

MONTCLAIR, NEW JERSEY

October 14, 2014

The Council of the Township of Montclair, in the County of Essex, met in the Second Floor Conference Room in the Municipal Building, 205 Claremont Avenue, for a Conference meeting at 6:04 P.M.

STATEMENT OF SUNSHINE NOTICE
ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Jackson, Deputy Mayor Russo, Councilors Baskerville, McMahon and Schlager
Absent: Councilors Hurlock and Spiller

At 6:06 P.M. on motion made by Mayor Jackson and duly seconded, the following resolution was adopted by unanimous vote:

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances, and

WHEREAS, the public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Township of Montclair, in the County of Essex, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matters.
2. The general nature of the subject matters to be discussed are as follows: Personnel matters
3. We do not anticipate that the matters discussed will be made public.
4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Councilor Hurlock joined the meeting.

At 7:14 the Executive Session was adjourned.

At 7:21 P.M. the Regular Meeting resumed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Karen Shinevar, expressed support for an evaluation process for all Township employees including the animal shelter staff.

Josh Epstein, 81 Montclair Avenue, representing 70-80 residents who oppose lights at Woodman field asked that he be apart of the dialog surrounding this issue.

Kelly Peters, 823 Bloomfield Avenue, requested an update on projects to be implemented at the Montclair Animal Shelter.

Response: Interior work – within three weeks
Exterior work – to be determined

She asked if the position of a qualified shelter manager/director had been posted. The Council will discuss a staffing structure shortly and then move on a “parallel path” to hiring. Ms. Peters also asked when a new software program for the shelter would be available. Township Attorney, Ira Karasick stated that there is a software program already in place. She also expressed concern regarding the activities of the volunteer coordinator.

Nancy Katz, 545 Valley Road, asked that members of the Animal Advisory Committee have input into the hiring of any animal shelter personnel.

Kay Sherwin, Chair, Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, requested support from the Department of Community Services for the shelter.

Receive: Police Chief David Sabagh

Chief Sabagh explained the rationale behind acquiring four 2015 Ford Interceptor police vehicles rather than Dodge Charger models which had a poor track record. The Council asked Chief Sabagh to provide additional information.

Communications Advisory Committee

Sanford Sorkin, Chair of this committee offered a power point presentation which included a number of issues including clarification of the mission of this group, expansion of TV34 programming, and the use of "communication messages" in emergency situations.

He also noted that the Communications Advisory Committee had no role in either the selection of a communications consultant for the municipality or in determining the scope and effectiveness of the Property Pilot software program recently purchased by the Township.

A complete copy of Mr. Sorkin's report is available in the Municipal Clerk's office.

Mr. Sorkin suggested that the Communications Advisory Committee could play a significant role in a broad range of communications activities within the Township.

Receive: Gary Obszarny, Director of Utilities

Mr. Obszarny proposed new water rates which have not increased since 2011. As proposed the current rate will be \$31 per 7,480 gallons per year through 2017. He asked the Council to consider utilizing higher rates during warmer months to encourage water conservation. Mr. Obszarny outlined several scenarios to address the Department of Environmental Protection's "firm capacity" requirements whether or not the municipality pursues the development of a well at Nishuane Park. The Township would need to either purchase water at \$402,960 per year or pay a one-time fee of \$966,747 to buy into the Wanaque Reservoir.

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

On motion made by Mayor Jackson and duly seconded, the resolution was adopted by unanimous vote:

WHEREAS, Local Finance Notice 14-16 requests that the municipality shall submit by October 17, 2014 to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services a report describing the municipality's compliance with the "Best Practices Inventory" established by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Community Affairs established the Best Practices Inventory on September 10, 2014, and

WHEREAS, the report is required to be certified by the Chief Financial Officer, Chief Administrative Officer and Municipal Clerk and

WHEREAS, the members of the governing body have reviewed the Best Practices Inventory questions and the answers being submitted; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Montclair has achieved a score of 84%, which would entitle the Township of Montclair to 100% of the State Aid to which it is entitled; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Township of Montclair that the Local Government Best Practices Checklist, as completed by the Chief Financial Officer and Chief Administrative Officer, is hereby approved for submission to the Director of Local Government Services. **(R-14-154)**

On motion made by Councilor McMahan and duly seconded, the resolution was adopted by unanimous vote:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Montclair that the New Jersey Bike & Walk Coalition Inc., A New Jersey Non-Profit Corporation, may use a designated alcove space in the Bay Street Parking Deck as bike depot, which is deemed to be a public purpose, pending adoption of an ordinance approving a lease between the Township and the New Jersey Bike & Walk Coalition Inc. **(R-14-155)**

On motion made by Mayor Jackson and duly seconded, the resolution was adopted by unanimous vote:

WHEREAS, Marc Dashield, Township Manager, has tendered his resignation to the Township Council, effective as of midnight, October 24, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council intends to appoint an Acting Manager with full authority to perform the duties of the Manager; and

WHEREAS, Timothy Stafford, of Cedar Grove, New Jersey, possesses the requisite executive and administrative qualifications and experience in municipal government in the State of New Jersey, to perform the duties of Township Manager; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the governing body of the Township of Montclair, that Timothy Stafford be, and hereby is, appointed to the position of Manager in an acting capacity, effective as of October 25, 2014; and be it further

RESOLVED, that effective October 15, 2014, and during the remainder of the present Manager's service, the Manager will appoint Timothy Stafford to the position of Director of Human Resources; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Township Council exercises its statutory authority pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:69A-92 to allow Mr. Stafford to reside outside the Township of Montclair; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Mr. Stafford shall receive a salary of \$150,000 per annum for his initial four weeks of employment, and \$160,000 per annum thereafter, made retroactive to Mr. Stafford's initial hiring date, subject to amendment of the appropriate salary ordinance. (R-14-156)

The Council reconvened to Executive Session.

At 9:39 P.M. on motion made by Mayor Jackson and duly seconded, the following resolution was adopted by unanimous vote:

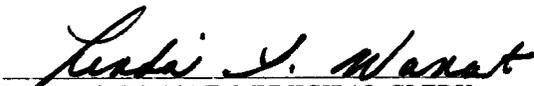
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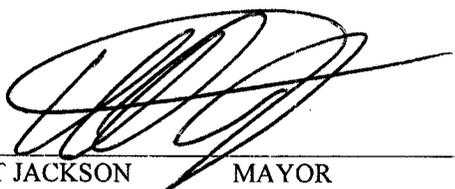
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At 9:44 P.M. on motion made by Mayor Jackson and duly seconded, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.


LINDA S. WANAT, MUNICIPAL CLERK

ATTEST:


ROBERT JACKSON MAYOR