

Work Session
Mayor and Council
October 27, 2011

A Work Session of the Mayor and Council was called to order at 7:36 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, Schoepflin, 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 but there were none.

Administration

Fire Department Grants

Mr. Bob Winter and Chief Dave Baez were present to discuss a Federal Grant Application that they submitted on behalf of the Allendale Volunteer Fire Department. Chief Baez thanked Firefighters Bob Winter and Rich Shinnick who he said were instrumental in getting the grant prepared and submitted. The grant is for \$322,920 and if funded will enable three major improvements to be made to the Fire Department. They are:

- To replace the turnout gear for every firefighter in the department.
- To upgrade the current standby generator in the Fire House.
- To resupply the self-contained breathing apparatus. The bottles have a life expectancy of fifteen years and the department is coming up on the fifteenth year of use. The cost is \$172,920 just for the bottles.

The grant is a 95/5 percent ratio which means if the Fire Department is awarded the maximum amount, the Borough would have a financial commitment of \$16,146.

Mr. Winter said the grant will be reviewed by FEMA and then by a committee of volunteer firefighters. The Fire Department will be asking for letters of support from Congressman Scott Garrett and the two New Jersey Senators.

Mr. Winter said the Fire Department also applied for a grant that would provide for a \$100,000 air fill system that would allow bottles to be filled at the Fire House without sending them out for refilling. This process will save money and will free up more time for emergency responses. Currently our firefighters go to Waldwick to fill the rescue truck which takes approximately three to five hours. Then the truck is used to fill the bottles back in Allendale.

Mrs. White offered any assistance she could provide to help obtain the grant.

Chief Baez said he anticipates hearing about whether they will receive the grant by January or February.

Addition of an Easement on 92 Myrtle Avenue

Mr. Barra said there is no filed easement for the storm water system pipes that go through the backyards of two properties on Myrtle Avenue. Those residents do not have a problem with having an easement on their properties, and Mr. Cauwenberghs recommends that the easement be put in place.

Mr. Bole will prepare the appropriate paperwork which will be approved by the Council and executed by the residents. Mr. Barra said the easement will pertain to 92 Myrtle Avenue and the house that adjoins it.

Changes to Road Opening Permit Process

Mrs. White said this item was not ready for discussion by the Council. The Committee will review the recommendations provided by the Borough Engineer yesterday and then will discuss the issue at the November 11th meeting of the DPW Committee.

Honeybees at the Celery Farm

Mayor Barra was contacted by Mr. Mike Limatola, the Marsh Warden at the Celery Farm. Mr. Limatola was asked to allow honeybees at the Celery Farm. Mr. Limatola is in favor of the idea.

Mr. Strauch asked if the hives will be inspected annually by the state as required in Allendale's honeybee ordinance. Members of the Council agreed that the Celery Farm should be allowed to have the honeybees but that the Celery Farm will have to comply with the requirements set forth in the existing ordinance.

Mr. Schoepflin asked about where the honeybees will be located because he is concerned about them being too close to the pathway.

Mr. Barra said Mr. Limatola will be asked to supply information on the proposed location of the honeybees in writing. If a resolution is passed everyone should be aware of the location and that the Celery Farm is in compliance with the Allendale's ordinance.

Mr. Strauch noted that there were hives on the west side of the Celery Farm years ago.

Mr. Barra said he will advise Mr. Limatola of the Council's decision.

Respectfully submitted,

Gwen McCarthy
Municipal Clerk