

**BOROUGH OF SOUTH TOMS RIVER
CAUCUS MEETING
AUGUST 27, 2015, 7:00 PM**

Mayor Oscar Cradle opened the meeting with a Moment of Silence, and followed with the Flag Salute.

The Municipal Clerk read the following State of Public Notice:

This meeting of the Mayor and Borough Council was called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law. Notice of this meeting was sent to the Asbury Park Press on November 15, 2014; in addition a copy of notice is posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building, and filed in the office of the Borough Clerk.

The Municipal Clerk proceeded with Roll Call:

	Gleason	Handshy	Mosley	Murray	Reevey	Ross	Cradle
Present	x	x	x	x		x	x
Absent					x		

Councilman Murray arrived during the Public Comment portion of the agenda

PRESENTATION:

Tax Assessor, Ellen Keleher, provided a brief overview of the current status of the ongoing re-evaluation. The revaluation company has completed about 147 properties, and 12 or 13 commercial properties. She has driven through the entire town, looking at the conditions of certain properties, determining abandoned properties, foreclosures, etc., when addressing the re-assessed value. When those properties are sold and rehabbed, then they are brought up to a new assessed value.

Councilman Ross: asked Ms. Keleher if there is a target date for completion?

Ms. Keleher: Our assessing date is Oct 1 of the pre-tax year. November 1 letters go out with estimated values. Informal hearings are first, followed by appeals. The assessors will make two attempts. Our ratio of Assessed Value to True value is at approximately 120%, and the Borough was losing a lot of money in tax appeals every year. Many of the tax appeals were coming from the Landowners population and not the residents, and therefore reaping most of the benefits. The Borough was ordered by the Ocean County Board of Taxation to initiate a revaluation. The town saved money by going with a Hybrid assessment, whereby a private company was contracted in addition to the Tax Assessor.

Lawrence Salerno, 30 Annapolis. What is the cost of the reval?

Ms. Keleher stated that she believed it was approximately \$55,000.00

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lawrence Salerno 30 Annapolis: Asked the possibility of a speed hump on Annapolis road, if not can we reduce the speed?

Councilman Handshy stated the Borough has been alternating locations of speed humps th

Joann Lennon: South Toms River Baseball League. She met with Mayor Cradle last week after speaking with the Youth Baseball Board Members. They want to continue to play at the location and is looking for assistance from the Borough. They requested halting the second addition to the Blockhouse at the ballfield, and to look into utilizing the allocated money to rehabilitate the area. Ms. Lennon stated they have about 80 kids enrolled, and asked how many kids there were in the Borough?

Councilman Ross stated there is approximately 400 students at the Elementary School

Councilwoman Mosley asked what towns are involved?

Lennon stated they can pull kids from Bayville, Beachwood, Pine Beach, Manchester, Ocean Gate, Ortleigh Beach, Whiting, and Lakewood if Brick does not pull from there. There is a target date to cleanup the field by spring ball.

The Borough Clerk stated that the quote to build phase two is over the engineer's estimate, however the funds are still allocated for the Block house, and can be used for a similar project related to the block house, if the Council decides to not build the phase 2.

Mayor Cradle has a meeting with the Baseball Board on September 21 to review their request. Also, because the league won the District 2 Championship, the Mayor will present awards to them on the September 14th.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Resolution 2015-194 Approving the minutes of July 27th, 2015

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
	x	Gleason	x			
		Handshy	x			
		Mosley	x			
		Murray			x	
		Reevey				x
X		Ross	x			

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2015-195 Authorizing Borough Engineer to apply for the 2016 NJDOT Municipal Aid Program

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
	x	Gleason	x			
		Handshy	x			
		Mosley	x			
		Murray	x			
		Reevey				x
X		Ross	x			

Resolution 2015-196 Authorizing a change order #1 for 2014 NJDOT Municipal Aid in the amount of \$10,000 for Charles Drive and Deauville reconstruction

The Municipal Clerk stated this is surplus grant money to finish curbing in the area. The Mayor stated the worst curbs will be fixed first.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Gleason	x			
		Handshy	x			
x		Mosley	x			
		Murray	x			
		Reevey				x
	x	Ross	x			

Resolution 2015-197 Approving the Strategic Recovery Planning Report

Councilman Ross asked if there were any changes from the one reviewed by the Council back in April?

The Municipal Clerk stated this is the same and there were no changes.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Gleason	x			
		Handshy	x			
x		Mosley	x			
	x	Murray	x			
		Reevey				x
		Ross	x			

Resolution 2015-198 Authorizing the disposal of Surplus property
 Councilman Handshy asked if there is a minimum bid, and Councilman Ross asked if all vehicles were sold at the minimum bid?

The Municipal Clerk stated last auction set a \$300 bid, and all vehicles he believed, were sold at or above the minimum bid.

The following vote is amended to set a minimum bid of \$400.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Gleason				
		Handshy				
x		Mosley				
	x	Murray				
		Reevey				
		Ross				

Resolution 2015-199 Adjusting the Salary of Jim Richardson for Increased Code Enforcement Hours

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Gleason	x			
		Handshy	x			
	x	Mosley	x			
		Murray	x			
		Reevey				x
X		Ross	x			

Resolution 2015-200 Resolution providing for the adoption of a Corrective Action Plan for recommendations stated in the Report of the Audit ended December 31, 2014

The CFO stated this is a easy correction that is merely a procedural change whereby the Public Works department will submit a purchase requisition rather than being reimbursed.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
x		Gleason	x			
		Handshy	x			
		Mosley	x			
		Murray	x			
		Reevey				x
	x	Ross	x			

CONSENT AGENDA/PERMISSION

The below listed items are considered to be routine by the Borough of South Toms River and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no formal discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, this item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

- Resolution 2015-201 Authorizing a Raffle application 2015-4 for Manitou Park Vol Fire Company
- Resolution 2015-202 Authorizing a Raffle application 2015-5 for East Coast Car and Truck
- Resolution 2015-203 Authorizing refund of Tax Overpayment to Amboy Bank for 3rd Quarter 2015 property tax in the amount of of \$1,112.67 on Block 10.01 Lot 13 – 5 Green Ridge Drive, South Toms River, NJ,

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Gleason	x			
		Handshy	x			

	x	Mosley	x			
		Murray	x			
		Reevey				x
X		Ross	x			

BILL LIST

Councilman Handshy asked if the payphone was still operational. The Municipal Clerk stated that it is no longer connected.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Gleason	x			
		Handshy	x			
x		Mosley	x			
	x	Murray	x			
		Reevey				x
		Ross	x			

COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS

Gleason: There were multiple meetings.

Handshy: The REdevelopment Subcommittee met, along with the Environmental Commission. He thanked the Municipal Alliance for the Backpack Extravaganza. He attended the Food Truck Festival fundraiser; it was a tremendous event, and the Borough now has a Mobile Community Hall. He and Councilman Murray fixed the electric, and installed an outlet at Mathis Plaza to hook-up the camper to electricity. The Community Garden is doing well and had volunteers with him as well.

Mosley: The Backpack Extravaganza was great and thanked everyone for their assistance with the event.

Murray: He and Councilman Handshy fixed the electric on the camper and added outlets to the electrical box at Mathis Plaza. The Food Truck festival was a tremendous event. Had a meeting with Public Works supervisor to address the potholes on Attison and Applegate.

Ross: The Back-To-School Extravaganza, municipal alliance, Optimist Club, Rec Commission, Library, First Responders. About 120 backpacks given away, and everything was donated. The Senior Program is this Sunday from 3-5pm. The Optimist Club on Sept 19, will have the Bike Rodeo, followed by the Punt-Pass and Kick. He thanked Murray for the electrical work, and stated that the bands who played stated that this was the best venue they've played in a while. The increased events at Mathis have been very welcomed.

Cradle: Thanked Murray and Handshy for their electrical work at Mathis and on the camper. He stated that the Food Truck Festival was great, and the vendors were all very happy with it's success. He further stated that he had a meeting with the REdevelopment Committee to discuss several properties. He also stated that the Baseball league trophies will be given out at the September Caucus meeting.

Stephen Gallagher, CFO, stated the Borough is starting the process to implement the WIPP, which allows residents and businesses to have online tax payments, and have access to three years of tax records.

The Borough Clerk asked for approval of an outstanding bill for the Ocean County Mayor's Association in the amount of \$40 for the April meeting.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Gleason	x			
		Handshy	x			
x		Mosley	x			
	x	Murray	x			
		Reevey				x
		Ross	x			

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution 2015-206 Executive Session for the purposes of pending litigation and personnel matter

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
	x	Gleason	x			
		Handshy	x			
		Mosley	x			
x		Murray	x			
		Reevey				x
		Ross	x			

Resolution 2015-204 Increasing the hours of Maria Golda to full-time status at her current hourly rate.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
	x	Gleason	x			
		Handshy	x			
		Mosley	x			
		Murray	x			
		Reevey				x
X		Ross	x			

14. ADJOURNMENT @ 8:45pm

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
	x	Gleason	x			
		Handshy	x			
		Mosley	x			
x		Murray	x			
		Reevey				x
		Ross	x			

Approved

Rev. Oscar L. Cradle, Sr., Mayor

Joseph A. Kostecki, MPA/RMC/QPA/CMR
Municipal Clerk