

MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

April 22, 2015

7:00 p.m.

\* MEETING CALLED TO ORDER \* STATEMENT REGARDING OPEN  
PUBLIC MEETING LAW \* SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Mayor Martin called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Adequate notice of this meeting was provided as is required by the Open Public Meetings Act. All present Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

A moment of silence was observed for all those in the military.

\* CALLING OF THE ROLL - All present

Slavicek

Asciolla - absent

Bruno

Estrada

Karczewski

Perez

\* PUBLIC PORTION

Michael Saleh, 110 Main Street, said he applied to the Planning Board for a variance for his garage to be converted into an apartment. His application was denied and he wanted to appeal but they have no forms here. The Clerk, who is the secretary to the Planning Board, said he was told to go to the Court in New Brunswick to file an appeal. She sent him the resolution of denial to take with him. After a lengthy discussion, Clmn. Perez said he would look into this and develop a form with how to file appeals.

Greg Bennett, York Drive clarified all the rumors and innuendos being said about the Fire Dept. Wendy Vidal, 8 Locust Dr. voiced her appreciation of the Fire Dept.

Scott Casey, 19 Maple St. questioned the Mayor's leadership.

Sewell Peckham, 4 John Street spoke about the shelter.

Virginia McGinnis, Monroe Township recommended getting a volunteer program for the shelter up and running. She questioned how the shelter was allowed to open without fire extinguishers.

Maria Karczewski, York Drive said that she is proud that the Council is trying to fix things.

Joe Opinski, 18 Avenue A asked who approved the PILOT program and the builder should

have been responsible for buying the truck. He is ready to walk away from his house and move to Monroe. He will be lucky to get \$400,000.00 for his house.

Lea Strucich, Edison asked if the shelter made a profit because the animals were not taken care of.

Robert Simonelli, Avenue A, Lt. of the Fire Dept., said planning is important and

**RESOLUTIONS:**

2015 – 64 Hiring of Richard Schombert, Public Works

Discussion followed and the resolution was amended not to extend his probationary period

MOTION – Clmn. Karczewski      SECOND – Clwmn. Bruno

ROLL CALL: 5 – 0

65 Hiring of Matthew Crane, Borough Administrator – Tabled

66 Refund of Landlord Registration

MOTION – Clwmn. Estrada      SECOND – Clmn. Karczewski

ROLL CALL: 5 – 0

67 Resolution of the Borough of Helmetta authorizing Partial Payment No. 2 to Jamali Developers, LLC for the Helme Park Phase 2 Contract in the amount of \$160,796.93 (payment will be subject to the CFO transferring the moneys to the correct account)

MOTION – Clmn. Perez      SECOND – Clwmn. Bruno

ROLL CALL: 5 – 0

68 2015 Temporary Budget Appropriations

MOTION – Clmn. Karczewski      SECOND – Clmn. Perez

ROLL CALL: 5 – 0

69 Payments of Bills (approval is subject to the review of the Finance Chairman)

MOTION – Clmn. Karczewski      SECOND – Clwmn. Bruno

ROLL CALL: 4 – 0 – 1

Ayes: Slavicek, Bruno, Karczewski, Perez      Nays -0-      Abstain: Estrada

70 Resolution of the Borough of Helmetta authorizing Partial Payment No. 3 to Jamali Developers, LLC for the Helme Park Phase 2 Contract in the amount of \$43,078.75

(payment will be subject to the CFO transferring the moneys to the correct account)

MOTION – Clmn. Slavicek      SECOND – Clwmn. Perez

ROLL CALL: 5 – 0

71 Resolution of the Borough of Helmetta authorizing the termination of Shared Services Contracts between the Borough of Helmetta and other municipalities for animal control and animal impoundment services, abolishing all animal shelter-related employment positions, and terminating all appointments to such animal shelter-related employment positions

MOTION – Clwmn. Bruno      SECOND – Clmn. Perez

ROLL CALL: 5 – 0

72 A resolution of Borough of Helmetta authorizing the purchase of electricity supply services for public use on an online auction website

MOTION – Clmn. Perez      SECOND – Clwmn. Estrada

ROLL CALL: 3 – 1 – 1

Ayes: Bruno, Estrada, Perez      Nays: Karczewski      Abstain: Slavicek

73 Resolution of the Borough of Helmetta authorizing the Borough's Labor Counsel to send contract termination notice to the Police Director

MOTION – Clmn. Perez      SECOND – Clwmn. Bruno

ROLL CALL: 3 – 0 – 2

Ayes: Bruno, Karczewski, Perez      Abstain: Slavicek, Estrada

74 Resolution cancelling Reserve for Animal Control Van – General Capital Fund

MOTION – Clmn. Perez      SECOND – Clmn. Karczewski

ROLL CALL: 5 – 0

75 Resolution correcting/clarifying previous Budget Appropriation Transfers in 2014 Municipal Current Fund Budget

MOTION – Clmn. Perez      SECOND – Clmn. Karczewski

ROLL CALL: 5 – 0

76 Resolution for setting forth for delay of introduction of Municipal Budget for 2015

MOTION – Clmn. Perez      SECOND – Clmn. Karczewski

ROLL CALL: 5 – 0

RESOLUTION # 2015 – 77 Introduction of Budget

MOTION – Clmn. Karczewski      SECOND – Clmn. Perez

ROLL CALL: 5 – 0

RESOLUTION # 2015 – 79 Authorization to sign PBA contract

MOTION – Clwmn. Bruno      SECOND – Clmn. Perez

ROLL CALL: 4 – 1

Ayes: Slavicek, Bruno, Karczewski, Perez      Nays: Estrada

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 13, 2014

MOTION – Clmn. Slavicek      SECOND – Clmn. Karczewski

ROLL CALL: 3 – 0 – 2

Ayes: Slavicek, Bruno, Karczewski      Abstain: Estrada, Perez

(Consent Agenda was # 78; which was voided.)

CALL: 4 – 1 Ayes: Slavicek, Bruno, Karczewski, Perez

Nays: Estrada.

REPORT OF MAYOR, BOROUGH ATTORNEY, COMMITTEES

Clwmn. Bruno said most of us voted for the position of a full time Police Chief and we will vote on the ordinance this evening. We now have a new police car. National Night Out

will be held with Spotswood. She extended congratulations to the Fire Dept. on receiving a grant. She has a problem with the letter that the Fire Dept. received as it was somebody from the Borough who wrote it. An appreciation lunch was held for the Animal Control Officers and Borough employees. The fishing derby will be held. The 2012 minutes are not on the website and we are in violation. The mosquito spraying was nontoxic. There was an issue with recycling on Locust Drive. She asked that the meeting agendas be sent out earlier.

Clwmn. Bruno said that according to Parliamentary Law she would like to make a MOTION of "no confidence" and have the Mayor step down from her seat; SECONDED by Clmn. Karczewski. ROLL CALL: 4 – 1 Ayes: Slavicek, Bruno, Karczewski, Perez Nays: Estrada.

Recreation Chairman Chris Slavicek said that the Fishing Derby will be held on June 13. A series of concerts will be held in June, July, and August. National Night Out will be held with Spotswood. Helmetta Day will be held on September 12 at the park.

Public Works Chairman Peter Karczewski said that a project to seal all the cracks in the streets will be done; machinery will be rented. Posting of the repairs will be done.

Finance Chairman Joseph Perez said the Finance Department is preoccupied with the budget. There was a wire hanging on Railroad Avenue and Darren Doran made contacts.

Clmn. Slavicek asked if the Community Center can be rented and if we would need an ordinance.

#### ORDINANCE # 2015 – 3 (First Reading)

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 13 of the Code of the Borough of Helmetta, entitled "Police Department"

MOTION – Clmn. Karczewski      SECOND – Clmn. Perez

ROLL CALL: 5 - 0

#### NEW BUSINESS

There is a possibility that the meeting on May 20 will start with Closed Session at 6:00 p.m.

#### CLOSED SESSION # 80 – Pending Litigation

MOTION – Clmn. Slavicek      SECOND – Clmn. Karczewski

ROLL CALL: 5 – 0

A MOTION to go into Open Session was made by Clwmn. Bruno and SECONDED by Clmn. Karczewski. All were in favor.

It was the consensus that a Special Meeting be held on Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. for the second reading of Ordinance #2015 - 3.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a MOTION was made by Clmn. Perez and SECONDED by Clwmn. Estrada to adjourn. All were in favor.

Sandra Bohinski