

BOROUGH OF LAUREL SPRINGS
REGULAR MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MONDAY, March 8, 2021
MAYOR THOMAS A. BARBERA PRESIDING

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 Retrospect and the Courier-Post on January 5, 2021 and posting on the Borough Website and bulletin board in the Borough Hall.

ROLL CALL recorded as present: Cruz, DiGregorio, DiMarco, DelPidio and Redstreak; absent: Riondino.

ENGINEER'S REPORT – Jeff Hanson – Environmental Resolutions, Inc.

1. 2020 Road Improvement Program

NJDOT approved the combination of both the FY2019 and FY2020 projects together into one (1) bid package / contract. We have finalized the Plans and Specifications and they are being sent to NJDOT for approval this week. A tentative bid opening date of April 15, 2021 has been selected, which will allow the contract to be awarded at the second Governing Body meeting in April. Construction can be expected to start in mid-late spring and be completed during the summer of 2021

2. 2021 Road Improvement Program

In November, the Borough received correspondence from NJDOT awarding a FY2021 Municipal Aid Grant in the amount of \$174,930.00 for the reconstruction of Trenton Avenue and Virginia Avenue. Our office will provide a proposal for engineering design and construction inspection services in the near future for the purposes of budgeting costs for 2021.

3. 2021 Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set Aside Grant Application

In November, our office submitted an FY2021 TA Grant application for streetscape improvements along West Atlantic Avenue in front of the Cord Mansion and the adjoining area. The improvements will be designed to mirror those of the existing adjacent downtown streetscape improvements. We will apprise the Governing Body of any news we received with regard to the grant application as it is received.

OTHER PROJECTS

4. Laurel Lake Water Lowering Permit

NJDEP Division of Fish and Wildlife has approved the submitted permit application to allow the lake to be lowered between March 15, 2021 and March 30, 2021 in order to facilitate lake / shoreline cleanup activities as has been done in prior years. The lowering and cleanup can proceed as planned.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Work Session Meeting of February 22, 2021 - The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilman Cruz with Cruz, DiGregorio, DiMarco, DelPidio, and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

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ORDINANCES

- **Second Reading by Title, Public Hearing and Adoption**
 - #850-2021 – ORDINANCE ADOPTING ANNUAL FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE BOROUGH OF LAUREL SPRINGS FOR YEAR 2021
 - Second Reading by Title – Mayor Barbera read the ordinance by title.
 - Public Hearing – Mayor Barbera opened the meeting to the public for questions and comments, and hearing none, closed the meeting to the public.
 - Motion to Adopt by Councilman Redstreak, was seconded by Councilman Cruz, with Cruz, DiGregorio, DiMarco, DelPidio and Redstreak in favor none opposed and no abstentions.
 - #851-2021 – ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (NJSA 40A:4-45.14)
 - Second Reading by Title – Mayor Barbera read the ordinance by title.
 - Public Hearing – Mayor Barbera opened the meeting to the public for questions and comments, and hearing none, closed the meeting to the public.
 - Motion to Adopt by Councilman Redstreak, was seconded by Councilman Cruz, with Cruz, DiGregorio, DiMarco, DelPidio and Redstreak in favor none opposed and no abstentions.
- **First Reading by Title and Introduction**
 - 852-2021-AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 101 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF LAUREL SPRINGS ENTITLED “CONSTRUCTION CODE UNIFORM FEE SCHEDULE”
 - First Reading by Title
 - Motion to Introduction
 - Second Reading, Public Hearing and Adoption will be held on Monday, April 12, 2021, 7 pm in the Laurel Springs Recreation Center, 820 Grand Avenue, Laurel Springs, NJ 08021.

RESOLUTIONS

- #035-2021- AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2021 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT, BOROUGH OF LAUREL SPRINGS, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
WHEREAS, the Camden County Improvement Authority provides funding for certain infrastructure improvements or services under Community Development Block Grant Funding; and
WHEREAS, the Governing Body has chosen to submit an application for Program Year 2021; and
WHEREAS, the Governing Body has agreed to apply for funding for the following:
Laurel Springs’ Loan Payment for Existing Debt Service for Prior Year Projects
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of Laurel Springs, County of Camden, and State of New Jersey that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute the Project Description Form for Program Year 2021 along with the Community Development Grant Agreement.
- The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilman Cruz, with Cruz, DiGregorio, DiMarco, DelPidio and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.
- #036-2021 - FOR RENEWAL OF MERCANTILE LICENSE
WHEREAS, Mayor and Council of the Borough of Laurel Springs have passed an ordinance establishing Chapter 169 of the code of the Borough of Laurel Springs, known as “Mercantile License”; and
WHEREAS, a license is required to operate or conduct any business establishment in the Borough of Laurel Springs; and
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Mayor and Council of the Borough of Laurel Springs that the proper investigation has been made and the following applicants have complied with the general laws and statutes of the state and the ordinance of the Borough of Laurel Springs.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that approval has been granted by Mayor and Council for renewals of “MERCANTILE LICENSE” for:

Makers’ Workshop
- The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilman Cruz, with Cruz, DiGregorio, DiMarco, DelPidio and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

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- **RESOLVED TO PAY** \$292,314.75 FROM CURRENT ACCOUNT AND \$28,445.80 FROM TRUST AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS
- The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilman Cruz, with Cruz, DiGregorio, DiMarco, DelPidio and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – copies of submitted reports are on file and available for review.

- **DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, BOARDS, SERVICES/PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL**- Councilman Redstreak said that there was nothing on the Sewer invoice for February, just routine jetting, and stoppages. Ordinance Review met and began working on the Master Plan. With regard to the grant for the volleyball courts and the quote for the grant application, more quotes have now been received from Garden State Paving and Penn Jersey Paving. There was discussion of the Green Acres inspection and subsequent grant. He thanked Laurel Springs School, Laurel Springs Recreation Commission for letters of support.
- **DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS & GROUNDS** – Councilman Cruz reported that the elevator was delivered, but recently the elevator contractor has had difficulty with COVID exposure, and their crew is quarantined until March 15th. With regard to Phase 2 there are next steps are setting appointment for a walk-through, determining any deadlines in your pricing structure, reviewing quote with CFO for required certification of available funds, and signing a contract, to begin as quickly as possible. There was conversation about insurance dollars for the damaged air conditioner unit at the Recreation Center.
- **DIRECTOR OF MUNICIPAL COURT** – Councilwoman DiGregorio said no Court Report submitted. There was conversation about CARES act money for municipal courts, and the use of virtual court during the pandemic and the Court Report.
- **DIRECTOR OF RECREATION** – Councilman DelPidio said at the last Rec Meeting there was discussion about an empty Recreation Commission seat, and whether it was possible to decrease from a seven-member commission to a 5-member commission. There are currently 6 members. There was conversation that there is someone interested in the Rec Commission seat. The same officers were elected by the Commission as last year, with Brian Hofacker as Chair, Tim DiMarco as Vice Chair and Maryann Tisera as Secretary. Baseball registrations are up, and conversations are being held with Lindenwold and Pine Hill about interborough teams, and thoughts having one multi-town league, with the difficulties being difference between Babe Ruth and Little League. Commissioner Straub had been contacted about the use of the field and waiver of fees for practice for Chris Lomax's traveling team. Laurel Springs Youth Association applied for the South Jersey Gas Mini Grant - \$1,000. The Commissioner were notified of the award of the Camden County Recreational Enhancement Grant for the ball courts.
- **ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE** – Councilman Riondino was not present.
- **DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT** – Councilwoman Di Marco commented that she had been diligent about communicating the pet licensing deadline and now associated late fee. There had been some confusion regarding the availability of paying the Sewer Bill online after April 1st, although the Collector had stated the information on the bill. There was an update on placing more Borough Hall forms and processes on the Website, and information about communicating vaccine availabilities and various dates associated with that.
- **DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY – POLICE AND FIRE** – Chief Mazziotta read the Police Report and Chief Cheeseman the Fire Report for the month of February 2021.
- **MAYOR'S REPORT** – Mayor Barbera presented the Mayor's Report from the time of the last Regular Council Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS/CORRESPONDENCE

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- Letter to Carolyn Redstreak, Laurel Springs Beautification Committee regarding the Town Calendar – Mayor Barbera reviewed a thank you letter sent to Mrs. Redstreak, with regard to a job well done with the Town Calendar.
- Omni Recycling – Borough Administrator Cheeseman said that Voorhees Township is removing itself from the contract with the recycler and going with Republic, as the costs with Omni continue to go up and are not sustainable.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- Bob Lickfield – Glen Avenue – wondered if the required length of dog leash could be put in the newsletter as he has observed people with exceptionally long retractable leashes allowing dogs to walk all through residents' front yards.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Sunday, March 14th Daylight Savings begins – set clocks ahead.
- Wednesday, March 17th – School Board Meeting @7pm @Laurel Springs School
- Thursday, March 18th – Combined Land Use Board @7pm @Rec Center – cancelled, no matters received.
- Monday, March 22nd – Laurel Green Team Meeting @6pm @Rec Center
- Monday, March 22nd – Work Session Council Meeting @7pm @Rec Center

ADJOURNMENT –There being no further business a motion was made by Councilman Redstreak to adjourn at 7:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Dawn T. Amadio, RMC, Municipal Clerk