

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE
MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Henry called the December 21, 2015 meeting of the Mayor and Council to order at 8:17PM in the Garabrant Center, 4 Wilson Street, Mendham, New Jersey.

INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Henry led a moment of silent meditation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPENING STATEMENT

Notice of this meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mendham was published in the *Observer-Tribune* and the *Morristown Daily Record* and was posted on the Phoenix House bulletin board in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

ATTENDANCE

Mayor Neil Henry

Councilman John Andrews
Councilman John Andrus
Councilman Brad Badal
Councilman David Sharkey
Councilman Stanley Witczak
Council President Veronica Daly

Also present: Fred Semrau, Borough Attorney
Richard Merkt, Borough Administrator

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of 12/7/15
Appointment of Matthew R. Bruin, Junior Member – Mendham Hose Co.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda

First: Councilman Witczak

Second: Councilman Sharkey

Discussion: None

Roll Call – the vote was as follows:

In favor: Andrews, Andrus, Badal, Sharkey, Witczak, Daly

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

DISCUSSION: None

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION: None

ORDINANCE ADOPTION: None

ACTIONS TAKEN

Res. #190-15 MBFD Christmas Tree Bonfire – January 10, 2016

Motion to approve: Councilman Witczak

Second: Councilman Andrews

Discussion: None

Roll Call – the vote was as follows:

In favor: Andrews, Andrus, Badal, Sharkey, Witczak, Daly

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Res. #191-15 Tax Overpayment Refund – 4 Garrison Lane, Block 2001, Lot 13.8

Motion to approve: Councilman Andrus

Second: Councilman Sharkey

Discussion: None

Roll Call – the vote was as follows:

In favor: Andrews, Andrus, Badal, Sharkey, Witczak, Daly

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Res. #192-15 2015 Budget Transfers

Motion to approve: Councilman Andrus

Second: Councilman Witczak

Discussion: None

Roll Call – the vote was as follows:

In favor: Andrews, Andrus, Badal, Sharkey, Witczak, Daly

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Res. #193-15 Executive Session

Motion to approve: Councilwoman Daly

Second: Councilman Sharkey

Discussion: None

Roll Call – the vote was as follows:

In favor: Andrews, Andrus, Badal, Sharkey, Witczak, Daly

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

The Administrator's report was distributed to the Mayor and Council previously.

Mr. Merkt advised the Mayor and Council that while there is agreement that the Borough Park scoreboard remain in its proposed location, a consensus must be reached regarding the height. After discussion, it was agreed that the scoreboard be raised two (2) feet from the current position of the mockup.

COUNCIL REPORTS, OLD & NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Andrews – no report.

Councilman Andrus – The Councilman recommended that the Scott Farm retain its name and suggested that the field be called 'Cary Field' in recognition of the Cary family who settled the property in 1822. He further proposed that a historical marker be erected on the property that provides its history including the Borough's acquisition. The Rowe Sheep Farm's Eight Year Preservation Plan is up for renewal in 2016. The Open Space Advisory Committee requests that the renewal, and possibly permanent preservation, be a priority. The capital budget subcommittee meeting has been postponed until the first week of January 2016.

Councilman Badal – The new full-time police secretary has started and is doing well. Interviews for the part-time position have commenced. Discussions regarding the Zoning Officer position continue with a conclusion expected in the coming weeks.

Councilman Sharkey – no report.

Councilman Witczak – DPW received the roll-off truck that was purchased last year for ice pre-treating and the department is currently receiving vehicle training. Superintendent O'Brien has requested an additional 5K in the budget for vehicle maintenance. Black top and concrete work continue in the warm weather.

Councilwoman Daly – no report.

ATTORNEY ITEMS

Mr. Semrau requested a brief executive session to discuss pending litigation.

MAYOR'S ITEMS

Mayor Henry and Mr. Merkt met with the WMMHS School Board to get feedback regarding the feasibility study. It was agreed that the matter be discussed further at a joint public meeting. The Reorganization Meeting is confirmed for Wednesday, January 6, 2016 at 7PM in the Mendham Borough Firehouse.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Henry opened the floor to comments/questions from the public.

Mr. Ray Kelsey, Phoenix Drive, requested clarification regarding the placement of the Borough Park Scoreboard. He further requested permission to investigate the metal structure located on the Scott Farm property which was granted.

Mr. David Sprandel, North Linden Lane, congratulated the Mayor and Council on the acquisition of the Scott Farm and stated his agreement with Councilman Andrus regarding Cary Field and a historic plaque.

Hearing no further comments, the Mayor closed the public portion of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Minute Book Attachment Bill Lists dated December 21, 2015

Motion to approve: Councilman Andrus

Second: Councilwoman Daly

Discussion: None

Roll Call – the vote was as follows:

In favor: Andrews, Andrus, Badal, Sharkey, Witczak, Daly

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was adjourned to closed session at 8:40PM.

The Council returned to open session at 9:15PM.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business scheduled for the consideration of the Mayor and Council at this time, on a motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried by a voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:16PM next to convene at the Reorganization Meeting on January 6, 2016 at 7PM at the Mendham Borough Firehouse, 24 East Main Street, Mendham, NJ.

Respectfully submitted,

Margot G. Kaye

Margot G. Kaye, RMC
Borough Clerk