

BOROUGH OF JAMESBURG
GOVERNING BODY MEETING
MINUTES
MARCH 13, 2013
7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER: This meeting is being held pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act of 1974 and all provisions of that Act have 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, in the event of a fire and pursuant to the N.J. Uniform Fire Code, members of the audience are 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
Council President Carpenter
Council Member Busco
Council Member Kostbar
Council Member Ludas
Council Member Sussman
Council Member Taylor
Administrator Jawidzik
Borough Attorney Raffetto - Absent

JOINT ANNUAL MUNICIPAL/SCHOOL COMMUNITY NEEDS BUDGET PRESENTATION

Members of the School Board, including Dr. Verona, Tom Reynolds and Sal Brucato were present and gave an overview of the budget and answered questions from the Governing Body. Mayor Lowande and the Governing Body thanked them all for coming and answering questions.

INTRODUCTION OF 2013 LOCAL MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Acting Borough Clerk, Tanya Pannucci read the Municipal Budget Notice explaining that the Budget will be advertised in the Cranbury Press on March 22, 2013.

Administrator Jawidzik gave an overview of the 2013 Budget explaining that the budget is being introduced at a 4.3 cent increase which is 2.79% more than the 2012 budget. This represents a \$60.45 increase for the year for the average home. We are anticipating \$785,000 in surplus as compared to last year's \$280,000, which is available due to the sale of the cell tower lease for \$664,000. We are also anticipating the \$77,700 that we received from FEMA. Appropriations without grants and the Reserve for Uncollected Taxes was \$4,700,000 in 2012 and are \$5,203,366 in 2013 with a net increase of \$503,366. An additional \$240,000 needs to be budgeted in the tax budget and \$58,000 in the sewer budget to cover the outstanding charges at the MUA and the anticipated increase in costs for 2013. Since the sewer budget can only spend the amount of money it raises from sewer bills, many items that we previously paid out of the sewer budget now have to be moved to taxes. They include Health & Liability Insurance for \$63,000. We also have to pay for the \$50,000 for the emergency we declared from Superstorm Sandy. The library appropriations have increased \$7,000. Other increased costs include: Pension - \$16,000, Health - \$25,000, Capital - \$40,000 and Reserve Uncollected Taxes - \$86,000.

Council Members Kostbar and Taylor asked for clarification on some details of the budget, Administrator Jawidzik answered.

Mayor Lowande added that the Public Hearing on the Budget is set for April 10, 2013 and she invited the public to attend.

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 per citizen.

Motion Open to Public Comment:

Proposed By: Kostbar

Seconded By: Ludas

All in Favor

Tom Van de Sande – 2 Fernwood Lane: Mr. Van de Sande asked for clarification on several resolutions, including #062-03-13-13, which Administrator Jawidzik and Council Member Kostbar clarified it is for the Length of Service Award Program which was passed by referendum back in 2001. Also #064-03-13-13 authorizing a State Contract Purchase, Mr. Van de Sande asked why a resolution and ordinance is on the Agenda for the same thing. Administrator Jawidzik explained. Lastly, Mr. Van de Sande asked about #065-03-13-13 Opposition to Early Voting Bills S2364 and A3553, which Acting Borough Clerk, Tanya Pannucci explained.

Carol Hetzell – 36 Woodland Road: Mrs. Hetzell gave thanks to the Governing Body and Mayor for the additional \$7,000 to the library. Council Member Taylor explained that it is understood the library asked for more money but it was a give and take and the Governing Body tried to do what they could to the best of their ability.

Don Anastasio – 8 Hillside Avenue: Mr. Anastasio asked about ratable's; Mayor Lowande advised this public comment period was for "Agenda Items Only" and he could ask his question during the second comment portion of the meeting where it is open to discussing any item.

Tom Gibbons – 15 Stockton Avenue: Mr. Gibbons thanked the Governing Body for the additional funds for the library. Mr. Gibbons asked if a committee is formed to discuss the sharing of services. Mayor Lowande explained that we share a lot of services and the finance committee addresses those items. Council Member Taylor and Mayor Lowande explained that this public comment period is for "Agenda Items Only" and Mr. Gibbons can ask those questions during the second public comment period.

Motion to Close to Public Comment:

Proposed By: Ludas

Seconded By: Carpenter

All in Favor

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING BY TITLE – PUBLIC HEARING

The following ordinances were approved on the first reading at the meeting of the Mayor and Council held on February 27, 2013 and published in the March 8, 2013 edition of the Cranbury Press. Copies have been posted on the municipal bulletin board and made available to the public since introduction.

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING BY TITLE:

ORDINANCE #04-13

2013 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.1 et seq., provides that in preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget to 2% unless authorized by ordinance to increase to 3.5% over the previous year’s final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Jamesburg in the County of Middlesex finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2013 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year’s final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council hereby determines that a 1.5% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$57,971.21 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and

WHEREAS, Borough Council of the Borough of Jamesburg hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Jamesburg, in the County of Middlesex, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2013 budget year, the final appropriations of the Borough of Jamesburg shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$135,266.15 and that the CY 2013 municipal budget for the Borough of Jamesburg be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years, and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days of such adoption.

COUNCIL MEMBER	MOTION TO OPEN	2nd	VOTE	MOTION TO CLOSE	2nd	VOTE	MOTION TO ADOPT	2nd	VOTE
Council Member Busco			X			X			X
Council Member Kostbar			X			X			X
Council Member Ludas			X			X		X	X
Council Member Sussman			X	X		X			X
Council Member Taylor	X		X			X	X		X
Council President Carpenter		X	X		X	X			X
Mayor Lowande									

Tom Van de Sande – 2 Fernwood Lane: Mr. Van de Sande asked for clarification on why we would be exceeding the CAP; Administrator Jawdzik explained.

ORDINANCE #05-13

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS EQUIPMENT AND APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$52,000 THEREFORE, AUTHORIZED IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF JAMESBURG, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, the Borough of Jamesburg, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey has determined to acquire various equipment; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Jamesburg has \$52,000 in the Capital Improvement Fund.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED and enacted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Jamesburg, County of Middlesex, New Jersey, that:

SECTION 1. The purchase described in Section 2 of this ordinance is hereby authorized as a General Capital purchase to be undertaken in and by the Borough of Jamesburg, County of Middlesex, New Jersey.

SECTION 2. The acquisition hereby authorized to be undertaken consists of the purchase of various equipment including but not limited to:

- a. Any capital equipment so determined as to be necessary including, but not limited to Vehicles, computers, printers, weapons, police communications equipment, public works equipment

together with all items necessary, incidental or appurtenant thereto.

SECTION 3. The 2013 General Capital Budget of the Borough of Jamesburg will conform to the provisions of this ordinance

SECTION 4. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with the terms of this ordinance be and the same are hereby repealed to the extent of their inconsistency

SECTION 5. This ordinance shall take effect 10 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by law.

COUNCIL MEMBER	MOTION TO OPEN	2nd	VOTE	MOTION TO CLOSE	2nd	VOTE	MOTION TO ADOPT	2nd	VOTE
Council Member Busco			X			X			X
Council Member Kostbar	X		X			X	X		X
Council Member Ludas		X	X			X			X
Council Member Sussman			X	X		X			X
Council Member Taylor			X		X	X			X
Council President Carpenter			X			X		X	X
Mayor Lowande									

Tom Van de Sande – 2 Fernwood Lane: Mr. Van de Sande asked about the items that are being purchased and why it is necessary to purchase tires for the backhoe when the backhoe is new; Administrator Jawidzik explained that the backhoe is not new as it was purchased a few years ago. Council Member Taylor explained the backhoe was ineffective during the snow storm and it could not be utilized properly. Mr. Van de Sande asked why this purchase could not come out of the maintenance of vehicles, Administrator Jawidzik answered.

ORDINANCE #06-13

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS PHASE VI TO WEST RAILROAD AVENUE AND APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$79,097.28 THEREFORE, AUTHORIZED IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF JAMESBURG, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Jamesburg in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey has determined to improve the streetscape along West Railroad Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Jamesburg has been approved for \$79,097.28 in funding from the Middlesex County Sustainable Economic Growth Improvement Fund for such construction.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED and enacted by the mayor and council of the Borough of Jamesburg, County of Middlesex, New Jersey, that:

SECTION 1. The improvements described in Section 2 of this ordinance are hereby authorized as general capital improvements to be undertaken in and by the Borough of Jamesburg, County of Middlesex, New Jersey.

SECTION 2. The improvements hereby authorized to be undertaken consist of improvements to West Railroad Avenue, together with all items necessary, incidental or appurtenant thereto.

SECTION 3. The 2013 capital budget of the Borough of Jamesburg will conform to the provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION 4. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with the terms of this ordinance be and the same are hereby repealed to the extent of their inconsistency.

SECTION 5. This ordinance shall take effect 10 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by law.

COUNCIL MEMBER	MOTION TO OPEN	2nd	VOTE	MOTION TO CLOSE	2nd	VOTE	MOTION TO ADOPT	2nd	VOTE
Council Member Busco			X			X			X
Council Member Kostbar	X		X			X			X
Council Member Ludas			X			X		X	X
Council Member Sussman			X	X		X			X
Council Member Taylor		X	X			X			X
Council President Carpenter			X		X	X	X		X
Mayor Lowande									

Donald Anastasio – 8 Hillside Avenue: Mr. Anastasio asked what the project would entail; Mayor Lowande explained it will be the pavers from PNC Bank all the way down to the pizzeria. Mr. Anastasio suggested that it could be used for potholes; Council Member Taylor explained that this is grant money and it has to be used for specific purposes. Potholes will be fixed when the plant opens and asphalt can be purchased.

CONSENT AGENDA DEFINED:

All matters listed on tonight’s Consent Agenda are to be considered as one vote by the Borough Council and will be enacted by one motion. Any resolutions listed on the agenda with ** next to their respective number are to be

considered as part of the Consent Agenda. There will be no discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

#060-03-13-13** Accepting Meeting Minutes – February 27, 2013

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING MINUTES

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING MINUTES BE AND ARE HEREBY ACCEPTED AND FILED:

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

February 27, 2013

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

#061-03-13-13** Approve Payment of Vouchers

APPROVE PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS

WHEREAS, The Chief Financial Officer has certified and submitted a consolidated bill list for the payment of claims; and

WHEREAS, all vouchers listed herewith have been encumbered and sufficient funds are available for payment; and

WHEREAS, the required signatures of the Department Head or the Committee Chair, the Finance Chairperson, the Vendor, and the Chief Financial Officer, have all been obtained on each voucher on the attached list.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Jamesburg, that the voucher list submitted is hereby approved for payment in the total amount of \$54,559.34.

COUNCIL MEMBER	MOTION	2nd	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Council Member Busco			X			
Council Member Kostbar	X		X			
Council Member Ludas		X	X			
Council Member Sussman			X			

Council Member Taylor			X			
Council President Carpenter			X			
Mayor Lowande						

#062-03-13-13** Accept Length of Service Award Program List for 2012

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM LIST OF ACTIVE VOLUNTEER MEMBERS FOR 2012

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 16-3.7OF Chapter VXi (Length of Service Awards Program) of the “Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Jamesburg, New Jersey (2000)”, the Emergency Service Organization (Jamesburg Volunteer First Aid Squad) is to certify, per attached list, a list of active volunteer members who are eligible to participate in the plan to the Plan Administrator; and

WHEREAS, the Plan Administrator is to forward said certified list to the Mayor and Council for approval; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the aforementioned citation, the Emergency Service Organization has certified a list of eligible members to the Plan Administrator, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Jamesburg grant approval of the attached list of active volunteer members of the Jamesburg Volunteer First Aid Squad for eligibility in the Length of Service Awards Program.

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

NON-CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

#063-03-13-13 Authorize Tonnage Grant Application

AUTHORIZE TONNAGE GRANT APPLICATION

WHEREAS, the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act, P.L. 1987c. 102, has established a recycling fund from which tonnage grants may be made to municipalities in order to encourage local source separation and recycling programs; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent and the spirit of the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act to use the tonnage grants to develop new municipal recycling programs and to continue to expand existing programs; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has promulgated recycling regulations to implement the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling; and

WHEREAS, the recycling regulations impose municipalities certain requirements as a condition for applying for tonnage grants, including but not limited to, making and keeping accurate, verifiable records of materials collected and claimed by the municipality; and

WHEREAS, a resolution authorizing this municipality to apply for the 2012 Recycling Tonnage Grant will memorialize the commitment of this municipality to recycling and to indicate the assent of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Jamesburg to the efforts undertaken by the municipality and the requirements contained in the Recycling Act and recycling regulations; and

WHEREAS, such a resolution should designate the individual authorized to ensure the application is properly completed and timely filed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Jamesburg that the Borough of Jamesburg hereby endorses the submission of the Recycling Tonnage Grant Application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and designates Denise Jawidzik, Borough Administrator, with the approval of Joseph Intravartola, Recycling Coordinator, to ensure that the application is properly filed.

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

Council Member Taylor asked what the Tonnage Grant pays for; Administrator Jawidzik answered.

#064-03-13-13 Authorize State Contract Purchase

Authorize State Contract Purchase

WHEREAS, the Borough of Jamesburg wishes to purchase a 2013 Chevy Tahoe Police Vehicle from an authorized vendor under the State of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program 1-NJCP; and

WHEREAS, the purchase of goods and services by local contracting units is authorized by the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12; and

WHEREAS, Day Chevrolet Inc, 1600 Golden Mile Hwy, Monroeville, PA 15146 has been awarded New Jersey State Contract #82926 for this vehicle; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer recommends the utilization of this contract on the grounds that it represents the best price available; and

WHEREAS, the actual cost for the purchase of the 2013 Chevy Tahoe Police Vehicle is \$40,473.08; and

WHEREAS, The Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funds for this contract,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Jamesburg that Day Chevrolet Inc. be awarded a contract for the purchase of a 2013 Chevy Tahoe Police Vehicle.

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

Council Member Taylor explained this is for the police vehicle. This has become a necessity because during Hurricane Irene two vehicles were lost and insurance had only allowed us to purchase one vehicle. The police vehicles are driven over 5,000 miles a month with one recently needing to be towed.

#065-03-13-13 Opposition of Early Voting Bills S2364 & A3553
Opposition of Early Voting Bills S2364 & A3553

WHEREAS, Senate Bill S-2364 and Assembly Bill A3553 propose to create a system of early voting in the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the goal of accommodating voters in pursuit of greater participation in the democratic process is a worthy goal; and

WHEREAS, these bills would in reality increase workloads, add more costs to the election process, and ultimately serve to confuse voters more than it would accommodate their needs; and

WHEREAS, these bills would require for each primary and general election a public facility, except a public school, located in each municipality in an area of a high concentration of population to be open and available to registered voters starting 15 days before an election for early polling, possibly conflicting with if not pushing out other important uses for these buildings, causing inconvenience to residents; and

WHEREAS, these bills require retraining of poll workers and dramatically increased hours, as well as chain of custody requirements to protect the voting process, despite the fact that recruiting and training polls workers is already a difficult process; and

WHEREAS, these bills would increase costs to municipalities, including overtime pay for workers; and

WHEREAS, although these bills allow municipalities to request reimbursement for extra costs and provide an appropriation, the appropriation does not outline a specific amount nor dedicated funding, only that which the State Treasurer and the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting deem necessary, and they do not outline the procedure for a municipality whose reimbursement request is denied; and

WHEREAS, the opportunity for “Early Voting” already exists in the State of New Jersey through the Vote by Mail ballot process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that governing body of the Borough of Jamesburg in the County of Middlesex does hereby oppose S2364 and A3553; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the governing body of the Borough of Jamesburg does hereby call upon its representatives in the State Legislature to oppose the adoption of this bill; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution shall be sent to the Office of the Governor, Senate President Sweeney, Senators Gill and Whelan, sponsors of S2364, Speaker Oliver, Assemblymen Wisniewski, Diegnan, Benson, Conaway, and Coughlin, sponsors of A3553, our State Senator and Assembly representatives, the County Board of Elections, and the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

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

Mayor Lowande clarified that this is what Acting Borough Clerk, Tanya Pannucci clarified earlier. Council Member Taylor asked about the cost of poll workers and who compensates them, Administrator Jawidzik answered. Council Member Taylor asked about the other means to voting earlier. Acting Borough Clerk, Tanya Pannucci explained further.

COUNCILMATIC COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council Member Taylor

No Report.

- EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Council Member Sussman

Council Member Sussman extended thanks to the School Board for coming out tonight and giving out the information regarding the budget. He added that the Jamesburg Board of Education has entered into barter type agreement with the Rutgers Graduate School of Education for support with ESL, language arts, special needs and education technologies and advisory meetings with our administration. Jamesburg will provide space at the schools that will hold any associated programs from the Graduate School in addition to placement for their teachers over the years. Council Member Sussman explained that with the upcoming mandates from the State, as discussed at the last meeting, this seems to be a great idea and very beneficial.

- POLICE COMMITTEE
Council Member Kostbar

Council Member Kostbar reported that Lieutenant Craparotta had reported the police department had a normal month. There were an unusually high number of First Aid calls though. CPR Training has been completed as well. It was suggested by Lieutenant Craparotta that next year we should look into cutting down our tow list, as some tow companies are far away and the response time is slow. Council Member Kostbar extended thanks to the police force for doing a great job in particular the Sergeants who are working at night. Everyone is doing a great job in protecting the town. Council Member Kostbar also noted he will be attending a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Meeting on March 23rd and will report on that at our next meeting.

- PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
Council Member Ludas

No report on Personnel.

Council Member Ludas reported that there are four new businesses wanting to open in town. Two non-profit groups will be holding events in town, one in April the other in May. Also, Council Member Ludas will be in attendance at the SERV Meeting being held April 8th, at 5:30pm at Borough Hall.

- PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
Council Member Busco

Council Member Busco reported that the DPW is continuing to haul leaves and brush to the County. Public Works is also servicing all their equipment in preparation for the spring.

- PUBLIC EVENTS COMMITTEE
Council President Carpenter

Council President Carpenter reported on the Memorial Day Parade preparations. The Fall Festival has been scheduled for Saturday, October 19 with a rain date of Sunday, October 20th. The library is holding an AARP Driving Course, and the library gala is April 13th, in which tickets are still available. Council President Carpenter thanked the Mayor and Council for the additional funds extended to the library, which can now be used accordingly to keep the library open longer.

- PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
Mayor Marlene Lowande

No Report.

- ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT
Denise Jawidzik

No Report.

- MAYOR'S REPORT
Mayor Marlene Lowande

Mayor Lowande reported that Senator Greenstein wrote a letter in response to the passing of our resolution regarding the Energy Tax Receipts; Senator Greenstein supports our resolution and will be putting through a bill. Mayor Lowande hopes that with the attention this is garnering it may make a difference.

2nd PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – ANY ITEM - 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 per citizen.

MOTION TO OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT:

Motion Open to Public Comment:

Proposed By: Kostbar

Seconded By: Taylor

All in Favor

Elliot Stroul – 110 Mendoker Drive: Mr. Stroul extended thanks to the School Board for their presentation. Mr. Stroul asked when we will be getting the new police vehicle; Administrator Jawidzik responded that it has to be ordered.

He also stated he has tickets for the Library Gala and urged everyone to attend.

Mr. Stroul asked about the bid status for the Buckelew Mansion; Administrator Jawidzik responded that it will probably go out for bid in the next few months, Mr. Stroul asked if the Jamesburg Historical Association could receive a copy of those bid specifications when available; Administrator Jawidzik responded that in the next month or so when she has them available Mr. Stroul can reach out to her for a copy.

Tom Gibbons – 15 Stockton Avenue: Mr. Gibbons asked about the Animal Control Service we had with Helmetta and why the Council has chosen to instead have an in house Animal Control officer, which is more expensive. Council Member Taylor clarified that the costs for Helmetta and our own Animal Control Officer are the same, including kennel fees. With that being said, the Council decided on the quality of service being given by Helmetta, and in turn decided that our own Animal Control Officer has given a far better quality of service than Helmetta has. Mr. Gibbons asked if this has been discussed further with Helmetta; Mayor Lowande responded that she has no interest in discussing with Helmetta; she has received praise for our own Animal Control Officer and no complaints. Council Member Sussman clarified that Helmetta has an interest in collecting every possible animal and bringing to the kennel because they are making money doing so. He also noted that the very first month Helmetta was our Animal Control Service they had used up our entire amount appropriated for the year in kennel fees.

Mr. Gibbons asked about the cell phones; Administrator Jawidzik and Council Member Taylor responded. We have three cell phones and we pay zero dollars for them, as it is a shared services agreement with the SPCA.

Mr. Gibbons asked if the Borough has a policy regarding employees using Borough vehicles for private use; Administrator Jawidzik responded that yes, we do have a policy which has been in effect since last year, no employees are permitted to use any Borough vehicles for private use. Mr. Gibbons asked if a member of the public knew about an employee using a Borough vehicle for private use, how they would go about addressing that; Administrator Jawidzik responded for it to be reported and it will then be investigated.

Mr. Gibbons asked how much of a percentage the DPW's raise was last year; Council Member Taylor answered zero percent. Mayor Lowande let Mr. Gibbons know his five minute time limit was up.

Donald Anastasio – 8 Hillside Avenue: Mr. Anastasio stated that he feels there is a public safety issue over on Davison Avenue between Front Street and Hillside Avenue.

Mr. Anastasio asked about the \$600,000 debt service issue; Mayor Lowande and Council referred him to speak with the School Board.

Mr. Anastasio asked about the empty lot by the Firehouse that has a "for sale" sign on it, also pointing out that the land is not being utilized for anything; Mayor and Council explained that that is privately owned land. He also asked about the burned house on Gatzmer Avenue, in which Mayor Lowande explained that a lawsuit is in progress between the families and the Borough cannot do anything with that property until that litigation is over.

Mr. Anastasio asked if the rumors of Musso's property becoming a mini brewery were true; Council responded. Mayor and Council also stated that Jonathan's Bar & Grill will begin work soon, as well as, Spotswood Diner opening up soon; a florist, interior decorator and pediatrician have all opened up in town.

Tom Van de Sande – 2 Fernwood Lane: Mr. Van de Sande asked about the cell tower revenue and where it has been put into the budget; Administrator Jawidzik responded.

Mr. Van de Sande asked why the sewer over time has increased; Administrator Jawidzik explained pointing out that we had two hurricanes happen in the past three years as well.

Mr. Van de Sande asked if the Borough was still paying longevity pay to employees; Administrator Jawidzik and Council responded. Mr. Van de Sande asked when that was changed; Mayor and Council responded that had become effective last year. Mr. Van de Sande noted that it was recommended back in 1995 to do away with longevity pay. Council Member Kostbar said he was not aware of that recommendation.

Mr. Van de Sande asked if any Borough employees have not received a salary increase over the past five years. Council Members Kostbar and Taylor responded.

Mr. Van de Sande asked what the tax rate increase was; Administrator Jawidzik responded it was a 4.3 cent increase.

Mr. Van de Sande asked about the office supply budget; Administrator Jawidzik responded.

Mr. Van de Sande asked what the motivation for raising taxes was; Council Member Kostbar responded and Council Member Taylor added. Acting Borough Clerk, Tanya Pannucci advised that the five minute time limit was up.

Motion to Close to Public Comment:

Proposed By: Sussman

Seconded By: Ludas

All in Favor

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Proposed By: Ludas

Seconded By: Sussman

All in favor.

TIME OF ADJOURNMENT:

8:20PM

Tanya Pannucci
Acting Municipal Clerk
Borough of Jamesburg