

**BOROUGH OF JAMESBURG
GOVERNING BODY SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
MAY 9, 2012
6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Marlene Lowande called the meeting to order and announced that same was being held pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act of 1974 and all provisions of that Act had been met. Any contracts awarded require the contractor to comply with N.J.S.A.10:5-31 et.seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27. Also announced, in the event of a fire and pursuant to the N.J. Uniform Fire Code, members of the audience were requested to take notice of the exits at the front and rear of the Council Chambers as well as in the main hallway.

FLAG SALUTE: Led by Mayor Lowande

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Lowande - Present
Council President Ludas - Present
Council Member Busco - Present
Council Member Carpenter - Present
Council Member Kostbar - Present
Council Member Newton - Present
Council Member Taylor - Present
Administrator Jawidzik - Present
Borough Attorney Raffetto - Present

1ST PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY – EXCLUDES ORDINANCES (they have their own public hearing): Members of the public wishing to address the Mayor and Borough Council must approach the podium and state their name and address for the record. There is a five (5) minute time limit for all comments and questions.

MOTION TO OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Proposed By: Council Member Kostbar
Seconded By: Council President Ludas
All in favor.

Mr. Tom Van de Sande – 2 Fernwood Lane – Mr. Van de Sande inquired about the terms of the contracts being discussed in Executive Session. He was advised that the Mayor and Council were unable to discuss these terms publically as they are for Executive Session. Mr. Van de Sande asked about anticipated revenue and other budget items. Mr. Van de Sande was informed that the Budget will be publically heard at the next meeting.

Mr. Sandy Sussman – 124 Buckelew Avenue – Mr. Sussman commented that although he commends Mr. Van de Sande for his preparation and comments he believes that the borough employees, like employees in the private sector, should also be in a position to earn pay increases.

MOTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Proposed By: Council Member Carpenter
Seconded By: Council Member Taylor
All in favor.

Council Member Kostbar inquired as to what specifically was being discussed in the Executive Session. Attorney Raffetto responded and clarified. Mr. Kostbar recommended that the Agenda be amended to consider Resolutions #105 and #106 prior to Executive Session. All agreed.

RESOLUTIONS

#105-05-09-12 Fixing Salaries for Borough Employees

Council President Ludas gave an overview of the Personnel Committee’s considerations resulting in the salary recommendations presented in the Resolution. Council Member Kostbar asked clarifying questions which were addressed. Council Member Kostbar stated that he is quite pleased with the performance of all borough employees. Council Member Kostbar asked for clarification of longevity and how it’s reported. Administrator Jawidzik responded. Mr. Kostbar commented on the Registrar position and the possibility of folding it into another job in the future. Council Member Carpenter suggested that the Mayor and Council salary line item should be a fixed number versus a range. It was agreed to consider this in future years. Council Member Taylor expressed his concern of a potential perception that the only means to obtain a raise is to be a member of a union noting that it’s important to be fair and equitable to non-union employees. Mr. Kostbar asked Borough Attorney Raffetto to advise the council on “conflicts” specifically asking if the Mayor should vote on the police contracts. Attorney Raffetto noted that he would offer his guidance to any member of the council regarding a potential conflict. Council Member Busco voiced his support of the DPW workers noting examples of their hard work and commitment.

COUNCIL MEMBER	MOTION	2nd	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Council Member Busco		X	X			
Council Member Carpenter			X			
Council Member Kostbar			X			
Council Member Newton			X			
Council Member Taylor			X			
Council President Ludas	X		X			
Mayor Lowande						

#106-05-09-12 Fixing Salaries for Borough Employees - Taylor

Council Member Carpenter commented that historically the Assistant Tax Collector range was zero noting that it is now listed at \$2,000. Council Member Carpenter suggested that the borough attempt to merge certain jobs. Council Member Kostbar commented that his recollection was that the Assistant Tax Collector would not have a salary tied to it. Council Member Ludas expressed concern of singling out any particular employee. Council Kostbar assured the Mayor and Council that it was not about the person but the job. Council Member Newton asked if the Resolution could be amended. Attorney Raffetto responded. Council Member Kostbar and Council Member Newton asked for clarification of the Assistant Tax Collector and Tax Collector job descriptions. Administrator Jawidzik responded.

COUNCIL MEMBER	MOTION	2nd	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Council Member Busco		X	X			
Council Member Carpenter			X			
Council Member Kostbar			X			
Council Member Newton				X		
Council Member Taylor					X	
Council President Ludas	X		X			
Mayor Lowande						

COUNCIL MEMBER	MOTION	2nd	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Council Member Busco			X			
Council Member Carpenter	X		X			
Council Member Kostbar		X	X			
Council Member Newton			X			
Council Member Taylor			X			
Council President Ludas			X			
Mayor Lowande						

Amendments:

- No Longevity for new hires hired after January 1, 2012.
- Removal of Section 15.3.

COUNCIL MEMBER	MOTION	2nd	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Council Member Busco	X		X			
Council Member Carpenter			X			
Council Member Kostbar			X			
Council Member Newton			X			
Council Member Taylor			X			
Council President Ludas		X	X			
Mayor Lowande						

Council Member Newton voiced his objection to the wage scale. Council Member Kostbar stated that he cannot support the contract due to the salary increases, overtime increases and the cell phones. Council Member Taylor voiced his support for the contract commenting that the salary increases are 0% and there is a 0% increase to the steps.

COUNCIL MEMBER	MOTION	2nd	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Council Member Busco			X			
Council Member Carpenter		X	X			
Council Member Kostbar				X		
Council Member Newton				X		
Council Member Taylor	X		X			
Council President Ludas			X			
Mayor Lowande						

2nd PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – ANY ITEM Members of the public wishing to address the Mayor and Borough Council must approach the podium and state their name and address for the record. There is a five (5) minute time limit for all comments and questions.

MOTION TO OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – ANY ITEM

Proposed By: Council Member Newton

Seconded By: Council President Ludas

All in favor.

Mr. Tom Van de Sande – 2 Fernwood Lane – Mr. Van de Sande asked if a schedule of committee meetings could be posted on the website. Borough Attorney Raffetto offered his guidance on the public's attendance at a committee meeting based on the subject matter being discussed.

Mr. Sandy Sussman – 124 Buckelew – Mr. Sussman asked for clarification on "steps". Mr. Kostbar and Mr. Taylor addressed.

MOTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – ANY ITEM

Proposed By: Council Member Carpenter

Seconded By: Council President Ludas

All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Proposed By: Council President Ludas

Seconded By: Council Member Carpenter

All in favor.

TIME OF ADJOURNMENT: 8:07 PM