

**MINUTES OF THE EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
OF THE BOROUGH OF SUSSEX  
HELD AT THE SUSSEX MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
2 MAIN STREET, SUSSEX, NJ  
January 26, 2012**

Mayor Rose called the meeting to order and requested the clerk to call the roll. Upon roll call, the following members of the Governing Body were present, Mrs. Krynicky, Mr. LaBar, Mr. Lagattuta, Mr. Meyer, Mayor Rose.

Absent: Mr. Dykstra, Mr. Fransen

Mayor Rose led the assembly in the flag salute and requested a moment of silence.

Mayor Rose stated "This meeting is being held in compliance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. It has been properly advertised and certified by the Clerk."

### **OPEN PUBLIC SESSION #1**

Mr. Lagattuta made a motion to open the meeting to open the meeting to the public for any questions or comments concerning items on the agenda for which no public discussion is provided. All comments should be directed to the Mayor and are limited to 5 minutes. Seconded by Mr. LaBar. All were in favor.

There being no one present who wished to address the Governing Body, Mr. Lagattuta made a motion to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Mr. Meyer. All were in favor.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Resolution2012-36R – Emergency Appropriation**

Mr. John Ruschke of Hatch Mott MacDonald gave a brief report of the Water Treatment Plant. Mr. Ruschke stated that the NJDEP has voiced concerns about improvements that are warranted at the Water Treatment Plant. The current operator has identified several items that they feel are critical to the operation to avoid many more exceedences. Mr. Ruschke agrees that these items are critical to insure the quality of water. The most important item that is in need of repair is the decant system. Mr. Ruschke described the processes of the decant system. The second item is the polymer pumps, one has failed totally and the other has exceeded its useful life. The third issue is the replacement of the filter media and finally the replacement of the chemical feed pumps are needed. Mr. Ruschke stated that these four issues are directly related to turbidity but might help with the TTHM violations that the Borough has experienced. The former operator was not flushing the water system regularly and this can cause a build up of TTHM's in the system. The current operator has incorporated a Borough wide hydrant flushing program to be performed twice a year. Mr. Ruschke stated that plant was designed with the application of two more chemicals ammonia and carbon. These processes have never been utilized in the plant but could be considered in the future.

Mayor Rose stated that these four items that are being considered will remove organic matter from the system therefore lowering the TTHMs.

Mr. Ruschke stated that he feels that the removal of organics will help by getting the plant back to working properly but there is no guarantee it will help with the TTHM issue.

Mr. Mike Furrey from AGRA Environmental & Laboratory Services stated that he agrees with Mr. Ruschke. Many of the organics are being formed within the plant and the process might have to be altered to reduce this amount. Mr. Furrey agrees that the best approach is to get the plant working properly with the aforementioned improvements then analyze the TTHM problem.

Mr. Ruschke stated that the design of this plant is unusual, most direct filtration plants have a clarifier at the plant. This clarifier would remove the organics before they enter the plant.

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Discussion continued about the reasons that the levels of TTHM in the system are high.

Mayor Rose asked Mr. Ruschke if he is confident that the four items discussed today constitute an emergency. Mr. Ruschke responded yes. The NJDEP was very clear that they recognize the issues with the plant and the Borough needs to bring the plant into compliance immediately.

Mayor Rose stated that if the plant has one more turbidity violation the NJDEP will issue a boil water alert.

Mayor Rose asked Mr. Ruschke if he feels that the four mentioned improvements can be completed financially within the \$125,000 stated in the Resolution. Mr. Ruschke stated he feels confident that they can.

Mrs. Krynicky asked when this work would begin.

Mr. Ruschke stated that it should begin immediately due to the long lead time needed to receive some of the product.

Mr. Meyer made a motion to adopt a resolution entitled: "RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF SUSSEX, IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING AN EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 TO FUND MAJOR REPAIRS TO THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT ORDERED BY THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION" Seconded by Mr. LaBar.

Mr. Zschack introduced Mr. William Zuckerman the Boroughs CFO to the Mayor and Council. Mr. Zuckerman stated that the Resolution allows the Borough to start the purchasing of materials needed to perform these repairs. The funding that will be needed for this project will be on the agenda in the form of a Bond Ordinance at the next scheduled meeting.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Krynicky, LaBar, Lagattuta, Meyer,

Nays: None Absent: Dykstra, Fransen Abstentions: None

**OPEN PUBLIC SESSION #2**

Mr. Lagattuta made a motion to open the meeting to the public for any questions or comments concerning the good and welfare of the Borough. All comments should be directed to the Mayor and are limited to 5 minutes. Seconded by Mr. Meyer. All were in favor.

Mrs. Linda Masson 15 Spruce Avenue stated that this did not just happen it has been going on for a long time. Who has been over seeing all this activity? The Borough has not brought anybody from the outside to take a look at this we just keep writing checks. Mrs. Masson is very concerned for the residents of the Borough that have to foot these bills and still pay huge water bills. What is being done to compensate the residents of this community? Somebody is at fault and an answer is needed who is responsible.

There being no one else present who wished to address the Governing Body, Mr. Lagattuta made a motion to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Mr. LaBar. All were in favor.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further items for discussion by the Mayor and Council, Mr. Meyer made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. LaBar. All were in favor.