

**BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JANUARY 17, 2019 - 7:30 P.M.**

OPENING STATEMENT: Mayor Keith S. Balla called the meeting to order at 7:30 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 MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN, SERVING HOME AND ABROAD.

ROLL CALL

Gibbs [P] Black [P] Nehls [P] Sopko [P] Goodloe [P] Eisenberg Knegten [P]

Also present were Administrator Tom Atkins; Attorney Albert Cruz; CFO William Hance; Engineer Tom Herits; Clerk Michelle DeRocco; and Deputy Clerk MaryAnn Hance.

There were 55 members of the public present.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

Councilmember Black read and moved the following resolution with a second by Council President Gibbs and upon roll call the vote was as follows: Gibbs, Black, Nehls, Sopko, Goodloe, Eisenberg Knegten, “aye”.

R1:01/17/19 Honoring Elizabeth Aldrich – Historical Committee

Mayor Balla asked Ms. Aldrich to come forward at which time he presented her with the Resolution and a plaque.

Amber Murad and Diddy Addario also came forward to congratulate her.

Proclamation - “Wear Red for Heart Health Day” – February 1, 2019
Mayor Balla read the proclamation (copy attached).

Eagle Scout Project Proposal – Michael Mattiassi / Refurbishing Grant Field

Michael came forward to explain his proposal to make improvements to Grant Field, which include replacing a sign to make the field more visible; painting the inside of the dugouts; and adding more gravel between the fence and the dugouts to minimize the dirt that comes in. He said he has already spoken to the Board of Education and has their permission. His only request was assistance with removal of debris and supplying of the gravel. Councilmember Nehls said Public Works can work with Mr. Mattiassi for removal of the debris and contribution of the gravel.

Councilmember Nehls moved to approve this project with a second by Council President Gibbs and upon roll call the vote was as follows: Gibbs, Black, Nehls, Sopko, Goodloe, Eisenberg Knegten, “aye”.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

1. Administration & Finance – Councilmember Sopko reported a meeting is scheduled for January 29th and he will have a full report at the next Council meeting. The annual Borough reassessments are due February 4, 2019.
2. Police – Council President Gibbs had no report. There is a meeting scheduled for January 25, 2019 at 9 AM at Police Headquarters.
3. Public Works / Buildings and Grounds – Councilmember Nehls reported there is a possibility of 6 inches of snow this weekend. There is 200 tons of salt on hand and all trucks have plows attached and are ready and loaded with salt. The Borough does have a snow plow contractor on call along with the tree company Predator if there is a need to remove trees. Scott Rose is also on call if heavy equipment is required. Councilmember Nehls said he was approached by a resident asking if it was possible for Girl Scouts/Boy Scouts and other organizations to have access to the Borough’s electronic sign. Administrative/Finance Committee will discuss.

Councilmember Nehls said the Public Works Committee met on January 11th and Mr. Burns and Mr. Herits gave a long list of what should be done. He said the Firehouse requires a new fire alarm system at an estimated cost of \$18,000-\$38,000. Mr. Burns will be requesting quotes for this. There is a need to repair one of the mowers at an approximate cost of \$5,200. Public Works will be requesting quotes for the removal of the debris at the Ness Property along with the remaining buildings. Councilmember Nehls said Police Headquarters needs a new roof and the estimate for that is \$45,000. Other items discussed were the need for repairs at the tennis courts, estimated cost \$33,000 and the Public Works Department has requested a replacement for the Mason Dump truck \$85,000.

Councilmember Nehls also said Ross Pond is moving forward, Mr. Herits is in the process of sending applications for permits to the Department of Environmental Protection. The Committee will be compiling a list and setting a schedule of milling and paving work which it is hoped can be completed this coming summer. He said the salt storage shed is moving along with fencing and blocks and should be completed this year.

Councilmember Nehls then discussed the Professionals and the fact that Borough Engineer/Maser Consulting has not yet been reappointed, possibly because of the firehouse renovation project. He said this is one project, and that Mr. Herits has saved the Borough and its residents much money with grants, High Tor being one that did not cost the Borough anything and neither did the paving of the Texier House and Public Works parking lots or the berm at the Public Works Garage site to protect against falling rocks. He said not one project has gone over budget and many were under budget. Mr. Herits has done a remarkable job and the firehouse project should not be the only one discussed to determine appointment. Mayor Balla thanked him for his comments.

4. Public Affairs:

Environmental – Councilmember Goodloe had no report. A meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2019 and she invited all to attend. She will have a full report at the next council meeting.

Recreation – Councilmember Black had no report. A meeting is scheduled for a date to be Determined in February.

Historical – Councilmember Black reported the Commission met last evening and they continue to discuss the mural restoration and placement. He said the Museum will be closed this coming weekend and February 4, 2019. The Commission also discussed previous Scout projects, including Matt King's and Alexander Benc's projects.

Board of Health – Councilmember Sopko had no report – there is a meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 23, 2019 at 7 PM.

5. Fire – Councilmember Eisenberg Knegten congratulated Ms. DeRocco on the birth of her granddaughter, Violet. She then reported the Fire Committee, consisting of Councilmember Nehls, Sopko, and herself, met on January 16, 2019 with Fire Chief Pivnichny, Assistant Chief DeSandolo, and Gary Greves also in attendance. She said they were updated on the ongoing Firehouse renovations with only a few items to be completed and awaiting including the fire suppression hood and a new fire alarm to be installed. The Committee also discussed the East End Firehouse and the process and financing of future apparatus. Councilmember Eisenberg Knegten thanked the Chief, Assistant Chief, Gary Greves, and all the members for their service. Mr. Atkins asked if there were discussions regarding the stipends? Councilmember Eisenberg Knegten said they did and a resolution should be placed on the Agenda for February 7th.
6. Laws and Ordinances – Councilmember Black reported the Committee met on Monday, January 14, 2019. Present were Council President Robert Gibbs, Council Member Lindsay Goodloe, Borough Attorney Albert Cruz and myself. He reported that the Committee discussed the Short-Term Rental Ordinance, which is an Ordinance setting a minimum rental period to address Air BNB's; the potential expiration of the Village Center designation during 2019; amending the Property Maintenance Code to address peeling paint; changing the fee for making a payment in lieu of planting a tree that is cut down and investigation of the Zoning Officer's recommendation regarding fencing. He said because this was the first meeting of the year with a new Committee Member, further follow-up of the Borough Attorney was requested but no recommendations were made to the full Council. A further update will be provided after the next Committee meeting.

Mayor Balla asked the Council liaisons to the various Committees to give reports.

Youth Services – Councilmember Eisenberg-Knegten had no report.

Wildlife Management Advisory Committee – Council President Gibbs said a meeting will be scheduled for the last week of January and he will have a report in February.

Planning Board – Councilmember Sopko reported the Committee met on January 15th and the Professionals reviewed the Housing Element and Fair Share Plan.

Board of Education – Councilmember Eisenberg Knegten reported three new Board members were sworn in and officers were elected. Mold at Bayberry has been remediated and now the Board has found asbestos tiles in one of the classrooms which will be remediated over Spring break. There are other classrooms with asbestos tiles and they will be remediated in the near future. Future Board of Ed meeting will now begin at 7:00 PM on the first and third Wednesday's of the month at the Valley View all purpose room. The next meeting is scheduled for January 23rd.

Municipal Alliance – Councilmember Goodloe reported the Municipal Alliance met January 15th at which time they were giving out funds for various programs related to drug and alcohol abuse and various health related programs. She said they suggested she speak to the Board of Education, the DARE program and Police Department to ask them if there are programs they could sponsor in the Borough. She said she will do that shortly and will get back to the Council if there are any programs identified.

Library Advisory Board – Councilmember Eisenberg-Knegten reported the advisory board met on January 9th at 3:30 in the Library Bi-centennial room. There was much discussion about the cleaning of the building as well as the processing of programs. She said according to Christopher Korenowsky, director of Public Relations for the Somerset County Library Advisory System we can anticipate the beginning of the State's matching funds grant process to begin in late winter or early spring. All applications will be initiated through Mr. Korenowsky office with our first step being a letter of intent.

REPORTS – OTHER:

7. Engineer- Tom Herits reported the last generator project has been completed, most of the funding was from FEMA, who did their final inspection, and all reimbursement paper work is completed and submitted. We are now just waiting for the check. The High Tor project has been completed. We received a \$496,000 grant and have now applied for \$800,000 for this year. Mr. Herits said he and Bob Burns are working on a list of projects and will prepare a spreadsheet and a list of roads with an estimate that will need to be considered.
8. Police Chief – No report
9. Fire Department – Chief Pivnichny reported the statistics for 2018. He said he and Gary Greves traveled to the factory in Florida to finalize all the plans for the new pumper which the Borough is purchasing. He said there is no delivery date yet, however, when he hears he will let Mayor and Council know. He said the Firehouse renovations are being completed and there were several inspections today. Chief Pivnichny said they will be having training out on the lake for ice rescue.
10. Rescue Squad – Diddy Addario gave a report on the statistics for 2018 and also stated there are eight new members. She also said they are finalizing their plans for the dinner dance on February 8th.
11. Emergency Management – Mr. Atkins reported that due to the pending weather the Mayor requested the OEM team assemble today. He along with Bob Burns, Chief Cina, Bill Kelly, Michelle DeRocco, Bill Hance met to discuss the upcoming storm and possible problems it could present. Since we do not have an official OEM Co-ordinator, we are acting as a team and the Mayor had asked Mr. Atkins to ask Chief Cina if he would be the leader of the team temporarily and he gladly accepted. Mr. Atkins then mentioned there are magnets on the table in the back of the Council room and suggested picking one of these up if you do not already have one. These were sent out several years ago and have a wealth of emergency information.
12. Attorney – Mr. Cruz had no report.
13. Clerk – Ms. DeRocco had no report.
14. Administrator – Mr. Atkins reported Chief Cina, Lt. Hart, and he met with the Union County Engineer, Tom Mineo, and consulting engineers. Union County is in the process of considering the banning of truck traffic on Martine Avenue in Scotch Plains and Fanwood, and Park Avenue in Scotch Plains. This will probably be discussed at the Police Committee meeting. They discussed traffic patterns if that were to happen. He said there will be meetings with Plainfield, and Weldon, as a major property owner, and meetings with Somerset County.

Mr. Atkins mentioned he had sent the Mayor and Council the December property maintenance reports from Len Young along with his comments to Mr. Young; these reports will be sent monthly. He also sent a report of the re-organization meeting of JIF and if there are any questions please feel free to ask him. He also sent a historical report of how and why the MEL was created for excess liability coverages.

Mr. Atkins gave a report on recruitments, noting several important vacancies which will be discussed at the Personnel Committee meeting. The Borough did hire a plumbing sub-code official, Dan Niro at the January 3, 2019 meeting. The OEM Co-ordinator position is also a very important one and he has had several discussions with Mayor Balla and Council President Gibbs. The appointment of the co-ordinator is the statutory power of the Mayor. Mr. Atkins said he has discussed some internal options with Mayor Balla, including a possible shared-services proposal, however, for now Chief Cina is the Co-ordinator. Mr. Atkins discussed the vacancy of the Fire Official. He is in the middle of the interview process. Mr. Atkins said the Borough has been approached by another town asking if we would be interested in an

interlocal agreement for the enforcement of the Uniform Fire Safety Act. The meeting was positive and he requested that municipality send the Borough a proposal so it can be reviewed. Lastly, Ed Bennett, our Construction Official, Building Sub-code Official, Zoning officer is scheduled to leave in the next several months. He said Mr. Bennett's will be hard to replace and has only received a few resumes.

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PUBLIC PORTION / AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Lynda Goldschein, Sherwood Drive, discussed property maintenance in the Borough and said she thinks is appalling. She said the library is the most obvious and the storage building behind it, along with the Best Lake area, and the East End Firehouse.

Gail Tafaro O'Donnell, Beechwood Place, thanked Mr. Herits for all the service he has done for Watchung. She said she agrees with Councilmember Nehls that he has given a lot to Watchung and she hopes the Mayor and Council consider his reappointment. She also said grants are very important today and the Borough should take every opportunity possible.

Marianne Candiloros, Nottingham Drive, said she was at the Library meeting and she is grateful that Mr. Sopko and the Republicans are looking at other avenues in the event that the Exempt Hall does not work out. She said we are no longer in campaign mode and would like to see the Borough move forward as a community with whoever can help in getting a library we want. She said she was very insulted with the remarks made, we are all neighbors and should be working together and take a break from campaigning at this time.

Margaret Ellis, Valley Road, said she is very upset to see that resolution R9 has been broken out separately from the other resolutions. These members of the Library Board are committed, intelligent and very hard workers and should be reappointed. She sees no reason not to reappoint them and asked to have them reappointed.

Sandy Fechtner, Cardinal Drive, said she has been to the Warren, Scotch Plains, and Watchung libraries and said that Watchung needs the right kind of library for their residents.

Cori Haveson, Maple Street, said there has been precedent and somewhat of a protocol when letters are sent asking volunteers to send in their response if they wish to accept or not for another term. She said all three women returned their letter stating they wished to accept another term. She also wants the Council to allow these three to continue serving on the Library Advisory Board.

Marianne Candiloros, Nottingham Drive, read something a quote from resident Thomas Chang who is a coalition person, who said both parties have merit but the people are what is important and in order to have democracy you need two parties but right now we only have one – lets have two parties on the Council and make sure they discuss and debate both sides.

Cori Haveson, Maple Drive, came forward and read the mission statement of the Watchung Library Advisory Board.

Amber Murad, Glen Eagle Drive, said she also attended the Library Advisory meeting because she wanted to know what everyone's perspectives are. She has spoken in favor of a community center/library and she would like to see Marianne Candiloros on the Advisory Board so there is a democracy. She said this way there can be a healthy debate that will result in solutions that are mutually beneficial to our residents.

Kim DiDonato, Friar Lane, asked if anyone has ever asked the parents of the Watchung Board of Ed. how many go to our library or how many parents utilize the services of the Watchung Library. She said we are not looking at the full picture and what Watchung needs, adding it is the Police, Fire, and roads.

Margaret Ellis, Valley Road, said the Library Advisory Board consists of Democrats, Republicans, and Independents so there is already a range of positions on this board.

Diddy Addario, Rock Avenue, said the role of the Library Advisory Board is one of advocacy for a library. Appointing someone who is against a library is like appointing someone to the Historical Commission who is against keeping the history of the town in tact.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA: The Consent Agenda Items listed below were unanimously accepted as amended, following a motion by Council President Gibbs and a second by Councilmember Nehls and upon roll call the vote was as follows: Gibbs, Black, Nehls, Sopko, Goodloe, Eisenberg Knegten, “aye.”

Approval of the following Council minutes:

December 6, 2018 Special Meeting – Regular and Executive Session
December 6, 2018 Regular Meeting
January 3, 2019 – Reorganization Meeting

Acknowledging Receipt of the following Borough Reports:

Board of Adjustment Minutes – November 8, 2018, December 13, 2018
Board of Adjustment Annual Report - 2018
Building Department Report – December, 2018
Traffic & Beautification Minutes – December 3, 2018
Wildlife Management Advisory Committee Minutes – October 2, 2018
Wildlife Management Advisory Committee – 2018/2019 Report and Recommendation
Library Advisory Committee Minutes – November 7, 2018
Watchung Police Activity Report – November, 2018

Acknowledging Receipt of the following Correspondence:

- #1 - Township of Green Brook 12/18/18 Notice of Public Hearing on 12/27/18 re: Zoning Ordinance addition of Village Gateway & Village Commercial District” including parking, loading, etc.
C: M & C, TEA, Pl. Bd.
- #2 - NJ American Water Company 1/7/18 Notice of Public Hearing of Petition for Approval to Change the Level of its Purchased Water Adjustment Clause c: M&C, TEA, Post

Council President Gibbs recused himself and stepped down from the dais. Councilmember Nehls moved Correspondence #3 with a second by Councilmember Sopko and upon roll call the vote was as follows: Black, Nehls, Sopko, Goodloe, Eisenberg Knegten, “aye.”

- #3- PSE&G 1/4/19 Notice of Petition and Public Hearing – Approval of the Second Energy Strong Program (Energy Strong II)) c: M & C, Post

Council President Gibbs returned to the dais following the vote.

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS

Council President Gibbs moved the following resolutions as amended with a second by Councilman Nehls and upon roll call the vote was as follows: Gibbs, Black, Nehls, Sopko, Goodloe, Eisenberg Knegten, “aye”.

- R2:01/17/19 Thanking Gary Greves on His Years of Service / Retirement
- R3: Purchases Over \$2,000. – Everbridge (Nixle, PD)
Denville Line Painting (PW -lines in Municipal Parking Lot)
Ace Tech Pest (Pest Mngmt Control, PW)
NJ Fire Equipment Co. (Fire Equipment)
The Rodgers Group (Maintenance Contract PD)
Lawsoft Inc. (Maintenance CAD System, PD)
Thyssenkrupp Elevator Corp (Elevator Service Agrmt, PW)
Behavioral Medicine Consultant (EAP Program – Ins)
- R4: Authorize Clerk to Issue (3) Raffle Licenses – Sisters of Mercy of the Americas
- R5: Authorize Clerk to Issue Bingo License – Sisters of Mercy of the Americas
- R6: Appointment of Bond Counsel – Rogut McCarthy LLC

- R7: Authorize Professional Service Contracts: Borough Attorney - Albert Cruz, Esq.
Auditor - Suplee, Clooney, & Co., Auditor
Labor Attorney - Ruderman Roth, LLC,
Prosecutor - Richard Guss, Esq.
Bd of Adj. Atty - Steven Warner, Esq.
Bd of Adj. Engineer – David Stires
Planning Bd. Atty – Frances Linnus, Esq.
Planning Bd. Engineer – Maser Consulting
Planning Bd. Prof. Planner – Mark Healey
- R8: Authorize CFO to Return Unused Permit Fee – Seritage Growth Properties
- R9: Authorize Appointments: Boards, Committees, Commissions
- R10: Authorize Appointment of Interim Fire Official / Fire Inspector – Joseph Popolo
- R11: Award Contract - Police Extra Duty Management / Extra Duty Solutions
- R12: Authorize Contract for Payroll Services – Action Data Services
- R13: Authorizing Participation with State of New Jersey – Safe and Secure Communities Program
- R14: Authorize Treasurer to Issue Payment – Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate / 50 Dug Way

NON CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Sopko moved the following resolution with a second by Council President Gibbs and upon roll call the vote was as follows: Gibbs, Nehls, Sopko, Goodloe, Eisenberg Knegten, “aye,” Black, “abstain.”

R15:01/17/19 Waive Chapter 2-25:10 of the Code – Gray’s Florist

Councilmember Sopko moved the following resolution with a second by Councilmember Black and upon roll call the vote was as follows: Gibbs, Black, Nehls, Sopko, Goodloe, Eisenberg Knegten, “aye.”

R16: Payment of Bills

Councilmember Eisenberg Knegten moved the following resolution with a second by Councilmember Goodloe.

Prior to voting on R17 Council President Gibbs requested R17 be tabled for further discussion and explained that any Committee of the Borough should be of balance adding that he does not question the service of those up for re-appointment. He said we are in the process, similar to Wildlife Advisory Committee, balancing those are in favor of certain things and those who may have different viewpoints and the Library Advisory Committee should have a similar balance on it. This Council has voted as late as last November to have a full-service library in Watchung and remain committed to that goal. Council President Gibbs said he will not get into the personal attacks by one of our Councilmembers tonight, they are unwarranted and unfounded. When this town is being asked to spend millions of dollars with estimates between three and a half to six million depending on the size and square foot you agree with. There has to be a balance for discussion on what this town is going to do, with the realization there are millions of dollars of dredging to do at our lakes, road work to accomplish, and develop both the Ness Property and Camp Endeavor. Any discussion of what the ultimate recommendation what the full-service library should be must be based on a practical realization of what the Borough has coming. Having a recommendation that accounts for all of that and not on just a general number of desired square footage is appropriate on having that discussion and one he is willing to have. He said there are a lot of residents who want to volunteer and when he hears people say that a person is against the library so they should not be on the Committee, that this is not what the Borough has done that in the past.

Councilmember Eisenberg Knegten said she is disheartened to hear that Mr. Gibbs will not allow this nomination and re-appoint three hard working members of the Watchung Library Advisory Board. To insert partisan politics in an organization that favors in supporting our local library is unhelpful. These three women have been dedicated participants on the Library Advisory Board for years and are ready, willing, and able to continue serving. She said the notion that the majority of this Council will not allow them to continue volunteering in this capacity undermines the very purpose of these volunteer committees. She asks that they be allowed to continue to serve and be re-appointed without delay.

Councilmember Goodloe said she is also shocked and taken aback with this motion to table this resolution. She said it is true there is no litmus test, but she does not understand why we would be tabling this. These volunteers have all served very well and there is no reason not to approve their re-appoint today.

Mr. Cruz read a section from an Ordinance section 2-43.1 and explained that until someone is appointed to replace that person these members are still part of the Committee as holdovers until such time they are or are not appointed.

Mayor Balla said there were submissions of at least 40 applications for volunteers for the library. He said the meetings are open to the public and everyone is welcome to go to the meetings and can give input even if they are not on the Committee.

Councilmember Black said he applauds all who have commented this evening and he agrees with Council President Gibbs' concept but if we do table for further discussion, he hopes we can carry this action forward to all our Committees not just on one Committee.

Council President Gibbs made a motion to table R17 with a 2nd by Councilmember Nehls and upon roll call the vote was as follows: Gibbs, Black, Nehls, Sopko, "aye," Goodloe, Eisenberg Knegten, "no."

R17: Authorize Appointments: Library Advisory Committee / Annette Von Brandis
Eileen Dicken
Tamara Benc

Prior to the public portion Councilmember Black said he was a little confused as to whether or not the 9/11 Committee was now part of the Historical Committee and asked if this is now a separate entity with separate meetings.

Mayor Balla said it was his understanding this was an Ad-Hoc Committee that Mayor Pote had created and all agreed to move these functions to the Historical Committee. No vote is necessary. The Council Laws and Ordinance Committee would also discuss.

PUBLIC PORTION-GENERAL DISCUSSION

Joel Cohen, Hill Hollow Road, said there is still a drainage issue along Valley Road due to the concrete structure which is causing lot of flooding. He asked if the DEP was advised of this. Mr. Herits said the concrete structure is the problem and the DEP is not interested in this issue. He said he will contact Mr. Speeney from NJDEP to discuss this. Mr. Herits explained that the new owner of the property has removed the debris and will be removing the structure in the near future. Mr. Herits said the problem is at 7 Meadowlark. He said the stream is now flowing, but the concrete structure should be removed. Mr. Cohen said the water is still flowing over his property. Mayor Balla said we will get all the information for further review.

Rachel Funcheon, Cedar Road, thanked Councilmember Black for his comments on balancing the Committees, however, she has not seen Council President Gibbs pull any other appointments that are up for re-appointment such as the Wildlife Committee. Council President Gibbs responded that he actually did and therefore it was not on the agenda. Ms. Funcheon then requested the Council take a vote to stop the final two weeks of the deer hunt because the number of deer killed to date is larger than the entire period last year. She also questioned the Mountain Boulevard hunt site and if the hunters are using the ten acres between Wetumpka Lane and Anderson Roads and since she has not received an answer she assumes they are and the reason for no response from the Borough is because they have not received approvals from all the homeowners in that area. Council President Gibbs said he did respond to her email and we had Maser Consulting go out to that site to verify two locations. He said the stand that was authorized is in compliance and he does not believe they are on Borough property. Mr. Atkins said if the Mayor and Council wish to have Mr. Herits go to the site again he will request him to do so. Councilmember Nehls suggested to have Mr. Herits verify.

Lynda Goldschein, Sherwood Drive, said in June the town was given notice from the Green Acres department that the Borough had 30 days to rectify the situation at Camp Endeavor and make it available to residents. Mr. Atkins said he will check the files and get back to her. Council President Gibbs said he does not believe it was a notice of violation. Mr. Atkins said he had spoken to the DEP. Ms. Goldschein said it is unsafe.

Kim DiDonato, Friar Lane, asked who is responsible for the maintenance of sidewalks on Valley Road (Elsinore to Hill Hollow), and Councilmember Nehls responded that based on the Ordinance, it is the homeowners' responsibility to maintain, shovel, and repair. Council President Gibbs said we have a Code Enforcement officer and he asked her to send the pictures and the address.

Diddy Addario, Rock Avenue, regarding the inclusion of the 9/11 Committee into the Historical Committee, said they would appreciate some official notice or verification that this has been added to our responsibility since it is not in the Code. She added that if Historical is going to oversee the 9/11 there should be something more than a handshake.

Council President Gibbs asked Mr. Cruz if this would have to go through Laws and Ordinance to officially re-direct the 9/11 Committee to historical and Councilmember Nehls said it was his understanding that this was an ad-hoc committee and therefore, when its function is finished the Committee is done. Mr. Cruz said if the Ad-Hoc Committee no longer exists and becomes part of the Historical Committee, then Council President Gibbs is correct that this would require an amendment to the Ordinance.

Tom Franklin, Wildwood Terrace, asked Councilmember Sopko about the proposal he presented with a couple of numbers, one being 5,000 square feet and 2 million dollars. He wanted to know if that was accurate. Councilmember Sopko said these were the numbers he mentioned. Mr. Franklin asked where these numbers originated from. Councilmember Sopko said it was just his idea and it has not been proposed formally either. Mr. Franklin said he appreciates Council President Gibbs mentioning considering other projects that are looming, one being the dredging of the lakes. Mr. Franklin when he was on the Council in 1999 there was a proposal from Mr. Iovino at that time and since then the lake has been dredged and the library was and is still been on the back burner. He suggests the Borough should prioritize and move this to the forefront and 5,000 square foot is not enough space.

Margaret Ellis, Valley Road, said she had conversations with some DPW employees who stated that four members of the department were required to work 20 hours straight when there was a weather event. Councilmember Nehls said that is incorrect, and that we are not allowed by OSHA to let that happen. He added that during large storms, the Borough does bring in outside contractors to assist.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M. to the Call of the Chair and to the next scheduled Council meeting Thursday, February 7, 2019 at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

MaryAnn Hance
Deputy Clerk