

**MINUTES
WORKSHOP MEETING
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL – BOROUGH OF RED BANK
July 13, 2022 ♦ 6:30 P.M.**

SUNSHINE STATEMENT

Mayor Menna requested the minutes reflect that, in compliance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231 (Open Public Meetings Act), notice of this meeting has been provided by notifying the Asbury Park Press, the Two River Times and the Star Ledger and by placing a notice on the bulletin board and filing same with the Borough Clerk on December 15, 2021.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Menna, Council Members Sturdivant, Mirandi, Triggiano, Ballard, Zipprich, and Horgan

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Interim Administrator McConnell, Borough Clerk Reinertsen, and Department Heads.

ADMINISTRATION

Mayor Menna reviewed Administration items:

- i. Ordinances/Resolutions
 - a. Public Hearing/Adoption 2022-07 Ordinance Dissolving the Red Bank Redevelopment Agency Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40a:12a-24 And Repealing Article XIII: “Redevelopment Agency” of Chapter 9: “Boards, Committees, And Commissions” of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Red Bank
 - b. 22-xx Appoint Construction Clerk

Councilman Zipprich inquired about suspending the regular order of business and workshop to discuss the resolution terminating the borough attorney services with Sobel Han and awarding contract for borough attorney services. Mayor Menna divulged that he had no prior knowledge, the resolution was added to the agenda the morning of this meeting. Councilman Zipprich motioned to suspend the workshop to enter into the regular meeting for this discussion only; Councilman Ballard seconded the motion.

Mayor Menna noted it is an important action and deserves discussion. He further noted that he should have been given the courtesy of being informed prior to the meeting that this was the intent of the majority of Council. While unorthodox the Mayor opened the meeting up for procedural discussion on the resolutions presented.

- c. 22-xx Cannabis Class 5 Quiet Bloom
- d. 22-xx Support of Veteran Property Tax Deduction Increase
- e. Taxi Passenger Rates – The IA will put information together as well as comparable rates for neighboring municipalities for Mayor and Council to review before considering introducing an ordinance to change the fees.
- f. Community Development – Public Hearing – Requirement to receive Federal Funding though the Community Development Block Grant to hold a hearing on the municipal projects being submitted for consideration.
- ii. Discussion/Action
 - a. New vision plan and a strategic plan – Councilman Zipprich articulated the importance of having a strategic vision plan for the borough to establish a deliberate path to revitalizing and strengthening the borough’s long term socioeconomic development, identity, image and preservation. Feels strongly that the vision plan from 1994, the strategic plan from 1996 and the waterfront plan from 2006 are in need of updating.
Council is in agreement; Mayor Menna voiced his support and noted the issue has always been funding the project.
 - b. RFP Executive Search - Three firms were solicited. Two declined to submit, the third firm submitted a much higher than anticipated proposal. Just under \$50,000 for the two positions. The firm cited the timing was not right for a search with a Charter Study being conducted and the potential for a change of government form. Council agreed to post the positions as any other employment opportunity (CFO and Administrator) on the website, NJLM and National League of Cities. It was affirmed that the CFO position must also include the day to day responsibilities in lieu of paying a higher scale for performing same.
 - c. HRAC Committee Appointments and Name Change – Committee will put their proposal for consideration together for Council consideration. Mayor was in agreement with the appointment recommendations.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

- i. Report: Grants – June 2022
Councilman Zipprich inquired if the grant writer could look into funding for the strategic/vision plan.
- ii. Report: Animal Control – June 2022
- iii. Report: Tax Assessor – June 2022
- iv. Report: Tax Collector – June 2022
- v. Report: Fire Department – June 2022
- vi. Report: Senior Center – June 2022
- vii. Report: Building/Construction – June 2022

Council had no questions on the reports as submitted.

ENGINEERING

Engineer Herrman reported on the following:

- Met with the Administrator and DPU Director Keen to review Capital Budget items for bonding purposes
- Participated with NJ DOT grant applications
- Proposal being worked on for the Bodman Street Pump Station for generator and automatic transfer switch
- Met with IA McConnell and the grant writer regarding next phases of grants
- Discussed long term plan for parks with Director Keen

CLERK

- i. Ordinances/Resolutions
 - a. 22-xx: ABC Consumption Liquor License Renewals
 - b. 22-xx: ABC Distribution Liquor License Renewals
- ii. Discussion/Action
 - a. Minutes: 051622 Special, 052522 Regular & Exec Sess.

No questions or discussion by Council

FINANCE

- i. Ordinances/Resolutions
 - a. 22-169 Bills List
 - b. 22-xx Payment #5 Broad St Improvements
 - c. 22-xx Payment #6 Spring St Improvements
 - d. 22-xx Refund Developers Escrow
- ii. Discussion/Action:
 - a. Report – Council had no questions.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

No discussion

POLICE

- i. Ordinances/Resolutions
 - a. Public Hearing/Adoption 2022-15 Ordinance Amending Chapter VIII, "Parking Lots and Handicapped Parking Spaces", Subsection 8-2.8, "Restricted Parking" of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Red Bank
 - b. Public Hearing/Adoption 2022-16 Ordinance Amending Chapter VIII, "Parking Lots and Handicapped Parking Spaces", Subsection 8-2.8, "Restricted Parking" of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Red Bank
- ii. Discussion/Action
 - a. Shared Service SRO Class III – Admin. McConnell noted that the Bd. of Education passed a resolution to enter into shared service agreement for an SRO (School Resource Officer) it is no before the Council for consideration. SRO in NJ, retired officer that must be certified by the State that works part time in the schools under the auspices of the Police Department. Responsibilities include: hardening of the target in case of a critical incident, presence in school, interact with students and staff. The SRO is not a security officer. There will be three part time officers between the two schools; one in each school at all times school is in session. The officers only have authority on school property or at a school function not throughout the borough.

Councilwoman Sturdivant stressed the importance of training for diversity, inclusion and equity to insure minorities and individuals with disabilities were not singled out.

Administrator McConnell divulged that all officers, including the SRO's, participate with diversity and de-escalation provided by the Attorney General's Office. The SRO in particular has extensive training for special needs. All officers are bound by the Attorney General's Office.

Councilman Ballard stated he has a lot of questions and would like the Education/Tech Committee to meet with the Chief, Superintendent Rumedge to sort out all the particulars before entering into an agreement.

Administrator noted the time sensitivity to get the officers through the evaluation, screening process and appointment.

With the school Board picking up 50% of the cost, Mayor asked for an impact statement for the next 5 years.

Councilman Ballard inquired on the status of the body cams; Chief McConnell noted that have been on backorder for a year. There are only three vendors, and it is a production issues. He further noted that the first year and a half is covered with grant funds.

PUBLIC UTILITIES

DPU Director Keen summarized the COOP purchase of the roll off and truck hoist; 2021 MCIA funding.

Mayor posed the Public Utilities hosting of the town wide garage sale as many other towns do. Councilwoman Horgan noted the Library hosts the town wide yard sale as a fundraiser and plan to hold the first one since COVID for 2022 in September. Director Keen will speak with the Library and coordinate the bulk pick up accordingly.

Dir. Keen divulged an increase in park vandalism and asked that if anyone sees something please say something. Councilwoman Sturdivant suggested cameras; Dir. Keen noted there has been discussion and due to the massive area, target areas are being identified. Signage posting was also discussed.

Some highlights were note: Broad Street is being paved, working to have the basketball net systems replaced, park surfaces (tennis and basketball courts) at east side park with Monmouth County Open Space grant funds, and some improvements are coming together for Count Basie Park.

Councilwoman Mirandi asked who submitted the plan for Shrewsbury Avenue; Admin. McConnell stated that at the last Council meeting a resolution was approved to authorize the planning of it. A State approved planner will complete the plan and the State will reimburse the Borough. Upon approval of a plan the million dollar (TAP Grant) project will go out to bid. Scheduled for 2023. Councilwoman Mirandi suggested trees be considered in the planning. It was noted the grant will not cover that but the County would be notified as it is a County Roadway and there are limitations on what the Borough can do without County approval.

Councilman Zipprich discussed monitoring of the parklets and weeds at borough facilities. Dir. Keen noted the parklets and parking lots are cleaned once a day as part of the normal routine. He further noted with pride that Red Bank is the only municipality that he is aware of that does not use pesticide or herbicide however they do sometimes get ahead of them. Dir. Keen disclosed that he, the recreation director and Administrator have determined the priorities for the parks and submitted the plans to the CFO but the prices had to be updated. Hopes to have a spreadsheet prepared for Council review soon.

RECREATION

Dir. Salinas thanked the Mayor & Council for recognizing the Little League Champions the Red Bank Guardians and shout out to the coach for a job well done. He further summarized how some of the various projects are going that are noted in his report, and announced some upcoming events and activities. Reported on the park upgrades, vandalism and proposed community watch to help with the vandalism issue.

Councilwoman Horgan expressed her appreciation for all Di. Salinas does for the department.

LAND USE Report received, no questions

FIRE DEPARTMENT Report received, no questions

SENIOR CENTER Report received, no questions

CORRESPONDENCE None presented

ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Horgan offered a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Triggiano. Roll call, unanimous, affirmative. 8:05PM

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Reinertsen