

**BOROUGH OF LAUREL SPRINGS  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL WORK SESSION  
MONDAY MARCH 27, 2017 - 7:00 P.M.  
MAYOR THOMAS A. BARBERA PRESIDING  
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**SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND MOMENT OF SILENCE** was led by Mayor Barbera

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW** – Mayor Barbera stated that adequate notice of this meeting was given by emailing the Central Record and the Courier-Post on January 10, 2017 and posting on the website and bulletin board in the Borough Hall, also on Borough’s website.

**ROLL CALL** recorded as present: Letts, McCunney, DiGregorio, Cruz and Redstreak; absent: Mochel

**ENGINEERS REPORT** – Environmental Resolutions - Engineer Jeff Hansen

**CAPITAL ITEMS**

1. **Reconstruction of Washington Avenue, Phase 1 - NJDOT FY2016 Municipal Aid Grant**

The Borough received a \$200,000.00 Municipal Aid Grant for the Reconstruction of Washington Avenue, between Stone Road and Chestnut Avenue. ERI has completed the survey, roadway coring and base plans and the Construction Plans and Specifications are approximately 95% complete.

The project will be advertised for bid in April for award at a May 2017 bid opening. Construction is anticipated to take place in the summer months and be completed before school returns in September.

2. **NJDOT Local Aid Grant Applications – FY2017**

Our office recently submitted Municipal Aid applications for Washington Avenue, Phase 2 (Central to Chestnut) and the Reconstruction of Arch Avenue (Chestnut to Summit); and also preparing a Safe Streets to Transit Application for sidewalk replacement along East Atlantic Avenue (Stratford Borough line to Lindenwold Borough line). We will apprise Council of any updates to the status of these applications as they become available.

3. **Borough Zoning Map Update**

ERI has prepared a draft copy of an updated zoning map for review with appropriate Borough officials. The map will be further updated based upon any comments received once Borough official have had a chance to review the map.

4. **Laurel Lake Cleanup Day / Lake Lowering Permit**

ERI has prepared an Application for the lowering of Laurel Lake to cover the Lake Cleanup Day date of April 22 and the rain date of April 29. Once the appropriate Borough officials' signatures have been received, we will transmit the Application to New Jersey Department of Fish and Wildlife for their concurrence.

**OTHER PROJECTS**

5. **Tempo Builders Mixed Use Development**

ERI received Final Plans for conformance review to the terms of the Planning Board approval received by the developer in 2013. The design engineer has revised the Plans to satisfy ERI's review comments from March and the Final Plans have been signed by the Borough Engineer. Construction will be able to begin once the developer has posted a performance bond, inspection escrow; and has held a Preconstruction Meeting with our office and appropriate Borough officials.

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Mr. Hansen will follow up about a week out to make sure everything is set. The reminder for the Lake Lowering Permit should be set up for mid February.

**MATTERS REQUIRING OFFICIAL ACTION**

- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES-** Regular Meeting of Monday, March 13, 2017 – the motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak, was seconded by Councilman Cruz, with McCunney, DiGregorio, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, Letts abstaining and none opposed.

- **PROCLAMATION - NCADD ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH 2017 HEALTHY CHOICES, HEALTHY COMMUNITIES: PREVENT UNDERAGE DRINKING AND ALCOHOL AWARENESS – THE KEY TO COMMUNITY CHANGE AND PERSONAL RECOVERY**

WHEREAS, alcohol is a primary factor in the four leading causes of death for young persons ages 10-21 and

WHEREAS, almost 100,000 persons die each year from alcohol-related causes: drinking and driving crashes, other accidents, falls, fires, alcohol-related homicides and suicide and

WHEREAS, approximately 15 million current drinkers in the United States are dependent on alcohol; and

WHEREAS, alcohol-related problems cost America \$224 billion (\$746 per person) in lost productivity, absenteeism, healthcare costs, crime and family-related problems; and

WHEREAS, adolescents use alcohol more than tobacco or illicit drugs; and

WHEREAS, young people begin drinking, on average, at 13.1 years of age; and

WHEREAS, young people who begin drinking before age 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence than those who begin drinking at age 21; and

WHEREAS, alcohol abuse is linked to as many as two-thirds of all sexual assaults and date rapes and

WHEREAS, alcohol abuse is a major factor in unprotected sex, increasing risk of contracting HIV or other transmitted diseases; and

WHEREAS, the typical American will see 100,000 beer commercials before he or she turns 18 (that is more than for sneakers, gum and jeans combined); and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Thomas A. Barbera, Mayor, join the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Inc., (NCADD) and do hereby proclaim that April 2017 is NCADD Alcohol Awareness Month in the Borough of Laurel Springs; and

FURTHERMORE, as the Mayor, I also call upon all citizens, parents, governmental agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, hospitals, schools in Laurel Springs, NJ to support efforts that will reduce stigma, increase community awareness and increase support for individuals and families coping with alcoholism in our community and join us in "HEALTHY CHOICES, HEALTHY COMMUNITIES: PREVENT UNDERAGE DRINKING".

- **RESOLUTIONS**

- **#043-2017- AUTHORIZING SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE CAMDEN COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN A COUNTY-WIDE REGISTRATION PROGRAM FOR ABANDONED PROPERTIES**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Laurel Springs ("the Borough") wishes to participate in a County-wide registration program for abandoned properties; and

WHEREAS, Camden County Improvement Authority ("CCIA") is establishing a County-wide registration program to be administered by Community Champions Corporation; and

WHEREAS, the attached Agreement outlines the program that has been developed by CCIA to manage the consequences of property vacancies and abandoned real properties; and

WHEREAS, the fees collected and disbursed to the Borough by Community Champions Corporation is outlined in Section C. of the attached Agreement; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Laurel Springs, County of Camden, authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to sign a Shared Services

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Agreement with the Camden County Improvement Authority for participation in a County-wide Abandoned Properties Registration Program.

- The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilman McCunney with Letts, McCunney, DiGregorio, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.
- **#044-2017-TO WAIVE OR REDUCE FEES FOR THE JACK H. HAGEN RECREATION CENTER**  
**WHEREAS**, there are fees required for the use of the Jack H. Hagen Recreation Center in the Borough of Laurel Springs, NJ; and  
**WHEREAS**, in certain instances, these fees are reduced or waived;  
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Laurel Springs that the fees for rental of the Jack H. Hagen Recreation Center be reduced or waived for the following for the month of February, 2017:
  - Mike and Eleanor Ermel – Kids Hockey Championship Party
  - Cathy Sims – Borough Employee
- The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilwoman DiGregorio with Letts, McCunney, DiGregorio, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.
- **045-2017-CONFIRMING SUPPORT FOR AN OPEN SPACE RECREATIONAL ENHANCEMENT PROJECT AT LAUREL SPRINGS RECREATION COMPLEX FOR OVERHEAD LED LIGHTING**  
**WHEREAS**, Camden County Open Space Trust Fund for Recreation Facility Enhancement is soliciting application for funding; and  
**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Laurel Springs has a project that is in keeping with the goals and objectives of the Camden County Open Space Preservation Program to install LED lighting at the Laurel Springs Recreation Complex; and  
**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Laurel Springs are desirous of submission of a new grant application for 2017; and  
**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Laurel Springs that they confirm support for the above mentioned Recreational Enhancement Project and authorize submission of the 2017 Grant Application to the Camden County Open Space Preservation Trust Fund Advisor Committee for their consideration.
- The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilman Cruz with Letts, McCunney, DiGregorio, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.
- **RESOLVED TO PAY \$49,836.24 FROM CURRENT ACCOUNT AND \$14,521.29 FROM TRUST AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS**
- The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilman McCunney, with Letts, McCunney, DiGregorio, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.
- **ORDINANCES- First Reading by title and Introduction - 809-2017-CALENDAR YEAR 2017 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A.40a:4-45.14)**
  - The motion to introduce by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilman McCunney, with Letts, McCunney, DiGregorio, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.
  - Second Reading, Public Hearing and Adoption are scheduled for Monday, April 24, 2017, 7 pm in the Borough Hall.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE 2017 MUNICIPAL BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,929,000.00**

- The motion to introduce by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilman McCunney with Letts, McCunney, DiGregorio, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.
- Public Hearing and Adoption are scheduled for Monday, April 24, 2017, 7 pm in the Borough Hall.

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**MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION**

- **Recreation Center Security-** The new Fire Alarm and Hood System are all updated and certified. The stove has been repaired and the County Board of Health will be contacted to get their certification. There is additional work and repair required for the security alarm system. A key fob system has been installed, as there is no good record of who has been issued keys to the building. This is the same system and able to interface with the system that controls the Fire Station and Public Works. With regard to waiver of security deposits, which have been waived in the past, it has been recommended that in, every case, with no exceptions, they be collected and refunded accordingly. There has never been a strict procedure for requesting waiver, which only should be granted by Mayor and Council. Under the fee ordinance, in-town nonprofit organizations are charged a range from \$50 to \$150, and out of town nonprofit organization are charged a range from \$100 to \$300; however, it is recommended that a flat fee of \$50 for in town and \$100 for out of town be set. In any particular case the fee can be waived by a Resolution of Council. However, a form will be developed to request waiver from Council, to ease the application process, in the case that an organization communicates that they were told that fees were waived for nonprofits, etc. There was conversation of the utilization of security monitors with new and/or out of town renters, that may not know how to utilize the new equipment. They would meet the renters; show them the building equipment and how to use it and what the requirements for cleanup are. They would return at the end of the event to make certain that the building is in proper shape, securely closed up, with the trash out. There was concurrence among Council with regard to collecting the security deposit in all cases, the notion that there is always a cost to the Borough every time the building is opened, and the discounted rate for non-profits only covers costs. There was acknowledgement that the upgraded systems and equipment warrant a new approach. There was concern about out of town residents using the building with the recent big investment in the building.

**ITEMS RECEIVED AFTER THE AGENDA WAS PRINTED -**

- Council President Redstreak commented that a nice phone call was received from Borough Resident, Dot Johnson, who was having issues with her sewer. She made special point of relating that Lindenwold Sewer Authority took wonderful care of her problem. Far beyond her expectations.
- Borough Administrator, Ken Cheeseman attending the last School Board Meeting – They introduced the School Budget with an overall decrease in budget and tax increase. Sterling owes Laurel Springs, \$80,000 and Yellin owes Laurel Springs \$80,000. While there were some discrepancies over the average value of a home, it still equates to a decrease.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – none**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Wednesday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, Recreation Commission Meeting @7 pm @Rec Center
- Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council @7 pm @Borough Hall

**ADJOURNMENT** –There being no further business a motion was made by Councilman Redstreak which was seconded by Councilman McCunney to adjourn at 7:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn T. Amadio, RMC, Municipal Clerk