

Approved 11/5/2007

Keyport, New Jersey
October 17, 2007

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Mayor and Council, held on the above date in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, 70 West Front Street, Keyport, New Jersey pursuant to being called by Mayor and Council. Notice was forwarded to the Asbury Park Press, Courier, Independent, Two River Times and Newark Star Ledger and posted on the Bulletin Board in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, P.L. 1975, Ch. 231.

Mayor Bergen called the meeting to order at 7:45 P.M. and the Borough Clerk read the Sunshine Law Notice.

ROLL CALL

On Roll Call the following were present: Councilmembers Sheridan, Hassmiller (Arrived 7:47) Hill, Ortman, Walling, Bolte. Others Present: Peter Valesi, Borough Administrator, Don Norbut, Borough Engineer

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENTATION

Mayor Bergen gave an explanation of the purpose of the meeting. The goal is to get the project out to bid by January so that it could be constructed by the Spring. The Project must move ahead or Green Acres will take the funding and give it to other municipalities.

Borough Engineer, Don Norbut, explained that the drawing he was presenting takes the conceptual plan from April's meeting and makes it into a drawing that can be constructed. He feels that the plan is a good compromise between open space (passive recreation) and support parking. This plan provides access to the park from both Broad Street and American Legion Drive. A total of 158 cars can be supported with this plan including four boat trailer spaces. If trailer spaces were converted to car spaces, there would be a total of 166 spaces for parking. Council can incorporate some active recreation if they choose. Don Norbut has tried to combine all green space into one area including the "mini-park." Amenities have not been completely decided yet. He believes this is a plan that Green Acres will accept. There are 318 parking spaces in a 700 ft. span if spots at Fireman's Parking Lot are included.

Members of the Council asked questions of the Borough Engineer:

Councilman Ortman asked what type of area are we talking about in terms of square footage.

Don Norbut responded that the lawn panel area is approximately 100 X 100 feet. The lot itself is about 3.5 acres. Approximately 1.8 acres is green space if we include the band along the promenade.

Councilwoman Bolte asked if we take the 12 spaces of parking by Captain Johns, could that be a paver driveway? Norbut answered that it could be that or another hard surface but there may need to be a retaining wall.

Councilman Sheridan liked the idea of a street going through. He liked the accessibility to Captain John's boat but he had two concerns: Will Green Acres pay for all this paving and will all waste water go into the bay. Yes, replied Don Norbut. He went on to say that the DEP will probably ask for a storm filter system. With this plan, the water quality will actually improve.

Councilman Hassmiller mentioned that rainwater currently goes back into the bay so anything to help that would be an improvement. Don Norbut explained that the storm filter will decrease sediment that goes into the bay and, thus, improve the water quality.

Councilman Hill asked the width of the roadway. Don Norbut said it would be a 24 ft. wide, curved, two-way road with no parallel parking. It would be considered a road, not an access road.

Mayor Bergen would like to consider eliminating parking contiguous to the green space and have more parking behind the minipark.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Meeting was opened to the public for comments or questions at 8:16 P.M.

Rowland Seckinger – Would like pervious surfaces and filtered drainage. Also mentioned the Beach Sweep scheduled for this Saturday, October 27th.

Don Norbut said the grading and drainage design will be done later.

Andy Wilner, 85 Osborne Street – likes the idea of connecting downtown to the waterfront. He would like parking above the green areas so that stormwater would run into those green spaces. He would also add a traffic pattern that showed Main Street as a one-way and would like to see business owners provide private parking on their own land.

Frank Margiello, 314 Main Street – commends those involved. He asked whether Capt John could be moved to the other end so that there could be more green space.

Jack Jeandron, 80 Main Street – thinks the amount of parking looks good. Alleyway improvements by the fabric store would be good for businesses. He would like to see the sign back up on the William Ralph Pier.

The Mayor responded that all new matching signage would be installed before the opening ceremony rededication,

Sandra Shevlin, 314 Beers Street – was happy to see that engineer did listen to the 200 who showed up at the meeting in April but still would like to see less parking and more green area.

Peter Henning, 102 Main Street – was happy about the widening of the promenade. He would like the unobstructed view to the water to be green space and would like to see more useable green space.

John Olsen, of the Harbor Commission – thinks the plan is a good compromise but he believes the better view is on the Eastern side.

Al DeGrassi, 23 Osborne Street – thinks the plan has good ideas but feels a little too much green was lost.

Patricia Nitsen, 153 Division Street – would like to see less parking and more green.

Bob Ludwig, 50 Beers Street, Apt. 16 – “What is the Borough’s required contribution to this project?”

Administrator Valesi responded that the Borough is required to put up a 25% match of approximately 1.5 million dollars. The Borough may be able to get another \$250,000 from Open Space.

Bob Ludwig felt that there was a channeling of Borough assets to benefit certain businesses and families, which should not be a concern of residents. He then gave suggestions as to what changes he believed should be made.

Mayor Bergen said that the intent was not to benefit any particular property owners.

Joe Vecchio, 315 Broad Street – felt the gazebo should be moved or made a double-sided band stand. He also stated that the angle of the parking should look towards New York.

Mayor Bergen explained that the intent of the gazebo was to provide some shade.

Bobby Burlew – expressed that he does not want to see access to the back of the business properties taken away.

Terry Musen, 51 East Front Street – asked how those between the Burlew property and the Post Office would have access to their properties. The Mayor responded that all have access to their properties from Front Street.

Mike Lane, 51 Front Street – said the plan was nice; similar to Perth Amboy. He agreed with eliminating 12 and 7 sections of parking. He would like more parking on the south side of the road. Slant-in parking makes it easier to back out.

Shiela – noticed that there are no bike racks in the plan. Felt the Borough should encourage more cyclists. She would also like to see native plantings put in the green area.

Terry Musen, 51 East Front Street – likes the plan compared to what had been shown before but mentioned, in this current plan, that the gazebo will be in a hole.

Mayor Bergen said that the precise details of the amenities could change. He, himself, would love to see a fountain.

Isaiah Cooper, 135 Atlantic Street – asked whether there will be vendors along the waterway.

Mayor Bergen said perhaps kiosks could be rented for ice cream or hot dogs.

John Olsen mentioned that Atlantic Highlands uses covered benches.

Jack Jeandron would like a gazebo along the walkway in order to look out at the water.

Andy Wilner suggested a second level along the water for even a better view. He pointed out that shade does not necessarily need to be a roof but could be plantings, as well.

Public portion was closed at 9:07PM.

Motion was made and carried to have a three-minute recess before going into closed session.

At 9:15PM motion was made by Sheridan, second by Bolte to return to open session.

At 9:15PM motion was made by Sheridan, second by Ortman to retire into closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made and carried to end closed session and return to open session at 9:29PM.

Motion was made and carried to adjourn at 9:29PM.