

**MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015
7:00 P.M.**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER * STATEMENT REGARDING OPEN PUBLIC MEETING LAW * SALUTE TO THE FLAG * MOMENT OF SILENCE
The meeting was called to order by Council President Chris Slavicek at 7:10 p.m. Adequate notice of this meeting was provided as is required by the Open Public Meetings Law with advertisement in the Home News Tribune and posting in the Municipal Building. All in attendance Pledged Allegiance to the Flag and observed a moment of silence.

CALLING OF THE ROLL:

Slavicek
Asciolla - Absent
Bruno
Estrada - Absent
Karczewski
Perez

PUBLIC PORTION

Sewell Peckham, 4 John Street, said that signs regarding parking when it snows were to be posted. He said there are four entrances to John Street and he only saw one sign. Cmn. Karczewski will follow up on this. He also said that the meeting was changed but he saw nothing on the website. The sign outside of the Municipal Building should be left on more than a few seconds so people can read what's on it. It should have been posted. Nothing is posted on the calendar on the website either.

Tom Zwolinski, Avenue A, asked about the payments for the benefits the employees receive and their contributions. Borough Administrator, Matthew Crane, said it depends on their salary but everyone is on the State plan.

Steven Wronko, had questions regarding the property on Maple Street and if it was considered private property since he received a summons for trespassing. Chief Lockman said that if he has any problems to appeal the Court's decision. He also revisited the incident with Officer Recine.

Reference to Maple Street, ten feet is not private property if you want to build a sidewalk on that portion it is an easement. He finds it incredible I find it ludicrous.

CONSENT AGENDA #2015 – 165

The following routine items and resolutions were adopted in unison as a Consent Agenda:

Report of Municipal Clerk, Tax Collector

Resolutions:

2015 – 155 Appointment of Kyle Worcester as Full-time Police Officer

156 Resolution of the Borough of Helmetta authorizing Partial

Payment No. 6

to Jamali Developers, LLC for the Helme Park Phase 2 contract
in the

amount of \$61,544.24

157 Authorization to sign Solid Waste Agreement with Middlesex
County Utilities

Authority for Solid Waste Disposal

~~158 Authorization to enter into a Shared Service Agreement for the
provision of~~

~~vehicle maintenance to the Borough of Helmetta from the
Township of North
-Brunswick~~

~~159 Payment of bills~~

160 Governing Body Certification of the Annual Audit

161 Resolution authorizing Corrective Action Plan for 2014 Audit

162 Authorization to sign Memorandum of Understanding

163 Support of Senate Bill S2069

164 Resolution Authorizing 2015 Budget Transfers

Approval of Membership Application for Nicholas Dolce to Helmetta Fire
Dept.

MOTION – Clmn. Perez SECOND – Clmn. Karczewski
ROLL CALL: 3 – 0 – 1

RESOLUTION #158 Authorization to enter into a Shared Service Agreement
for the provision of

vehicle maintenance to the Borough of Helmetta from the
Township of North Brunswick

A question was asked if there was an increase in charges. The
Administrator said it was raised a \$1.00
per hour.

MOTION – Clmn. Karczewski SECOND – Clmn. Perez
ROLL CALL: 3 – 0 – 1

RESOLUTION # 159 Payment of bill

A question arose about where the money from the trust fund came. Who gave her (the Mayor) the right to authorize to get the tables. It was also the consensus that the payment for the tables and chairs not be paid for until they are received. A question arose that there was only one estimate on the door. The door was broken when the Police had to enter the house.

MOTION – Clmn. Perez SECOND – Clmn. Karczewski
ROLL CALL: 3 – 0 – 1

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

July 22, 2015, August 26, 2015, September 16, 2015, October 21, 2015, November 18, 2015

MOTION – Clmn. Perez SECOND – Clmn. Karczewski
ROLL CALL: 3 – 0 – 1

Discussion ensued about the number of meetings the Mayor missed and if she should step down. The Borough Attorney said the regularly scheduled meeting was changed and she did say she could not make the meeting tonight. Council President Slavicek said he was hoping for a smooth transition and to find out if there was any open items.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: MAYOR, BOROUGH ATTORNEY, BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR, COMMITTEE REPORTS

Council President Slavicek thanked all for the work they did for the holiday events and Clwmn. Bruno for the Star for the tree. Concerns were issued about the lights being on in the shelter and the Community Center. The lights were turned off in the shelter. Research is being done by Darren Doran about the lights in the Center. If certain lights are turned off the battery will be burnt.

Clmn. Karczewski said High and John Street were paved. We are waiting on storm water compliant basins on John Street and a guardrail on High Street. Mario is doing basic restoration now. There are improvements needed to the water tower upgrades to the wireless communication, The County culvert project said that the NAIK will supply a template. The Administrator said he has the plaque.

Xtel is making it hard on releasing the phone lines which is holding up the installation of the new phones. The Mayor said they need to be called every day until it is resolved. The Fire Dept. asked that they be notified if the phone lines are down. They have a half hour back up battery and it can become a public safety issue.

A new vendor is being sought for e-waste. The present company is going out of business. We currently have \$2500.00 for the budget. Negotiations will begin in January.

Matthew Crane, Borough Administrator, is giving us the option of getting additional coverage. Negotiations for Public Works will begin in January.

SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:

An Ordinance of the Borough of Helmetta, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey providing for improvements to Helme Park and appropriating \$35,000 therefor from the Borough's General Capital Fund

The meeting was opened to the Public. Joe Reid, Locust Drive, asked what the money was going to be used for and was told it was to cover a shortfall. There was no one else from the Public who wished to speak and the Public Portion was closed.

MOTION – Clmn. Karzewski SECOND – Clmn. Perez
ROLL CALL: 3 – 0 -1

The vote on the adoption of the ordinance was taken again.

ROLL CALL: 4 - 0

NEW BUSINESS

The Reorganization Meeting will be held on January 4, 2016 and will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Clwmn. Bruno read a statement announcing her resignation from Council effective as of this meeting. Council President Slavicek thanked her for all she has done for the Borough.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business a MOTION was made by Clmn. Karczewski and SECONDED by Clwmn. Bruno to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.

Jandra Bohuski, RMC
Municipal Clerk

December 15, 2015 - Yvette K. Bruno – Resignation from Councilwoman in the Borough of Helmetta

I want to thank the residents for giving me the opportunity to serve as an elected official in our town. I was very proud of being part of the council and feel I have done a great job! The past two years have been a very trying time for me and my family. I have personally taken a beating! Now, with my daughter getting ready to head to college next year I am looking forward to spending as much time with her and my family as possible. My family has and always will be my main priority!

A few of my most important accomplishments were:

- 1) Appointing Chief Chad Lockman to eliminate political interference. He is doing a fantastic job as the Chief and I know he will continue to be great! I'm proud to have him as Chief!
- 2) Police increase in salaries which are now competitive amongst other towns. This creates stability in our police department! No more revolving door! I am proud of all our officers for always doing a great job and I look forward to them all staying with our Police Department.
- 3) I helped with the Helmetta Fire Department with grants and an increase in their budget. The Fire Department has been neglected for many years! Hopefully no longer! These are all hard working and caring guys and I'm proud to have them all in our Fire Department!
- 4) I introduced and had passed the Anti-Tethering ordinance to end any and all inhumane treatment of animals. By introducing and passing this ordinance our town has become a model town and other towns are following in our footsteps.
- 5) Being an Animal lover I helped with the exposure of what was happening with our Animal Shelter and all the wrong doings happening there! No more killings and deplorable conditions! Hopefully the building will be used for something productive!
- 6) BEST of all! The end of the dictatorship of Nancy Martin is OVER!

I hope the current administration will do what is right for the residents of this town! The main issues will be transparency, follow up and holding people accountable! I sure hope all will do the right thing and work together for a better Helmetta!

I want to thank everyone from the bottom of my heart to serve this community! The hardest part of my decision to resign is feeling like I am letting down the two most important departments the Police and Fire Departments! I promise I will still be there to help and support both departments just in a resident's capacity.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all! Time to head out and support my Fire Department bingo!

Sincerely,


Yvette K. Bruno