

APRIL 5TH, 2010

A Work Session Meeting of the Manasquan Mayor and Council was held on April 5, 2010 at 7:00 p.m., in Council Chambers of Borough Hall.

Mayor Dempsey related that this meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act of 1975 and that notice was given to the Coast Star and the Asbury Park Press on December 22, 2009.

ROLL CALL: Present: Council Members Connolly, Donovan, Grasso, Lee, Lucas.

Absent: Council Member Bossone.

Also present was Borough Attorney James Kinneally and Borough Administrator John Trengrove.

ITEM #1. OPRS-RIM Shared Services Grant.

The Municipal Clerk related that the scanning equipment will be provided at no cost to the Borough but that after the warranty period any maintenance related costs will be the responsibility of the Borough. She related that the Borough's records that are stored in the system will be provided to the Borough on disk if the Borough chooses not to continue in the program. She asked if the Governing Body will agree to fund the program once the grant funding is discontinued. She noted that it is estimated that the cost will be \$3,000.00 annually.

Council Member Lee suggested holding this item until the next budget meeting.

The Municipal Clerk related that the funding will not be needed until 2011 but that the departments need to know now since it wouldn't make sense to put all the Borough records into the system if we do not plan to stay in the program. She also pointed out that it will be a tremendous amount of work. She related that the departments need direction from the Council about whether or not to proceed with the program.

Council Member Connolly asked what records will this effect.

The Clerk related that eventually it will affect all of the Borough's records.

Council Member Connolly made a motion to continue participation in the OPRS-RIM Program, seconded by Council Member Lee. Roll Call was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

ITEM #2. Use of Borough Property Requests:

- Manasquan Tourism Events – various dates.

Council Member Donovan made a motion to approve the event, seconded by Council Member Lee. Motion carried unanimously.

- Surfrider Foundation Longboard Classic – September 19/20-2010

Council Member Lucas made a motion to approve the event, seconded by Council Member Lee. Motion carried unanimously.

- Manasquan P.B.A. Children's Fishing Contest – May 8th, 2010

Council Member Connolly made a motion to approve the event, seconded by Council Member Donovan. Motion carried unanimously.

- Manasquan PTO Scavenger Hunt – May 15, 2010

Council Member Lee made a motion to approve the event, seconded by Council Member Donovan. Motion carried unanimously.

ITEM #3. Review of Resolutions and Ordinances for Consideration at the Regular Meeting.

Council Member Lucas made a motion to amend the agenda to remove the grease trap ordinance from the regular meeting agenda, seconded by Council Member Lee. Motion carried unanimously.

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Mr. Trengrove related that the QualCare/HIPPA Change Resolution pertains to protecting medical information.

Council Member Donovan made a motion to amend the agenda to remove the Carlson's Corner Encumbrance Agreement from the Regular Meeting agenda, seconded by Council Member Lucas. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Works Committee – Council Member Donovan congratulated the Manasquan Environmental Commission for a successful town clean up where 135 volunteers showed up and picked up 80 bags of recycling and 40 bags of garbage through out the municipality. He related that there were sewerage flow problems due to the large amount of rainfall that affected the volume.

Mayor Dempsey related that he believes that illegal sump pumps are part of the problem and that some enforcement action needs to be taken.

Council Member Lee related that this topic has been talked about a lot. He asked what is the action plan.

Mayor Dempsey related that Mr. Nicastro, Mr. Hamilton and the committee have to research what type of inspection can be done to find these pumps.

Mr. Trengrove related that Mr. Hamilton was instructed to look for illegal hook ups when the C/O inspections are done. He also related that the Borough can consider having T & M Associates conduct smoke testing.

Mayor Dempsey related that most sump pumps have check valves; therefore, smoke testing would not detect them. He related that no warnings should be given if one is detected.

Council Member Donovan related that the DPW is ordering seals for the manholes to prevent the rain water and tidal water from going through.

Public Property and Parks Committee – Council Member Lee related that they are moving forward with the New Jersey Clean Energy Audit Application and that energy audits will be conducted throughout all the public buildings. He related that theoretically the Borough can garner as much as 75 percent of the investment on the audit as well as the future savings that the Borough will glean from the improvements that will be made. He related that the Borough Hall's fascia repairs and painting will be underway soon. Additionally, he noted that the Shade Tree Commission will be conducting their Arbor Day Celebration activities at the end of the month. He related that the events are impressive.

Public Safety and Recycling Committee – Council Member Lucas related that as of April 1st no dogs are allowed on the beach and that there will be strict enforcement. He announced the new N.J. Provisional Driver's License requirements which go into effect on May 1st, 2010.

Administration and Finance Committee – Council Member Connolly related her committee has approved bills totaling \$2,402,980.63. She related that the Governing Body has done a lot of work on the budget this year which started out with a 6.5 percent increase in property taxes. She related that it has been substantially reduced and that they are awaiting the final figure. She related that she proposes that the Governing Body revisit the 17 percent reduction to the Manasquan Public (Private) Library which is the most significant decrease in the budget. She related that the Manasquan First Aid did not have any reduction and reasonably so because they take care of the physical health of the residents. She related that the Library takes care of the intellectual health of its residents and that the Governing Body should restore the \$23,000 and restore them to the 2009 budget of \$135,882.00. She related that \$240,672.00 is brought in from the Borough's parking lot fees and suggested that \$23,000.00 of it should be transferred to the Manasquan Public (Private) Library. She related that the parking lots belong to the tax payers and that the money should go into the general budget.

Mayor Dempsey related that he does not support moving any more beach money into the general budget and noted that an additional \$24,000 was shifted. He related that the Manasquan First Aid Squad gets a contribution from the Borough but that they raise the balance of the money that they need to operate. He related that the Manasquan Public (Private) Library will have to do the same. He noted that the financial documents that the Library provided to the Borough does not list their donation or other contributions. He related

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that they are not a municipal organization and noted that they are a 501C3.

Council Member Connolly related that so is the First Aid Squad and noted that there are a lot of 501C3 organizations. She related that 17 percent is too significant of a cut. She related that we have to find the money and the money should be transferred from the parking lots.

Council Member Lee related that he thinks it is a great conversation to have that but it should take place at the next budget meeting.

Mr. Trengrove related that there is not another budget meeting scheduled.

Mayor Dempsey related that the auditor was given the reductions from the last budget meeting.

Mr. Trengrove related that the auditor is waiting for DLGS to inform them of how the 1.5 percent medical contribution will be handled then he will prepare the final budget document.

Mayor Dempsey and Mr. Trengrove related that it is their understanding that the Governing Body was finished with reviewing line items.

Council Member Connolly related that she thinks there is still room for discussion on the budget.

Law and Code Committee – Council Member Grasso read the Code and Building Department Activity Report. He related that the Construction Fee increase ordinance should be ready for introduction at the next meeting of the Governing Body and the proposed Taxi Fee ordinance report should be ready for review on the 19th. He related that hopefully the Borough will generate some revenues from it.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Ann Capelli, Manasquan Public (Private) Library related that they understand the tough economic times and have empathy for the pressures that the Governing Body has to be fiscally responsible. She related that they too are fiscally responsible to the donors and the taxpayers who are funding the Library. She related that the municipality and the Library have a very good partnership with the Borough and the Library was brought back from an institution that was almost eliminated from the town. She related that the Library building is in good condition because the Borough has enabled them to use the donation from the taxpayers wisely. She related that she does not understand why a Library is something that the Borough no longer wishes to fund. She related that they need the money and that there will be severe cuts and elimination of programs with the proposed reduction. She asked that the Governing Body reconsider.

Mayor Dempsey related that the donations are not listed as income on the report that is submitted to the Governing Body.

Mrs. Capelli related that they are not considered income.

Renee Cauliette, Manasquan Public (Private) Library related that the report that is submitted to the Governing Body is only an accounting of the money that is donated by the Manasquan taxpayers.

Mayor Dempsey related that it is not a true picture of the Library's budget.

Mrs. Cauliette related that she can provide documentation of the donated money also.

Mayor Dempsey related that in the future the Library should provide a report of all the Library's income considering the size of the donation that is made to them from taxpayers funds.

Mrs. Cauliette related that all you (Mayor Dempsey) had to was ask for it.

Mayor Dempsey related he does not believe the Borough should have to ask for that information.

Mrs. Cauliette related that they have always given more than the department heads have given and that they give a detailed report of their actual spending. She related that no other department gives a report of their actual spending.

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Mayor Dempsey related that all the departments give a report of their actual spending.

Council Member Lee related that it is not that the Governing Body doesn't support the Library but that that he would like them to see his rational. He related that the Borough is not replacing a police officer, one position was cut in the DPW, the hours in the Code Department have been reduced due to less activity and the full-time CFO position was not filled. He related that since 2001 the total Library dollars has been \$208,000 and that this past year the Borough spent \$444,000. He related that has gone from less than \$60.00 to \$120.00 per person. He related that it has to be controlled. He related that folks are talking about furloughs and layoffs as well as the reduction of services. He related that he commends the passion and emotion that is brought to the Library but his decision to raise the reduction is not personal.

Mrs. Cauliette related that the Board is volunteers who have worked for the Library for 10 years. She asked if this meant nothing to the Council.

Council Member Lee related that it means a lot and stated that he would be happy to lend his support if they decide to have a fund raiser.

Mrs. Cauliette related that in 2002 referendum was passed stating that they would get full funding and that they will not be doing that again.

Council Member Lee related that he offered a solution.

Mrs. Cauliette related that Mayor Dempsey voted that he was going to disregard the referendum.

Council Member Lee related that he did not hear that.

William Wall, Curtis Ave read a statement supporting the Manasquan Library and education. He related that the Library is a gem and plays an important roll in this community. He related that their programs enhance the community.

Council Member Grasso related that education is so important to our country and that we are missing the three Rs which is the basis of what this Country being what it is. He related that the educational system makes us advance -- it enlightens us, culture enlightens us, music -- art -- dance, gives us an outlook on what life can be. He related that not everybody can play basketball or football or baseball but there is so much talent out there in young people that can be done by just looking, learning, reading, and studying -- to advance themselves. He related that he was happy to hear Mr. Wall's speech.

Mr. Wall asked where would we be as a society without art or music or reading.

Mary Kotsopoulos, Ocean Avenue related that this has been a year that we have asked educators to freeze their salaries, have lost patrolman from the force, ask public workers to be laid off and yes seniors have had to freeze their incomes as well. So, she related, she finds it really difficult to understand how the Council cannot accept the proposal to do away with bottled water which the employees can get from the water fountain or could bring their own.

Mayor Dempsey related that the comments must be limited to agenda items.

Mary Kotsopoulos related that the bottled water has to do with the Library. She related that she finds it difficult that when you (employees) are asked to use their own cars and not public cars to fulfill their obligations but yet you find it easy to cut \$23,000 from our Library. She related that the Governing Body should recognize how the taxpayers and constituents feel.

Joan Reilly, 76 Stockton Lake Boulevard asked if the budget has been finalized.

Mayor Dempsey related that the final budget meeting was held on 3/29/2010 and that the entire Governing Body agreed on the reductions.

Mr. Trengrove reminded the Governing Body that the Borough is under statutory guidelines to introduce the budget. He related that if any changes are to be made they should be made tonight.

Mayor Dempsey related that the budget is scheduled to be introduced on April 19, 2010. He related that the Borough Auditor will have to redo all of the numbers in the budget if changes

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are made.

Council Member Connolly related that is what he is paid to do.

Mayor Dempsey related that he has to get paid every time he makes changes.

Ms. Reilly asked if the Governing Body will reconsider the Library reduction.

Dawn Burke, Fletcher Ave asked that the Governing Body reconsider the cuts to the Library. She related that during these tough economic times Library use goes up because people can't afford to buy books or DVDs.

Kelly Connolly, McLean Avenue related that a lot of money in town goes for the beach and the school but the Library is important to her because it reaches out to all facets of the community.

Lia Trench, 444 East Main Street asked if there is public comment on the first reading of an ordinance.

The Borough Attorney related that there is no separate public comment for an ordinance introduction, however, the public can comment during the public comment period.

Lia Trench related that an ordinance can be amended on the second reading if someone in the audience makes a suggestion that the Governing Body supports.

The Municipal Clerk related that Lia Trench was incorrect and stated that if a change was made the ordinance would have to be reintroduced and advertised.

Lia Trench related that the budget could be amended if the Governing Body choose to do so.

The Municipal Clerk related that it could be done by resolution but that there is a cost associated with it.

Lia Trench stated to Mr. Trengrove that the law doesn't state that you can't change the budget.

Mr. Trengrove related that he did not say that and reiterated his comments that the Borough is under a statutory guide line to introduce the budget and that if changes are to be made tonight is the time to make them. He stated that what Lia Trench said he stated was not accurate.

Marie Burke, Spruce Ave related that she supports the Library and that the group of people that work there are wonderful.

Sally Beldin, 48 Colby Ave related that she is a former Library volunteer and that she loves the Library. She gave the history of her volunteer service there as well as the history of her usage there. She related that they provide computers for those who don't have them. She related that one could walk to the Library and that the next closest Library is in Wall. She related that she lost her job and can go to the Library to get books and videos. She related that she can go there and participate in the Community. She related that they need to keep it alive. She related that free public libraries are needed, especially now in these tough times.

Carol Mennie, Manasquan Library Director read a statement about the usage of the Library and the programs it offers. She read a long list of the various programs and activities for children and adults in the communities. She expressed the joy of watching the children participate in the various programs and learning to read. She asked what else can be better than a hometown library. She asked that the Governing Body reconsider the reduction to the Library.

Council Member Connolly related that she will be putting forth a resolution at the regular meeting to restore the funding to the Library.

Council Member Grasso stated that he seconded the motion.

The Borough Attorney presented a resolution authorizing the Governing Body to meet in Closed Session following the regular meeting.

Council Member Lee made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Council Member Donovan. Roll call was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

The work session meeting was reconvened to the closed session meeting at 8:30 p.m.