

## WORK SESSION OF NOVEMBER 25, 2008

Mayor Weinstein called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Weinstein, Deputy Mayors Swain and Tedeschi and Councilmembers Baratta and Trawinski (late)

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

### **New Jersey Clean Energy**

Councilmember Baratta said that she had received a call from a resident who had been at Picatinney Arsenal where there had been a display of items that could be purchased through the New Jersey Clean Energy Program. They have a retail store where you can buy light bulbs, etc. New Jersey Clean Energy is offering an energy audit. If their standards are met, they will pay 75% of the cost of the audit. Fair Lawn would be eligible because they use Public Service Electric and Gas. Only one of the government buildings can be selected and fire stations and schools are included. A list of approved auditors is provided. After the audit has been completed and the results are available, they will refund a percentage of the cost of any changes that are implemented.

Councilmember Baratta suggested doing a few buildings a year. Once the Borough receives approval they would have six months to do the audit. The Department also offers assistance in setting up the program.

Councilmember Baratta suggested that the Environmental Commission work on it. The Morris County Chamber of Commerce is doing a program with New Jersey Clean Energy for businesses. She recommended that this information be passed onto the Chamber of Commerce and the SIDS. There had been some discussion of offering these types of suggestions to applicants in front of the Planning Board when approvals are granted.

Mayor Weinstein recommended discussing this at the next Shared Services Committee Meeting. Councilmember Baratta said that the bidding process for the vendors is discussed in the literature she has received as well as price guidelines.

Councilmember Trawinski arrived at 7:45 p.m.

Deputy Mayor Swain reported that she had attended a meeting of Sustainable New Jersey where she learned that this energy audit is necessary in order to be considered a sustainable community. She would like to move forward to see if Fair Lawn can qualify for this program, which is very competitive. Only 17 communities in the entire state are accepted into the program and the Energy Audit is the first step. Councilmember Baratta said that it is necessary to pass a resolution and she had a sample of such a resolution.

Mayor Weinstein said that if this is sent to the Environmental Commission it will take additional time and he recommended that a resolution be passed just at the Council level in order to save time. Deputy Mayor Swain said there is nothing technical in the application and Clean Energy would contact the Borough after the application is received and offer assistance to get the program going.

The Council agreed that this should be put on the agenda at the appropriate time and put into the budget process. The Environmental Commission needs to be aware that this is being done.

Manager Metzler said that he had sent home a copy of a draft of a Senate bill by Bob Gordon on the cap for energy efficient vehicles. He encouraged the Council to pass a resolution and to inquire whether other communities could join in this effort because this is something impacting every town in the State.

### **Request for a Crosswalk**

Deputy Mayor Tedeschi recused himself.

Councilmember Trawinski stated that he is familiar with the site because he has represented Lubavitch in front of the Planning Board when he was not on the Council. In addition to the crosswalk, the sidewalk does not continue when crossing from the southerly portion of the Plaza Road side to the northerly portion. It starts at the overpass. Manager Metzler noted that this is the State's ramp. He said that signage was also necessary. Mayor Weinstein said that this should be sent to the Traffic Safety Officer and the Engineer for their input.

### **Interlocal Agreement – Ridgewood Health Department and Ho-Ho-Kus health Department**

Manager Metzler stated that Ridgewood would like to continue the interlocal agreement for health service for 2009. The cost was \$7,900 in 2008 and the Health Officer has indicated that this is adequate to cover the costs for the services she provides but he recommended increasing the cost by 2.9%.

Manager Metzler said that Resolution 348-2007 covers January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 to March 1<sup>st</sup> 2009 in the amount of \$1,548 for Ho-Ho-Kus. A contract for the remainder of the year would be \$4,406 which he recommended be increased by 2.9%.

Councilmember Trawinski said that he represents the mother and father of the Mayor of Ho-Ho-Kus, however, he doesn't represent the Mayor so he didn't think there was a conflict for him to continue to be part of the discussion. Attorney Rosenberg agreed.

The consensus was to increase both contracts by 2.9%.

**Donation of Lilac Trees**

Manager Metzler stated that Mr. Young Paek, the owner of Clifton Garden Florists, came to his office yesterday and explained that he had been overseas for two years. During that time, Fair Lawn residents helped his wife out many times by making deliveries for the business. He feels he must give back to Fair Lawn because Fair Lawn took care of his family while he was gone. Over the next couple of years he plans to donate a thousand lilac trees to the Borough. He wants to begin planting them around the Municipal Building and then continue at the schools and then onto the residential properties. The lilacs are in ten-inch pots and will grow to between 5 and six feet in height.

Manager Metzler suggested that the Garden Club could do the planting. He explained to Mr. Paek that this would require Council consent and if approved a schedule would be drawn up of how to proceed. Mr. Paek stated that as long as the ground is not frozen a lilac tree could be planted at any time. The Council indicated their unanimous approval of this project.

Councilmember Baratta will speak to Jane Spindel Chair of the Garden Committee.

**Elmary Place**

A letter had been received from Bob Matule about 14-26 Elmary Place. The Council authorized Attorney Rosenberg to investigate and make a recommendation to the Council.

**Closed Session:**

Upon motion by Councilmember Baratta and a second by Deputy Mayor Swain, the following closed session resolution was unanimously adopted at 7:00 p.m.

**WHEREAS;** the Open Public Meetings 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 Personnel – Borough Manager;

**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 for 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.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Upon motion by Councilman Baratta and second by Deputy Mayor Swain the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Joanne M. Kwasniewski, RMC/CMC/MMC

The undersigned have read and approved the foregoing minutes.

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Steven Weinstein, Mayor

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Deputy Mayor Tedeschi

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Deputy Mayor Swain

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Councilmember Jeanne Baratta

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Councilmember Edward Trawinski