

**WORK SESSION MEETING OF THE MOUNT LAUREL TOWNSHIP
COUNCIL**

JANUARY 25, 2010

A Work Session Meeting of the Mount Laurel Township Council was held Monday January 25, 2010, in the Meeting Room of the Mount Laurel Municipal Building. The Meeting was called to order by Mayor James Keenan at 7:38 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The Members of Council present were Mayor Jim Keenan, Deputy Mayor Peter McCaffrey, Councilwoman Linda Bobo, Councilwoman Tracy Riley and Councilman Chris Smith. Also present were Patricia Halbe, Township Clerk, Jennifer Blumenthal, Township Manager, and Christopher Norman, Esq., Township Solicitor.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

The Public Announcement, which is required by the "Open Public Meetings Act" of the State of New Jersey and read at every meeting of the Township Council was read by the Municipal Clerk.

BOCELLI PROPERTY

Ms. Blumenthal stated that there has been an ongoing correspondence between Mr. Bocelli and Mr. Procacci since 2004. Since the last meeting, the Township Engineer has provided a punch list and a timeline for same.

Mr. Norman provided Mr. Bocelli with a copy of the timeline. There was a meeting to discuss drainage in 2004 and there was a definite drainage issue and after two years of discussion and after meeting on site in March, 2006 there was a series of correspondence that went on to December, 2006. It appears Mr. Procacci wanted a written agreement to go onto the property.

Mr. Gene Bocelli – 130 Elbo Lane – Stated that Mr. Procacci was never denied access to do the work on his property to fix the problem. He had told Mr. McAndrews to give Mr. Procacci permission to go onto the back of the property to fix another area but he did not get the letter out in time.

Councilwoman Riley stated that there was letter from 12/13/06 from Barbara Reifberg, Esq. to Dennis Talty, Esq. regarding access and you indicated that Alaimo does not have a copy of that correspondence. It says that the installation will be completed upon your client's granting access to the property. She questioned if he had ever received a copy of that correspondence.

Mr. Bocelli said he had never received that correspondence and he does not have an attorney now. Mayor Keenan asked that Mr. Norman have Mr. Procacci's attorney contact Mr. Bocelli to get permission to allow them onto his property to fix it.

Mr. Bocelli stated that he had been contacting Mr. Holshue for several years and he just got back to him to inform him that he it was something he could not take care of. Mayor Keenan stated that if he continues to have a problem, to contact Ms, Blumenthal. Mr. Bocelli stated that he has had problems with Mr. Long and the Township since the beginning of this project. He has always been trying to get this resolved. The contractor did not need his permission at all to fix the problem.

Councilwoman Riley stated that part of the problem might be that Mrs. Reifberg was communicating with his previous attorney but she can now communicate with him directly since he no longer has an attorney.

Mr. Bocelli also commented that he had problems when he hooked up to the water and sewer lines and he had spoken to Mr. Adler and two weeks later they cut the lines.

Mayor Keenan stated that Council has no control over the MUA and he should attend their meeting.

01-25-10

STEVE WALSH, EJA ASSOCIATES – “SAFETY ON THE AGENDA”

Ms. Blumenthal stated that Mr. Walsh was delayed due to another meeting and she will reschedule him for another time.

MOUNT LAUREL MEMORIAL PARK SIGN CONTEST

Ms. Blumenthal stated that she spoke to the school representatives and they are recommending that the contest be limited for grades 5-8 and the committee members be Council representatives, members of the sports organizations, PTO's and other members of the community. She had reached out to the County about their sign specifications and is still waiting for a response back from them as to the size of the sign.

Mayor Keenan stated that they had agreed that the wording be Mount Laurel Memorial Park. Councilwoman Riley just wanted to raise the fact that the Turnpike Memorial Field is right down the street but Council had all agreed to still call this Mount Laurel Memorial Field. Mayor Keenan indicated that they had received verbal promise that we will receive steel from the 911 families. He asked Ms. Blumenthal to get the information to the schools so they can have the contest results before the end of the school year and to form the committee so he can get some volunteers from Council.

UNION MILL AND ACADEMY ALTERNATIVES

Ms. Blumenthal stated that Council previously had instructed her to go ahead and put curbing at the intersection since it was believed that it would eventually be needed for a traffic signal. She has since found that curbing would cost approximately \$440,000 and is not necessarily needed. It is needed only if we used the Omega Engineer plan which we do not necessarily need to do. She has asked Alaimo to come up with alternatives and they have recommended that we remove the excess asphalt at the intersection and replace it with grass. We would have to do this if we install a traffic signal and it would cost approximately \$114,000. Also, Al Litwornia came up with other suggestions such as a four way stop sign, tall orange pylons to narrow the large lanes or rumble strips and pavement markings. These would cost approximately \$20,000 but are interim steps and are not needed for a traffic signal.

Mayor Keenan asked for some type of design plan and Councilwoman Riley asked for the numbers in writing. Ms. Blumenthal indicated that she already has the numbers in writing.

Councilwoman Bobo stated that someone had attended a meeting previously and expressed concern with the bushes blocking the visibility. Ms. Blumenthal responded that she had reached out to Acting Chief Cribben and he had it taken care of and they had been cut back.

HILTON GARDEN INN

Ms. Halbe reported that she had received a request from the Zoning Board regarding six additional trailers for the Hilton Garden Inn. At their meeting of January 6, 2010, the Zoning Board had recommended approval for these six additional storage trailers that are needed for construction of a new hotel behind the Cracker Barrel and they had recommended one year from the issuance of the zoning permit. Ms. Halbe believed that previously Council had approved a similar application for one year or until they receive their certificate of occupancy, whichever comes first. Council was in agreement to approve the storage trailers with the same conditions.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Alan Kramer - 68 Southgate Drive - Wanted clarification on what the \$20,000 is exactly for. Mayor Keenan stated that Council is asking to see a plan as they do not want a hazard there. They will look at the plans and then move forward.

CLOSED SESSION

The Clerk read resolution 10-R-48, authorizing Mount Laurel Township Council to go into closed session for discussion of Litigation Matters and Personnel Matters. A motion

01-25-10

was made by Deputy Mayor McCaffrey and seconded by Councilwoman Bobo. All were in favor and Council went into closed session at 8:06 pm.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

A motion was made by Councilwoman Riley and seconded by Deputy Mayor McCaffrey to return to open session. All were in favor and Council returned to Open Session at 9:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Smith and seconded by Councilwoman Riley to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Halbe, RMC
Municipal Clerk

Transcribed by
Patricia Halbe

The minutes of this meeting are summary minutes. A copy of the recording of this meeting will be available in the office of the Municipal Clerk for four years.