

SPECIAL MEETING OF JULY 1, 2008

Mayor Weinstein called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this special meeting was published in The Record issue of June 28, 2008 as well as the annual notice of all meetings of the Borough was published in "The Record" issue of December 14, 2007. Notices were also posted on the bulletin board located on the first floor of the Municipal Building; copies were mailed to The Community News and posted on the Borough of Fair Lawn Website. The Notice identified the meeting location and the time of this special meeting.

PRESENT: Mayor Weinstein, Deputy Mayor Swain and Tedeschi and Councilmember Baratta.

ABSENT: Councilmember Trawinski.

ALSO PRESENT: Manager Metzler, Municipal Clerk Kwasniewski and Attorney Rosenberg.

Closed Session:

Upon motion by Councilmember Baratta and a second by Deputy Mayor Swain, the following closed session resolution was unanimously adopted at 7:35 p.m.

WHEREAS; the Open Public Meeting act of the State of New Jersey permits the public to be excluded from certain matters to be discussed by the Governing Body; and

WHEREAS; the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fair Lawn desire to discuss under Attorney/Client Privilege – Williams Street; and

WHEREAS; these matters are ones which permit the exclusion of the public from such discussions; and

WHEREAS; minutes will be taken during this closed session and once the need the confidentiality no longer exists the minutes will be available to the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fair Lawn that the public be excluded since these matters as set forth above are ones which permit the exclusion of the public from such discussions.

Mayor Weinstein reconvened the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Resolutions by Consent #152008

Upon motion by Councilmember Baratta and a second by Deputy Mayor Tedeschi, Consent Agenda No. 15-2008 containing the following items was unanimously passed.

- a. Resol. #206-2008 – Ratification of Council Actions

Mayor Weinstein announced that the resolution ratified the actions taken by the Council at the emergency meeting of June 27 which included putting up the barricades,

preparing legal papers, preparing an open letter to the public which will be sent to the Record and Community News, and sending letters to the residents of Williams Street.

He continued that yesterday the backhoe started to dig and stopped at about 11:30 a.m. The County had until 4:00 p.m. to respond to the Council about a meeting they were invited to attend on July 22. They faxed a letter late yesterday asking the Council to attend a meeting tomorrow morning at 10:00 a.m. which they will not do. The Council will invite the County to Fair Lawn on either July 7 or 8. The County and the Borough served papers on each other today. Attorney Rosenberg will be in court tomorrow to hear the issues about the temporary restraining order to keep the barricades in place and the County's request to have the barricades removed.

Public Comments

Michael Pena, 43-07 Williams Street expressed concern about the flooding that already takes place.

Mikhail Kondratyev, 43-02 Williams Street expressed concern about the traffic and flooding issues. He thought it would be dangerous.

William Senser, 42-11 Williams Street stated that his sons play in that park. He felt the road was too close to the bike path. It is dangerous.

Howard Mark, 12-23 Ferry Road expressed concern about flooding.

Mary Beth Galvin, 2-65 Saddle River Road also expressed concern about flooding.

Bill Ruggles, 2-10 Saddle River Road indicated that he represented 30 signees of a petition asking the Council to provide relief so that they can have pedestrian access to the County Park through Oceanos parking lot as they have done for many years.

Carl Shoemaker, 2-83 Saddle River Road thanked the Council for moving quickly. He did not want to see the County destroy green space. The flooding issue is very real and this roadway will make the situation worse. The plan is ill advised and detrimental to the park.

Larry Greenberg, 15-21 Raymond Street applauded the County for their actions in this matter.

Jeffrey Perkins, 3-15 Saddle River Road felt there must be an easier solution.

Carol Wall, 3-15 Saddle River Road expressed concern about people accessing the road at night. She wondered if it will be lit which will be another problem.

Violet Voskian, 42-05 Williams Street indicated she has lived here since 1956. She expressed concern that they will ruin a tranquil road.

Evelyn McHue, 15-21 Raymond Street expressed concern that a road will bring traffic and will reduce impervious coverage which will exasperate the flooding conditions. She thought there would be increased vandalism.

Nick Pantelakos, 3-39 Saddle River Road, representing Oceanos Restaurant indicated that he was present to listen and to see what he could do to help.

Tova Glikshtern, 43-20 Union Street stated that the park is wonderful green recreation area that everyone enjoys. She did not want to see the green area destroyed. She also expressed concern about flooding. She suggested that the County spend their money to dredge the Saddle River to alleviate the flooding. She thought there were alternatives that should be explored.

Stuart Golding, 14 Rutgers Terrace agreed that there is a flooding problem and thought the money would be better spent resolving that issue. Development by the Naugle House will make the flooding worse.

Felice Koplik, 6 Reading Terrace expressed concern that this was another assault on green space in Fair Lawn.

Mayor Weinstein mentioned the Freeholder's meeting on Wednesday night. He urged the residents to make their comments to the County.

Deputy Mayor Tedeschi indicated that what they are trying to do is not easy. The Council must assert the rights of the community. He thanked the Borough Attorney, the Municipal Clerk, the Borough Manager and the Department Heads for their efforts.

Mayor Weinstein thanked the residents for attending the meeting.

Adjournment:

Upon motion by Councilmember Baratta and seconded by Deputy Mayor Swain, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne M. Kwasniewski, RMC/CMC/MMC
Municipal Clerk

The undersigned have read and approve the foregoing minutes.

Mayor Weinstein

Councilmember Jeanne Baratta

Deputy Mayor Lisa Swain

Deputy Mayor Joseph Tedeschi

Absent
Councilmember Ed Trawinski