best in his new venture.

Respectfully submitted,

Gwen McCarthy
Municipal Clerk