

BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG

MINUTES

MARCH 28, 2013 - 7:00 P.M.

MAYOR'S STATEMENT: Acting Mayor Pote called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM and made the following statement: Under the provisions of N.J.S.A.10:4-6 et seq., notice of the time and place of this meeting was given by way of annual notice to the Courier News, Echoes Sentinel, and Star Ledger, and posted at Borough Hall.

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG and a MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN, SERVING HOME AND ABROAD and also
a MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR OUR MAYOR,
GERALD M. MOBUS**

ROLL CALL

Pote [P] Black [P] Franklin [P] Joren [P] Nehls [P]

Also present were Administrator Tom Atkins, Attorney Albert Cruz, Clerk Michelle DeRocco, Deputy Clerk MaryAnn Hance, Finance Officer Bill Hance, Engineer Tom Herits, Public Works Manager, Bob Burns, Police Chief Tim Wenzel and Fire Chief Tom Carlucci.

There were 15 members of the public present.

NOMINATIONS TO FILL VACANCY - MAYOR

Clerk Michelle DeRocco read a letter received from Republican Municipal Chairman, Doyle Hunsinger, submitting the names of 3 candidates for the position of Mayor. They are as follows: Councilman Steve Black, Councilwoman Debra Joren, and Councilman Steve Pote.

Council President Pote stated since both he and Councilman Black are candidates for this position he requested Senior Member Tom Franklin preside over this portion of the meeting.

Councilman Nehls moved the following resolution with a second by Councilman Black and upon roll call as follows: Pote, Black, Franklin, Joren, Nehls, "aye".

R1:03/28/13 Authorizing Mayoral Candidate Selection Process

Councilman Franklin asked if there were any nominations.

Councilman Nehls made a motion to nominate Council President Stephen Pote as Mayor, with a second by Councilman Franklin and upon roll call as follows: Pote, Black, Franklin, Joren, Nehls, "aye".

With no further nominations Councilman Nehls moved the following resolution with a second by Councilman Franklin and upon roll call as follows: Pote, Black, Franklin, Joren, Nehls, "aye".

R2: Appointment of Mayor

Clerk Michelle DeRocco administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Pote while his mother, Joan and father Donald held the Bible.

NOMINATIONS TO FILL VACANCY (VACANCIES) - COUNCIL MEMBER (S)

Clerk Michelle DeRocco read a second letter from Mr. Hunsinger, submitting the names of three (3) candidates for the position of Council member. They are as follows: Dianna Beck-Clemens, Robert Gibbs, and Ronald Jubin.

Councilman Franklin moved the following resolution with a second by Councilman Black upon roll call as follows: Black, Franklin, Joren, Nehls, "aye".

R3: Authorize Council Candidate Interview and Selection Process and Authorize Executive Session – Personnel.

Mayor Pote thanked the three candidates for their interest in serving the Borough and stated the Council would now conduct the interviews. Each candidate will be interviewed individually and the other two will be asked to step out in the hall. Candidates will be interviewed in alphabetical order beginning with Dianna Beck-Clemens. Upon completion of interviews the Governing body will retire into Executive Session which will be held in the back chambers, therefore, the public can remain.

Council Candidate Interviews:

Mayor Pote requested Dianna Beck-Clemens to step forward and asked her to give a brief synopsis of her background. Mayor Pote then asked each member of the Council if they had any questions for Ms. Beck-Clemens. Upon completion of the interview, Mayor Pote thanked Ms. Beck-Clemens and asked her to step out to the hall.

Mayor Pote then requested Mr. Robert Gibbs enter the Council Room and step forward and give a brief synopsis of his background. Mayor Pote then asked each member of the Council if they had any questions for Mr. Gibbs. Upon completion of the interview, Mayor Pote thanked Mr. Gibbs and asked him to step out to the hall.

Mayor Pote then requested Mr. Ronald Jubin enter the Council Room and step forward and give a brief synopsis of his background. Mayor Pote then asked each member of the Council if they had any questions for Mr. Jubin. Upon completion of the interview, Mayor Pote thanked Mr. Jubin.

Mayor Pote thanked each of the candidates, and as authorized in Resolution R3, the Governing Body retired to Executive Session.

Upon return members previously present were again in attendance.

Councilman Franklin made a motion to nominate Robert Gibbs to fill the vacant Council seat of Ms. Cassidy, whose term expires December 31, 2014, with a second by Councilman Nehls. Upon roll call the vote was as follows: Black, Franklin, Joren, Nehls, "aye".

Councilman Franklin moved the following resolution with a second by Councilman Black and upon roll call as follows: Black, Franklin, Joren, Nehls, "aye".

R4: Appointment of Council Member

Clerk Michelle DeRocco administered the Oath of Office to Council Member Gibbs as he held the Bible. He then took his seat on the dais.

Clerk Michelle DeRocco stated the letter received from Mr. Hunsinger, submitting the names of 3 candidates for the position of Council member, Dianna Beck-Clemens, Robert Gibbs, and Ron Jubin, also provided that, in the event of another Council position vacancy created by the appointment of the Mayor, that the two candidates not selected in the first round, be re-considered for the second vacancy, and added the name of DJ Hunsinger as the third candidate.

Councilman Franklin moved the following resolution with a second by Councilman Black and upon roll call as follows: Black, Franklin, Joren, Nehls, "aye", Gibbs, "abstain".

R5: Authorize Council Candidate Interview and Selection Process and Authorize Executive Session - Personnel

Candidate DJ Hunsinger was unavailable to attend, due to a religious holiday commitment.

Councilman Franklin made a motion to nominate Dianna Beck-Clemens to fill the vacancy created by the appointment of Councilman Pote as Mayor, whose terms expires as Council Member expires December 31, 2013, with a second by Councilman Black.

Councilman Franklin then moved the following resolution with a second by Councilman Black and upon roll call as follows: Black, Franklin, Joren, Nehls, "aye", Gibbs, "abstain".

R6: Appointment of Councilmember

Clerk Michelle DeRocco administered the Oath of Office to Council Member Beck-Clemens as she held the Bible. She then took his seat on the dais.

NOMINATION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Councilman Franklin made a motion to nominate Councilwoman Joren for the position of Council President with a second by Councilman Nehls and upon roll call as follows: Black, Franklin, Joren, Nehls, Gibbs, Beck-Clemens, "aye".

In honor of Mayor Jerry Mobus, Mayor Pote asked the Council to fore-go the Council reports and asked everyone to share their thoughts or comments in his memory.

Members of the Council, Attorney, Administrator, Clerk, Deputy Clerk, Engineer, Finance Officer, and Police Chief shared their memories about Jerry and expressed their condolences to the Mobus family.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES: No reports were submitted for this meeting.

1. Administration & Finance –
2. Police -
3. Public Works / Buildings and Grounds
4. Public Affairs:
 - Open Space
 - Environmental
 - Recreation
 - Historical
 - Board of Health
5. Fire
6. Laws/Ordinances

REPORTS - OTHER: No reports were submitted for this meeting.

7. Engineer
8. Police Chief
9. Fire Department
10. Rescue Squad
11. Attorney
12. Clerk
13. Administrator

=====

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A public hearing on OR:13/05 entitled “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER VII, TITLED “TOWING”, OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG, BY AMENDING SECTION 8-2, TITLED “DEFINITIONS”, TO ADD DEFINITIONS OF BASIC TOWING, RECOVERY TOWING AND ROADWAY; SECTION 8-7, TITLED “LICENSING FEE AND ISSUANCE OF LICENSE” TO PROVIDE THAT ALL LICENSES SHALL RUN FOR CONCURRENT PERIODS, AND INCREASE THE FEE TO SEVEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS FOR A THREE YEAR TOWING LICENSE; AND TO CLARIFY SECTION 8-20, TITLED “AUTHORIZATION, SCHEDULE OF RATES AND FEES FOR EMERGENCY TOWING SERVICE” was held. Councilwoman Joren moved a public hearing be held with a second by Councilman Nehls and upon roll call as follows: Black, Franklin, Joren, Nehls, Gibbs, Beck-Clemens, “aye”.

With no one from the Public wishing to be heard Councilwoman Joren moved the following Resolution with a second by Councilman Nehls and upon roll call as follows: Black, Franklin, Joren, Nehls, Gibbs, Beck-Clemens, “aye”.

R7:03/28/13 Adoption of OR:13/05 - Amending Code / Towing Ordinance - Clarify and Add Definitions, Set Licensing Periods and Renewal Dates, and Increase Annual Licensing Fee

=====

NEW BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA: The Consent Agenda items listed below were unanimously accepted, following a motion by Councilwoman Joren with a second by Councilman Nehls and upon roll call as follows: Black, Franklin, Joren, Nehls, Gibbs, Beck-Clemens, “aye”.

Approval of the following Council minutes:
March 14, 2013

Acknowledging Receipt of the following Borough Reports:
Police Activity Report - January, 2013

Tax Collector's Report - February, 2013
Acknowledging Receipt of the following Correspondence:

- #21 - JCP&L 3/14/13 Notice of Proposed Rate Increases and Notice of Public Hearings
c: M & C, TEA
- #22 - Township of Branchburg 3/15/13 Resolution requesting the NJ Board of Public Utilities hold
hearings on PSE&G's and JCP&L's response to Super Storm Sandy c: M & C, TEA
- #23 - Dr. Stromsland, WHRHS 3/23/13 Thanking Mayor Mobus, the Council, and the Borough's
Employees for supporting the students in their Anti-Bullying Day Event c: M & C, TEA
- #24 - Borough of Far Hills, Borough of Raritan 3/22/13 Expressing condolences on the loss of
Mayor Mobus c: M & C, TEA
- #25 - Grace Bell, President / Watchung Senior Citizens 3/25/13 Requesting an increase of \$1000.
to the Senior Citizens stipend in the annual budget, to cover increased costs for trips, etc.
c: M & C, TEA

=====
CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS: The Consent Agenda resolutions listed below were unani-
mously adopted following a motion by Councilwoman Joren with a second by Councilman Nehls and
upon roll call as follows: Black, Franklin, Joren, Nehls, Gibbs, "aye", Beck-Clemens, "abstain".

- R8: Authorize Execution of Agreement with Somerset County / Certified Recycling
Professional (CRP)
- R9: Purchases Over \$2,000. - Oswald Enterprises, Inc., Twin Brooks, NJ Fire Equipment
Co., Orchard Holdings, Great Blue Lake and Pond Mgt.
- R10: Urging the Governor and the Legislature to Retain funding in the State Recycling
Fund in the FY 2014 State Budget
- R11: Authorize Clerk to Issue (2) Raffle Licenses / Sundance Parents Associaton

=====
NON--CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: Resolutions listed below will be individually addressed and
acted upon accordingly.

Councilman Franklin moved the following resolution with a second by Councilman Black and upon
roll call as follows: Black, Franklin, Joren, Nehls, Gibbs, "aye", Beck-Clemens, "abstain".

R12:03/28/13 Payment of Bills

PUBLIC PORTION

Chief Wenzel came forward and wished to mention there is a County-wide drive called "Put it
down"(cell phones). There will be random traffic stops checking motorists for use of cell phones.

Annie Burns came forward and stated she had just heard about the passing of Mayor Mobus. She ex-
pressed her condolences and those of the Burns family to the Borough and the Mobus family.

With no one else from the public wishing to speak Council President Joren moved the following reso-
lution with a second by Councilman Nehls and upon roll call as follows: Black, Franklin, Joren,
Nehls, Gibbs, Beck-Clemens, "aye".

R13: Executive Session: Contract Negotiations – Levin Properties, L.P

Upon returning to regular session at 10:55 P.M., all members previously present were again in atten-
dance.

=====
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 P.M.
to the Call of the Chair, and to the next scheduled Council meeting will be held on April 11, 2013 at
7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

MaryAnn Hance
Deputy Clerk