



Borough of Rocky Hill
Borough Council
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
October 2, 2017

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Rocky Hill was called to order by Mayor Phil Kartsonis at 7:30 PM followed by the salute to the flag.

NOTICE OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Robert Ashbaugh	Councilman	Present	
Billy Dawson	Councilman	Present	
John Hagemann	Councilman	Present	
Anthony Sciaraffo	Councilman	Present	
Mark Sibley	Councilman	Absent	
Robert Uhrik	Councilman	Present	
Phil Kartsonis	Mayor	Present	

Also present: Clerk Rebecca Newman, Deputy Clerk Christine Witt, Attorney Ed Purcell

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

The Mayor has asked the Zoning Officer, Fire Official, and Tax Assessor to provide monthly reports. The Mayor introduced audience member Peter Palmer, a longtime Somerset County Freeholder, who is retiring and visiting all 21 municipalities before the end of his term.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Borough Council - Summer Meeting - Sep 18, 2017 7:30 PM

RESULT:	ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Billy Dawson, Councilman
SECONDER:	Robert Ashbaugh, Councilman
AYES:	Ashbaugh, Dawson, Hagemann, Sciaraffo, Uhrik
ABSENT:	Sibley

Executive Session Minutes

PUBLIC COMMENT

Adele Batchelder, 64 Hickory Court, thanked the Council for holding off on the field mowing and allowing nature to take its course.

Tom Bremner, 17 Crescent Avenue, raised concerns about Ordinance 2017-2 Per Diem Fire Fighter. Mr. Bremner was advised that there would be a public comment period on the ordinance later in the meeting.

STATE POLICE REPORT

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Bill Tanner will be submitting a DOT grant for a pedestrian crossing at Montgomery Avenue and Washington Street. Mr. Tanner is continuing to investigate the infiltration of the water into the sewer system and recommends using meters to find where the problems are.

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS TO BE PAID

A. Bill List Dated 10/2/2017

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Billy Dawson, Councilman
SECONDER:	Robert Ashbaugh, Councilman
AYES:	Ashbaugh, Dawson, Hagemann, Sciaraffo, Uhrik
ABSENT:	Sibley

SPECIAL BUSINESS

A. RESOLUTION-2017-60 Resolution Authorizing Municipal Alliance Grant for Fiscal Year 2017-2018

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Robert Uhrik, Councilman
SECONDER:	John Hagemann, Councilman
AYES:	Ashbaugh, Dawson, Hagemann, Sciaraffo, Uhrik
ABSENT:	Sibley

B. RESOLUTION-2017-61 Approval to Submit a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Washington Street/ Montgomery Avenue Pedestrian Signal Project Identified as MA-2018

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Billy Dawson, Councilman
SECONDER:	Robert Ashbaugh, Councilman
AYES:	Ashbaugh, Dawson, Hagemann, Sciaraffo, Uhrik
ABSENT:	Sibley

C. ORDINANCE-2017-03 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 189 Section 29 of the Code of the Borough of Rocky Hill Titled Parking

The ordinance, prohibiting overnight parking in the municipal lot, was introduced, and a public hearing will be held on October 16, 2017.

RESULT:	TABLED [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 10/16/2017 12:00 AM
MOVER:	John Hagemann, Councilman	
SECONDER:	Billy Dawson, Councilman	
AYES:	Ashbaugh, Dawson, Hagemann, Sciaraffo, Uhrik	
ABSENT:	Sibley	

- D. ORDINANCE-2017-04 An Ordinance Amending Part Ii Entitled "General Legislation" of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Rocky Hill by the Addition and Creation of Chapter 200 Entitled "Massage Establishment Licensing"

The ordinance, which provides the Borough a tool for oversight of massage parlors, was introduced, and a public hearing is scheduled for October 16, 2017.

RESULT:	TABLED [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 10/16/2017 12:00 AM
MOVER:	Robert Uhrik, Councilman	
SECONDER:	John Hagemann, Councilman	
AYES:	Ashbaugh, Dawson, Hagemann, Sciaraffo, Uhrik	
ABSENT:	Sibley	

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. ORDINANCE-2017-02 An Ordinance Repealing Ordinance No. 2015- Titled "An Ordinance Authorizing the Creation of a New Position to Assist in the Operations of the Office of Emergency Management to be Known as the Office of Emergency Management Specialist" and Replacing it with Ordinance 2017-02 Authorizing the Creation of Three Per Diem Fire Fighters Positions as Part of the Rocky Hill Hook and Ladder Company

Public Hearing

Tom Bremner, 17 Crescent Avenue, suggested that the ordinance be amended to two full-time fire fighters rather than three. Mr. Ashbaugh responded that it makes more sense to make all three employees of the fire department because there is still an OEM director and the Borough does not need three part-time OEM specialists. There is a greater need for part-time fire fighters and the OEM supports all first responders.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Billy Dawson, Councilman
SECONDER:	Robert Ashbaugh, Councilman
AYES:	Ashbaugh, Dawson, Hagemann, Sciaraffo, Uhrik
ABSENT:	Sibley

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discussion Regarding a Message Board

Mayor Kartsonis suggested that the Council consider installing an electronic message board that fits in with the character of the town. The sandwich board that is currently used is cumbersome and time-consuming to put messages on. The Clerk said that she has researched

electronic signs that would fit in with the historic character of the town, and she will share her findings.

B. Court Administrator Position Discussion

Court Administrator Cindy Hooven has tendered her resignation as of December 31, 2017. Mayor Kartsonis asked the Council to consider whether to use the Franklin Courts in the future. Other considerations are when Judge Perkins is planning to retire, how much of a cost savings the Borough would gain, and how far away the Franklin court is from Rocky Hill.

COMMUNICATIONS

FINAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Raymond Whitlock, 94 Crescent Avenue, commented that the court needs a good administrator and that having our own court is important to the character of the town.

Cliff Moore, Skillman Avenue, commented that the massage parlor ordinance may be unfair because the massage industry has a lot of turnover, and it seems unfair to revoke a license for minor crimes.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.