

Approved. 8/6/07

November 6, 2006
Keyport, New Jersey

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 called by the Mayor. 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 Meeting Act, P.L. 1975, Ch. 221.

Mayor Merla called the meeting to order at 6:12 P.M. and read the Sunshine Law Notice.

ROLL CALL

On Roll Call the following were present: Councilmembers Hassmiller, Bergen, Sheridan, Ortman. Absent: Councilman Walling (arrived 6:21 P.M.) and Councilman Wedick. Others present: Mr. Valesi, Borough Administrator.

DISCUSSION

1. Bulkhead Replacement Project

Mayor Merla introduced the representative from Bird Construction, James Hannon, from the DEP Costal Engineering, Chris Tucker, and Brett Bailey. Mr. Tucker said the notice to proceed from the DEP was given to Bird a few weeks ago. There will be fiberglass composite sheathing. American Legion Drive will be realigned.

James Hannon, President of Bird Construction, said he has been in business for 42 years. Bird Construction has done marines, bridges, piers, and docks. American Legion Drive will be fixed from the Post Office to the Boat Ramp.

Mayor Merla gave an overview; Mr. Valesi is the eyes and ears of the project. Meetings will be held each week on progress and it is a day to day progress. There will be a possible liaison. There may be more than one meeting on this topic.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The meeting was opened to the public for comments or questions at 6:17 P.M. The Mayor asked if there were any questions for the DEP. Ed Burlew asked if American Legion Drive will be closed permanently; Birdsall Engineering & Schoor DePalma created and designed and submitted to the DEP. Mayor Merla said they have dealt with John Garofalo and Bernie Moore.

Mr. Valesi said there will be temporary road closings while construction takes place. The road will not be put back. There will be parking and access to the waterfront. The DEP handles shore protection and the Borough is responsible to put the road back. There will be a very reduced speed limit around the waterfront. On April 6, 2006 Don Norbut presented the plan to Mayor and Council. Mr. Burlew asked why the road is being shut down; it's not being shut down, there will be parking and a promenade.

Mr. Bergen said there will be a meeting with the Division of Coastal Resources. The Construction Plan was sent to the DEP and included a road but the road was not permitted. The DEP was not paying for the road. There will be many meetings and the road will be built next fall.

Bob Ludwig, 50 Beers Street, said the road was shown on the drawing. Mr. Ludwig asked what restrictions did Green Acres but on the

Borough by accepting funding. Mayor Merla said there was a discussion with the DEP to replace what was taken out. Birdsall and Schoor did not agree. The road cannot stay where it presently stands. The road needs to be realigned.

Sam Minor said he is concerned with the elevations. He asked where the water was going to go; low spots near Beach Park. First Street floods now. Mayor Merla said there is some money to raise a portion of First Street from the state. Mr. Minor asked where the water will be going and how the road will be raised. Mr. Tucker said he cannot comment on a storm.

Roy Cadoo, Washington Street, asked if the total amount of parking spots would be permanent; it is hard to say. It was also asked if there would be ample parking for the new restaurant from West Front Street; Mr. Bea is spending one million dollars. The Master Plan shows a need for change and parking is an issue. It is up to the citizens on what will be done, the new business will be affected based on the public's decision.

Jack Jeandron, asked if the immediate future is affected. On December 9th there is a House Tour with a number of people coming to town, when will American Legion Drive close down. Mr. Hannon said the parking lot will be open. The materials will come in November and construction will start in December.

James Underhill, Broad Street, is concerned with the parking in Keyport. A lot of functions are going on and the water shouldn't be taken away to create parking. This is a fishing town and the waterfront is constantly used. Get rid of the Green Acres. Mayor Merla said Green Acres received Property through negotiation. There will be an open discussion on this matter.

Tim Telemonde, said there should be a cobblestone street or create a boardwalk for the public. Mayor Merla said Green Acres called when the Borough stored milling on their property; there is open space. Mr. Telemonde is concerned with another park in town. He asked if they could move the bulkhead ten feet out; cannot get the permission.

Ruben Bea, asked how many parking spaces there are today; 180 spaces. There will be less than 100 spaces after the project. Mayor Merla said it is based on the Proposed Project. Mr. Bergen said he showed Mr. Bea the project and the parking. Mr. Bea said he would like the road to be reinstated. Mr. Minor asked what is going to be done with the Septic Sewer; it is Borough owned.

Captain John, said there are 284 spots needed for the Ferry on a busy day. Mayor Merla said this needs to be stripped properly. Roy Cadoo, said this should have been finalized before starting.

Mayor Merla said in 1995 the Mayor and Councilperson went to Trenton. The Bulkhead lasted 20 years longer then it was supposed to. Shore Protection came into play and separate application took place. The Borough needs to abide by what is permitted.

Roy Cadoo, it was asked if Berm by ACOE, how this would affect us; it is going from Union Beach to the East Pointe of Keyport. Mr. Bergen gave an explanation on the Progress and Plans. There needs to be delineation for the younger generation.

Brett Bailey, the DEP worked with the ACOE and they are very far behind. The ACOE Project may not take place.

Mike Lane, 51 First Street, said he saw plans and the promenade will be great. This is a first step. Discussions on the Bulkhead Construction Material. James Hannon said there were a few concerns addressed with the DEP. Mr. Lane asked if it can take 6 foot waves; yes, it is a sound structure. Mr. Valesi said the plans will take a week for permitting. Mr. Lane asked how the public would be invited to join in on the talks for the parking. Toward the end of the year there will be a meeting with the public. The Steering Committees should be involved. Mr. Lane asked before T&M starts the design should they meet with the public; yes. The Green Acres use should be explained to the public.

John Olsen, asked if there is a time schedule by Bird Construction. Mayor Merla said there are no events on the waterfront until September. Mr. Valesi said he is surveying now and the construction. Mr. Hannon said the Bulkhead will start in December. Submittals must be approved by the DEP. It will take 300 days from October 5th, possible August 1st. The pier is being constructed simultaneously with the Bulkhead. There will be some inconveniences along the way. Mr. Olsen said Harbor Commission discussed the roadway with Birdsall Engineering. It was asked what happened to the square footage. Mr. Seckinger asked if there is rip rap; no.

Tim Telemonde suggested trading another piece of borough property for Green Acres. Mr. Bergen said it has to be new Open Space. Mr. Telemonde said Phase I seems great. He congratulated the efforts. Mr. Bergen said Phase II by next fall.

Jack Jeandron, said there is a trunk sewer under American Legion Drive. Construction disturbs the trunk sewer.

Bob Ludwig, 50 Beers Street, said there are restrictions by Green Acres. Mayor Merla said there is no comment by Green Acres on out plan; there is nothing to the DEP. Mr. Ludwig asked if anything done there requires Green Acres approval.

Sam Minor, asked where the road is going.

Mr. Sheridan thanked the DEP and Bird Construction. Things should be coordinated through Mr. Valesi for the next public meeting for December. There being no further comments or question from the audience the meeting was closed to the public at 7:25 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn moved by Mr. Sheridan, second by Mr. Walling with Ayes by all present.

Time of Adjournment: 7:25 P.M.

