

Work Session
Mayor and Council
October 11, 2012

A Work Session of the Mayor and Council was called to order at 7:45 p.m. by Mayor Barra who announced that the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act were met by the required posting and notice to publications.

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

Public Comments

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

There were none.

Agenda Review

Resolution 12-279 – Authorization to Sign Memorandum of Understanding

Mr. Barra said an agreement has been reached with the Teamsters subject to approval by the Council and the Teamsters members. They reached agreement on the following items:

- A 2% increase across the board for the next three years.
- Sick leave incentive has been eliminated as it has for the rest of the Borough employees.
- The mechanic will receive a \$500 tool allowance to be paid for from the operating budget of the DPW.
- A two hour minimum payment will be given to an individual who is called in when he is on standby.
- Employees will contribute to their health insurance as per state regulations.

Mrs. White and Ms. LaMonica said the negotiations were very efficient.

Mr. Barra added that they met with the Teamsters three times and those meetings were both efficient and professional.

Mrs. White said she appreciated the Governor establishing a 2% cap and clear cut health care contributions.

Ms. LaMonica added that the Teamsters were straightforward and easy to work with.

Mr. John Koster asked how many members are in the Teamsters union. Mr. Barra responded that there are fourteen combined members from the Department of Public Works and the Water Department.

Resolution 12-277 – Award Bid for Allendale Safe Routes to School

Mrs. White said every step in this process has been difficult, however the contract will be awarded this evening, a pre-construction meeting will be held next week and two weeks after that the sidewalks will be finished.

Mayor Barra said that Mrs. White and Mr. Strauch's wife, Peggy submitted an application for this grant in 2006. Their application was approved but they are still waiting for the completion of the project in 2012.

Mrs. White commented that pursuing a Federal grant has proven to be a complicated process.

Administration

Mayor's Report

Mr. Barra reported that on November 19th at 11:00 a.m. the ribbon cutting at Crescent Commons will be held. The Department of Community Affairs Commissioner, Richard Constable III will be attending at that time. His organization is in charge of the Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency which provided the money to fund the project.

Proposed Driveway Ordinance

Mr. Strauch said the Borough currently has a driveway ordinance that is lacking in enforcement language. Such language will be added when the ordinance is amended. The present ordinance also states that the driveway can be no wider than the garage and it provides stipulations about where a driveway can or cannot be. Driveways that currently do not conform to these guidelines will be "grandfathered" in and will not have to be changed.

Proposed Accessory Building Ordinance

Mr. Strauch commented that this ordinance involves structures such as sheds, garages and cabanas. Mr. Strauch will be working with Mr. John Wittekind, Construction Code Official and Ms. Stephanie Tengi, the Chair of the Board of Adjustment to draft an ordinance that the Land Use Committee will review.

Currently garages are allowed to be six feet from the property line and have a twenty-one foot peak. This is a loop hole in the code that legally allows for a large structure to be built close to the property line. Hopefully in early 2013 the Land Use Committee will have this ordinance prepared to present to the Planning Board and Council for approval.

Mayor Barra said the major issue with regard to accessory buildings is the large cabanas which are in some cases like small homes.

On a motion by Mrs. White, seconded by Ms. LaMonica, the Council voted unanimously to adjourn to the Regular Session of the Council at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gwen McCarthy
Municipal Clerk